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City General Election
Tuesday, November 7, 2023
Ingham County, Michigan
City of Lansing, Ward 2, Precinct 11 & Ward 4, Precinct 31

ELECTION PREVIEW: WHO'S RUNNING IN LANSING AND EAST LANSING

See Page 9

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We all have different circumstances and experiences in our lives. I grew up in broken homes. I never had plans or goals back then. School was an escape from life for me, and it's where I went to have a sense of normalcy. I wished for a different life on a daily basis. I imagined having parents that were like some of my friends' parents, and I dreamed of doing many of the things that my friends got to do.

I was a victim of child sexual abuse, a subject that I avoided well into my adult life and denied that it had any impact on who I was. In some ways, it helped me to survive as a young adult by having the ability to compartmentalize. What I didn't realize was that even keeping it hidden meant that I wasn't able to deal with things from a place of intellectual honesty. Looking back, it clearly influenced my decisions. I would protect myself at all costs, and sometimes that meant that I would lash out at people that I cared about when I was triggered. When this would happen, nobody would know why, not even me. I built walls to protect myself from being hurt and that kept me from growing. I was merely surviving.

It wasn't until I met my future wife that I opened up and told my story. I was full of shame, rage, and doubt, and even though I opened up, I had already spent years developing unhealthy mechanisms of coping, and it would almost ruin the most positive things to ever happen to me. I was fortunate to have someone who believed in me and had the patience to insist that I get help dealing with my trauma, even though we could not afford it financially. My trauma still impacts my life. I am still sorting through experiences, memories, and feelings. I still have questions that will never get answered, but I try to catch myself when I get triggered, instead of isolating, avoiding, and deflecting.

Acknowledging the impact of my behavioral tendencies due to my trauma, rather than the intent, has been monumental in my healing. I still have work to do, and I believe that my writing has been part of my healing. There are still things that I need to work on. I am not satisfied with where I am at; my family deserves to have the best of me and I will not be complacent just because I have found a purpose that drives me. My experience kept me from being everything I always wanted to be to my partner and my kids, and it feels like failure. But that doesn't mean that I can't continue to be better for them because they still need me, and I realize more than ever that I need them too. I say all of this to say that we all have our own history, and we do not have to let our past define us.

I worry about the future of our society. The underbelly of this country has a lot of people feeling hopeless. A lot of people are coping. It affects their behavior and how they respond to any given situation, and it is a form of learning, self-taught for self-preservation even if it negatively impacts them. People who can't afford rent become overwhelmed and can only think about how to keep a roof over their heads. People who are hungry make decisions out of desperation. There is a vicious cycle of poverty. can't afford to go to the dentist now? Pay for a root canal later. I was lucky to have survived and not lost everything; it could've gone the other way.

It was not my wife's responsibility to have to repeatedly watch me act out, lose control, and manipulate situations to make myself feel better. Obviously, I couldn't control what happened in my childhood, but without the support she gave me, I very easily could've been left alone with nobody to turn to. I am one of the

lucky ones. Our society is full of people who look like they are doing okay. But trust me when I say that is not the case for a large portion of our society is not. We all need someone to help us deal with what triggers us. Mental health should be at the top of the list when it comes to progress. Everyone should have access to mental health professionals. I believe that a healthy and educated population is the only way we will see people be truly happy.

I haven't watched "Home Alone" in a while, but there is a scene where I cry every damn time. Not some of the time. Every. Single. Time. It's when the mom finally gets back home to New York and walks into the house and is looking for Kevin, then he comes down the stairs and they hug. I laughed the entire movie until this scene, and it breaks me. It didn't used to when I first saw it as a scrawny teenager, but once I deconstructed my childhood trauma, I realized that I never felt safe and this scene captures what I always wished I had: someone who would be there for me, unconditionally.

It's funny, for the first several years of my almost 25-year marriage, I used to cry internally during a lot of different movies. My wife would be next to me overtly crying, and I was holding in my tears. I couldn't bring myself to cry out loud, and then one day I told her that I held in my tears, but that I did cry with her every time. For all those years though, I let her cry alone while I cried in silence, also alone. Now we cry together. It is okay to cry.

Before that, the last time I cried was when I was 14 years old, and my mom sent my brother to live with my grandparents in Florida. The one constant person in my life was just uprooted and shipped away. I am sure that to him, he was escaping. I'm not saying he wasn't sad; maybe he was. But to me, there was the only person that could understand how I felt and talk to, and he was leaving. I watched him walk down the tarmac and board the plane and I bawled like a baby. I didn't cry again for probably 30 years.

I hope this country can get the help it needs. We can afford so many things that just don't align with my priorities and yet we skimp on any sort of care or education. It makes no sense to me. If my mom would've been able to get the help she needed, could she have been able to give me the nurturing I needed as a kid? Would it have made her life better, which in turn would've saved me from some of the things that sent me in a certain direction? I think so. For what it's worth, I would not change my life. I am fortunate to have people who love me unconditionally, and I spend my time doing things I love. I love my family, I love writing, and I love HVAC, in that order.

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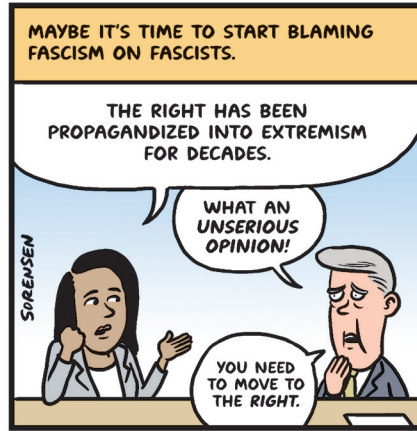
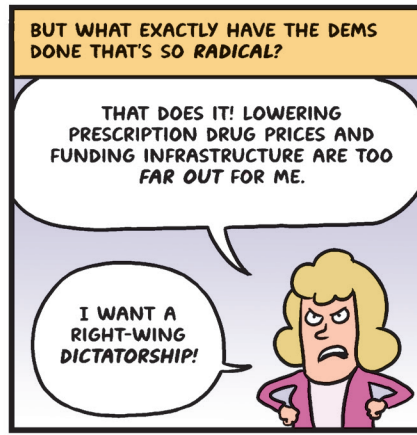
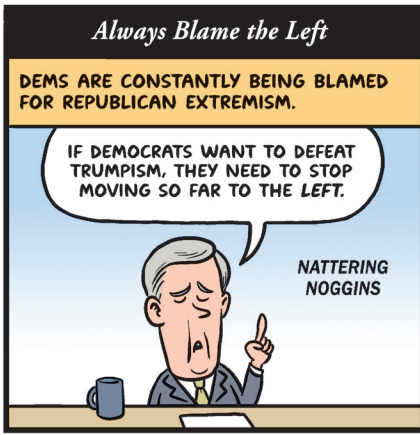
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PAGE 13

Actress adds new chapter to "To Kill a Mockingbird" legacy



PAGE 17

MSU brings classic board game to the stage



PAGE 22

Gazpacho is out, and this simple Spanish soup is in

Cover photo by Roxanne Frith

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

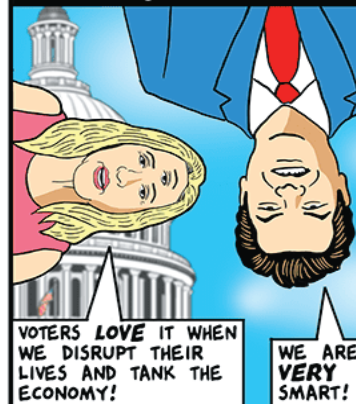
THIS WEEK: OUR RECURRENT RAINY DAY* FUN GAME

SPOT THE MISTAKES

As always, we've inserted several deliberate errors throughout the following panels. Can you find them all? Answers at the end--but *no peeking!*

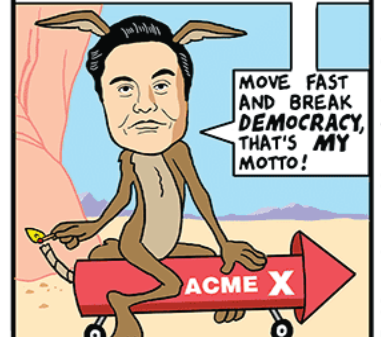
*Also provides a momentary distraction from the crushing ennui of human existence.

1. MAGA Republicans almost shut down government.



2. Elon continues to innovate.

JUST IN TIME FOR THE 2024 CAMPAIGN SEASON, I'M **GUTTING** WHAT REMAINS OF OUR ELECTION INTEGRITY TEAM!



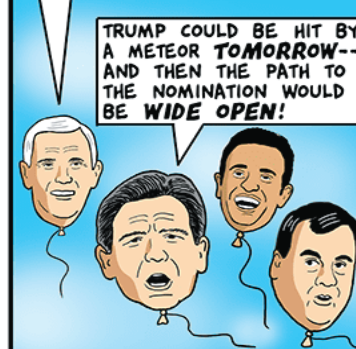
3. Donald Trump remains the clear GOP frontrunner.

I COULD STAND IN THE MIDDLE OF FIFTH AVENUE WITH 91 FELONY CHARGES--AND **STILL** BE THE NEXT PRESIDENT!



4. Other Republican hopefuls keep tilting at windmills.

NO, SERIOUSLY, I'VE **TOTALLY** GOT A SHOT!



DID YOU SPOT THE MISTAKES?

Panel 1: We have a system in which a handful of deranged nihilists regularly threaten to bring the country to a standstill. Ooops!

Panel 2: Elon's *actual* motto is "please say I'm funny, for the love of God, all I want is for everyone to think I'm funny."

Panel 3: Trump's hands do not have tiny Donald Trump heads on each finger, that we are aware of.

Panel 4: If Republicans had voted for impeachment after Jan. 6, they wouldn't have this albatross hanging around their necks. Big whoopsie!

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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Sparrow to spare vacant eastside houses, at least for now

U-of-M Health official promises cooperation with neighbors in deciding their fate

Some eastside Lansing residents have been concerned that Sparrow Health System is going to tear down eight vacant homes it owns in the Eastfield Neighborhood, which is just east of the Michigan Avenue hospital.

But no such plans are in the works, Margaret Dimond, regional president of University of Michigan Health, said. U-of-M Health acquired Sparrow last spring.

Dimond said Sparrow wants to determine the fate of the properties with the cooperation of residents.

Dimond said there's been concern about break-ins, causing issues for Sparrow's security and the Lansing Police Department over public safety in the area.

The homes, which were acquired by Sparrow in 2016 and 2017, are at 118, 122 and 128 N Holmes St.; 1316 and 1320 Jerome St.; and 123, 125 and 127 Ferguson St.

Dimond said the board of directors is looking at options and community partners for what's next for the homes, with demolition being "probably most expensive and least desirable."

Margaret Tassarò, president of the Eastfield Neighborhood Association, said residents were concerned about houses' being torn down without knowing ahead of time.

Tassarò said in 2020, Sparrow attended an association meeting and shared a proposal to tear down a block of houses to develop a surface parking lot.

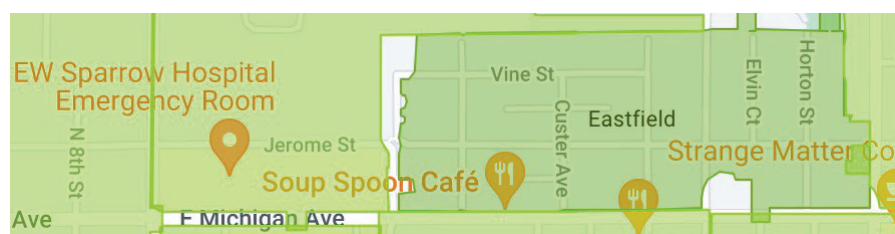
"We neighbors love living on the east side. We take pride in our neighborhood and we care about it. We care about our community and a surface parking lot does not add value to our neighborhood," Tassarò said.

Tassarò said the association is hop-



Tyler Schneider

These three houses at 123, 125 and 127 Ferguson St. in the Eastfield Neighborhood on Lansing's east side are among eight homes that Sparrow Health System acquired six to seven years ago and has left vacant.



Eastfield is a neighborhood along Michigan Avenue.

ing it can work together with Sparrow to determine the fate of the property moving forward.

"It's a little bit discouraging that there are vacant homes in our neighborhood. Housing is an issue for many people. These are houses that people could be living in," Tassarò said.

Staci Bakkegard, Sparrow's facilities director, said a lot of the houses are crumbling with broken windows, old roofs and rotted wood decks, leaving potential for break-ins, mold growth and water damage.

The houses haven't been occupied since Sparrow acquired them and likely have mold, lead paint and asbestos, Bakkegard said.

"A house that's not occupied doesn't get better with time. We don't have a

good starting baseline in these houses right now," Bakkegard said.

Bakkegard said since the hospital is "land-locked" and unable to expand, it made sense to ask, "What might these properties hold for the hospital in the future?" and purchase the homes to have the agency to expand in the future if needed, similar to the process of buying Bingham Elementary School and converting it to the hospital's cancer center.

"A lot of hospitals are buying up land," Dimond said, giving ambulatory surgery centers as an example. Rather than an inpatient setting, physicians or surgeons can treat patients in off-site centers and send them home the same day without entering the main campus.

In the case of Bingham Elementary, Sparrow recognized there was a larger need for cancer treatment than what the hospital could provide, Bakkegard said, and at the same time Sparrow began a site-search to expand, the Lansing School District decided to close the school.

A Sparrow official also confirmed to First Ward Lansing City Council Member Ryan Kost that there are no plans to tear down any of the houses.

Kost was approached by residents of the Eastfield Neighborhood to address the rumors of the homes' being torn down with a community contact point at the hospital. "Their concern is that, if (Sparrow) tears down those houses, that will forever change their neighborhood," Kost said. "They're concerned about the future of their neighborhood."

Before any conversations start about what the houses could turn into for Sparrow, their first priority is to prevent the hospital-owned properties from posing a risk in the community for crime, drugs and squatting.

"We need to do something for the community," Dimond said.

Dimond said the hospital is weighing options such as bringing the homes up to current code and standards of occupancy, or if the homes are not "rehab-able" or it costs more to update them than to demolish them, how can Sparrow be a good neighbor?

"Should we create a park-like environment, like a green space? Or do we take that parcel of land and create something that's mutually beneficial?" Dimond said. "We really haven't made any decisions. I would welcome any constructive ideas or partnerships as we go forward."

— MAGGIE GEORGE

What should Sparrow Health System do with these vacant homes? Send your thoughts to publisher@lansingcitypulse.com.

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

BY TYLER SCHNEIDER



About 2,300 union workers from GM's Delta Township Assembly Plant officially joined the UAW strike Friday. They were among 7,000 total workers added to the strike between that plant and Ford Motor Co.'s Chicago Assembly Plant. UAW Local 602, representing the Delta Township workers, declared that all members must participate in a strike activity to be eligible for strike assistance. The plant also employs 200 non-union workers. 25,000 total workers are participating in the strike nationwide.



Michigan State University officially fired its head football coach, Mel Tucker, for inappropriate conduct Wednesday. The university said it terminated Tucker's contract "for his admitted and undisputed behaviors, which have brought public disrespect, contempt and ridicule upon the university." Tucker was suspended without pay Sept. 10 and notified Sept. 18 of MSU's intent to fire him for cause following an investigation into a sexual harassment complaint from rape survivor Brenda Tracy. Tucker's attorney, Jennifer Belveal, said she intends to sue the school for wrongful termination. Tucker had nearly \$79 million remaining of the 10-year, \$95 million contract he signed less than two years ago. MSU has said investigations into the matter will continue.



Logan Square Plaza has agreed on a two-year settlement with the City of Lansing following a July 29 parking lot shooting that wounded five people. The agreement requires more security cameras onsite, regular meetings between city leaders and business owners, a full-time security guard and greater restrictions on who can become a tenant. The City Attorney's Office had requested an Ingham County Circuit judge declare the shopping center a "public nuisance" and place it under a court-appointed receiver in August, which was not accepted. The settlement provides law enforcement access to footage from 36 cameras, with the stipulation that a live person will monitor that footage from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. daily. Roughly half of the shopping center's 50 spaces are vacant.

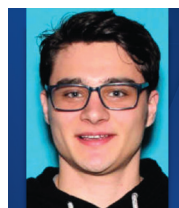


Downtown Lansing Inc. was named one of eight semifinalists for the 2024 Great American Main Street Award. Lansing will compete with Camas, Washington; Denison, Texas; Macon, Georgia; Madison, Indiana; Monroeville, Alabama; Mount Vernon, Iowa; and New Bern, North Carolina, for the prize. The winner will be announced May 6, 2024, at the Main Street Now Conference in Birmingham, Alabama. The award's website said semifinalists have "generated over \$1.48 billion in local reinvestment, helped open 881 new businesses, facilitated the creation of 3,827 net new jobs, catalyzed the rehabilitation of 2,164 historic buildings and leveraged 306,986 volunteer hours." The site praised Downtown Lansing Inc. for promoting "walkability, sustainability and accessibility to create a main street that welcomes everyone" through streetscape improvements; public art installations; business recruitment; diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility planning; and the addition of 900 new housing units.

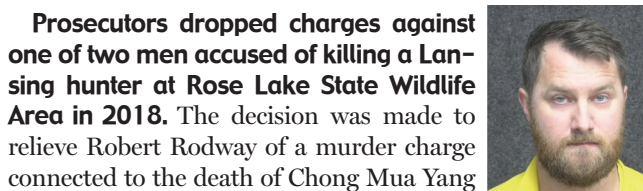


The first mile of a 6.75-mile trail connecting MSU to Lake Lansing could open by the end of the month, the Lansing State Journal reported. The next few miles of the trail could be open to the public by mid-summer 2024, according to Dan Opsommer, Meridian Township's deputy township manager and director of public works. The third and final portion is expected to be ready in fall 2024 or early 2025. The concept for the trail began to take shape in 2014, when Ingham County voters approved a millage for trails and parks. In 2016, the trail was mapped out by city planners.

A Windsor Township man who was charged with killing his family in 2021 was found incompetent to stand trial. Prosecutors dropped murder and weapon charges against Daniel James Sougstad, 25, after finding him unable to assist in his own defense. Previously hospitalized for mental health treatment, he was initially found competent to stand trial and sat through a preliminary examination in January 2022. When the case moved to circuit court, the Center for Forensic Psychiatry ruled against his competency. Prosecutors later determined he could not be restored to competency within 15 months and petitioned him into Eaton County Probate Court for mental health treatment. If or when Sougstad is restored to competency, the charges may be refiled. The murders occurred at the family's home on Bishop Highway on Sept. 24, 2021. The victims were Sougstad's parents, John and Barbara, and his brother, Ryan.



Prosecutors dropped charges against one of two men accused of killing a Lansing hunter at Rose Lake State Wildlife Area in 2018. The decision was made to relieve Robert Rodway of a murder charge connected to the death of Chong Mua Yang due to evidentiary issues after Rodway's attorney, Matt Newburg, made an emergency bond motion claiming he had discovered evidence that police had wrongly ruled out another suspect. The St. Johns resident had been held without bond at the Clinton County jail since he was arrested in December 2022 and was scheduled to go to trial Sept. 27. The charges were dismissed without prejudice, meaning prosecutors could still choose to refile them in the future.



Lawsuit seeks to keep Trump off state ballot in presidential race

A lawsuit filed in the Michigan Court of Claims Friday challenges former President Donald Trump's eligibility to be on the 2024 ballot, citing a Civil War-era clause in the Constitution that disqualifies public officials who have "engaged in insurrection" from holding office.

The suit, filed by the national group Free Speech For People and attorney Mark Brewer, claims that Trump's actions ahead of and during the Jan. 6, 2021, riots in the U.S. Capitol violated section three of the Fourteenth Amendment, which states that any officeholder who has "engaged in insurrection or rebellion" or has "given aid or comfort" to such efforts after swearing an oath to uphold the Constitution is barred from running. Trump's claims of fraud in the 2020 election following his loss to President Joe Biden, his pressuring of former Vice President Mike Pence to reject the electoral certification of results and his lack of intervention when supporters descended on the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 amount to insurrection under the clause, the filing argues.

"Our predecessors understood that oath-breaking insurrectionists will do it again, and worse, if allowed back into power, so they enacted the Insurrectionist Disqualification Clause to protect the republic from people like Trump," Ron Fein, legal director at Free Speech For People, said in a Friday statement announcing the suit.

The legal theory that Trump's actions could block him from holding future office has already spurred lawsuits in several states and is separate from the pending criminal cases Trump is facing at the federal level and in two states.

Free Speech For People recently brought a suit similar to the Michigan filing in Minnesota, and a separate group's challenge is pending in Colorado. A Fourteenth Amendment challenge to Trump's candidacy was dismissed by a federal judge in Florida for lack of standing.

Trump has argued that efforts to prevent him from appearing on the ballot are "election interference."

In Colorado, Trump attorneys argued the case should be dismissed due to freedom of speech protections in the First Amendment and also argued that the clause doesn't apply to him because it "applies to one who 'engaged in insurrection or rebellion,' not one who only 'instigated' any action."

Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson has said that Trump would be on the ballot unless a state or federal court determined otherwise.

— BRIDGE MICHIGAN

A new housing co-op is coming to Lansing's east side

By **JOAN NELSON**

A unique new housing co-op that will mix young adult refugees with native-born Americans is coming to Lansing.

Asante Co-op — its working title — it has been in the making since early 2022, evolving from conversations between Allen Neighborhood Center, Spartan Housing Cooperative and the Refugee Development Center. The collaboration will go well beyond housing to include the supportive services offered by all three agencies to the estimated 14 to 16 residents. These services include English as a second language classes, various types of job skill training, household budgeting workshops and more.

Mixing native and foreign-born people will support the adjustment of newcomers and broaden the cultural understanding of all who share the space. “The project aligns with one of our core values,” said Erika Brown-Binion, the refugee center’s executive director, which is “bridging long-time residents and newcomers so that they can develop a deeper understanding of one another.”

The new co-op will be built in the Allen Neighborhood Center complex on Kalamazoo Street between Allen and Shepherd streets. The project will cost \$1.5 million, with \$1 million from the state and \$500,000 from the Ingham County Housing Trust Fund. “The significance of Ingham Housing Trust Fund is that it can provide funding for organizations and businesses that are creative, neighborhood-based, and do not ordinarily seek public help,” county Treasurer Alan Fox, who also chairs the trust fund, said.

Construction will begin this fall in 4,000 square feet of empty space on the center’s second floor. In addition to the residents’ private rooms, the co-op will feature a large, shared living room, dining room, kitchen and laundry. Move-in is projected for late 2024. They’ll be able to avail themselves of such services as the weekly, year-round Allen Farmers Market, the Allen Community Health Center and ELFCO (the Eastside Lansing Food Co-op), which are all part of

the center.

Co-ops have been around for a very long time, dating in this country from the early 1800s. Over the last 50 years, 15 housing co-ops have been established in East Lansing, providing affordable housing to MSU students and non-students. Since the 1990s, the Spartan

Housing Cooperative has launched two co-ops within Lansing. Holly Jo Sparks, Spartan Housing’s executive director, said her organization is delighted to be a part of Asante Co-op and looks forward to exploring other possibilities in Lansing. (Note that there are a few other co-ops in this city,

e.g., Genesee Gardens Co-Housing and also U.S. Housing and Urban Development co-ops, none of which are affiliated with Spartan Housing.)

Across the country, “boomer co-ops” have been attracting an older crowd. These have been established by people drawn to a living situation that provides some private space as well as communal space and a built-in support system as they age. The nearest of these are in Ann Arbor and in Frankfurt, Michigan.

As far as I know, there are no boomer co-ops in Lansing (yet); however, there is an inter-generational co-op called Rivendell that is home to 72-year-old Marsha Parrott-Boyle. She “integrated” the co-op, age-wise, when she moved in a little over a year ago. A 60-something recently moved in as well. “The mix is a good idea,” Par-

rott-Boyle observed. “We older members have philosophies and skills that we can share as do the younger members — it’s helpful to all.” She noted that she doesn’t interact with all nine members daily because people “are busy living their lives.” But folks are close. She shared that two people in the co-op recently married and during the ceremony brought the other seven members of the co-op to the altar, explaining to gatherers that the Rivendell members are “a part of our family.” Parrott-Boyle predicted that co-ops will be “more and more discovered” by the over-55 crowd.

In just the last month, I’ve been contacted by a few different people who are exploring co-ops as a form of housing for quite distinct, populations, e.g.,

veterans, people with special needs, and older lesbians. These folks see co-operative ownership as a way to create a family of choice based on shared values, needs and experiences.

I’ve been promising to call a meeting of people interested in creating co-ops, opening boarding houses, building granny flats in their back yards, or otherwise empowering homeowners to help reduce the affordable housing shortage in our neighborhoods.

The purpose of such a gathering would be to gauge interest, share resources, swap ideas and begin to build a network of shared housing advocates. RSVP by emailing joannelsonlansing@gmail.com to join the initial meeting next week at Allen Neighborhood Center. (See InfoBox on this page.)

In addition to hearing about co-ops, boarding houses and co-living spaces in the making, we will likely also discuss ways to encourage the city to revise its zoning code to reduce barriers to the “gentle densification” that an increase in these shared-use models generally brings about.



Opinion



Photo by Joan Nelson

Pictured (from left) are Holly Jo Sparks, executive director of Spartan Housing Cooperative, Erika Brown-Binion, executive director of Refugee Development Center, and Joe Enerson, executive director of the Allen Neighborhood Center. The three organizations are partnering on a new eastside Lansing housing co-op.

Shared Use Housing Advocacy Group

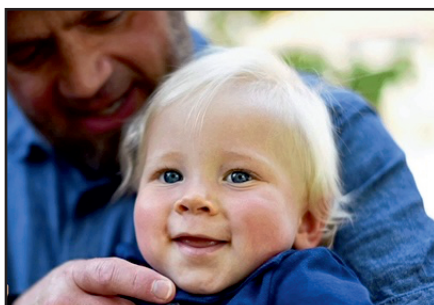
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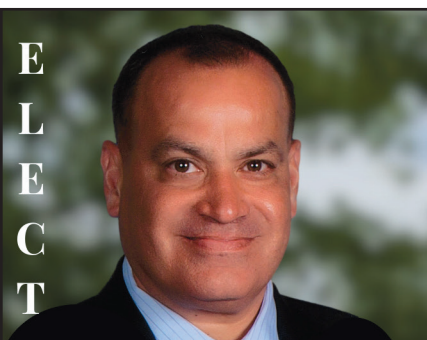
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"Our roots are firmly planted here, and I am raising my family right here in East Lansing. I want to make our community a welcoming environment to raise all families." - Chris Wardell



ENDORSED BY
 INGHAM CO. COMMISSIONERS
 IRENE CAHILL & CHRIS TRUBAC

Paid for by The Committee
to Elect Chris Wardell.



NOEL GARCIA JR.
 FOR EAST LANSING
 CITY COUNCIL

Building Bridges
in East Lansing

VOTE TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 7
 OR BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

ENDORSED BY ALL OF HIS COLLEAGUES
ON THE CITY COUNCIL:

MAYOR RON BACON
 MAYOR PRO TEM JESSY GREGG
 COUNCILMEMBER DANA WATSON
 COUNCILMEMBER GEORGE BROOKOVER

AND ENDORSED BY:

GREATER LANSING LABOR COUNCIL AFL-CIO
 LANSING REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 GREATER LANSING BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL
 GREATER LANSING ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS
 UNITED ASSOCIATION LOCAL 333

PAID FOR BY NOEL GARCIA FOR EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL,
 1777 FOXCROFT RD., EAST LANSING, MI 48823



Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI) is holding a Hiring Fair on Thursday, October 19th from 12pm to 5pm at 812 E. Jolly Rd., Lansing, MI 48910. On the spot interviews are available. CMHA-CEI is currently looking to hire for multiple Relief Mental Health Worker, Relief Family Support Worker, and Relief Residential Technician positions. The relief positions have a flexible schedule of 0-19 hours per week. These positions are great for students or those looking for supplemental income. Positions have the ability to grow into part-time and full-time opportunities that include increased salary and benefits.

To apply for any relief position, all candidates must have a valid driver's license, a GED or high school diploma, and must be able to pass a background check.

To learn more about various open positions, please visit: www.ceicmh.org/employment

CP#23-250

VILLAGE OF WEBBERVILLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Residents of the Village of Webberville please take notice that a public hearing will be held before the Webberville Village Council Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 6:00pm. In the Village Hall, located at 115 S. Main St., Webberville. The purpose of this hearing is to consider comments regarding the resolution approving Webberville Downtown Development Authority 2023 Development Plan and Tax Increment Financing Plan Amendment.

A copy of the Tax Increment Financing Plan Amendment, and either of the Village of Webberville Ordinances are available for review at the Webberville Village Office during normal business hours, via pickup, or by email.

Interested parties may make comments at the meeting or submit them in writing to Jessica Kuch, Village Clerk/Treasurer, P.O. Box 389, Webberville, MI 48892 or by email at jkuch@webbvill.com, prior to the meeting.

The official minutes of all meetings are stored and available for inspection at the Village Office located at 115 S. Main Street, Webberville.

Jessica Kuch
 Village Clerk/Treasurer
CP#23-254

Witwergate? Just because something looks scandalous doesn't make it so

In the early morning hours of Nov. 4, 2020, a van pulled up to Detroit's TCF Center to deliver Election Day ballots to the centralized ballot counting site.

Why were these ballots showing up so late on election morning? Conspiracy theorists have woven their cooked-up scenarios into former President Donald Trump's narrative of election fraud, inviting even more half-cocked conspiracy theorists of all ilk into the Michigan Republican Party.

Sadly, people talking out of their asses has become the norm in our social media-crazed society. It's not just the tin foil hat-wearing QAnon crowd. Political arguments are based on clever "retweets" and "likes."

Twitter, Instagram, et al. give everyone equal footing to pop off — often anonymously — with little accountability and no verification needed.

Traditional news outlets are not only losing the hit battle; they're joining in on the fray. News reporters are getting into tacky public battles with politicians as well as their readers and random jokers, feeling as if they need to defend their work against trolls.

Hit counts and traffic patterns are driving subscriptions. It's causing reporters and editors to go for a scandal — any scandal — to earn their bread.

Among the many losers in this sad dynamic are the political figures themselves, a professional class so used to being publicly maligned through nasty campaigning that there's almost no sport in hunting them down.

This lengthy preamble brings me to my beef of the day, involving state Rep. Angela Witwer, D-Delta Township. The House Appropriations Committee chair was recently taken down in The Detroit News for being a co-owner of a public relations company whose clients include state departments.

All the pieces are here for a fat, juicy scandal. Powerful state legislator. Still has a toe in the water at her company so she can go back to it after she's out of office. State contracts. She brought her friend and business partner to a State of the State.

Wow!
 It all makes for a great story IF



KYLE MELINN

Opinion

POLITICS

Witwer used her power to funnel state money or big contracts to her pals at Edge Partnership ... except that can't really be proven. It's possible, but it's also possible she didn't.

Instead, The News lays out all of these pieces on the table and lets the readers use their imagination to put the puzzle together as they wish.

If lawmakers had a bit more pep in their step and actually implemented the personal financial reporting requirements mandated by Proposal 1, Witwer would have to publicly disclose her connections with Edge. We'd all know the answer in that case.

Everyone should agree that that's preferable. Until then, Witwer is being hung out to dry as guilty until proven innocent while political advisors — both public and private — beat her around like a piñata.

Rep. Tom Kunse, R-Clare, of all people, claimed Witwer was "unethical and wrong" for not completely divesting herself of the company while in office.

In May, Kunse made it into a Bridge Michigan article for co-owning a company that sold land for \$3.5 million to a nonprofit that was gifted a big chunk of change by a former House speaker who envisioned a new health campus in his district.

Instead of providing any proof that Witwer improperly directed money to clients past or present, The News' next story was how the appropriations chair let some pals use the House Appropriations Room for a Saturday baby shower.

The powerful and connected have used the state Capitol for private parties and weddings since time immemorial. The lawn is available to anyone with a reservation. Wander around the Senate Appropriations Committee Room during the night of Silver Bells in the City. It's never locked up.

We all see what we want to see. We believe what we want to believe. Today's communications constructs make it easier to do exactly that.

It requires all of us to use our nog-gins and be critical consumers here. Just because something looks scandalous doesn't make it so.

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

New faces outnumber old in Lansing at-large races

4 at-large contenders running to replace Wood and Spitzley

By TYLER SCHNEIDER

The Lansing City Council stands to lose a combined 30 years' experience when Carol Wood and Patricia Spitzley retire at the end of the year.

Wood, the current City Council president, is calling it a career after 24 years. Patricia Spitzley, who took office in 2016, also chose not to seek reelection. Both were serving in at-large positions, leaving the seats up for grabs in the Nov. 7 election.

The top four out of eight candidates who ran in the Aug. 8 primary are vying for these two spots: Tamera Carter, who came in first with 26.8% (5,673 votes); Trini Lopez Pehlivanoglu (20.4%, 4,308 votes); Jody Washington (18.8%, 3,968); and Misy Lilje (2,097, 10%).

Washington, 66, who represented the city's 1st Ward from 2012 to 2019, is the only one with prior City Council experience. She was defeated for reelection in 2019, 55% to 45%.

"What really spurred my desire was the fact that we are losing the two incumbents, and they are taking years of experience and knowledge with them. Love them or hate them, they are taking a lot with them," Washington said. "I knew that if we didn't get somebody with experience that 50% of our Council would have barely a year-and-a-half to no experience whatsoever."

The majority of the 21,138 total primary voters didn't seem to share that concern, however. Despite their lack of Council experience, they favored Carter, a branch



Carter



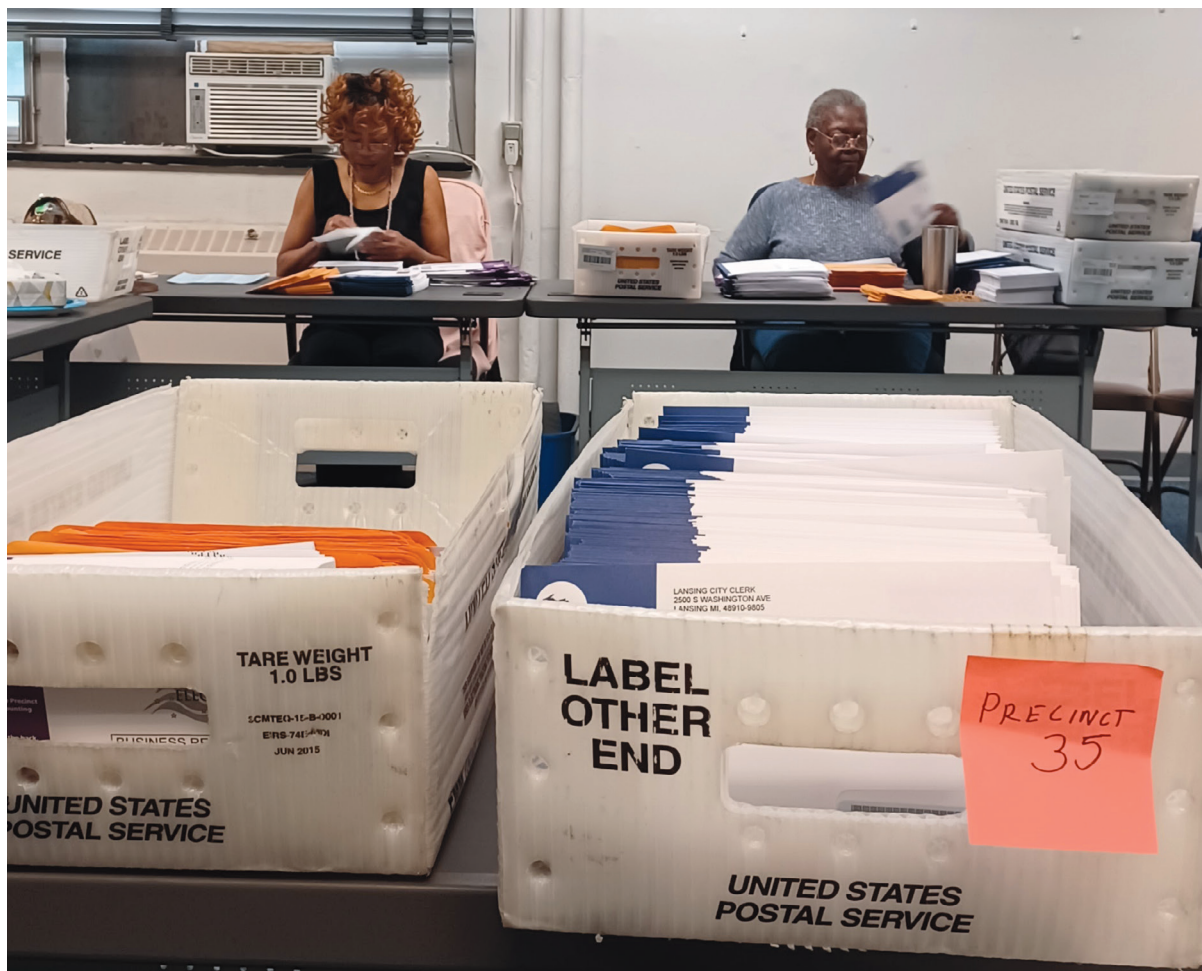
Lilje



Lopez Pehlivanoglu



Washington



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Sheryl Fundunburks Stephens (left) and Mary Jackson were among the volunteers at the Lansing City Clerk's Office in the South Washington Office Center who helped prepare 14,400 absentee ballots that were mailed last week for the Nov. 7 General Election. City Clerk Chris Swope said 93% of absentee voters thus far have taken advantage of the new Permanent Mail Ballot list that automatically sends them ballots as long as they are registered to vote. Voters have until Nov. 3 to request a mailed ballot at www.LansingVotes.gov, where more information is available.

manager at Lake Trust Credit Union, and Lopez Pehlivanoglu, a resident of the city's southwest side who has worked at the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs since 2021.

Carter, 40, holds a master's degree in organization leadership and is on the boards of the Impression 5 Science Center and Downtown Lansing Inc. Her keystone issues are gun violence, public safety, housing insecurity and homelessness, economic development and equity and inclusion. She did not respond to calls and emails requesting comment.

Lopez Pehlivanoglu, 42, is the daughter of Lansing School Board member Guillermo Lopez and an Everett High School graduate with 17 years' experience working in county and state government. If elected, she hopes to address neighborhood safety, promote economic growth and development and financially empower residents.

"I have four kids, and when my two older boys were attending Everett High School, they were placed on lockdown more times than I care to tell you," Lopez Pehlivanoglu said. "These kinds of things happen all the time, and it's just really alarm-

ing to me. I like what I've seen with the city creating partnerships where some of these groups work directly with youth in town. I want to support more of those efforts."

Lilje, 47, the only candidate to be endorsed by Mayor Andy Schor, suspended her campaign in September due to family health concerns, she said. However, she said she serve if elected. Lilje is the CEO of Happendance, a nonprofit dance education organization, and works as a paraprofessional at Ingham Intermediate School District by day. She's been on the Lansing School Board since 2016.

Schor also intended to back Carter, but she rejected his endorsement and campaign donations.

Despite her place in a field of qualified newcomers, Washington, an employee of the Michigan Department of Corrections who's also active with the local homeless populations, still believes her experience is the best answer for Lansing.

"It seems like at this time, we are doing many things just by knee-jerk reaction," Washington said. "I think we're at a crossroads, and it could either go really good, or really south."

New and familiar faces vie for 3 East Lansing Council seats

By TYLER SCHNEIDER

East Lansing voters have some pivotal decisions to make in the Nov. 7 general election.

They'll have to choose three of eight candidates to join to join George Brookover and Dana Watson on the five-member City Council. Also up for consideration are a trio of ballot issues, including one to expand the Council to seven members.

The timing could not be more impactful. The city has faced several tumultuous circumstances in recent years that have led to a large staff exodus at City Hall. The Council's 4-1 decision to approve new City Manager Robert Belleman's contract last month was the latest move to draw some criticism.

Last summer, the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners fired Belleman as controller and chief administrative officer after some members criticized his job performance. He had worked there 11 years.

Noel Garcia Jr. is now running to retain the seat he was appointed to fill in January after Lisa Babcock was elected a district judge in November. The retired police lieutenant and single father voted to approve Belleman to replace longtime City Manager George Lahanas, who was fired in January. Randy Talifarro, the city's former fire chief, served as city manager in the interim.

"I came on at the time when the Council had decided to separate from Lahanas," Garcia said. "I'd heard some reasons why, but it wasn't all clear. I've always subscribed to the philosophy that, yeah, it's important to know what happened, but it's more important to move forward."

Garcia said he supported Belleman after doing his own research on the latter's time in Saginaw County.

"It wasn't this long-standing issue that he had," Garcia said. "He has regional partnerships that were impressive to me and comes from a strong economic background. I chose him because I feel he was the best candidate."



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

The eight candidates for three seats on the East Lansing City Council appeared at a forum sponsored by the Lansing chapter of the League of Women Voters in September. From left: Incumbent Noel Garcia Jr., Christopher Wardell, Kerry Singh, Mark Meadows, Rebecca Kasen, Joshua Ramirez-Roberts, Daniel Bollman and Erik Altmann.

Candidate Mark Meadows, the former East Lansing mayor and state representative who resigned his Council seat in 2020 after the Council's controversial decision to fire City Attorney Tom Yeadon, has a different opinion.

"The decision was a little unusual to say the least. To bring in someone who was terminated, allegedly because he had created a toxic work environment, to a city that just lost over 50 upper-level employees probably qualifies as the definition of a toxic workplace," Meadows said.

Meadows said he decided to run again because "the decision-making at the city seemed to be very troubled."

Another former Council member, Michigan State University Professor Erik Altmann, entered the race with similar motivations.

"What they can't afford to do, in my view, is treat the decision of the current Council like it was normal, because it wasn't. It was a deeply flawed process and a very suspect outcome. And under those conditions, you can't just run with it and pretend that everything's fine," Altmann said, adding that he wants to help the city "return to the basic norms of civil conduct."

The remaining five candidates had less to say on that matter.

"We just have to move forward. You know, right or wrong. It was up to the current Council to choose, and I stand by that decision to hire him," first-time candidate Chris Wardell said.

Aside from the proposed addition of two seats, another ballot question asks voters to consider delaying the date when newly elected Councilmembers take up the office to comply with state law. Under the city charter, Council members are sworn in on the first Tuesday after they are elected. If the ballot proposal succeeds, they would take office on the first Tuesday after Jan. 1.

The third would implement ranked-choice voting "in the event that the Michigan Bureau of Elections certifies the process."

Meadows and Altmann join architect Daniel Bollman and 22-year-old MSU student Joshua Ramirez-Roberts in opposing all three proposals.

Bollman, a member of the East Lansing Planning Commission since 2015, said that although strong arguments could be made either way, he thinks the city "moved too quickly" in adding them to the ballot this year.

"My preference would have been to appoint a charter service commission or a committee to actually study in depth what the impact of these different changes might be," he said.

Kerry Ebersole Singh, Rebecca Kasen, Wardell and Garcia favor expansion because it could bring more diverse perspectives into the fold. Garcia said he opposes ranked choice.

"There's plenty of people who can't run

because there's too much of a time commitment and not a significant amount of money attached to it," Kasen, executive director of the Women's Center of Greater

Lansing, said. "Those might be people who have qualities that the board could really use as an experience of a truly representative democracy."

Ebersole Singh and Kasen were less enthusiastic about delaying the date on which new members take up office, but they also don't want to see East Lansing fail to comply with state law. Wardell, who serves as the chief of staff for Rep. Kevin Coleman, sees both sides, but he said he understands the opposition to creating what would essentially create a new lame-duck period for outgoing Council members.

"It's quite a chaotic process, and often personal priorities are getting shoved through at the last minute. I feel like we should get new City Council members as soon as possible," Wardell said.

"I think a lot of it is vague or convoluted," Ramirez-Roberts said of the swearing-in date. "I don't think the public would very easily be able to understand what's happened."

On the topic of ranked-choice voting, he said he supports the idea, "but not how it's written."

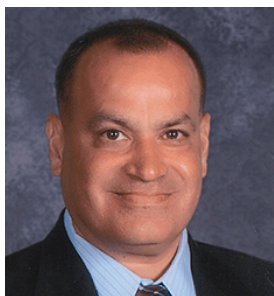
Kasen agreed, citing disdain for trigger laws that complicate the matter in her mind. Wardell was previously on



Altmann



Bollman



Garcia



Kasen



Meadows



Ramirez-Roberts



COLLEGE NIGHT

SPEAK WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM 50+ COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Oct. 19 • 6 – 7:30 p.m. • Downtown Campus • lcc.edu/collegenight

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION/EMPLOYER.

Newcomer VandeGuchte hopes to oust Kost in 1st Ward

By TYLER SCHNEIDER

A Meijer security officer and former Gander Mountain firearm salesperson thinks he has what it takes to unseat First Ward Councilman Ryan Kost this November.

The challenger is Michael VandeGuchte, a 29-year-old eastside resident who cites the Michigan State University shooting as the catalyst for his decision to enter the race.

“It hit me really hard. To me, it was like: ‘Well, I think this is what I need to do.’ I felt the draw, and I saw the opportunity,” VandeGuchte, a Holland native and MSU graduate, said.

Kost, a 35-year-old eastside resident and the first openly gay Ward 1 officeholder, is finishing out a partial term expiring Dec. 31 for a seat originally filled by Brandon Betz from 2020 through his controversial resignation in January 2022. The Council then voted to appoint Brian Daniels to fill the seat through the Nov. 8 General Election, when Kost beat him by 55 votes.

During his 10 months in office, Kost said he was most proud of his work on eliminating red-tagged properties. He cited around 750 such cases identified by the city when he took office versus the 600 or so that now remain — “an ongoing accomplishment.” He also lists the city’s budget negotiations and several smaller wins like road improvements and addressing sinkholes and flooding.

“I’m a true believer that our community cannot prosper if we’re not taking care of our neighborhoods and letting them decay,” Kost said.

Kost drew 1,807 of 2,524 total votes in the Aug. 8 primary to VandeGuchte’s 469 and DeMarco Taft’s 248. VandeGuchte admitted that he’s “at probably a 40-60 split” in terms of his chances of winning Nov. 7, but said he’ll have his feet on the ground through election day to try and tip the scales.

VandeGuchte’s campaign centers around three key issues: public safety, local business and mental health.

“I feel like the east side has been in turmoil for quite a while here, at least for the past eight years,” he said. “It’s one of the biggest economic sectors of the city, and I want to make sure that businesses feel like they can come here and not have to shut down shop.”

On public safety and mental health, VandeGuchte said he felt the current City Council has “had this habit of ignoring a lot of the small things.”

“Assault is our number one violent crime right now, and LPD focuses on a lot of the big stuff. While that’s important, I think if we got back to more community policing, addressing more of those middle-of-the-road things, it would make the people realize that we care,” VandeGuchte said.

VandeGuchte previously worked in security at Sparrow Hospital, which he said helped heighten his awareness of the need for expanded mental health services.

“I think this city has the resources to where we can really home in on that section of mental health recovery and sustainability,” he said.

VandeGuchte was circumspect about controversial information about his opponent’s background that emerged this year.

In 2013, Kost was the subject of a personal protection order filed by a former partner, Nathan Janssen, who accused Kost of giving him a black eye, biting him and of frequently being heavily intoxicated. Kost eventually entered detox at Sparrow Hospital.

In July, City Pulse reported that Kost had lied to the paper when he said he was unaware that he had still owed Eaton County about \$10,000 to Eaton County District Court stemming from a 2010 guilty plea for failing to stop at the scene of a personal injury auto accident. Kost served a year a year in Eaton County Jail.

An Eaton County Clerk’s Office employee provided evidence to City Pulse that Kost had acknowledged in an email that he owed the money.

Said VandeGuchte, “I will give you a comment as his constituent: I’m embarrassed. It’s absolutely ridiculous. That man spent a year in jail. I now want to represent the 1st Ward in a way more of an upstanding position.”

On the debt, Kost said, “It’s currently being paid.” On the incidents as a whole, “I can tell you it doesn’t relate to my City Council job.”

“Look,” he added, “I can’t change my past. I’ve made mistakes. Everyone makes mistakes. I can tell you though, that if anyone needs anyone has a question of my character: Look the work that I have done so far on City Council.”

VandeGuchte sold firearms at Gander Mountain from late 2014 through 2017. When asked if he personally owned firearms, he declined to answer. He said he is open to gun restrictions in the name of safety.

“The MSU shooter got a gun charge that was swept under the rug and look at how that ended up for us,” he said.



Kost



VandeGuchte

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.** at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823.

A public hearing to consider Ordinance 1525, a rezoning request from Michael Zawacki to rezone a 0.3-acre property at 730 Grove Street from R-2, Medium Density Single-Family Residential District to RM-32, City Center Multiple-Family Residential District.

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

The public may attend and participate at all meetings in person. Members of the public may participate electronically in all meetings. Please contact the Principal Planner or visit the City’s public meeting portal for electronic meeting access information:

Landon Bartley – Principal Planner
410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823
517.319.6930 or lbartley@cityofeastlansing.com
<https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/>

For more information on the request please contact Principal Planner Landon Bartley at the contact info above. 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. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Planning Commission, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to coelplanningcommission@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: please contact the Planning and Zoning Division at 410 Abbot Rd., East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6930 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email to Rebecca.Urdiales@cityofeastlansing.com.

Marie E. Wicks
Interim City Clerk
City of East Lansing

CP#23-260

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING NOTICE OF POSTED MEETING MINUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all meeting minutes for the Charter Township of Lansing are posted to and available on the Township’s website at www.lansingtownship.org. Meeting minutes may also be obtained by emailing dptyclerk@lansingtownship.org.

Meeting minutes are also posted in, and available for inspection at, the office of the Township Clerk (located at 3209 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan) during normal business hours.

Maggie Sanders, Supervisor
Cortney Lighthouse, Clerk

CP#22-276

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF INGHAM PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING FILE No. 23-001082-GM-P33

In the matter of Dereka Swift. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected-by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on October 11th, 2023 at 9:00 am at 313. W. Kalamazoo St. Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Richard J Garcia for the following purpose:

UNCONTESTED HEARING – PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF MINOR GUARDIANSHIP.

CP#23-255

Ward 3 race pits two-term incumbent against young newbie

East Lansing

By TYLER SCHNEIDER

Two-term incumbent Adam Hussain didn't always plan to seek a third go-ahead from voters.

"I was hoping that, after two terms, I might be able to pivot to maybe an at-large position or a city board because I think it's incredibly important to build up new leadership and bring new people in," Hussain said. "But there's so much work that we have almost done and at that goal line. I decided to run again because we just haven't arrived yet."

Unlike 2019, when he ran unopposed, Hussain faces a challenger in King Robertson, a 23-year old LCC cardiology student and Churchill Downs resident who decided to enter municipal politics after watching his mother, Nkenge Ayanna Robertson, run for office in 2022 as a Republican against Sarah Anthony for the District 21 state Senate seat. Anthony won with 60.3% of the vote.

Robertson did not respond to interview requests, and his listed phone number was disconnected. He stated his issues with the current city gov-

ernment in an April 8 campaign announcement post on Facebook.

"Lansing needs improvement that can be seen. I'm tired of politicians creating promises they can never keep — many of them are currently in office. We need change and prosperity that works for everyone, not just ourselves," Robertson wrote.

"My parents both stand for leadership, equality, and prosperity. I was taught all three," he added, doubling down on those ideals as anchors of his approach to policy decisions.

Hussain, 42, is a Waverly Middle School teacher by day who was first elected in 2015. He served as the body's vice president in 2020 and 2021 and as president in 2022. Hussain's mother, Jody Washington, is a former 1st Ward represen-

tative who's running at-large.

He launched his first campaign after serving for five years on the Lansing Park Board. In talks with other southside advocates at the time, Hussain said they were looking for one thing in a potential representative at City Hall: "who's going to be that pugnacious advocate?"

During his tenure, Hussain believes he has been just that. He cited his work on facilitating repaving projects on South MLK Jr. Boulevard, South Waverly and West Jolly roads, and a "major road project" on West Holmes Road, as well as the implementation of a number of other southside advocacy organizations and initiatives, including the MLK

Corridor Improvement Authority, Facade Improvement Program, the Southwest Action Group and most recently the new development strategy for the long-troubled Logan Square Plaza shopping center.

Hussain said he and Robertson have not met but said he's "excited that a young guy like him threw his name in the hat and wants to help move his community forward."



Hussain



Robertson



Ebersole Singh



Wardell

from page 10

the fence, but issued his support after a discussion with a potential constituent. Ebersole Singh, wife of state Sen. Sam Singh, a former East Lansing mayor and a longtime policy activist, said she signed the petition to bring the issue to the ballot.

"I agree with it in concept, but know that it will be fought in terms of implementation because of the current state policy on the books. I don't see it being able to be implemented," Ebersole Singh said.

"I hope we really start thinking about how we can make East Lansing a model college town in North America, so that people point to East Lansing as a place where they're establishing best practices and creating a community where everyone, no matter the age, wants to live, work and play," Ebersole Singh, a 1998 MSU graduate, said.

"It's just quietly tense," Ramirez-Roberts said of the city's current relationship with MSU, adding that the university "really is our economic lifeline and pretty much the whole reason East Lansing exists. To make it better, we have to go in and at least get an idea on where we stand in terms of funding."

THE PULSIFIEDS

SENIOR PERFORMANCE ENGINEER
Delta Dental seeks full-time Senior Performance Engineer. Create & maintain performance testing specifications & scripts. Performs req. testing & monitoring of syst. components while under load & provides tech. assistance & guidance on complex performance issues ensuring consistency & improving performance of bus. systems. Req: Bach. or equiv.+ 5 yrs. exp. Jobsite: Okemos, MI. Hybrid position w/ in-office req. Must live within a commutable distance of Okemos, MI & be able to work in-office as req. Apply online at www.deltadentalmi.com/careers.

NEURORADIOLOGIST/ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
Michigan State University seeks Neuroradiologist/Assistant Professor of the Department of Radiology and Colleges of Human and Osteopathic Medicine in East Lansing, MI. This position is responsible for interpretation of diagnostic images; performance of interventional procedures on referred patients; collaboration with referring physicians for high quality patient centered care; teaching residents and students in the clinical setting, as well as collaboration with visiting professors; among other duties. Requirements: DO or MD in Medicine; 12 years of experience in Neuroradiology; Eligibility for State of Michigan medical license; Certification by American Board of Radiology; and 1 year fellowship in Neuroradiology. To apply, visit careers.msu.edu (posting #901965).

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE INGHAM COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT**

In re: Petition of Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority for Expedited Quiet Title and Foreclosure of Certain Parcels of Real Property Case No. 23-0598- CH
Hon. Wanda M. Stokes

Timothy M. Perrone (P37940)
COHL, STOKER & TOSKEY, P.C.
Attorneys for Petitioner
601 N. Capitol Ave.
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 372-9000

NOTICE OF HEARING

To: Bobbie Pelfery, Claudia Pelfery, and all other persons having an interest in the subject property.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing on the Petition of Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority for Expedited Quiet Title and Foreclosure of a Certain Parcel of Real Property shall be held before the Honorable Wanda M. Stokes, Circuit Judge, on Thursday, the 2nd day of November, 2023, at 11:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, in the Ingham County Courthouse, Mason, Michigan.

This Notice pertains to the real property located in the City of Lansing, County of Ingham, State of Michigan, legally described as:
Lot 169, Leslie Park Subdivision, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 4 of Plats, page 2, Ingham County Records. Parcel ID #33-01-01-14-357-211
Commonly known as 500 S. Fairview St., Lansing, MI 48912

Notice of Pending Expedited Quiet Title and Foreclosure Action (Form 4329) for the subject property was recorded with the Ingham County Register of Deeds on August 28, 2023.

Judgment of the Court after this hearing may result in title to the property vesting in the Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority, 3024 N. Turner St., Lansing, MI 48906 – Telephone (517) 267-5221.

Any persons with information regarding the owner or prior owner of the subject property are requested to contact the Land Bank.
Any rights of redemption and any ownership interest in the subject property may be extinguished by the judgment of the Court.
Any person with a property interest in the property may lose his or her interest, if any, as a result of the quiet title and foreclosure hearing.

THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THE INGHAM COUNTY LAND BANK FAST TRACK AUTHORITY AND IS SUBJECT TO AN EXPEDITED QUIET TITLE AND FORECLOSURE ACTION. PERSONS WITH INFORMATION REGARDING THE PRIOR OWNER OF THE PROPERTY ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT THE LAND BANK FAST TRACK AUTHORITY AT 3024 N. TURNER ST., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48906, TELEPHONE (517) 267-5221.

Respectfully submitted,
COHL, STOKER & TOSKEY, P.C.

Date: September 13, 2023

/s/ Timothy M. Perrone
Timothy M. Perrone (P37940)
Attorney for Petitioner
601 N. Capitol Ave.
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From the swing to the rocking chair

Mary Badham takes the leap from film to stage in 'To Kill a Mockingbird'

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Life goes by fast. One minute, you're a 9-year-old girl, squinting at the sun, swinging on a tire and trying hard to avoid the old lady who yells at you when you walk past her garden.

The next minute, you're the old lady.

It sounds like a cruel fate, but for actress Mary Badham, it's a deliberate choice.

Badham, who turns 71 on Saturday (Oct. 7), played the key role of Scout in the 1962 film adaptation of "To Kill a Mockingbird," with the late Gregory Peck as her father, Atticus Finch. Her sensitive, energetic performance earned her an Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress.

More than half a century later, she's on the other side of the porch rail playing her old nemesis, Mrs. Dubose, in Aaron Sorkin's stage adaptation of Harper Lee's classic novel, running at the Wharton Center through Sunday (Oct. 8). Richard Thomas, of "The Waltons" fame, heads the cast as Atticus Finch.

Badham sounded like her bubbly, non-cranky self when we talked last week as the touring company set up shop at Bass Performance Hall in Fort Worth, Texas.

"We've got a great cast," she said. "I'm very pleased with it. We've been in rehearsal yesterday and the day before because we've got a few new people that have jumped in, and they have to learn how to move the sets and all of that."

Badham retired from acting in the late 1960s, finished school and went on to work in education, medicine and art restoration, but the compassionate message of "To Kill a Mockingbird" is still her touchstone.

After decades of speaking about "Mockingbird" at colleges and public events, joining a touring company of the stage adaptation was a logical step, but it wasn't an easy one to make.

"This was my first foray into theater, and I was mortally terrified," she said. What's more, the morphine-addicted, racist Mrs. Dubose couldn't be further removed from her own personality and outlook.

"She's pretty complicated," Badham said. "She's mean and crotchety and in pain all the time. But she's courageously fighting it, and she's a hero in that sense. In the book, it says she 'died free.' She did kick it."

When the producers invited Badham to see the play on Broadway three years ago, the quality of Sorkin's adaptation cinched the deal for her.

"He's so quick and so funny, and he knows how to make you think about stuff," she said. "You have to pay attention because this play goes fast and furious."

In the film, Atticus tells Scout that to really understand a person, you have



Courtesy photo

As attorney Atticus Finch's daughter, Scout, in the 1962 film adaptation of "To Kill a Mockingbird," Mary Badham became close friends with the late Gregory Peck.

to "climb into his skin," but Badham wasn't sure she wanted to inhabit Mrs. Dubose's prickly hide night after night.

"I had to go to my African American friends and go, 'Look, guys, they want me to do this, and I don't know if I can say these words,'" she recalled. "And they were like, 'Go for it. You can do this. Just make her as mean and hateful as you can.' And that's what I've tried to do."

Badham loved working on the 1962 film, although it sometimes seems like a dream now.

"Everybody on the film was so close," she said. "We were like a family."

For the rest of Peck's life, he and Badham called each other "Atticus" and "Scout."

"I used to go to their house on the weekends and play with their kids, Cecilia and Anthony," she said. "Whenever I go to Los Angeles, I still stay with Cecilia

a lot of times."

She noted that Peck, director Robert Mulligan and producer Alan Pakula all had young children at the time, so "it really made sense to them" to tell the story from the children's point of view.

She singled out Mulligan as a "psychological genius" who knew how to work with children.

"He knew exactly what to do to get the reactions he wanted without talking about it," she said.

Mulligan arranged it so Badham didn't see actor Robert Duvall, who played the shy and reclusive Boo Radley, in character and makeup until cameras were rolling.

Haunted and fearful at first, Duvall cowers behind a door until he meets Badham's curious gaze, and the two exchange tentative, compassionate smiles.

"Hey, Boo," Scout greets him. If you don't shed a tear at one of the silver screen's most quietly shattering moments, you're made of stone.

"When they opened that door, I was like, 'There he is,'" Badham said.

She called Duvall "a perfect actor."



Courtesy photo

Badham said she wasn't sure she could play Mrs. Dubose in Aaron Sorkin's stage adaptation of "To Kill a Mockingbird" because the angry, racist character is "the opposite of me."

"He can say so much with a look," she said.

Badham has played only a handful of major screen roles, but each is memorable. At 13, she co-starred with Robert Redford and the late Natalie Wood in "This Property Is Condemned," a 1966 Sydney Pollack drama. The story is told through flashbacks, with Badham doing the narration.

Badham loved working with Wood — and smelling her Jungle Gardenia perfume — but didn't relish getting caught in a nerve-racking crossfire of daily rewrites involving the late playwright Tennessee Williams and three screenwriters, including Francis Ford Coppola.

"I would be getting into a car to go back to the hotel at the end of the day, and somebody would tap on the window and slide pages through," she recalled. "Then they would have the audacity to come to the hotel room and tap on the door with more changes. My mother would send them packing, big time."

Badham turned in another spirited lead performance in the 1966 William Castle thriller, "Let's Kill Uncle," a bizarre black comedy packed with murder plots involving sharks and tarantulas.

After that, she left the movie biz to return to school, but her hometown of Montgomery, Alabama, had lost its allure.

"In California, I had friends of all races, colors and creeds," she recalled. "And then I had to come back to Alabama, where, at that time, if a Black man so much as dared to look a white woman in the eye, he could be beaten to death, and nobody would say anything."

She finished school in Arizona and met her husband, Richard Wilt, now a dean at Lehigh Carbon Community College in eastern Pennsylvania. They're still together.

She looks back warmly on her experience filming "Mockingbird," but it's tough for her to watch the film anymore. "Everybody's gone," she said.

Other than Badham, only two major cast members are still alive. Duvall is

92. Phillip Alford, who played Scout's brother, Jem, is now 75 and lives in Gadsden, Alabama, having retired from acting in 1972.

But Badham's new stage family is a consolation.

"This cast and crew are wonderful," she said. "They are such sweet people. Richard Thomas is doing a great job with Atticus. He would have been one of my first choices for Atticus, and he is just killing it."

Badham is aware that "To Kill a Mockingbird," as a white-centered story that relegates the Black experience to the background, has been subject to a sweeping reevaluation in recent years.

"It's a tiny little book, but there's a lot in it," Badham said. "It's an educational tool, one of the best I've ever found. If you read it when you're a kid, and then read it again in high school, and again when you're a parent and again when you're older, you're always going to find something new or that you skipped before."

Lee's book and Sorkin's adaptation weave the redemptive threads of empathy and compassion through a dense tapestry of ignorance and injustice. The central narrative, in which a white attorney defends an innocent Black man accused of rape, is woven into that tapestry, along with the children's blind fear of Boo Radley, Mrs. Dubose's struggles with morphine addiction and many other issues.

"Everybody wants to put this book down to a Black-and-white racial thing, and it's totally not," Badham said. "If you want to talk about family issues, mental issues, physician-prescribed pain medications, legal issues, social structures, child abuse, the importance of reading, it's all in there, all of life's lessons we still have not learned. That's where I'm coming from. I have found that the people who criticize the book, the ones who want to pull it off the shelf, have never read it and don't understand what's in it."

"To Kill a Mockingbird"

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Sadie Bass on life after 'Wake N' Bake'



By LUCAS HENKEL

Since the release of her stoner summer anthem, "Wake N' Bake," and the accompanying music video, produced and sponsored by Laingsburg dispensary Local Roots Cannabis and Michigan-based cannabis company Redemption Cannabis, singer/songwriter Sadie Bass has been living the high life. She's booked 56 shows in 18 different states across the country and is working on an album with country hit-makers in Nashville, Tennessee.

"I'm so thankful for the Liskeys and Local Roots. 'Wake N' Bake' has been a major hit and is one of my most popular songs," Bass said. "There were some shows on tour down South where when I performed 'Wake N' Bake,' I saw people in the crowd looking at each other. Almost like they were looking for the other person's approval, if that makes sense."

It does make sense — although several Southern states have enacted medical cannabis programs, few of them have embraced the recreational use of cannabis. Bass also shared a story of one innocent fan from Al-

abama telling her that she thought the song was about baking in the sun, not getting baked.

"I guess the song can mean different things for different people, and I think that's great," she said with a laugh.

Bass has been spending a lot of time bouncing back and forth between Michigan and Nashville to prepare for her upcoming album release and tour.

"I'm scheduled to perform at more festivals next year, so I want to have a nice mix of music to perform," she said. "I have a few songs that I'm working on that are more badass and high-energy, but I'm also working on a few dancey love songs, too."

She plans to perform a mix of new songs and some oldies and covers at her free show Sunday (Oct. 8) at Laingsburg's McClintock Park Amphitheater, sponsored by Local Roots and Redemption Cannabis. The two-hour show will feature an acoustic set by Bass and her friend and band member Zach Hayes, a Lansing native. Attendees are encouraged to bring a chair or a blanket to sit on.

Sadie Bass

Sunday, Oct. 8
2-4 p.m.
McClintock Park
Amphitheater
255 E. McClintock St.,
Laingsburg
sadiesbassmusic.com



Courtesy photo

Singer/songwriter Sadie Bass, a Bath native, returns to the Lansing area Sunday (Oct. 8) for a free show at Laingsburg's McClintock Park Amphitheater.

To prepare for Bass' show, roll up your favorite Redemption Cannabis strain, which can be found at Local Roots, and listen to her music on Spotify, Apple Music or YouTube. Check out her website, sadiesbassmusic.com, for a full list of upcoming tour dates.

Leaving Lansterdam

When I read that Kyle Kaminski was leaving City Pulse last August, I was pretty bummed out. As a fellow stoner and resident of Lansing, I enjoyed reading Lansterdam in Review. Not only did I feel like I was staying up to date about all things cannabis in mid-Michigan, but I also felt as though I could actually stay in the loop as to what was happening in my local community, something I was desperately seeking as a new transplant to the area. So, when City Pulse posted an ad seeking a new writer for its weekly weed column, with my wife's encouragement, I pushed through my self-doubt and sent in my resume. A few days later, City Pulse's editor and publisher, Berl Schwartz, called me and asked if I would be interested in covering Pure Roots' grand opening on North Larch Street. This would mark the beginning of my time as "Lucas of Lansterdam."

Throughout the last year, I've had the opportunity to interview dozens of people, from recreation-

al dispensary owners and managers to musicians and activists, who have made the Michigan cannabis industry what it is today. I've been able to try out some of the hottest cannabis products on the market and got paid to write my feedback, something my college self never thought was possible. I've been able to talk to so many folks about the positive impacts cannabis has made on their lives and the lives of others. While the industry isn't perfect by any means — capitalism and greed can seep into all markets, including cannabis — I'm thankful for the folks I've met and the lessons I've learned along the way.

While I'll still be living in Lansing, my time as your go-to weed reporter has come to an end. I'm not sure what the future will hold for Lansterdam in Review, but what I do know is that Michigan's cannabis scene will not go unnoticed.

City Pulse needs a new Lansterdam in Review columnist. Do all aspects of cannabis interest you, from product reviews to business operations? Are you a good writer? Are you careful with the facts? Can you meet deadlines? If so, let's talk. Please contact Berl Schwartz at (517) 999-5061 or publisher@lansingcitypulse.com.

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Another season of historical walking tours wraps in REO Town



Courtesy of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing

Lansing's former Grand Trunk Railroad station now sits next to the Lansing Board of Water and Light headquarters, hosting BWL Board of Commissioners meetings and training for employees.

By CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS

If you've never been a tourist in your own city, you're missing out on interesting architecture, transportation history and ... Fruit Wars?

"The headline was, 'Fruit Merchant Guns Down Rival in Street,'" said Jenn Carpenter, owner of Deadtime Stories in REO Town and host of the historical crime podcast "Violent Ends." "My first thought was, 'Fruit merchants had rivals?'"

Carpenter was researching something for her podcast and, as often happens to those who scour the archives, she got sidetracked. She ended up uncovering a series of stories about rival fruit merchants on South Washington Avenue and coined the term "Fruit Wars" on an episode of her podcast.

"The State Journal never reported on it as one big thing that was happening. They were all individual instances, but they involved the same people," she said.

Some of the stories of the Fruit Wars include blown-up buildings, hired hitmen and residents being gunned down in the streets. Carpenter thinks that because organized crime was involved, reporters couldn't investigate or mention the larger picture, which she said included the late gangster Al Capone.

"They had no idea that someday we'd be able to go back and connect the dots to see the bigger picture," she said.

The story of Lansing's Fruit Wars was just one of many shared at the Historical Society of Greater Lan-

sing's last walking tour of the season Saturday (Sept. 30), which took attendees along a few blocks of South Washington Avenue in REO Town.

Bill Castanier has been the president of the Historical Society for five years and a member for 10. He said the tours are successful because they incorporate both architectural history and the history of Lansing residents.

"Most tours focus on either one or the other, but we've found success talking about both the buildings and the people who lived in them," he said. "One of the things that happens at the tours is that people come who know more than we do. They've got the history, either because of family or they've lived here their whole lives."

The walking tours have been happening each summer for nearly a decade, guiding attendees through neighborhoods like Old Town, downtown, the east side, the west side and more. Tours are free, no registration is required, and most are less than half a mile. Now that summer has ended, the Historical Society will transition to lecture events throughout the fall and winter.

Castanier, who is City Pulse's book columnist and a longtime contributor, said REO Town is one of the most historic parts of Lansing, thanks to the now-defunct REO Motor Car Co. During the early 20th century, it was a boomtown, with thousands of workers living there in the 1920s. But it suffered a dramatic downturn in the 1970s



Courtesy of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing

A postcard from 1911 depicts the former Grand Trunk Railroad station in REO Town.

when the plant closed.

"It was an unpleasant place to be. Where Blue Owl Coffee is now used to be a topless shoeshine parlor," Castanier said.

The brick building next to the Lansing Board of Water and Light headquarters was once a station for the Grand Trunk Railroad, which operated passenger train trips around the country.

"You could leave from there and go to New York or Philadelphia," Castanier said.

Archival newspaper clippings provided by the Historical Society show round-trip fares for less than \$30 to Quebec City; Boston; Montreal; Portland, Maine; and Atlantic City, New Jersey. One newspaper advertisement from 1917 details how passengers could leave Lansing at 5:57 p.m. daily and have dinner in the dining car. After sleeping overnight while passing through Canada, they would arrive at Niagara Falls the next morning and spend the day passing through the Finger Lakes region of New York, which the ad calls "The Switzerland of America." The train would arrive in New York City that afternoon, followed by Philadelphia.

One especially memorable moment at the busy Lansing train station was when the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt stopped there during a whistle-stop tour on Oct. 15, 1936. The paper of the day reported, "President's Cheerfulness Impresses Local Throng," and noted that he stopped for long enough to chat with youngsters in the crowd of 20,000 people. Other front-page stories that day included a man who was sent to prison for wound-

ing his wife, Detroit voting registration being at an all-time high, 100,000 hunters taking to the areas surrounding Lansing in search of pheasants and two stories about hunting accidents.

In 1971, the passenger rail service closed, and the building became a series of restaurants and blues-music establishments.

"It was a rough neighborhood back then, and now it's totally turned around," Castanier said. "All the buildings are being used for different purposes. Ellison Brewery is the only building left that has anything to do with REO. It used to be a dealership."

Castanier remembers hosting a walking tour just 10 years ago. He said REO Town was dramatically different.

"It was just starting to come back, about the time that Dylan (Rogers) was opening the Robin Theatre. It's really changed dramatically in 10 years," he said.

He also mentioned that the funding recently approved to restore the Moores Park Pool will put even more people on the streets of REO Town in years to come.

"It will have a dramatic impact on the area," he said.

Castanier finished our conversation by stating that many people don't really know the full history of Lansing. He feels lucky that the Historical Society has discovered some unique and interesting people who were lost to history.

"We found one guy in Lansing who was a polar explorer. At one point, his name was on the front of every newspaper in the world, and no one here knows him," he said.

Upper Peninsula author examines plight of orphan-train children

By **BILL CASTANIER**

In the late 1800s and early 1900s, thousands of orphaned and abandoned children were loaded onto trains heading westbound from the East Coast. The trains would stop along the way so the children could be put on display like livestock and selected for adoption.

It sounds compassionate, but the children were often adopted into horrible conditions amounting to servitude. As the trains traveled further west, the weaker, less attractive children became the only ones left for adoption.

It's into this time period that Upper Peninsula writer John Smolens drops readers of "A Cold, Hard Prayer," his new historical-fiction novel that follows two teenagers, Lincoln Hawser, a sickly boy better known as "Rope," and Mercy, a mixed-race girl, who are among the last children standing on a railroad siding in southern Michigan.

Early in the book, Smolens writes about the tremendous hardships the teens find themselves facing with their foster family, the Naus, who lost their two children to the influenza epidemic.

Mr. Nau is a drunk, and he has his eye on Mercy for lascivious reasons. Things go terribly wrong, and the teens are forced to run away from the fictional southern Michigan city of Otter Creek in the middle of winter. Mercy heads north to St. Ignace in the hopes of connecting with her

mother's aunt, who she prays might take her in. Rope follows closely behind for reasons he can't identify.

As they make their way north, numerous high-profile adventures await them, especially after they're accused of murdering Mr. Nau. A dogged police chief, Jim Kinkaid, goes after the duo as they make their way to St. Ignace. Also looking to capture the children are members of the Ku Klux Klan, who want to conduct a "trial" of the two alleged killers to further their cause of organizing in the North.

Smolens said his 12 novels all revolve around geographic locations, which helps move the plot forward.

"Also, this is not the first book I've written about the 1920s. It was a remarkable era. We were creating a modern life but also looking back at when the Ku Klux Klan was a real political force," he said.

Kinkaid "captures" the teens a few different times but treats them with dignity as he arranges to bring them back to Otter Creek to face charges. As he arrives in St. Ignace, he finds himself trapped while repairs are made to the Chief Wawatam ferry. In the short time he's there, Kinkaid loses his charges and finds himself involved in another tracking episode that becomes

complex when the Klan and illegal alcohol distillers get involved.

"It doesn't matter how many novels I've written. Each time, it's like building a wheel from scratch, but I like the idea of discovery," Smolens said. "You have to be patient with your writing, and it goes in places you don't expect."

As always, Smolens, who has written about the Bath School disaster of 1927 and a plague on the East Coast, among other historical topics, adds

tremendous atmosphere to the complex plots. Smolens is a dedicated researcher and always gets his facts right so that the time, place and plot seem believable. It helps that all of his recent books begin with a factual event from history.

In his new book, Smolens also includes a subplot of the plight of Ojibwe children who were placed in Catholic convents to be "saved" but

basically became servants.

The orphan trains transported more than 200,000 children, often the children of early migrant families, to the Midwest between the 1850s and 1929, with the vast majority of the children ending up as farm laborers and housekeepers for farm families.

In 1979, CBS aired a fictional TV



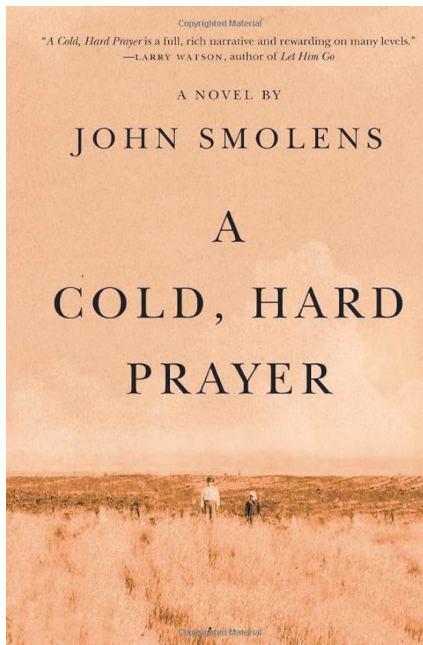
Courtesy photo

"It doesn't matter how many novels I've written. Each time, it's like building a wheel from scratch, but I like the idea of discovery," said John Smolens, author of the new historical-fiction novel "A Cold, Hard Prayer."


movie, "Orphan Train," that detailed the experience, and numerous books have been written about the orphan trains as well.

The first train was sent to Dowagiac, Michigan. As the program expanded nationwide, sending children to 45 states, it began to meet great resistance due to a lack of oversight and the children being treated like they were cattle at an auction.

In 2017, the Dowagiac Area History Museum held a reunion of orphan train riders and their families to recognize this ultimately harmful adoption program.



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Putting the pieces back together with MSU's 'Clue'

By **CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS**

A classic whodunit, produced by Michigan State University's Department of Theatre, takes the stage at the Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre beginning Friday (Oct. 6), featuring an ensemble cast, a board-game-esque set, complex comedic timing and — the ancient Greeks will hate this one — plenty of death on stage.

Director Ryan Patrick Welsh, an assistant professor of media acting, said it's been fun to challenge his cast while teaching them the ins and outs of stage comedy.

"The demand of a joke is higher than the demand of a tragic moment because you can feel tragedy in so many different ways. It can take more time or less time. But the joke is on the page. And if you don't lift the three lines before it, for example, then the other person's punchline doesn't land," he said.

The last show Welsh directed for MSU was "Sweat," by Lynn Nottage, a story of factory-floor friendships and fractures amid union strikes. Welsh said producing that show was more about "finding moments and having conversations," but with "Clue," he said, "This is the punchline, and we've got to get there. It's a skill to hit that punchline."

Seray Sezgen, a junior double majoring in acting and public relations and minoring in musical theater, plays Mrs. White. She said she has a personal connection to the role.

"Clue is my favorite board game of all time. I played it throughout my entire childhood, and I always won. Ironically, I always chose Mrs. White as my player."

She said she's seen the movie, and her character isn't quite the same.

"She's colder, the tragedy is hidden inside her, but

now I'm demonstrating that tragedy a lot more on stage. I think that's coming from the difference between movies and theater," she said.

True fans of the board game will remember the brief thinkpiece dump of 2016 that occurred when Mrs. White was killed off by the game's makers and replaced with Dr. Orchid, a young Asian woman. This year, Mrs. White was quietly reintroduced, and Dr. Or-



Chelsea Lake Roberts for City Pulse

Director Ryan Patrick Welsh (left) and cast members Seray Sezgen (center) and Tyler Radze block a scene for Michigan State University's production of "Clue."

chid was retired, resulting in neither outrage nor fanfare from Clue stans.

Tyler Radze, a junior double majoring in acting and business management, plays Col. Mustard, whom the actor describes as officious, self-aware and sort of an idiot.

"He doesn't pick up on nuance, and a lot of the jokes come from the way he's bulldozed himself into an awkward situation," he said.

Radze was intrigued by how Welsh encouraged the cast to think of their characters as coming from just a single color.

"It's been a lot of fun bringing these bigger-than-life characters to the stage," Radze said.

This is Radze's first show in the Pasant Theatre. The theater is built in a thrust style, meaning the stage juts out into

the audience and three sides of the actors are visible at all times. Radze said it's been interesting going from the typical proscenium-style stage to the thrust, especially because the cast is on stage for the full 90 minutes.

Creative set design by Thalia Pearce lays out each room on the stage so that the set is completely static. This means when an actor "dies," they have to stay there — sometimes for up to 25

minutes.

According to Sezgen, the cast has been having a great time rehearsing.

"It's really funny. Every time we're doing rehearsal, I think, 'How am I not going to laugh on stage?'" she said.

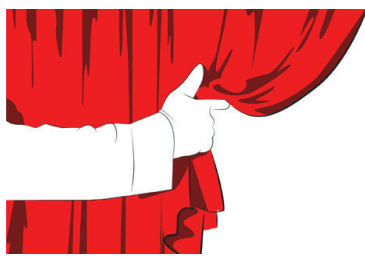
Welsh said he feels like the students are finally readjusting after years of pandemic-related protocols and changes to instruction delivery. Both Sezgen and Radze did theater before enrolling at MSU, and they described the past few years of doing monologues and scene work while wearing masks or rehearsing in masks but not wearing them for performances. Sezgen said she's just glad to be back to "a normal experience."

Welsh said the transition into COVID protocols was simpler because supporting students made sense. But transitioning back has meant redefining expectations and reacclimating students to the natural rigor of a theater major, which includes days of classes, nights of rehearsals and performances and working student jobs and internships, all at the same time. But for some students, the work is just worth it.

Sezgen started taking acting classes in the fourth grade. By sixth grade, she knew she wanted to be an actress.

"My mom was like, 'No,' but my dad said, 'You've got this,'" she said, laughing. "I've been doing theater for a long time, but 'Clue' is going to be my biggest experience yet."

BEHIND THE CURTAIN



October theater productions

"Clue"

MSU Department of Theatre
Oct. 6-15
7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday
2 p.m. Sunday; Oct. 14
Wharton Center Pasant Theatre
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
whartoncenter.com

"Isaac's Eye"

LCC Performing Arts
Oct. 6-14
8 p.m. Friday-Saturday
2 p.m. Sunday
LCC Black Box Theatre
411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing
lcc.edu/showinfo

"On the Market"

Through Oct. 22
8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday
2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday; Oct. 11 and 18
Williamston Theatre
122 S. Putnam St., Williamston
williamstontheatre.org

"The Rocky Horror Picture Show"

Oct. 19-28
7 p.m. Thursday
8 p.m. and midnight Friday-Saturday
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive, Lansing
riverwalktheatre.com

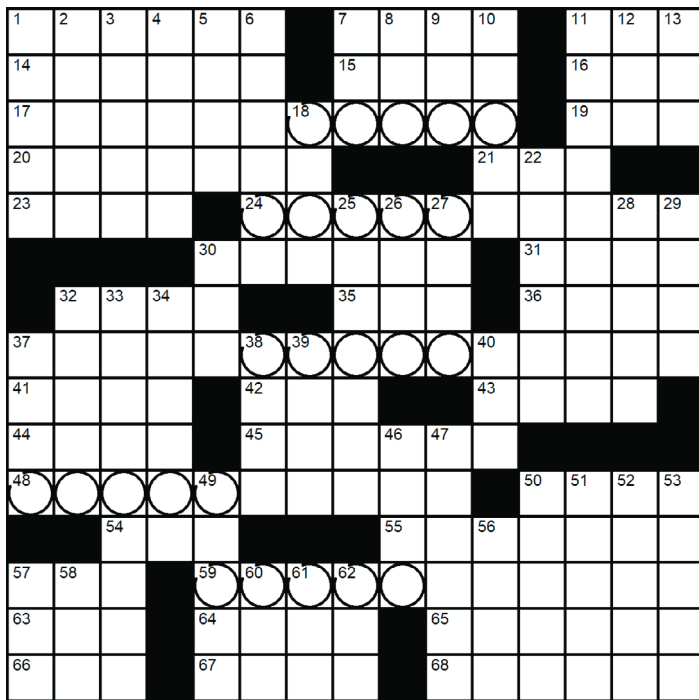
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Well, That's Fare" --
to coin a phrase.
by Matt Jones
© 2023 Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1. "C'mon, quit it!"
- 7. High poker pair
- 11. #1 bud
- 14. Friendly New Orleans address
- 15. "90210" actress Spelling
- 16. Shapiro on NPR
- 17. Annoying consumer levy
- 19. "What's in the ___?"
- 20. Jeopardized
- 21. Exert some effort
- 23. Beverage suffixes
- 24. With authority derived from one's position, in Latin
- 30. Baltimore player
- 31. Word in a fall forecast, maybe
- 32. Word in a fall forecast, maybe
- 35. La Mediterranee, e.g.
- 36. "Mater" intro
- 37. They're quintessential
- 41. ___-lock brakes
- 42. ___ Gatos, CA
- 43. Old U.S. gas station still seen in Canada
- 44. "Things are not always what they ___"
- 45. Anaphylaxis treatment
- 48. 114-year-old gas station logo
- 50. "To be," to Bizet
- 54. Prefix meaning "fire"
- 55. Good place for a pool table
- 57. Name on 1950s campaign buttons
- 59. Payment down to the penny (or what the theme entries exhibit?)
- 63. Play on linear TV
- 64. "Sonic & Knuckles"



- 22. "Previously on" segments
- 25. "Here! Take a chair"
- 26. "It's... Little ___ Horne!"
- 27. "Trillion" prefix
- 28. ___ Void ("Never Say Never" new wave band)
- 29. "'Tis a shame"
- 30. Less than a couple
- 32. Actress Zellweger
- 33. Someone who knows their Monet from their Manet
- 34. "Allow me"
- 37. We all have one
- 38. Letters to ___ ('90s rock band)
- 39. High-rated
- 40. About 79% of the old publisher
- 65. Follower of multi- (or if it's a gadget criticized by Alton Brown, uni-)
- 66. "Unforgettable" singer ___ 'King' Cole
- 67. High-altitude seat feature
- 68. Like clothes after a workout
- 11. Toys that may wet themselves
- 12. "To" opposite
- 13. Awkward situation
- 18. 161, to Claudius
- 22. "Recover the wind" appeared in "Hamlet" but never came into wide use. Other failures include, "Would you take eggs for money?" and "From smoke to smother." Still, Shakespeare's final tally of enduring neologisms is impressive. With this vignette, I'm inviting you to celebrate how many more successes than flops you've had. The time is right for realistic self-praise.
- 25. Remove, as chalk
- 51. Maker of small trucks
- 52. Peter who had a way with words
- 53. Abrasive material used for nail files
- 56. Chunk of tobacoy
- 57. Jeff's character in "Jurassic Park"
- 58. Korean car company
- 60. Gen-___ (one who's nearly fifty-something)
- 61. Palindromic Turkish title
- 62. Bahamas islet
- "Guess Who?" board
- 46. Haircut line
- 47. Raises, as a skyscraper
- 49. Family insignia
- 56. Chunk of tobacoy
- 57. Jeff's character in "Jurassic Park"
- 58. Korean car company
- 60. Gen-___ (one who's nearly fifty-something)
- 61. Palindromic Turkish title
- 62. Bahamas islet

DOWN

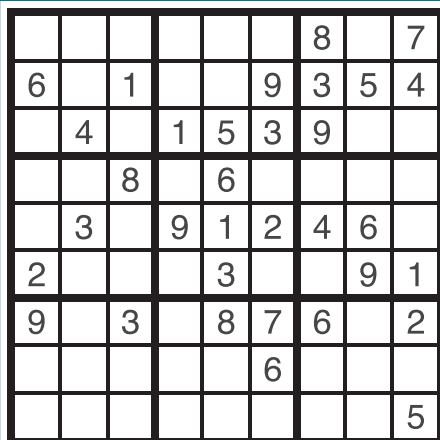
- 1. "Amor vincit ___"
- 2. Baskervilles beast
- 3. Attack from a distance, in Overwatch
- 4. Zaps, on "Jackass"
- 5. Epps of "House, M.D."
- 6. More tree-scented
- 7. Played the restaurant critic
- 8. Hotel suite extra
- 9. Noteworthy time period
- 10. Like ESP, sense-wise

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Answers on page 23

SUDOKU

Beginner



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

October 4-10, 2023

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The Indigenous Semai people of Malaysia have an unusual taboo. They try hard not to cause unhappiness in others. This makes them reluctant to impose their wishes on anyone. Even parents hesitate to force their children to do things. I recommend you experiment with this practice. Now is an excellent time to refine your effect on people to be as benevolent and welcoming as possible. Don't worry — you won't have to be this kind and sweet forever. But doing so temporarily could generate timely enhancements in your relationship life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Taurus author William Shakespeare reshaped the English language. He coined hundreds of words and revised the meanings of hundreds more. Idioms like "green-eyed monster" and "milk of human kindness" originated from him. But the Bard also created some innovations that didn't last. "Recover the wind" appeared in "Hamlet" but never came into wide use. Other failures include, "Would you take eggs for money?" and "From smoke to smother." Still, Shakespeare's final tally of enduring neologisms is impressive. With this vignette, I'm inviting you to celebrate how many more successes than flops you've had. The time is right for realistic self-praise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I hope beauty will be your priority in the coming weeks. I hope you will seek out beauty, celebrate it and commune with it adoringly. To assist your efforts, I offer five gems: 1. Whatever you love is beautiful; love comes first, beauty follows. The greater your capacity for love, the more beauty you'll find in the world. —Jane Smiley. 2. The world is incomprehensibly beautiful — an endless prospect of magic and wonder. —Ansel Adams. 3. A beautiful thing is never perfect. —Egyptian proverb. 4. You can make the world beautiful just by refusing to lie about it. —Iain S. Thomas. 5. Beauty isn't a special inserted sort of thing. It is just life, pure life, life nascent, running clear and strong. —H.G. Wells.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): I read a review that described a certain movie as having "a soft, tenuous incandescence — like fog lit by the glow of fireflies." That sounds like who you are these days, Cancerian. You're mysterious yet luminous; hard to decipher but overflowing with life energy; fuzzy around the edges but radiating warmth and well-being. I encourage you to remain faithful to this assignment for now. It's not a state you will inhabit forever, but it's what's needed and true for the foreseeable future.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The published work of Leo author Thomas de Quincey fills 14 volumes. He inspired superstar writers like Edgar Allan Poe, Charles Baudelaire, Nikolai Gogol and Jorge Luis Borges. Yet he also ingested opium for 54 years and was often addicted. Cultural historian Mike Jay says de Quincey was not self-medicating or escaping reality but rather keen on "exploring the hidden recesses of his mind." He used it to dwell in states of awareness that were otherwise unattainable. I don't encourage you to take drugs or follow de Quincey's path, Leo. But I believe the time is right to explore the hidden recesses of your mind via other means. Like what? Working with your nightly dreams? Meditating your ass off? Having soul-altering sex with someone who wants to explore hidden recesses, too? Any others?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Virgo journalist H.L. Mencken said, "The average person doesn't want to be free. He wants to be safe." There's some truth in that, but I believe it will be irrelevant for you in the coming months. According to my analysis, you can be both safer and freer than you've been in a long time. I hope you take full advantage! Brainstorm about unexpected feats you might be able to accomplish during this state of grace.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Libran philosopher and writer Michel Foucault aspired to open up his readers' minds with novel ideas. He said his task was to make windows where there had been

walls. I'd like to borrow his approach for your use in the coming weeks. It might be the most fun to demolish the walls that are subdividing your world and keeping you from preventing free and easy interchange. But I suspect that's unrealistic. What's more likely is partial success: creating windows in the walls.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): More and more older people are transitioning to different genders. An article in The Guardian describes how Bethan Henshaw, a warehouse worker, transitioned to female at age 57. Ramses Underhill-Smith became a man in his 40s. With this as your starting point, I invite you to reevaluate your personal meanings of gender. Please note that I'm not implying you should change your designation. Astrological omens simply suggest that you will benefit from expanding your ideas. Here's Scorpio singer Sophie B. Hawkins, a mother who says she's omnisexual: "My sexuality stems from an emotional connection to someone's soul. You don't have to make a gender choice and stick with it."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Sagittarian author Mark Twain said that in urgent or trying circumstances, uttering profanities "furnishes a relief denied even to prayer." I will add that these magic words can be downright catalytic and healing — especially for you right now. Here are situations in which swearing could be therapeutic in the coming weeks: 1. when people take themselves too seriously; 2. when you need to escape feelings of powerlessness; 3. when know-it-alls are trying to limit the range of what can be said; 4. when people seem frozen or stunned and don't know what to do next. In all these cases, well-placed expletives could provide necessary jolts to shift the stuck energy. (PS: Have fun using other surprises, ploys and twists to shake things up for a good cause.)

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In Roman mythology, Venus was the goddess of love, desire and beauty. Yet modern science tells us the planet Venus is blanketed with sulfuric-acid clouds, has a surface temperature of 867 degrees Fahrenheit and is covered with 85,000 volcanoes. Why are the two Venuses out of sync? Here's a clue, courtesy of occultist Dion Fortune. She said the goddess Venus is often a disturbing influence in the world, diverting us from life's serious business. I can personally attest to the ways that my affinity for love, desire and beauty have distracted me from becoming a hard-driving billionaire tech entrepreneur. But I wouldn't have it any other way. How about you, Capricorn? I predict that the goddess version of Venus will be extra active in your life during the coming months.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Thousands of heirloom food species are privately owned and hoarded. They once belonged to Indigenous people but haven't been grown for decades. Descendants of their original owners are trying to get them back and grow them again — a process they call rematriation — but they meet resistance from companies and governmental agencies that commandeered the seeds. There has been some progress, though. The Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin has recovered some of its ancestral corn, beans and squash. Now would be a good time for you Aquarians to launch your own version of rematriation: reclaiming what was originally yours and what truly belongs to you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): I like Piscean poet Jane Hirshfield's understanding of what "lies at the core of ritual." She says it's "the entrance into a mystery that can be touched but not possessed." My wish for you right now, Pisces, is that you will experience mysteries that can be touched but not possessed. To do so will give you direct access to prime riddles at the heart of your destiny. You will commune with sublime conundrums that rouse deep feelings and rich insights, none of which are fully explicable by your logical mind. Please consider performing a homemade sacred ritual or two.

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

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

Wednesday, Oct. 4

"A Course of Love" Book Study, Facilitated by Lucille Olson & Bill Dietrich - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Acting & Glee Music Class for Kids - Ages 5-12. 4:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Anti-Violence Initiative - Seven-week program for teens ages who have faced violence or bullying due to sexual orientation or gender identity. 4-5:30 p.m. Salus Center, 408 S. Washington Square, Lansing. saluscenter.org/programs/calendar.

Decoupage with Fire - Make Halloween-themed crafts using fire and Mod Podge! Intended for adults. Registration req. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

"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.

Improv Acting Class - 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jazz Dance Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

LBCA Meeting - 7:30 a.m. Pine Hills Golf Course, 6603 Woodbury Road, Laingsburg.

Meridian Historical Village Speaker Series - Sally Gray, a retired MSU associate professor, will present on the social history of tea. 10 a.m. Village Chapel, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. 517-347-7300. meridianhistoricalvillage.org.

Michigan Young Birders Network Virtual Meeting - Free virtual networking group for individuals ages 13-18. 7 p.m. Meeting ID: 946 4329 0865. Password: Chickadee.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Small Works Art Exhibit - 10 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Mindfulness 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. lancm.info.

Shiawassee Artists' Guild Presents: "Potpourri" - 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Tap II Class - 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Two-Faced Wilson at the Graduate Rock Bar - 8 p.m. 133 Evergreen Ave., East Lansing. 517-348-0900. facebook.com/graduaterockbar.

Weaving the Web: Water - Join us online or in person for discussions, rituals, meditations and more!

6 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. weaversoftheweb.org.

"Wholly Integrated," by Zoe Beaudry - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Thursday, Oct. 5

"A Course in Miracles," Facilitated by Lisa Schmidt - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Acting 101 Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class - 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Bath Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St., Bath. 517-641-6728. shopbfm.org.

Creative Placemaking Summit 9 - Learn about creative placemaking projects across the country and envision what's next for the movement in Lansing! 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. The Cadillac Room, 1115 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. lansingplacemakers.org/2023_summit.html.

Dimondale Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. 136 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. villageofdimondale.org.

Eloquents Toastmasters Weekly Meeting - Safe and positive environment to practice public speaking and leadership skills. 6:30 p.m. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. eloquents.toastmastersclubs.org.

Five-Course German Cuisine Dinner Pairing - Five flight-glass pours of craft beers paired with a five-course German menu. 7:30 p.m. Looking Glass Brewing Co., 115 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. 517-668-6004. lookingglassbrewingcompany.com.

Frog & Koop at Old Bag of Nails Pub - 6 p.m. 210 Cascade Blvd., Lansing. 517-826-6266. facebook.com/oldbagofnails Lansing.

Higher Ground Enrichment Time - Kids can use the computers, eat snacks and have a great, safe time. 3-6 p.m. Higher Ground Community Development Center, 3637 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. 517-894-1633.

Jazz/Hip Hop II class - Ages 9-13. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Karaoke Thursday - 8 p.m.-midnight. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

Ladies Silver Blades Skating Club - Join other adult women for fun, exercise, friendship and skating practice. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. ladiesilverblades.org.

Laingsburg Farmers Market - 5-8 p.m. First Congregational Church of Laingsburg, 401 E. Grand River Road, Laingsburg. 517-295-8128. laingsburg-business.org/farmers-market-1.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Small Works Art Exhibit - 10 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-lo-

Ken and Sandy Beall Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival

Oct. 8, 10 and 12

Multiple venues

Michigan State University's 21st annual Ken and Sandy Beall Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival is moving to the fall this year, with concerts at intimately scaled venues on campus, allowing audiences to view the performances up close. Guests can anticipate a diverse cross-section of chamber music by classical greats, 20th-century composers and composers inspired by the spirit of America.

The festival kicks off 7 p.m. Sunday (Oct. 8) at Cook Recital Hall with Stars from South Korea, a piano-and-violin duo, joined by MSU cellist Suren Bagratuni. The trio will perform works such as Claude Debussy's Cello Sonata, a violin sonata by Maurice Ravel and Johannes Brahms' most famous Piano Trio.

The festival continues 7:30 p.m. Tuesday (Oct. 10) at the Alumni Memorial Chapel with a performance by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra String Quartet, featuring works such as Samuel Barber's String Quartet in B minor, Op. 11, a new piece by Detroit Symphony Orchestra cellist and composer Jeremy Crosmer and Antonín Dvořák's String Quartet No. 12, Op. 96.

The festival wraps up 7:30 p.m. Oct 12 at Cook Recital Hall with the MSU Chamber Trio, composed of violinist Yvonne Lam, pianist Ralph Votapek and Bagratuni. The group will perform Ludwig van Beethoven's first Piano Trio, Op. 70, and Dmitri Shostakovich's Piano Trio No. 2 in E minor.

Reserved-seating tickets for each concert are \$17 for adults, \$15 for ages 60 and older and \$7 for students and those under 18. They can be purchased at music.msu.edu.



cations/haslett.

Organic Yoga with Maja McKeever - 6 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 269-762-3189. unitylansing.org.

REACH Virtual Meet-up: Arts Incubator for Young People - 4 p.m. Zoom meeting ID: 828 0808 9879. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble - Learn to excel equally in singing, acting and dance. 5:30 p.m. 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Shiawassee Artists' Guild Presents: "Potpourri" - 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly - Weight-loss support group. Weigh-in 5:30 p.m., meeting 6-7 p.m. Haslett Middle School, 1536 Franklin St., Haslett. 800-932-8677. facebook.com/HaslettTops.

"Wholly Integrated," by Zoe Beaudry - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Friday, Oct. 6

Adult Yoga Class Series - Free weekly yoga session with a master-level instructor. 1 p.m. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. 517-669-3156. dewittlibrary.org.

Craft Club Jr. - Make monster mobiles. Grades 1-3. Registration req. 4:15 p.m. Charlotte

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

Faith & Blue Community Coat Drive - Coat drive and distribution of boxed lunches to community members in need. 4-8 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

"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.

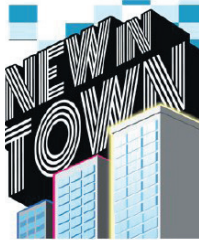
Higher Ground Enrichment Time - Kids can use the computers, eat snacks and have a great, safe time. 3-6 p.m. Higher Ground Community Development Center, 3637 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. 517-894-1633.

"Isaac's Eye" - 8 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Live Music with DownRiver Dan at LBC - 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.com.

"Think Pink" Ballroom Social Dance - Proceeds benefit breast cancer research. Pre-registration req. 6:30-8:50 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. 517-364-8888. sparrow.org.

A call to citizen-gamers



By LUCAS HENKEL

Contrary to other city-states in ancient Greece, the free citizens of Sparta served as hoplites, or citizen-soldiers, for their entire lives. By training and exercising during peacetime, the Spartans were able to maintain a professional standing army.

The imagery of fierce Spartan warriors is not only intriguing, but it also

Hoplite Games

2024 E. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing
2-8 p.m. Wednesday-
Thursday
2-10 p.m. Friday
Noon-10 p.m.
Saturday
Noon-6 p.m. Sunday

facebook.com/
hoplitegames
instagram.com/
hoplitegameslansing

serves as a great marketing strategy for the newly opened Hoplite Games on East Michigan Avenue. Located in the former Voyages Wine Shop, owner Rick Ankney hopes his store will be able to recruit “citizen-gamers” from East Lansing and beyond.

“I’ve had a lot of folks come by just to tell us how excited they are to have a traditional game shop within walking distance of their house,” Ankney said.

While Hoplite Games has only been open for a few weeks, the shelves inside the 1,300-square-foot retail space are already stocked with enough inventory to make any geek’s heart explode — my own included. From classic board games to tabletop role-playing games like Warhammer 40,000 and Call of Cthulhu, there are options to satisfy guests of any age or skill set. The shop also offers a majority of these games in its game library, which allows customers to come in and play at one of the large gaming tables for free.

For the more creative types, the store also offers a variety of miniature models of heroes, villains and other creatures that can be used to take your game night to the next level. Ankney, who also hosts his own video series centered around the art of miniature painting, “Path of the Brush,” hopes to use his experience

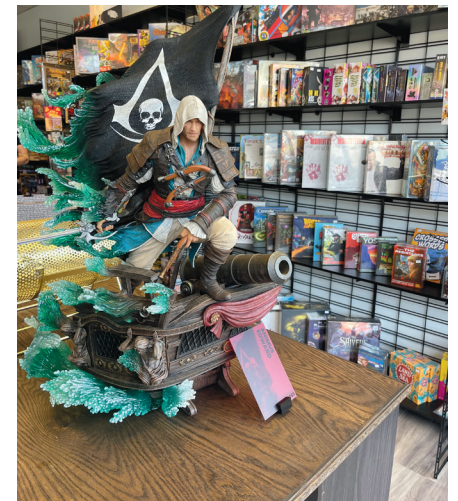
as a “miniature master” to aid others who are interested in getting into the hobby.

“This can be a really expensive hobby,” Ankney said. The cost of paint, brushes and the miniatures themselves can quickly pile up. The average 2-ounce tube of hobby paint can range in price from \$1.50 to \$16 — a hefty difference for the novice painter. But at weekly paint-and-take events on Thursday evenings, customers can come in with their own unpainted miniature or purchase one off the shelf and decorate it for free.

“People can test out different brands of paint and brushes, ask questions and nerd out with other people in their community,” Ankney said.

Besides providing a refuge for the local gaming community, Hoplite Games also aims to support Lansing’s local art scene as much as possible.

“I eventually would love to collaborate with other artists in the area,” Ankney said. “Maybe that means having prints of their work available at the shop for sale, I’m not sure, but I want to provide an outlet for those who are interested.”



Lucas Henkel/City Pulse

Though Hoplite Games on East Michigan Avenue has only been open for a few weeks, the shelves inside are already stocked with enough inventory to make any geek’s heart explode.

City Pulse needs a new New in Town writer. Are you tuned in to nascent businesses in the Greater Lansing area? Are you a good writer? Are you careful with the facts? Can you meet deadlines? If so, let’s talk. Please contact Berl Schwartz at (517) 999-5061 or publisher@lansingcitypulse.com.

THE ULTIMATE VEGAS VARIETY SHOW!

Elton Cher Andrea Barbra
AND MANY MORE!

VEGAS’ TOP IMPERSONATORS THE EDWARDS TWINS

SATURDAY OCT 14

SHOWTIME - 7:00PM

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Performing Arts Center

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Or @ CharlottePerformingArtsCenter.com
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‘Extraordinary!’ -NBC’s Today Show

CELEBRATING
38
YEARS!

LIVE
VOCALS

Events

from page 19

Mark Grinnell at Lansing Shuffle - 7 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW Opening Reception - Meet the artists as you explore the exhibition. 5-8 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Small Works Art Exhibit - 10 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Shiawassee Artists’ Guild Presents: “Potpourri” - 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers’ Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

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

“Wholly Integrated,” by Zoe Beaudry - 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Saturday, Oct. 7

2nd Annual Gun Buyback - Guns must be unloaded, in working condition and in the trunk of the vehicle. Limit two cash awards per person. 11 a.m. St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, 6500 Armwood Drive, Lansing. 517-882-9733. saintmichaellansing.org.

Astrophotography Workshop: Chasing Dark Skies - Learn techniques in astrophotography, from cell phone cameras to telescope photography.

Registration req. 2 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Bad Annie’s Book Fair for Wayward Adults - New puzzles, games and books, plus free gifts with book purchases and refreshments. 5-8 p.m. Bad Annie’s Swearly Goods, 1209 Turner St., Lansing. 517-927-8293. swearlygoods.com.

Celebra La Vida — Celebrate Life - Dinner and auction with live music, cash bar and authentic Hispanic food. Proceeds support the parish and its ministries. 6 p.m. Cristo Rey Church, 201 W. Miller Road, Lansing. 517-394-4639. cristorey-church.org.

Downtown Lansing Zombie Walk - Walk from Impression 5 to the Capitol. Costume contest with prizes. 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. downtownlansingzombiewalk.com.

Fall Native Plant Sale - Michigan-native shrubs, sedges, grasses, wildflowers, ferns and garden kits. All proceeds benefit HNC. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

Family Day: TEAM - Make creative connections with our exhibitions through free, hands-on and interactive family fun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Family Mental Health Fun Day - Noon-4 p.m. Schmidt Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. facebook.com/positivesomebody.

Fire Prevention Open House - Fire truck tours, giveaways, kids’ activities, fire extinguisher hands-on training, home safety inspection sign-ups, donuts, cider and more. 1-4 p.m. Central Fire Station #91, 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

FOOD & DRINK DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

The perfect sick-day takeout

By LIZY FERGUSON

Despite the enduring summerlike weather, co-workers at both of my jobs have been calling in sick like any other turn of the season, and this week, I was finally taken out myself. It's strange to find oneself relieved to have fallen ill ... or is it? Finally, a socially acceptable excuse to do nothing. Sometimes that's what it takes. It's also an excellent excuse to order yourself a large tub of soup!

As a lifelong Lansing resident, Korea House on Trowbridge Road has been a mainstay for me. Its menu offers a huge variety, from Korean classics like bulgogi and bibimbap to sushi, noodle dishes and soups. I chose a familiar favorite of mine, yukgaejang, a spicy, brothy soup with shredded flank steak, green onions and cello-

phane noodles.

My order included a huge container of soup, a side of rice and a number of banchan, which were a welcome surprise. Banchan are the little side dishes that accompany your meal in a Korean restaurant, and I was delighted to find

that this extends to Korea House's takeout. With banchan, you never know exactly what you're going to get. My selections were a slightly sweet, vinegary potato salad; bean sprouts; and, of course, kimchi.

I promptly dumped the kimchi and sprouts atop my soup, added some rice to soak up the broth and got to work, my sinuses clearing with the first inhale of fragrant soup steam. The broth was beefy but not too rich and was equally balanced in its garlicky

and faintly smoky spice. Long strands of still-lively green onion swirled around hearty pieces of shredded beef, and lurking beneath was what tied it all together.

Cellophane noodles are made from sweet potato starch, making them extremely light, semi-gelatinous and what can only be described as "springy." Imagine a dangling slinky made from savory Jell-O. If I'm making them sound unappetizing, I'm doing them a disservice. The texture is addictive! Swirling them around your chopsticks and then giving them a final broth dunk is easily the best part of the yukgaejang experience.

I had more than enough food to put together a couple of meals, making this order ideal for feeding myself on a sick day, especially since each round prompted a lengthy and healing nap. But please, don't be



Lizy Ferguson/City Pulse

You don't need to wait until you've fallen ill to enjoy Korea House's spicy, brothy yukgaejang, complete with a number of banchan, or small side dishes.



Yukgaejang
\$15.20

Korea House
978 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing
11:30 am.-3 p.m., 4-10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
11:30 a.m.-3 p.m., 4-9 p.m. Sunday
517-332-0608
koreahouse.us

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN GREATER LANSING AS DECIDED BY CITY PULSE READERS

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2022 Top of the Town contest. Bon appétit!

TOP 5 NACHOS

1. Meat Southern BBQ

Slow-smoked barbecue standards and inventive, handmade sides
1224 Turner Road, Lansing
517-580-4400
meatbbq.com
11 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
Noon-5 p.m. Sunday

2. El Azteco West

South-of-the-border cafe with carefully sourced ingredients, scratch cooking and patio seating
1016 W. Saginaw St., Lansing
517-485-4589
elaztecowest.com

11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday
Noon-8:30 p.m. Sunday

3. Art's Pub

Mellow gameday hangout serving a wide menu of pub grub and pizzas
809 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing
517-977-1033
artspublansing.com
7 a.m.-11 p.m. daily

4. Buddies Pub & Grill – all locations

Casual restaurants with an eclectic range of dishes
See buddiespubandgrill.com for locations, hours and phone numbers

5. The Cosmos

Wood-fired pizza parlor also offering a long list of appetizers
1200 N. Larch St., Lansing
517-897-3563
thecosmoslansing.com
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday
Noon-11 p.m. Saturday
Noon-10 p.m. Sunday

Vote for your favorite restaurants in the 2023 Top of the Town contest!

like me and wait until you've fallen ill. Treat yourself to a piping-hot, spicy soup today!

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Not-so-secret salmorejo



Courtesy of Ari LeVaux

When the average Spaniard wants to whip up a quick cold soup at home — or have a chilled bowl at the local bar — it's likely to be salmorejo, a simple dish composed of tomatoes, garlic, oil, vinegar, salt and bread crumbs.

By ARI LEVAUX

My first kitchen job involved making six gallons of gazpacho every Sunday. This was back when earning your chops meant something, and making that whole batch with just a knife and peeler — no blender — was the most tedious task on my list.

It was also the most popular dish on the menu. By the time I learned that recipe by heart, I figured I knew everything there was to know about cold Spanish soups.

When I finally made it to Spain, reality set in on many levels. Sangria, it turns out, is just for tourists, while the locals drink a mix of red wine and Sprite called tinto de verano.

Spanish gazpacho, meanwhile, is a lot smoother than my version. And because it's so involved to make, with an entire garden's worth of vegetables to prepare, it's often reserved for special occasions or when company comes over. But when the average Spaniard wants to whip up a quick cold soup at home — or have a chilled bowl at the local bar — it's much more likely to be salmorejo.

Composed of tomatoes, garlic, oil, vinegar, salt and bread crumbs — a much pared-down cast compared to gazpacho — with salmorejo, we are free to focus all of our attention on the tomatoes.

Salmorejo has a body that jiggles like sea foam, thanks to the emulsion of tomatoes, oil and vinegar, which is thickened by the tomato-soaked bread. Some recipes call for the “guts” of a baguette. I've also had good luck cutting the edges off a slice of bread — usually white, but whole-grain adds a fun heartiness once in a while.

High-acid, normal-looking red tomatoes are traditionally used, but some of my best batches have been mutts, medleys of whatever heirloom, slicer, cherry and paste tomatoes are getting too soft for salad.

I was in Spain when COVID-19 hit. On the last afternoon before the lockdown, it didn't quite seem real. In Lanjarón, a cute mountain village in Andalusia, it was business and leisure as usual. As my kids enjoyed a playground that would be roped off for months the very next morning, I ducked into a cafe and ordered a bowl

of salmorejo. It came out immediately, garnished with chopped hard-boiled egg and jamon, or Spanish cured ham.

I didn't realize it at the time, but that bowl of salmorejo would be my last taste of normalcy for months, not to mention my last restaurant meal. Cooped up in our rented house during the lockdown, I began to understand the wisdom of keeping a pitcher of salmorejo in the fridge. It's as much an act of preparation for the inevitable heat of the day as it is a response to ever-accumulating soft tomatoes and stale bread, one problem solving another.

Here is a boilerplate salmorejo recipe. Tweak it to suit your own whims and tastes, but only adjust the levels of the called-for ingredients. If you start adding things, you'll have a breadly gazpacho in no time.

Salmorejo

Serves four

2 pounds of tomatoes

1/2 cup bread guts (roughly a slice of bread with the crust cut off)

1 modest-sized clove of garlic, chopped

2 teaspoons sherry vinegar (more to taste if your tomatoes are low-acid)

1/2 teaspoon salt, plus more to taste

1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil

Garnish: hard-boiled egg, chopped ham, olive oil, parsley, chives

Boil a pot of salted water deep enough to submerge your tomatoes.

While the water heats, cut a cross into the bottom of each tomato to slice the skins. Then gut the bread, which is a lot less messy than gutting a fish or deer.

Boil the tomatoes in the water for about two minutes, then immediately plunge them into an ice bath until they're completely cool. Remove the tomatoes and pull off the skins. If you want to go the extra mile, cut open the tomatoes and remove the seeds.

Liquify the tomatoes in a blender for about 30 seconds. Add the bread and liquify again. Let the blended bread sit for about five minutes in the blended tomatoes.

Add the garlic, salt, vinegar and oil. Blend on high for a minute. Check seasonings and blend again if you made any adjustments.

Chill. Garnish with chopped hard-boiled egg and jamon if you want to be traditional. More casually, a simple splash of olive oil or a sprinkle of fresh parsley will complete the dish.



Events

from page 20

Grand Ledge Beer Fest - Enjoy craft beer and cider from more than 20 breweries. 3-8 p.m. Fitzgerald Memorial Field, 110 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. grandledgechamber.com/grand_ledge_beer_fest.php.

Grand Ledge Fall Festival - Crafters and vendors, free pumpkins, photo booth, pony rides, petting zoo, food trucks, history demonstrations, mobile planetarium and much more. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Downtown Grand Ledge. grandledgechamber.com/grand_ledge_fall_festival.php.

Heritage Festival - Celebration of Meridian Township's history, featuring reenactments, demonstrations, live entertainment, games, exhibits, food and more. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Meridian Historical Village, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. 517-347-7300. meridianhistoricalvillage.org.

How-To Halloween - Interactive exhibits, hands-on activities and demonstrations, vendors, food, live entertainment, kids' trick-or-treating, costume contests, cosplay characters and more. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Intermediate Ballet Class - 11 a.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

“Isaac's Eye” - 8 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Lansing Hot Cider Hustle - Choose between half-marathon, 5K or 10K. When you cross the finish line, enjoy a cup of hot cider and a caramel apple. 7 a.m. Hawk Island Park, 1601 E. Cavanaugh Road, Lansing. michiganruns.com.

Live music with Hidden Agenda - 8 p.m. Knob Hill Tavern, 8430 Old U.S. 27, DeWitt. 517-669-3800.

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

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-712-2395. meridian.mi.us/farmers-market.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Small Works Art Exhibit - 10 a.m.-7 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Queer and Trans Joy Celebration - Art show, open mic, drag performances, silent auction. Proceeds benefit Salus Center and Gender Affirmation Project. Noon. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. saluscenter.org.

Russ Holcomb at Lansing Shuffle - 7 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

Shiawassee Artists' Guild Presents: “Potpourri” - 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

The Sneaker Ball Gala - Silent auction, 50/50 raffle, DJ sets by DJ Space, cash bar, awards ceremony. Proceeds benefit Footprints of Michigan. 5:30 p.m. The Venue by Eleven 11 Events, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 877-811-7463. footprintsformichigan.org.

Solar Eclipse & Planetarium Fest - Learn about the wonders of the sky, including what creates an eclipse. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Steak Night with menu by Chef Stu and live music by Clique Vocals - 7:30-11 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

“Wholly Integrated,” by Zoe Beaudry - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Appetizers

WANT YOUR RESTAURANT LISTED?
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TRY THE CROWN JEWEL OF LANSING'S FOOD TRUCKS. Serving the Lansing community for 13 years, we extend an invitation to all those to give us a try to find out why we were voted the best food truck in Lansing's 2019 Top of The Town Contest.

Lansing Town Hall Celebrity Lecture Series – Steve Hartman

Monday, Oct. 9
11 a.m.

Eagle Eye Banquet Center
15500 Chandler Road, Bath



Lansing Town Hall, a lecture series founded in 1953 by local women who sought to bring more culture to the area, kicks off its 70th season with a talk by Steve Hartman, host of the "On the Road" segments on the "CBS Evening News," 11 a.m. Monday (Oct. 9) at Eagle Eye Banquet Center in Bath. Known for his heartfelt interviews and storytelling, Hartman will share messages of hope, kindness and shared humanity.

Tickets are \$45. To reserve yours, call Margaret Hedlund at 517-323-1045. All proceeds support the Lansing Symphony Orchestra.

"We are so grateful for the hundreds of thousands of dollars that Lansing Town Hall has raised for the Lansing Symphony Orchestra over the years," said LSO Executive Director Courtney Millbrook. "Their contributions have helped us continue to provide outstanding musical performances and educational programs to the community. We are looking forward to another great season of the Celebrity Lecture Series."

Family Mental Health Fun Day

Saturday, Oct. 7
Noon-4 p.m.

Alfreda Schmidt
Community Center
5825 Wise Road, Lansing



Positive Somebody, a nonprofit that works to spread awareness of the importance of positivity, is hosting its 2nd annual Family Mental Health Fun Day noon to 4 p.m. Saturday (Oct. 7) at Lansing's Alfreda Schmidt Community Center.

The goal of the event is to bring mental-wellness education, resources and tools to residents of the Lansing area. It is free to attend and offers a variety of resources from organizations such as Ele's Place; the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties; Capital Area District Libraries; Michigan State University's Lingo Lab; Cognitive Consultants LLC; GPS Guide to Personal Solutions; Therapeutic Massage by Leisa LMT; Healing with Katie; and more.

There will also be concessions, a free raffle, a silent auction, a journal-decorating station, coloring, painting, yoga, music, inflatables, a free bookstore and games with prizes such as fidget toys, water bottles and motivational bracelets. For more information, visit facebook.com/positivesomebody.

Events

from page 22

Sunday, Oct. 8

Bad Annie's Book Fair for Wayward Adults - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Bad Annie's Swear Goods, 1209 Turner St., Lansing. 517-927-8293. sweargoods.com.

Become A Mindful Ninja - Introduction to the concepts of "Therapeutic Mindfulness: A Healing Skill, Not a Coping Skill." Noon. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 269-762-3189. unitylansing.org.

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

Eastern Ingham Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. 517-618-1630. easterninghamfarmersmarket.org.

GLAD Drum Circle at Lake Lansing Park North - All ages and experience levels welcome. 2-4 p.m. 6260 E. Lake Drive, Haslett. facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

"Isaac's Eye" - 2 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

JUGGLERS AND WOULD-BE JUGGLERS - Jugglers

meet at the Orchard Street Pump House at 2 p.m. Sundays. 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. mikemahanka@gmail.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Small Works Art Exhibit - Noon-5 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Shiawassee Artists' Guild Presents: "Potpourri" - Noon-4 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Taylor Taylor at Lansing Shuffle - Noon. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansing-shuffle.com.

This is not a tour: "Shouldn't You Be Working?" - Take an unconventional look at "Shouldn't You Be Working? 100 Years of Working from Home." 1 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Monday, Oct. 9

Beginning West Coast Swing Dance Class - 7 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. 517-364-8888. sparrow.org/our-hospitals-services/michigan-athletic-club.

"Fitness Over 50" Senior Exercise Group - 9-10 a.m. Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Halloween Spider Slime - Make a batch of spider slime to take home! Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St.,

Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Jump Into Reading - 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.

"Letting Go," by David Hawkins: Book Study with Lucille Olson - 1:30 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

LIBRARY BOARD - 7 p.m. City Hall, 114 S. Woodhull Road, Laingsburg. laingsburg.us.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Small Works Art Exhibit - 10 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Shiawassee Artists' Guild Presents: "Potpourri" - Noon-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Tuesday, Oct. 10

Intermediate Ballet Class - 5:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

LAGE Game Night East - 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.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Small Works Art Exhibit - 10 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Minecraft Mania! - We'll have our Minecraft server set up and laptops ready to go. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

On the Same Page Book Club - Grades 7-12. Registration req. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Organic Yoga with Maja McKeever - 6 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 269-762-3189. unitylansing.org.

Thank you to state Sen. Sarah Anthony and state Rep. Angela Witwer

I am writing to express deep gratitude to state Sen. Sarah Anthony and state Rep. Angela Witwer for prioritizing the need to empower youth and foster the artistic spirit through the generous allocation of funding for All of the Above Hip Hop Academy in the state's 2023-2024 budget.



Our programs mentor and educate young people through the dynamic and transformative medium of hip-hop culture. By collaborating with local artists, educators and advocates, we create environments where students can thrive creatively, develop essential life skills and find a sense of belonging.

Thanks to these funds, AOTA will expand our after-school programming in all three of Lansing's high schools, add multiple classes to our weekly programming and support community engagement projects and events. Our purpose is to further our impact in Lansing by connecting with more youth eager to explore their artistic talents, engage in meaningful creative expression and give back to our community.

The trust and investment shown by our elected representatives inspires us to continue to create a positive impact in our youths' lives.

We are both thankful and encouraged by their support.

Ozay Moore
Executive Director
All of the Above Hip Hop Academy

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 18

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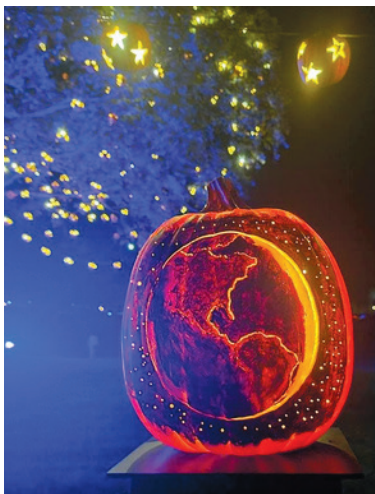
SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 18

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

JACK O' LANTERNS UNLEASHED

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Jacksunleashed.com

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