

CityPULSE

December 11 - 17, 2019

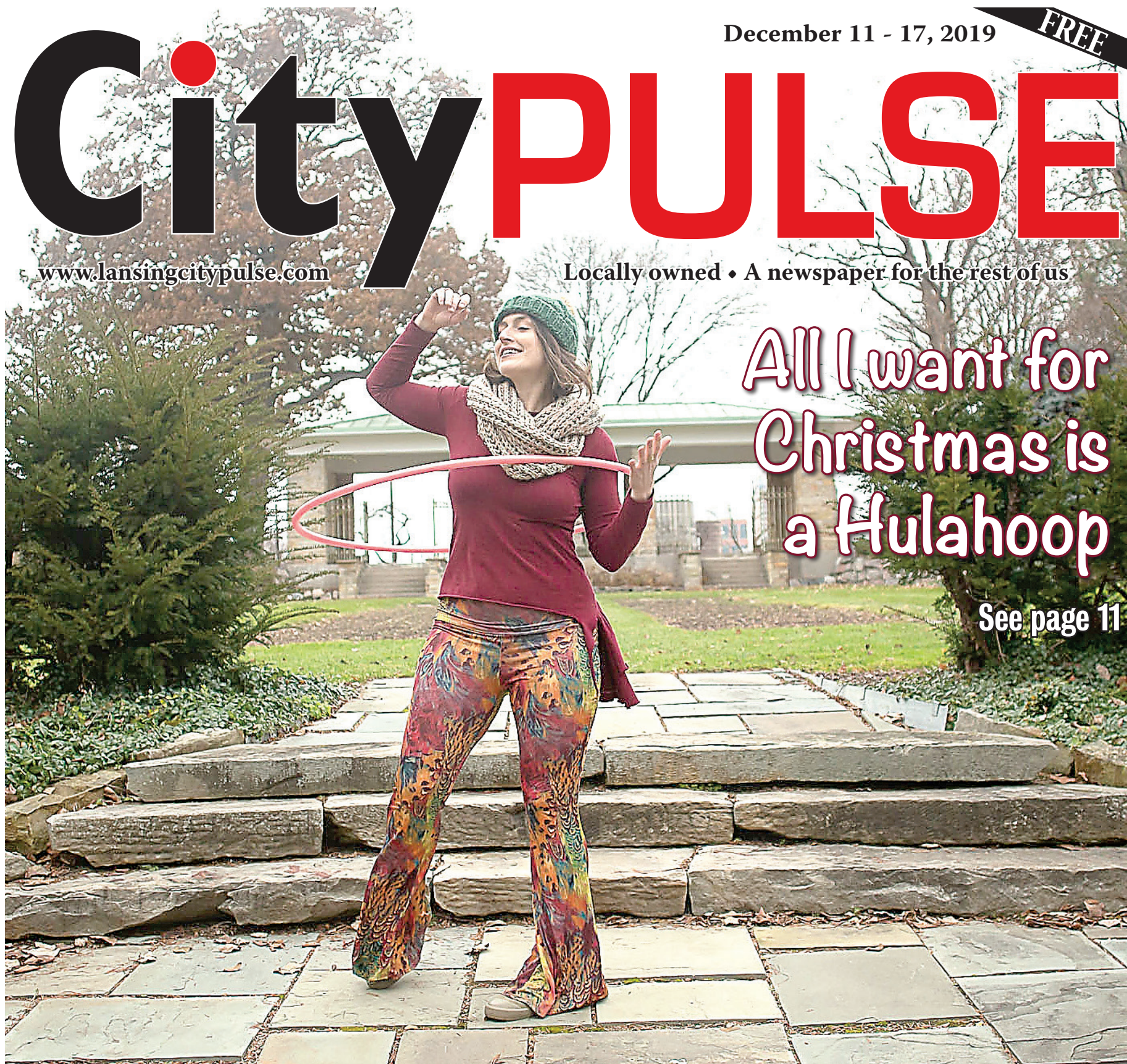
FREE

www.lansingcitypulse.com

Locally owned • A newspaper for the rest of us

All I want for
Christmas is
a Hula hoop

See page 11



If hindsight was
20/20, no innocent person
would be convicted by
eyewitness testimony.

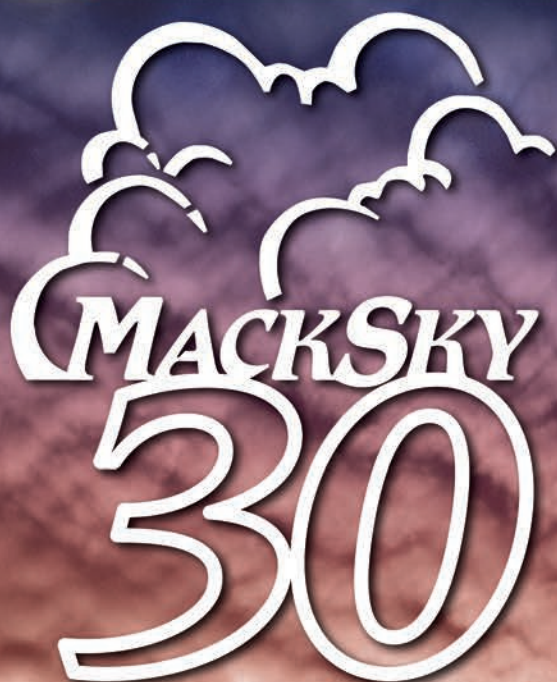
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Help Us Celebrate

OUR LAST HOLIDAY SEASON and

MACKEREL SKY's 30th ANNIVERSARY

As well as our retirement at 2019's end.



HOLIDAY HOURS:

Open Mondays in December
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Saturday 10-5, Sunday Noon-4
Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31 – 10-2
Closed Dec. 25 (Dec. 31st is our last day)



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Favorite Things



John Olson of Wolf Eyes and his original Jesus Figs demo

It was the summer of 1984. I just started skating with my friends. We were total nerds. Wearing loafers. Just dorks. Didn't know about punk, didn't know about anything. We were skating downtown East Lansing and this dude rolls up — it was Skater Dave. He's like, "Hey you guy wanna skate a half-pipe?" And we said, "Nah, we don't smoke man." We didn't even know what a fucking ramp was.

"It's this wooden thing that's really high, and there'll be some other skaters there," Dave said. So we skated with him. It was way the fuck down Abbot. We get there, I walk into the backyard and I hear "This Ain't No Picnic," by The Minutemen; I see skinheads and punks and I'm just like "What the fuck!" Back then, because nobody skated, everybody was cool with each other. It was just like, "Welcome to the community."

They showed me and my homeboy how to drop in, and then at the end of the night they asked, "Do you want to go to a gig?" We didn't even know what a gig was. We just said "Huh?"

They told us, "There's gonna be free beer there and there's a skinhead band playing."

We just said, "Uh, all right."

So we skate to the gig, it was only two blocks over. We go up, and it's four skinheads on acid — we didn't even know what acid was — playing in a kitchen on pots and pans with towels over them to mute them. The singer was just singing into a static TV



screen; this went on for about an hour. They were passing out beers and me and my homeboy were like "Uh ... What?!"

We went home, I woke up my mom and I said, "You're not gonna believe my day. I know what I'm gonna be for the rest of my life."

Fast forward to this summer. Dave is like, "Yo, I'm friends with somebody in The Jesus Figs. I'll let you borrow the demo." And up to this point, I haven't been able to find any information about The Jesus Figs at all. Not only was that the first gig I ever went to, it was the first weird shit I experienced. To be honest, it's such a magical thing I've never even listened to it. The image in my head is just too insane. That tape is the only thing they ever did. They didn't even dub it. It's the absolute original.

Interview condensed and edited by Skyler Ashley.

Ingham County Treasurer Eric Schertzing

Please read the
STATUTORY PUBLICATION
in this newspaper

**DON'T TOSS ASIDE OR IGNORE
THE INSERT IN THE CITY PULSE**

**MAKE SURE YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONES
ARE NOT ON THIS LIST**

Help us prevent tax foreclosure in Ingham County

FORECLOSURE IS FINAL!!!



Ingham County Treasurer

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CityPULSE

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Celebrate the season with more holiday happenings

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New in Town: OverDrive comes to Lansing Mall

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Make a gift or treat yourself to a unique workshop

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By Audrey Matusz

Cover
Art
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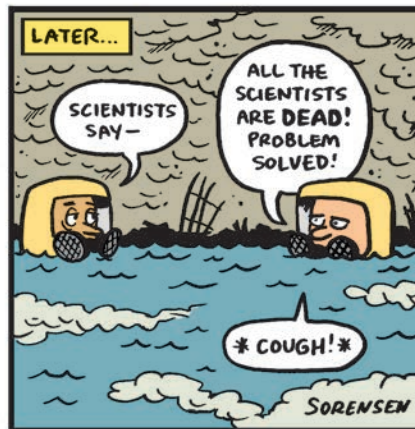
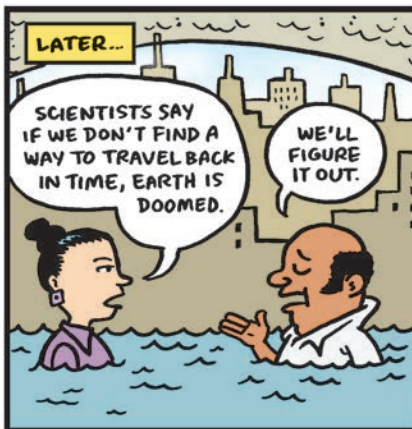
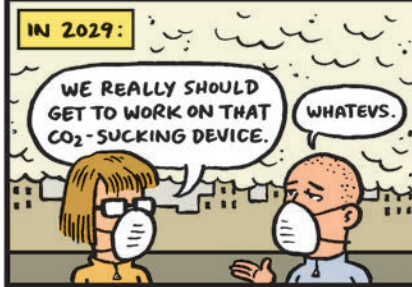
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U.N. SCIENTISTS, 2014: IF WE DON'T CUT CARBON EMISSIONS WITHIN 15 YEARS, WE'LL HAVE TO RELY ON TECHNOLOGY THAT DOESN'T EXIST YET TO REMOVE IT FROM THE ATMOSPHERE.



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CITY PULSE
on the
AIR

NOW AT 10:00 A.M.
SUNDAYS on

WDBM
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

NOTHING IS TRUE AND EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE

AN ONGOING SERIES IN WHICH REPUBLICANS GRAPPLE WITH THEIR GREATEST ADVERSARY, OBJECTIVE REALITY

WITH APOLOGIES TO PETER POMERANTSEV

1. DONALD TRUMP IS DETERMINED TO ROOT OUT CORRUPTION IN ALL ITS MYRIAD FORMS.

IT HAS BEEN A LIFE-LONG OBSESSION FOR THIS DECENT AND HONORABLE MAN!



2. SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT HAVE BEEN USING DEVIN NUNES' PHONE.

I DON'T KNOW WHO MADE THOSE CALLS TO RUDY AND THIS PARNAS GUY!

MAYBE A DEMOCRAT STOLE MY PHONE IN ORDER TO FRAME ME!



3. THE IMPORTANT ISSUE IS ANYTHING OTHER THAN THE THING WE ARE TALKING ABOUT.

THE DOSSIER WHICH HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IMPEACHMENT HAS BEEN COMPLETELY DIS-CREDITED!

ALSO--WHY DO DEMOCRATS WANT TO ELIMINATE ALL HOLIDAYS?



4. IT'S ALL TOO COMPLICATED FOR MORTAL MINDS TO COMPREHEND.

DEMOCRATS HAVE EVIDENCE AND TESTIMONY--

BUT REPUBLICANS SHOUT A LOT! WHO CAN EVER KNOW THE TRUTH?



5. WE LIVE IN A CHAOTIC UNIVERSE WITHOUT REASON OR MEANING.

MAYBE UKRAINE HACKED THE D.N.C., IN ORDER TO RELEASE DAMAGING INFORMATION ABOUT HILLARY CLINTON WHICH WOULD HELP HILLARY CLINTON!

THIS IS A PLAUSIBLE THING WHICH TOTALLY COULD HAVE HAPPENED.



6. THE CONSTITUTION IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

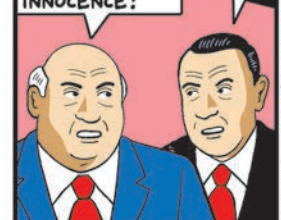
WHERE DID THE FOUNDERS EVER GIVE CONGRESS THE RIGHT TO IMPEACH A PRESIDENT WHO'S DOING A GREAT JOB?

IT'S THE CRAZIEST THING I'VE HEARD SINCE THE FAKE EMOLUMENTS CLAUSE!



7. AND ON AND ON. WHAT IF THE PRESIDENT IS COMPLETELY INNOCENT IN SOME PARALLEL UNIVERSE?

YOU CAN'T IMPEACH SOMEONE WHO EXISTS IN A QUANTUM STATE OF POTENTIAL INNOCENCE!



Tom Tomorrow © 2019

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

'It can be done'**Arts Commission accepts performing arts center plan**

A national consulting firm pegged the cost of Lansing's hoped-for civic performing arts center Monday at \$45 million to \$60 million and reported that it would likely operate at a yearly shortfall of \$640,000, while generating millions of dollars in economic impact and bringing about 150,000 people

ple downtown each year.

After a year of market research, public surveys and meetings, Michelle Walter of Connecticut-based AMS Planning & Research gave her team's final recommendations to Mayor Andy Schor's Arts Commission Monday.

The commission voted without dissent to accept the report and pass it on to the mayor for further action.

The center at a downtown location yet to be determined, would cost about \$60 million as a standalone building, or closer to \$45 million if it is part of a larger private development with shared costs.

Walter called the estimates "very conservative."

"No crystal chandeliers here," she said. "We say with confidence that it can be done."

The plan calls for a 1,400-seat music hall (or 1,800 standing), a 200-seat "performing lab," studio and classroom space for the Lansing Public Media Center and a relocated Lansing Art Gallery.

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra and the Capital City Film Festival, adding year-round programming, would share the facility with nationally touring pop acts and dozens of other theaters, dance troupes,

See Arts, Page 6

Want overnight parking?

Prepare to pay.

Lansing City Council expected to vote on new parking rules

The wild days of almost unchecked overnight parking on the streets of the capital city may be coming to a close as the Lansing City Council looks to ramp up enforcement and introduce paid permits by sometime early next year.

And that means local residents could soon be expected to pay a price for having curbside convenience at home.

"It's not enforced like we would like it to be," explained Mayor Andy Schor. "The best way to do that is to have more parking enforcement staff, but to pay for that, we want to do permits. I'm supportive of a permit system that pays for itself and however many staff that we can afford to bring on to keep this new ordinance enforced."

The City Council's Public Safety Committee will meet later this week to mull the passage of some fresh citywide parking rules that would put some added teeth into Lansing's existing 2-5 a.m. street parking ban while still offering residents the option of a \$125 permit that would allow them to keep their cars on the street all year long. The draft ordinance — which

has been in the works for well more than a year — could pass through the committee Thursday, head to the City Council before Christmas and take effect as early as March 2020. But parking tickets can be a contentious issue. It's pushing some to ask: Why bother changing anything at all?

Under the ordinance, Lansing prohibits street parking from 2-5 a.m. Enforcement, however, has been scarce. And many drivers don't comply. Records show police only issued 743 tickets last year, down from 3,200 in 2017. Council Vice President Peter Spadafore said the ban is a "long-running joke" around City Hall.

"I don't believe we should have a law on the books that we don't intend to enforce," Spadafore added. "To that end, and the way I see it, we have two options: We either ramp up enforcement or we repeal the law. I don't really like either of those options, so we have a third option to rewrite the law and allow for some exceptions."

Enforcing the existing overnight parking ban could be messy — and expensive. Many older homes weren't built to accommodate multiple vehicles. More landlords are splicing properties into apartments without creating parking spaces for tenants. In some neighborhoods, the street is the only nearby option for parking.

An unyielding ban on overnight parking, as written in the current city ordinance, would give tickets to those who've parked curbside for years without issue and offer them no immediate



Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

alternatives. And besides, the city can't afford to bring on an additional parking enforcement officer with just ticket revenue alone, Schor said.

"A lot of people want to be able to park from 2-5 a.m.," Schor said. "Maybe they have visitors. Maybe they need the extra space. I support some type of an allowance there but we'd need to be able to keep it enforced."

Eliminating the ordinance altogether also poses concerns. Fire Chief Michael Mackey said he hasn't had problems navigating rigs or ambulances down overcrowded residential streets but officials are still concerned about access for other emergency vehicles and keeping streets clear for usual snow plow operations.

"We have these narrow streets

around the city with people parking on either side of the road, and our snow plows and emergency vehicles just can't fit past them," said Councilman Jeremy Garza. "I know people who are upset about these permits, but I really have a hard time understanding that when 911 can't get down the street."

Added Councilwoman Patricia Spitzley: "There are some areas in the city that need some additional street parking. I recognize there's a need, but my concern has also been about keeping the streets clear. Creating this new system allows for better regulation on who's parking and ensures there won't be too much congestion."

In some neighborhoods, residents

See Parking, Page 6



Parking

from page 5

have also developed a sense of ownership over the spaces near their homes. They're tired of seeing more and more cars lining up every night without the risk of a ticket. A new permit system — in theory — could help weed out some of the more obnoxious offenders and still allow for exceptions.

"We have these older homes divided into several units and there's just no other place for them to park," said Dale Schrader, president of the Walnut Neighborhood Association. "We need a system in place to properly police parking. It'll get cars that aren't supposed to be there off the street and give a chance to those who really need it."

"I think we have to address the parking issue one way or another," added Nancy Mahlow, Eastside Neighborhood Organization president. "There are safety concerns, but

Some parking tickets recently issued for expired meters are causing confusion in Lansing because they failed to say you can save \$15 by paying within two hours.

A "glitch" in Lansing's parking enforcement system caused information about the discounted to be omitted on some tickets, a city employee said. But that discount still applies, reducing tickets to \$10 from \$25.

You can pay online or in person at the city parking office in the Grand Street ramp.

also some of these vehicles park there all day and all night and other cars just can't get past them. There isn't enough space on these narrow streets."

Mahlow favors enforcement of the existing ordinance but recognizes that permits could be a fair compromise. Schor said it would also drive some extra revenue and allow him to budget for an overnight parking officer.

Plans call for annual overnight parking permits to be issued only to those determined by city officials to have a genuine need. Temporary passes would also allow for a limited number of overnight guests. Others should expect to wake up with a ticket on their windshield. "Either we do nothing

with no assurance of any enforcement or do something that will help," said City Council President Carol Wood. "The current system is not working. People are parking on the street and the Police Department cannot enforce the ordinance. By having a permit, it can be revoked if it's not being used correctly."

First Ward Councilman-Elect Brandon Betz, who takes office Jan. 1, said the existing ordinance — and the currently proposed permit system — is still inequitable and unfairly impacts low-income residents and "working people" with excessive fines. If he had a vote on the matter, he'd only push for a permitted parking system with

income-based rates.

"I was elected to push bold proposals to make this city more equitable," Betz added. "Working people should not be punished for living in housing situations that do not allot them a parking space."

The draft rules still need to pass through the City Council, but officials said Parking Manager Chad Gamble would have discretion over which residents truly "need" an overnight pass. Wood said those with commercial vehicles and junk-filled garages won't be given a pass to extend their driveways into the street; They needn't apply.

The proposed permits would also only serve as a waiver for the city's existing 2-5 a.m. parking restrictions and carry no additional parking benefits or exceptions to usual meter fees. Residents would still be required to vacate streets for snow plowing or other emergency situations as mandated by city officials or else risk losing their pass.

— KYLE KAMINSKI

Arts

from page 5

nonprofits and private users.

New spaces for Lansing's public media center and a relocated Lansing Art Gallery are also a part of the building's "program," or proposed mix of uses and space requirements, developed by Bob Campbell of Fisher Dachs, a national planning and design firm.

Much of the facility's cost would go to state-of-the-art tech capable of toggling acoustics and seating back and forth from orchestral to pop and rock requirements, in the flexible strategy adopted by many other 21st century performing arts centers across the nation.

Walter said market surveys found "overwhelming" support (about 80 percent) for a new performing arts venue among Lansing area respondents and a strong response (about two thirds) saying current performance and entertainment options are lacking.

She said several music promoters were "quite bullish" about Lansing's market potential as a mid-sized concert venue for country music, alternative rock, cover bands and other touring acts like The Black Crowes, Ben Folds, DMX, Elvis Costello and others.

"They think it's a really fertile market, and there's product that doesn't play in the region that could play here," she said.

Dominic Cochran, the media center's

director and co-director of the Capital City Film Festival, said Walter's research confirmed what he's heard "anecdotally" for years.

"Everybody talks about all these people who drive out of the city to go to St. Andrews Hall in Detroit or the Intersection in Grand Rapids," Cochran said. "It would be nice if they would spend their money here."

The mid-sized venue also hits the Lansing Symphony's "sweet spot" of 1,200 to 1,400 seats. The symphony has long considered a move downtown because as its current home, the Wharton Center, gets busier and busier, rental rates get higher and fewer or less desirable dates become available for rehearsals and performances.

After surveying dozens of potential users and outside promoters, Walter said the new facility would be "very highly used." The larger venue would be busy 250 nights a year and the smaller venue 300 nights.

Even so, she said, the center would likely run at a gap between revenues and expenses of about \$640,000 a year.

"There's no agreed-upon model of where this money is going to come from," Walter said, referring to both the cost of building the center and operating it. "We know it's a public-private partnership, but how and what, we don't know."

Erin Schor, chairwoman of the Arts Commission, said financial feasibility studies are underway.

Schor said several fundraising sce-

narios are possible. "In an ideal world, we go out and we raise so much money because the public is so excited about this, that not only do we build it, but we have an endowment ready to cover the operating gap as well," she said.

But in a less-than-ideal world, Schor said, "all options are on the table."

"There's a scenario where the taxpayers are on the hook for it," she said. "There's a scenario where we talk to the county about options for sharing the cost."

In the meantime, Walter said, the city will need to line up a flotilla of ducks in a short period.

"Once someone pushes the 'go' button, a lot of things need to happen fairly quickly," Walter said.

Walter said the LSO, the public media center and the Lansing Art Gallery all need to come up with concrete future plans. The gallery has been included at a \$4.5 million capital cost but could be cut out if the gallery cannot find the funds to pay for its inclusion. That would lower the cost by \$4.5 million.

She also made a "strong recommendation" that the project be guided by a "kitchen cabinet" of key players, with as few members as possible.

"You want the most powerful brains in the room because it's really important to get it right," Walter said. "Your team grows really quickly — architects, engineers, acousticians, theater people, land use people."

She recommended site visits to other performing arts centers comparable to

the one proposed for Lansing, such as ParisTown Hall in Louisville, Kentucky.

Lansing mayors starting with David Hollister in the 1990s have touted a performing arts center as a potential catalyst for further economic activity and a way to retain and attract younger residents.

Walter's team gave the committee a detailed picture of the economic impact the new facility would have. About \$22 million of the total construction cost would be spent locally, creating 281 local construction jobs for the duration of the project. Taking into account the economic ripple effect, the impact would top \$39 million. She estimated that the facility would generate about \$5 million of economic impact annually.

Walter also talked about the center's intangible benefits. She said that when she first came to Lansing last winter, Michigan's capital reminded her of her hometown of Richmond, Virginia, 10 years ago.

"After \$100 million of investment in performance venues, Richmond is booming," she said. Richmond's CenterStage is a five-venue complex that includes an 1,800 seat theater and a 200-seat playhouse, a jazz space and an art gallery, set in a historic department store and a Leow's movie palace. "Cranes everywhere, young people everywhere," Walter said. "It can be quite an anchor for community revitalization."

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO



Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

Moore's Park Pool loses \$1,000 in water weekly

Environmental concerns exacerbate looming repair costs

While local government officials and activists continue to explore ways to fund repairs at Lansing's Moores Park Pool, concerns over rising maintenance costs paired with environmental concerns could stall it from reopening.

"It's a very old pool that leaks in a lot of places," said Lansing Mayor Andy Schor. "The pool is a community asset that people love, but you have to manage that alongside the damage being done by this leaking. The pool has had some very big problems for a very long time. I'm not interested in having it leak into the Grand River."

City officials last month announced \$1.2 million in “needed” repairs to bring the pool up to speed, including \$414,000 to replace the historic concrete railing and patch up the spider-cracked interior, \$410,000 to overhaul the plumbing beneath the pool and another \$357,000 for a fresh heating system, among other mechanical work.

But in addition to the costly repair bill, a leak sprung last summer caused the pool to lose hundreds of gallons daily, costing the city about \$1,400 per week to keep it filled while chlorinated water presumably spilled into

the Grand River. And those costs, the unknown nature of the leak and the environmental risks are still an obstacle.

"I'm not going to say it's not opening until we get a better handle on this," Schor added. "Nothing is certain."

With only so much cash to go around for city parks, Schor has been intensely hesitant to commit to funding those repairs through city coffers. His administration has since turned to the community for suggestions, offering no promises on the future of one of the longest continuously operating public pools in the nation.

Meanwhile, Ingham County officials are looking at using some parks and trails millage funds to help rehabilitate the space. Local preservationists are also exploring other revenue sources like state grants and private donations. Some Lansing City Council members are willing to keep some skin in the game too — just not for \$1 million.

And if state officials are made aware of the leak, they might force the pool to be closed until it's repaired anyway.

Research from the University of Rhode Island shows how high chloride concentrations in fresh water can harm aquatic organisms by interfering with osmoregulation,

Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority

Notice is hereby given that the Ingham County Land Bank will hold a public hearing on Thursday, December 19, 2019, at 5:00pm at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing MI 48906. The public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering the fiscal year 2020 budget. See the meeting agenda packet posted at www.inghamlandbank.org for more information, or call 517-267-5221. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

CP#19-359

2020 TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Municipal Building, in said Township on the 19th day of November, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., local time.

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine,
Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski

ABSENT:

Clerk Dreyfus revised the 2020 Board Meeting schedule, changing the proposed December 15th meeting to December 8, 2020. Clerk Dreyfus moved to accept the Board Meeting schedule as presented. Supervisor Styka seconded via request for Roll Call vote.

WHEREAS, the Township Board desires to announce the time, date, and place of all regular meetings of the Board, pursuant to MCL 42.7; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems the 2020 regular meeting schedule sufficient to uphold the Board's Policies and Procedures, and advance its Global Ends.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan that the Township Board adopts its regular 2020 meeting schedule as follows:

Tuesday, January 7, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 28, 2020	6:00 P.M. Joint Meeting (Township Boards and Commissions)
Tuesday, February 4, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 3, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 17, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 31, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, 2020	6:00 P.M. Joint Meeting (School Districts & Local Governments)
Tuesday, April 21, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 5, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 16, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, July 7, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, July 21, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 6, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 1, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting (Budget Hearing & Deliberations)
Tuesday, September 15, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 6, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 20, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 5, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 1, 2020	6:00 P.M. Town Hall Meeting
Tuesday, December 8, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting

2. Each of the above meetings shall be held at the specified time in the Town Hall Room of the Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan (517) 853-4000, unless changed and noticed in accordance with MCL 15.265.
3. A summary of this resolution stating date, place, and time shall be posted in the Meridian Municipal Building within ten (10) days after the first regularly scheduled meeting of the year in accordance with MCL 15.265.

ADOPTED: YEAS: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine,
Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski

NAYS:

Resolution declared adopted.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)) ss.
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 19th day of November, 2019.

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#19-361

More gaming options? You can bet on it

Sports fans soon will be able to place bets on games through a Michigan casino on their smart phones. It's happening under legislation that is quickly moving to the governor's desk in the final session days of 2019.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer is expected to sign the bills that are similar to what her predecessor, Rick Snyder, vetoed last year.

Soaring Eagle Casino, Firekeepers, MGM, MotorCity and other Michigan casinos can put gambling games for players on the Internet through their own web page, under the expected laws. Casinos could let fans put down



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

money on Detroit Lions game, for example.

For hardcore sports junkies, the bills legalize Michiganders putting money on daily fantasy sports sites, like DraftKings and FanDuel.

Interested in the ponies? Horseracing enthusiasts will be able to place bets through Northville Downs. Viewers could watch races at Northville Downs last summer, but bets had to be made in person. The coming law lets enthusiasts do it remotely.

Yet another bill loosens the rules on millionaire parties, a fundraising tool for various area nonprofits. Snyder's gaming control staff put the squeeze on these parties after investigators unearthed some funny business at a couple large operations.

Snyder's rules got so restrictive that the area's go-to location for these events — Tripper's in Frandor — shut down in 2016. The new laws aren't returning Michigan to the "wild, wild west" of pre-2014, but they will give bars more flexibility to run a charity poker night.

Michiganders can already gamble online. There's nothing new about betting on a horserace in California or going through a Las Vegas casino to put money on a Spartan football game.

The difference is Michigan casinos will be able to offer these games. If you lose \$100 on another MSU loss, through the Four Winds or Gun Lake app, you'll know that a portion of your loss at least went to Michigan schools.

There's legitimacy in knowing the site you're playing on, as well. If you're having trouble with the Greektown Casino site, for example, it's only a 90-minute car ride to get things sorted out, if need be.

Whatever club points you've tallied up from playing the slots online could theoretically carry over to your casino awards card, if that's how the establishment structures things.

One of the driving forces behind making all of this happen is East Lansing's own Sen. Curtis Hertel, who became the chief negotiator between the Legislature and the Governor's office in the last several days.

"I've always been a proponent of this type of entertainment," said Hertel, a huge sports fan. "I'm a firm believer that this makes money for the state and it's another form of entertainment for the people. It's a good thing."

Whitmer initially wasn't crazy about

these expanded gaming options. She feared folks would gradually lose interest in the Lottery, which would be a net loser to the public schools. The Lottery steered \$941.3 million for public education in 2018 and Whitmer is trying to find ways to get more money to the schools, not less.

The final version of the bill allegedly addresses that. Outside of a percentage of money that's going to regulation, the city of Detroit, gambling addiction efforts, and a firefighter cancer treatment fund, schools are receiving the proceeds.

Whatever money the Michigan Lottery loses from these bills from fewer players will be more than made up by the new Internet gamblers, meaning a net positive for schools, Hertel said. Once-skeptical school groups are backing away from any early hesitation.

One of Whitmer earlier proposals guesstimated bringing in close to \$50 million from expanding gaming, but the newer internet taxes rates are higher 20% to 28% based on how much money the casino brings in. Sports betting will be taxed at 8.4%.

Hertel's work on gaming is a continuation of work his dad, former House Speaker Curtis Hertel Sr., did in the 1990s. A former Detroit lawmaker at the time, the late Hertel Sr. was a big proponent of the original measure that brought casinos to the Motor City.

"This is something that's always been important to me," he confessed.

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

CITY OF LANSING SUMMARY OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1258

Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing by amending Chapter 288, Sections 288.10 and 288.14 and adding 288.20 to correct the names of various City departments and specific the minimum requirements for the Director of each department.

Effective date: Upon publication

Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk's Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan. A copy of the full text of this Ordinance may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan at a fee determined by City Council.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#19-358

ORDINANCE # 2614

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN AND FOR THE REVISION OF THE DISTRICT MAPS ADOPTED BY SECTION 1246.02 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The City of Lansing ordains:

Section 1. That the district maps adopted by and incorporated as Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing, Michigan be amended to provide as follows:

To change the zoning classification of the property described as follows:
Case Number: Z-5-2018
Parcel Number's: 33-01-01-21-203-003 & 33-01-01-21-203-020
Address: 136 E. Malcolm X Street & Vacant Parcel to its West
Legal Descriptions: Lots 6 through 11, Inclusive, Block 177 Original Plat, from "DM-4" Residential & "J" Parking Districts to "G-1" Business District.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance was duly adopted by the Lansing City Council on December 2, 2019, and a copy is available in the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 9th Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect on the 30th day after enactment.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#19-357

ORDINANCE # 2615

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN AND FOR THE REVISION OF THE DISTRICT MAPS ADOPTED BY SECTION 1246.02 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The City of Lansing ordains:

Section 1. That the district maps adopted by and incorporated as Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing, Michigan be amended to provide as follows:

To change the zoning classification of the property described as follows:
Case Number: Z-6-2019
Parcel Number: 33-01-01-16-428-131
Address: S. Larch Street
Legal Descriptions: South ½ of the North ½ of the West 135 Feet of Lot 2, Block 242, Original Plat, from "G-1" Business District to "H" Light Industrial District.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance was duly adopted by the Lansing City Council on December 2, 2019, and a copy is available in the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 9th Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect on the 30th day after enactment.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
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CP#19-356

Pool

from page 7

the biological process by which they maintain the proper concentration of salt and other solutes in their bodily fluids. It can hinder survival, growth and reproduction.

Michigan’s Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy doesn’t track chlorine levels in the Grand River, but a spokeswoman cautioned that in high concentrations, it could have a negative effect on the stream. “In the case of a leak like this, we’d look at shutting down the pool until the issue could be resolved and we had an action plan for how the city plans to correct the issue,” the spokeswoman said. “We’d then evaluate the potential discharge and follow up. Ultimately, it’d be about establishing a corrective action plan.”



Kyle Kaminski/Coty Pulse

Moore’s Park Pool needs \$1.2 million in repairs, according to city officials.

to the riverfront. The discovery was made in July, but officials “didn’t feel there was an environmental issue that warranted it being closed” midway through the summer, Kaschinske said.

“We never really discussed closing the pool early. And I think it would’ve been a bigger and very contentious decision,” Schor said. “We realized it during the season and we’re in the process of finding out more about it.”

Without any hope of patching the leak midway through the summer,

city employees were directed to refill the pool. Records show the still-unknown leak ultimately ratcheted up the summertime water bill at Moore’s Park Pool from \$13,866 in 2018 to \$28,306 earlier this year, equating to an average weekly cost increase of \$1,444.

And city officials, without patching the leak ahead of next season, will be cautious about reopening the pool.

“This wasn’t like it was a tube of

water going into the Grand River like a full-on discharge,” Kaschinske added. “But regardless, we will need to address that before the pool reopens. We cannot continue to do what we’ve been doing now that we know about the problem underneath the pool. We should not be losing that much water.”

Schor refused to “say anything definitive” about whether the pool can reopen next season without the repairs. “We’ll need to assess what the problem is and decide what we’re able to do for the next year,” he added. “We’re going to take our time and assess the problem with the pool and make the best decisions we can.”

Fred Cowles, a former environmental engineer with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and president of the Middle Grand River Organization of Watersheds, recognizes the potentially deleterious effects of chlorinated water finding its way into the Grand River, but wasn’t greatly concerned about the impact.

“I’m much more concerned about the raw sewage going into that river than any potential pool water,” Cowles added. “I can’t say it wouldn’t have any impact, but the chances of that water still being chlorinated is fairly uncommon. It neutralizes itself fairly quickly. It’s not a good thing, but it’s not the biggest pollution in there.”

— KYLE KAMINSKI

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF INGHAM
NOTICE OF HEARING
FILE NO. 19-1508-CA, 19-1507-GA

In the matter of David McDonagh.
TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on 1/9/2020 at 10:00 a.m. at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Garcia for the following purpose(s): Hearing for Guardian and Conservator. If you require special accommodations to use the court because of a disability, or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

Date: 12/2/2019
Talina Cummins
5303 S. Cedar St.
Lansing, MI 48909
517-775-5450

CP#19-362

ORDINANCE # 2616

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN AND FOR THE REVISION OF THE DISTRICT MAPS ADOPTED BY SECTION 1246.02 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The City of Lansing ordains:

Section 1. That the district maps adopted by and incorporated as Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing, Michigan be amended to provide as follows:

To change the zoning classification of the property described as follows:
Case Number: Z-7-2019
Parcel Number's: 33-01-01-08-283-101
Address: 1310 Knollwood Avenue
Legal Descriptions North 40 feet of Lots 3 & 4, Knollwood Park, from "F" Commercial District to "B" Residential District.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance was duly adopted by the Lansing City Council on December 2, 2019, and a copy is available in the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 9th Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect on the 30th day after enactment.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#19-355

ABANDONED VEHICLE SALE
CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN

Sealed bids marked S/20/055, ABANDONED VEHICLES will be accepted at the City of Lansing Purchasing Office, 1232 Haco Dr, Lansing MI. 48912 until but no later than, 1:00 PM, local time in effect WED. JAN. 15, 2020.
Questions regarding this sale may be directed to Stephanie Robinson, Buyer, at (517) 702-6197 or email: stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com - 30 day notice

Vehicles may be inspected WED. JAN. 15, 2020, as follows:
SHROYER'S, 2740 EATON RAPIDS RD, LANSING MI. 48911 8:30 AM
PJ'S , 1425 RENSEN, LANSING MI 10:00 AM
NORTHSIDE TOWING, 226 RUSSELL, LANSING, MI 48906 10:45 AM
SWIFT TOWING, 2347 N. CEDAR ST, HOLT MI 9:15AM

Abandoned Vehicle Sale List
JAN.15.2020

NORTHSIDE		PJ		SHROYERS	
YEAR	MAKE	YEAR	MAKE	YEAR	MAKE
1999	SATURN	1992	FORD	2010	CHEV
2001	FORD	2008	CHEV	2015	CHRYSLER
2007	PONTIAC	1997	FORD	2002	MERCEDES
2018	MOPED	2002	FORD	2006	CHEV
2011	GMC	2011	GMC	2013	TOYO
2012	SUBARU	2000	LINC	2008	CHEV
2012	NISSAN	2007	CHEV	2007	SATURN
		2018	HYUND	2013	FORD
		2012	HYUND	2012	HYUN
		1997	FORD		
		2017	KIA	SWIFT	
		2005	JEEP	YEAR	MAKE
		2011	BUICK	2013	DODGE

CP#19-360

CityPULSE



LOCAL EXPERTS

BOOKS

You Are ABSOLUTELY Special! Please let us help you with special orders

EVERYbody Reads has lots of books. Lots. Space, money and I suppose reality preclude us from carrying ALL of the books. That said though, our reach is insane. Certifiably, our ability to procure books is almost as impressive as my feline companion knowing to sing to me every morning at 3:34 a.m. Impressive indeed.

In early November, author Andrea Bartz offered a tweet explaining why it's important to special order from independent bookshops. Here are the highlights:

1. To clarify, independent bookstore means locally owned, community booksellers. (NOT Barnes & Noble. Definitely not Amazon.)
2. Your interest in a title will indicate to booksellers that it's worth checking out! Maybe they'll read it. Maybe they'll love it and give it table space up front and hand-sell it to everyone who walks in the door.
3. The New York Times considers purchases at privately-owned bookshops when putting together the Bestseller List, so your preorder might help your favorite author secure a spot on it.
4. Even if the bookstore doesn't decide to stock the book you requested, they will order it special just for you!
5. If you really just want to order books online, you can also order a book through Indiebound.com. They split their profits with independent bookshops in their community network.



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GIFTS

Make your holiday gifts personal

Gift giving can be fun, or a drag. It's up to you. When you think about it, what makes for a great gift? Do you remember the "in" items of the last few years? Or do you think about items you made a personal connection with? I think of the gifts that meant something, or connected me to the giver in a special way. I remember them fondly.

A video game console, or whatever the hot new fad is at the time, just ends up being replaced by the next big thing. A gift that has a story, deeper meaning and makes a lasting connection — that's what the recipient will think about in the future.

I'd like to think that our holidays are about more than just materialism. The holidays should be about reliving old memories and making new memories — connecting us with friends past, present and future. As you are rushing around this season, please consider keeping your holidays meaningful and gift giving personal. Handmade gifts are personal. Buying from local small businesses is personal. Please keep your holidays personal!



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LITERACY

Looking for the perfect gift? Give the gift of literacy.

The Capital Area Literacy Coalition helps children and adults learn to read, write and speak English with the ultimate goal of helping individuals achieve self-sufficiency. We achieve this through direct services and by enhancing literacy efforts of community organizations in the Capital Area and throughout the state of Michigan.

When you contribute to the Capital Area Literacy Coalition, you are helping Timothy learn to read so he can pass third grade. You are providing Roberta with the resources she needs to learn to read so she can read to her grandchildren. You help Mary learn to read so she can get a job, and you guide John on a path to get his GED, so he can work at a living wage job. Not only that, but you help Peter earn his citizenship.

Please consider helping your neighbors with a donation to the Reading People today.



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Lansing, MI 48906

thereadingpeople.org

JEWELRY

Why brick-and-mortar stores matter

Yesterday, an older gentleman brought his wife's high-end vintage wristwatch to our shop. After greeting him, he handed me the watch and stated they couldn't reset the date; something's broken. Mind you, the date window in this watch is so tiny that I could only read it with my magnifiers. I'm getting up there too.

I took the watch back to my bench to begin my evaluation. I unscrewed the locking crown, pulled the multi position stem to the setting position, rotated the hands, repositioned the stem setting and repositioned the date. All was functioning perfectly.

I returned to the gentleman and explained all of this. He lowered his head in embarrassment and sighed. Then he asked, "You know what my grandfather used to tell me?" I smiled and said I'd like to know.

"He would tell me that there is no shame in ignorance, but you're sure going to find it unhandy."

That statement revealed a lot about the life of this gentleman. First, he's probably smarter than I'll ever be. Second, his grandfather loved him enough to keep him on track and, in return, he loved his grandfather enough to remember his wisdom. He will undoubtedly carry it through his entire life, as a kind and giving person. I get this and more from that simple little interaction.

So, what's the point? That's brick-and-mortar. These experiences are why I love my job.



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INSURANCE

Insurance is like a comfy chair

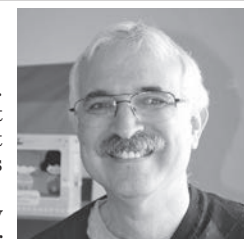
The other day an insured sat across my desk staring at me. I thought, "Hey, they might be in a catatonic stupor." That made me think of cats. That made me think that talking about insurance is a lot like talking about insurance... with a cat. This explains all the hissing from our insureds.

So last night, I discussed insurance with my cats. It was my hope that I could extrapolate something useful to make our insureds' experiences less horrible. It was a mixed bag.

Even though much of the details were lost on them ("Yes Kiwi, higher liability limits are a very good idea. Kiwi?"), I felt that I did pick up a few good ideas.

The cats, while they might not understand all that I mumbled about appreciated the attention. They were grateful that I listened and anticipated questions that they must have been trying to ask. They enjoyed the catnip being placed in front of them, the scratches behind the ears, and being allowed to sit on the comfy chairs.

The next day, employing these strategies, I learned that our clientele appreciated being listened to. They also liked that I anticipated what they were trying to ask. They sensed that it truly was my inclination to help them. I think that they liked the comfy chairs, too. That said, insureds don't like being gifted catnip (although a few were initially excited), having their bellies rubbed and being told how cute they are.



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Beauty in motion

By AUDREY MATUSZ

In a stressed-out, worried young 21st century, the lost art of play, in the form of hula hooping, is coming around again with centrifugal force. Lansing area hula hoopers, dancers and instructors are hooping in the streets, teaching in the schools and spreading the joy of getting into a physical and mental state of “flow,” with or without flames.

Longtime Lansing residents know the city’s capacity for entrepreneurship is at a recent high with the proliferation of movers, shakers — and now hoopers. Missy Cooke started her hula hoop business, Lansing Hoops, in 2014, after picking up the sport to reconnect with her mind and body. Now, with grant money rolling in and an instructor certification, Cooke is taking her hoops to corporate retreats and elementary gym classes to get people serious about their recreation.

Cooke said in the months leading up to her discovering hula hooping in 2014, she was “very unhappy” and needed a change in her routine. Coming home from work, her energy would be so low that it was a challenge to engage with her family at times. That year, while at a marketing conference for work, she met a professional hula hooper. Slightly skeptical, Cooke went back to her hotel room and watched YouTube videos of hula dancing.

“I was mesmerized,” Cooke said. “Hooping is almost like yoga or a moving meditation, and there are a lot of emotions that can come up during a flow or when you’re learning a new trick.”

THE WORLD OF FLOW

In Lansing, men and women are opting to trade in their gym memberships for what they consider to be “a more fun option,” Cooke said.

Through Lansing Hoops, Cooke has presented the benefits of hula hooping and taught basic hoop moves at school assemblies and office retreats. She is certified as a teaching artist by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing. The hula hoop is just a vehicle for a grander mission: to change the way people view exercise and help them find happiness.

Cooke said a hooper’s life philosophy is that at some point, between the struggles with self-esteem brought on by post-adolescence and getting a real job, adults forget how to play.

She brings hoops of various sizes and weights to classes to make hooping accessible for a wide variety of body types and abilities. Most participants are first-time hoopers, so she fosters an equal learning-playing environment where failure is OK. When she runs workshops in professional settings, hooping serves as an ice breaker, less forced and awkward than traditional social interactions. It’s a joyful ritual that virtually sucks all intimidation out of the room.

Once a first-time hooper nails the basics down, such as isolating their hips and arms while oscillating the ring, they will learn new tricks and work their way up to being able to flow.

Similar to the focused immersion of a work flow or being “in the zone,” flow art is a style of dance that



Audrey Matusz/City Pulse

Jennifer Wagemann, an inventor and professional hula hooper, demonstrating a chest roll in Cooley Gardens.

simultaneously combines a seamless series of movements with deft prop manipulation. In addition to hooping, other flow art styles include poi, staff spinning, juggling, sphere manipulation and fan dance. The list goes on as dancers experiment with different props and dance converges with martial arts, fire spinning and other cultural expressions.

A guru of happiness frequently identified in the international flow scene is Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, a Hungarian-American psychologist whose studies on happiness resulted in a national bestseller in 1990 called “Flow: The Psychology of Optimal Experience.” The psychologist describes flow as being in a state of total absorption.

In a 2004 TEDtalk titled “Flow, the secret to happiness,” Csikszentmihalyi breaks down the state of ecstasy he observed during his research where subjects, mostly artists, felt as though they had entered an alternate reality where one “is completely engaged in creating something.” While in a flow state, the psychologist suggests the brain is unable to monitor how the body feels and people “disappear from their identity, from consciousness.” The same feeling could be said when one is immersed in play or rigorous exercise.

The mind might jump to a scene straight out of Burning Man, a techno music festival in a remote desert in Nevada, of a shirtless man spinning balls of fire at lightning speeds around his body. This is on the right track, as the recent popularity of flow art cata-

pulted out of the rave scene.

When it comes to the history of hula hoop dancing, the flow art form can be traced as far back as early Anishnaabe folklore of a young boy named Pukawiss who used hoops to teach others about the movements and behaviors of animals. Native American hoop dancers can use as many as 40 hoops simultaneously to tell a story about life’s overlapping elements, including animals, humans, water, air or even marriage, according to traditionalnativehealing.com, a blog for native spirituality and ceremonies.

While it’s a long way from the earliest forms of hoop dancing to the style Cooke teaches in elementary schools, its use as a tool for building community is the same.

MOTHER OF HOOPS

Jennifer Wagemann is a professional hooper living in Lansing and founder of Spinning Speakers, a collapsible hula hoop with waterproof, built-in Bluetooth speakers. In November, Cooke was one of seven recipients of the Chris Clark Fellowship, a grant administered by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing, to extend the production of her trademarked invention called the Fuel Funnel.

She said her hooping journey started 10 years ago

Hula hoop

from page 11

after attending Electric Forest, formerly known as the Rothbury Music Festival.

Wagemann referred to Cooke as the “mama” of the local flow art scene. In 2015, Cooke started Michigan’s first statewide hoop dance retreat. Once a year, hoop fanatics from across the state gather at Sunset Place Campground in Mason to network and train for a week.

A few summers ago, Wagemann was living in Chicago when she discovered Cooke’s Michigan Hoop Dance Retreat was taking place 300 miles away.

“That week, I was supposed to go to a wedding with my boyfriend, but I told

him I had to cancel. Luckily, he was supportive,” Wagemann said.

When Wagemann moved to Lansing, she reconnected with Cooke and flow artists, and picked up fire spinning as well as teaching with Lansing Hoops in schools. She also credits Cooke as a mentor in product development.

While practicing fire spinning, Cooke wasn’t bothered by turning her eyelashes to ash or suffering light burns on her face (as expected when in a flow.) Instead, she was concerned about the excess gasoline she was flinging on her lawn during a practice session.

The Fuel Funnel is shaped like a cone and has a handle meant to latch on to the side of a bucket of gasoline. After dousing a hula hoop’s wick into the tub of gasoline, the wick immediately goes into the funnel while a free hand



Courtesy Lansing Hoops

Missy Cooke demonstrating her invention, The Fuel Funnel, with a fire hoop wick.

squeezes the malleable funnel, acting as a drain for the wick. Viola! No excess gasoline on the lawn to poison the family dog.

While both inventors prepare to get their hooping tools on the market, Wagemann and Cooke also collaborate by booking gigs for their performance troupe, the Smitten Spinners. Last week, the eight-member tribe took their flashy, LED hoops to Williamston to flow in the town’s Parade of Lights.

The Spinners — the dancers, not the Motown group — do anything from



Courtesy Lansing Hoops

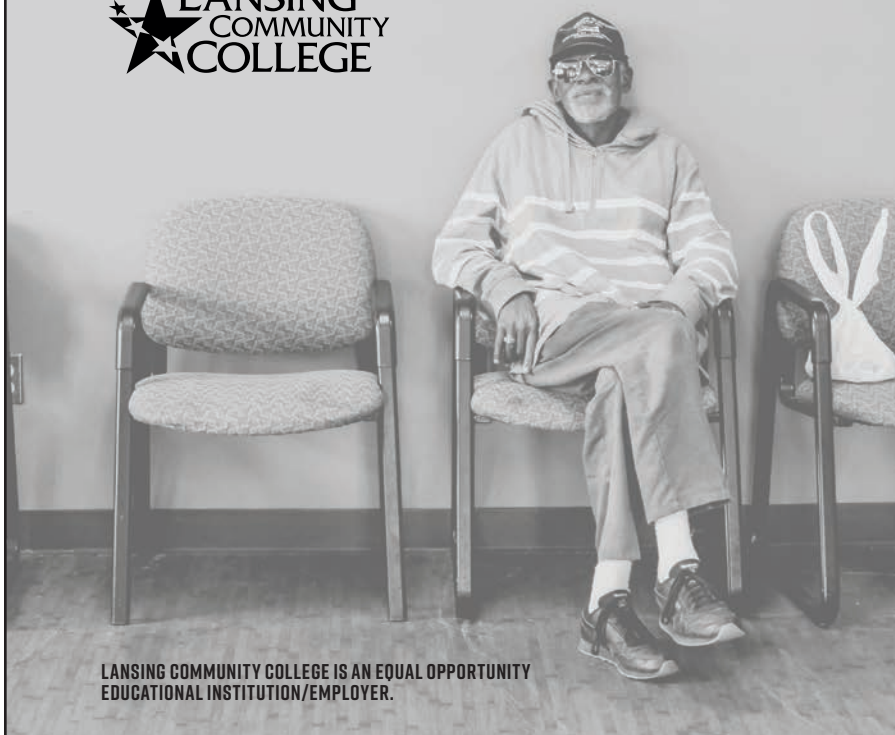
Cooke is a professional hooper, fire spinner and is a leader in the local flow art scene.

choreographed private corporate events to roving performances. In the flow world, a roving performance is closer to what one would see at a music festival where a dancer is off stage and moving

See Hula hoop, Page 13

THANK YOU

The LCC Performing Arts and Health & Human Services departments thank Greater Lansing for donations to the homeless in response to Judy Allen’s original play, “I Have a Name.”



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Christmas Day at 9:30 am
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Hula hoop

from page 12

about the crowd.

Am I missing anything? Oh yeah, Wagemann and her hoop troupe will be in bar near you in March 2020. The inaugural Hoops and Hops Flow Jam, a partnership with Lansing Brewing Co., started in 2018 as a way to host hooping workshops out of a studio and into a common space.

The jam opens with a beginner class with a live DJ and the talent progresses as the night goes on. Cooke said the Smitten Spinners will also have a number prepared.

The trend apparent in Lansing's flow art scene is how the performance-based exercise is converting into entrepreneurial venture for women. The holistic hobby is contagious. According to mayoclinic.org, one can burn up to 200 calories in a 30-minute hoop session. However, losing weight or charging for performances does not seem to be why most of these women pick up a ring.

BODY, MIND & SPIRIT

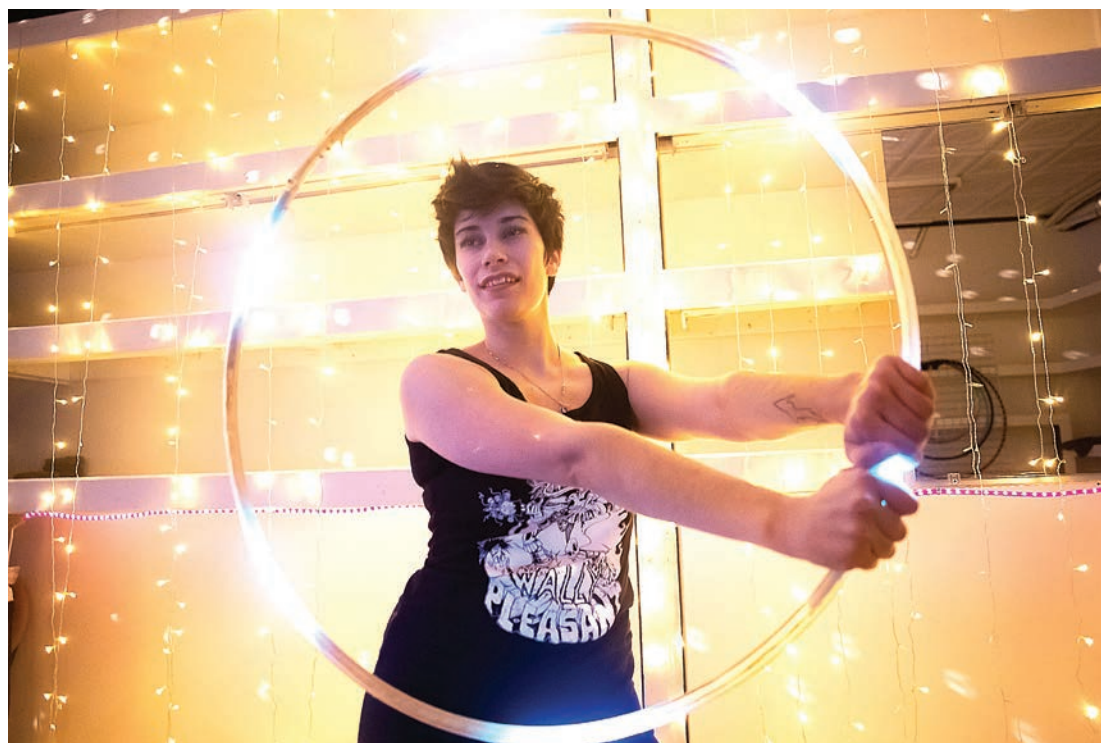
"It's not just about the business connections. I'm meeting these creative women who want to empower other women. I love seeing that," said Nat Spinz, a professional hula hooper and instructor in Lansing.

On any given Friday night at the Cedar Street Art Collective, on the corner of Cedar and Isbell streets in South Lansing, a group of adults sweat out the week's toxins by swinging hula hoops around their bodies. As they whirl the hoops around their hips, many lose momentum and must start over again, but their leader fuels them with words of encouragement.

The instructor is a tall woman with jet black hair who moves through and around her hoop so quickly it bewitches the eye and demands an instant replay. She goes by Nat Spinz, and just three years ago the last place you'd have found her was in front of a dance class.

"I've always been a wannabe stage person," Spinz said. Although she was in her middle school band, she had to quit due to her severe stage fright.

Spinz, 32, said that after giving birth to her second child she struggled with postpartum depression and struggled to do much more than sit on the couch. After struggling with depression and guilt for several months, in 2016 she made her new year's resolution "to find



Audrey Matusz/City Pulse

Nat Spinz in the Cedar Street Art Collective, where she teaches weekly adult hula hooping classes.

my thing."

She tried yoga, wire working and website development, but nothing seemed to stick. By June, while idly scrolling on Facebook, she saw a video of a friend hoop dancing.

"I was like, 'This is bad ass,'" she said. "I could barely hula hoop around my waist when I first started. I learned most by watching YouTube videos and I would practice in the backyard with my kids."

Her demeanor switched completely from not being able to engage with her kids to teaching them a new skill while getting fit in the process. As she developed her flow, she began teaching classes at All've, a mega recreation center in Charlotte, Michigan. From there she started performing at open mics at the local Windwalker. She credits the open mic performances with building her self-confidence and helping her reconnect with her body. She said once she is in a flow she's "not thinking about bills, I'm doing something for me."

Before Spinz had a weekly slot at the Cedar Street Art Collective, she taught free hooping classes at Patriarche Park off Lake Lansing Road. During one of her classes, a woman came up to her and insisted she meet her friend, an instructor at Stilettoes and Steel Fitness, a pole dancing studio. Thus began Spinz's traveling classes in the Lansing area. She said one of the most rewarding experiences from teaching alternative fitness classes for adults is not teaching them a new skill, but reminding them of the importance of playing every day.

"I've heard a lot of stories, mostly from women, but also men who are like 'This has been so much fun. I haven't had this much fun in awhile,' which makes me sad to hear, but I'm honored that I can share something that helped

me," she said.

"On one hand, I'm a mom, a girlfriend, and on the other hand, I'm Nat Spinz and I have all this confidence and I empower other women. Nothing can stop me and she is someone I admire."

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2019 Holiday Happenings

Dec. 13 -**Holiday arrangement workshop at
Where the Wild Things Bloom**

Weave, trim and arrange the ideal holiday centerpiece with evergreens, pinecones, red roses and holiday trim. The event is food and alcohol friendly. 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., \$40, Where the Wild Things Bloom, 523 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave., Lansing (517) 253-8519, www.wildthingsbloom.com

**Dec. 13 - Caroling with LUVS
at Moores Park neighborhood**

Join the Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle for an evening of caroling, community, and holiday spirit in the Moores Park neighborhood! All faiths, backgrounds and identities are welcome, and the LUVS

will select a sackful of holiday tunes to share!

7 p.m., 400 Moores River Drive, Lansing, [facebook.com/517LUVS](https://www.facebook.com/517LUVS)

**Dec. 13 - December Game Night at
Inner Ascended Masters Ministry**

The Weavers of the Web is a public Wiccan church providing a family-friendly community for celebration and education. From a fast round of Cards Against Humanity to an indefinite plunge into Dungeons & Dragons, all are welcome to this game night. This is an 18+ event. Minors must be accompanied by an adult.

7 to 10 p.m., \$5, 5705 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, solinoxsilverstar@gmail.com, weaversoftheweb.org

**Dec. 14 - Holiday Sing-A-Long with
Carrie Quisenberry at
MSU Community School**

Carrie Quisenberry will lead a sing-along for folk enthusiasts from ages 3 to 13 and their family.

10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing, ten-poundfiddle.org, (517) 974-3751.

**Dec. 14 - Terri Davis-Hayden
Christmas Cabaret at UrbanBeat**

You're invited to "A Davis Family Christmas" featuring performances by the vocally inclined bunch including Terri Davis-Hayden, Mike "Mr. Entertainment" Davis and Jeff Davis.

6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., 1213 Turner St., Lansing, urbanbeatevens.com, (517) 331-8440

**Dec. 14 - Hand-crafted Holiday
Sale at the Unitarian Universalists
Church of Greater Lansing**

In its fourth year, the annual sale features fresh-baked cookies, homemade gifts, music and steamy beverages. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 5509 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing, (517) 351-4081

**Dec. 20-22 - Holiday Cheer
at Riverwalk Theatre**

Directed by Meghan Eldred-Woolsey, the Holiday Cheer will feature local performers singing classic Christmas songs alongside the John Dale Smith Trio and dancers from Karyn's Dance Place.

7 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m., \$15, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing (517) 482-5700, www.riverwalktheatre.com

**Dec. 21 - Storytime & Cinnamon
Rolls with Santa at Al!ve**

A classic Christmas tale read by a storyteller and special guest, wish list making and cinnamon rolls. Families are encouraged to wear Christmas pajamas to this event.

10 a.m. to noon, \$25-\$30, 800 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, (517) 541-5800

Dec. 21 - Family Yule Party

Join the Inner Ascended Masters Ministry community for a family-friendly celebration. We'll have games, movies, treats and activities for all ages. A Yule Ritual with Weavers for the Web will follow the party at 2 p.m.

10 a.m. to 2 p.m., \$5, 5705 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, solinoxsilverstar@gmail.com, weaversoftheweb.org

Dec. 31**New Year's Eve Salsa Party at
UrbanBeat**

Back by popular demand, dinner starts at 8 p.m. Salsa lessons for those who wish to partake will be given after dinner.

7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., 1213 Turner St., Lansing, urbanbeatevens.com, (517) 331-8440

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Great last-minute gift ideas

Tradition is a hallmark of the holiday season. Religious services, family gatherings and trips to see Santa Claus are just a few of the many traditions people adhere to during the holiday season.

Many holiday shoppers also adhere to the time-honored tradition of last-minute shopping. The perfect gift can sometimes prove elusive, especially as the sand in the holiday hour glass keeps dwindling. These last-minute gift ideas may be just what shoppers need to put smiles on the faces of their loved ones this holiday season.

- **Books:** Books are often overlooked, especially now that so many readers use e-readers. But books can be an ideal gift and especially convenient for last-minute shoppers, who can even gift e-books. For example, Amazon, which has thousands of e-books in its online library, makes it easy for shoppers to gift e-books to Kindle users, who will simply receive an email on Christmas morning informing them that their books are ready to be downloaded to their devices.

- **Experiences:** A 2017 survey by

the global research firm NPD Group found that roughly 40 percent of holiday shoppers planned to give experiences as gifts last year. Experience gifts open up a host of possibilities for last-minute shoppers stuck on what to give those loved ones who seemingly have it all.

- **Food/beverage:** Television channels such as The Food Network have changed the way many people look at food. When gifting the family foodie, last-minute shoppers may not need to look further than the latest hotspot restaurant or specialty grocery store for the perfect gift. Take them out for a night on the town or give a gift card they can use at their convenience. The craft beer boom has created a

host of devoted and knowledgeable beer drinkers, so a gift card or growler from a local craft brewery is sure to please people who love hoisting frosty pints.

- **Streaming service subscriptions:** Many people are cutting the cord with their cable companies in favor of streaming services such as Netflix and Hulu. Subscriptions to such services can make ideal and affordable holiday gifts. A six-month or year-long subscription likely won't break shoppers' budgets and will provide months of entertainment to loved ones.

Last-minute holiday shopping is easier than ever, especially for shoppers willing to think outside the box.

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Festival of Trees honors storytelling through decor

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

If the story of Rudolph didn't make the red-nosed reindeer enough of a stud already, how about the time he and two elves build a makeshift hot air balloon to air lift rescue Santa, Prancer, Vixen and the crew from a wicked crash. Not

Festival of Trees

Tuesday-Thursday, 1 to 7 p.m.

Friday-Sunday Noon to 5 p.m.

\$5 Ages 12 +

Turner-Dodge House

100 E. North St., Lansing

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ringing any sleigh bells?

The wild

scenario was

dreamed up

by the Capitol

Steam Punk

Society, which brought it to life through a miniature Christmas tree surrounded by figurines, a suspended model hot air balloon and several layers of drama. The epic display won "Best Theme" last week for the Festival of Trees, an annual contest hosted by Friends of Turner-Dodge, an organization dedicated to maintaining the historical home. The tree exhibition will be open to the public on holidays and concludes New Year's Day.

"I spearheaded this event eight years ago as a fundraiser for us," said Michael Beebe, the president of Friends of Turner Dodge. "I love history, but I love having events here, and this is our biggest event, at least for the Friends."

This year, the fundraiser packed 41 Christmas trees into two floors of the charming historical Turner-Dodge

home. Each tree is designed by local businesses, organizations and individuals in efforts to raise awareness while also creating a spectacle to encourage patrons to support one of Lansing's remaining Victorian gems.

The first category was "Unique Tree Display," which was snagged by Michigan State University's Friends of Theatre's wooden, angular construction titled "Into the Woods." The creation promotes the MSU Department of Theatre's run of the titular play. The grand prize was a one-night stay at the English Inn in the Chelsea Room with breakfast.

Catalyst Warrior, a new yoga studio on Oakland Avenue, took home "Best Promotional Tree" for its all-white, glittery spruce decked out in hamsas, peace signs and Pride flag-inspired ornaments.

Two honorable mentions were awarded to The Garden Club of Greater Lansing for its creation titled "Alluring Pollinators," a tree decorated like an English Garden to promote the sanctity of Earth's pollinators. "Holiday Greetings Across the Galaxy," a tree designed by the Capital Area Literacy Coalition, also took home an honorable mention for its Outer Space-themed ornaments and display of books.

After eight years of coordinating the Festival of Trees, one would think



Audrey Matusz/City Pulse

Michigan State University's Friends of Theatre won "Most Unique Display" for its ornate cut out of a tree which features scenes from the play "Into the Woods."

Beebe would get tired of running this program, but he said the originality seen each year keeps him and the community guessing. Last weekend for the opening of the display, he said Friends raised \$1,000 from door sales.

"In the past, Lansing hasn't been

kind to historical homes, tearing them down to build highways or parking lots," Beebe said. "The Turner-Dodge house is one of the last remaining historic homes in Lansing that is open to the public. We need to preserve these things."

New concert venue and karaoke bar opens in Lansing Mall

By **SKYLER ASHLEY**

"OverDrive is a multigenre music venue. We want to bring in the different things that are out there."

That's the mission statement of Don Johnson, an artist manager, promoter and co-owner of OverDrive and Hit & Run Karaoke in the Lansing Mall.

OverDrive

Wednesday-Saturday,
6 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Hit and Run Karaoke
Sunday, noon to 6
p.m.

Monday-Thursday, 4
p.m. to 9 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, 6
p.m. to 2 a.m.

5330 W. Saginaw
Hwy., Lansing
(517) 499-6183, over-
drivelansing.com

The newly opened live music venue and karaoke bar has taken over the vacancy left behind by Tequila Cowboy and is gunning to host a wider range of acts, and become more accessible than its predecessor



Johnson

by providing cheaper shows and cheaper drinks.

"Our well drinks start at \$4. My 12-ounce beers are \$3; the 16-ouncers are \$4. That's in line with the blue-collar class around here. I think our big-

gest menu item here is \$15 or \$16."

The food available at OverDrive includes smoked turkey legs, brisket burgers and gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches, which put Gouda and bacon in the mix.

"Everything's got to be fresh, because I hate frozen food," Johnson said.

Unlike Tequila Cowboy, OverDrive doesn't face the limitations of being an exclusive genre-themed bar.

"Instead of just country, which we'll continue to do — we have line-dancing lessons Wednesdays and Saturdays before the country bands go on — Friday nights will have a mix of classic rock, hair bands, pop, just a little bit of everything. Eventually, on Thursdays, we'll get jazz and blues in here too,"

Johnson said.

Since opening in late-November, OverDrive has hosted a handful of bands, including Tyler Farr, Sadie Bass and StarFarm. Johnson said those shows sold 800 to 1,000 tickets each. Bigger names coming to OverDrive in the future include Sierra Shame, Dec. 13 and 14, Your Generation, Dec. 20, and Warrant, March 13.

In the meantime, guests can check out Hit and Run Karaoke, which is open seven days a week. Johnson has made the karaoke stage larger, and is considering eventually hosting open mic nights.

OverDrive is the third venue Johnson has been involved with. He worked with

See OverDrive, Page 22

Dark Art of Michigan keeps Lansing strange

By ELLEN DOWLING

From booking metal shows at Mac's Bar in 2013, Teisha King has carved out an original performance art scene built on inclusivity and odd-ball entertainment.

Many artists from the Lansing area owe much of their success today to King, the co-founder of The Dark Art of Michigan. She started Dark Arts of Michigan with partner of 13 years, Sean Peters. The couple's latest event was The Dark Art Holiday Meltdown at The Avenue last week.

The unconventional holiday celebration was kicked off with Peters, co-owner of Eclectic Art Tattoo Gallery in Lansing, painting onstage alongside

artist Zeke Harvey. The paintings were auctioned off, with all proceeds donated to GEM Social Club, a club dedicated to serving teens and young adults with autism spectrum disorders. The club provides things such as a sensory-friendly prom and other social events designed for them.

While artists tended to their booths, selling oddities, art and fine craftwork, King announced each burlesque dancer, drag performer and musician as they ascended to the stage. Each performance was delivered with vigor and flair, suggesting the close knit and comfortable relationship between the entertainers and the audience.

King has made it her purpose to cul-

tivate an uplifting artist community by giving creative minds the opportunity to put themselves out there. "In the last seven years, I've watched each of these vendors and performers, grow from being unsure if they can do this, to making bank. Soon they start doing craft circuits, doing the burlesque shows out of state, doing drag shows and brunches — so I couldn't be prouder."

As the night progressed, local favorite, Tater Tot Noxious, graced the stage at the Avenue, gave a full-bodied performance to demonstrate their gratitude for King and The Dark Art of Michigan. Tater Tot Noxious is performed by Jeremy Vehr, who prefers to use they/them pronouns. Vehr met King while helping at a previous Dark Art event. Soon after, Vehr became increasingly involved with The Dark Art of Michigan. King remembers taking them aside one day.

"I asked them, 'What can the dark arts do for you' and they said, as they looked at the stage, 'I wanna be on the stage,'" she said. "After that I watched them grow from being this quiet, reserved person, to this exuberant and amazing performer that's doing social justice work at MSU and just really came out of their shell."

Vehr developed Tater Tot Noxious over a series of performances at the Dark Art of Michigan. "I always had little dreams of performing on stage that I never thought would be a reality, I was always just too timid and not really confident." Today, Vehr said they are living their dream. Tater Tot Noxious performs regularly, with a steady following of fans in the Lansing area.

"I'm their drag mom, so I'm going to gush about them. I'm so proud because they just emulate everything I wanted to do with Dark Art." King said. "I watched them grow from being this quiet, reserved person, to this exuberant and amazing performer that's doing social justice work at MSU."

Veronica Lockhart, co-producer of The Dark Art Holiday Meltdown



Ellen Dowling/City Pulse

Veronica Lockhart is a local burlesque performer who has grown to be a fixture in the Dark Art scene.

and burlesque dancer, has flourished through the Dark Art of Michigan as well.

"I first did Dark Arts in 2017, and it was a really happy accident," she said. "I had seen it before and thought it was really cool and never thought about applying, until a friend of mine suggested it and well, they're kind of stuck with me now," Lockhart said.

On the Avenue's upstairs loft, tucked by the pinball machines, Colleen Conrad runs a booth where she sells her signature baby head candles made from a mold she found at a thrift shop. Conrad, also known as the Waxx Witch, is an avid collector of creepy dolls and oddities. Conrad, said she has always had a heart for weird looking dolls and toys. "There's just an odd charm that goes with them," she said.

The Dark Art of Michigan has given Conrad room to grow and be inspired by fellow artists.

"Dark Art has connected me with other artists that enjoy weird, creepy stuff too, it's really nice having that community, because it's hard to find that on your own," Conrad said. "It's not like I can go up to someone at my job and talk about baby heads, a lot of people don't get it."

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Remaining tickets made available at the door. **PLEASE NOTE: Unclaimed will call tickets will be released 10 minutes prior to the event.**

This event is part of the week-long 40th Anniversary celebration January 18-24 coordinated by MSU's Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives. This year's celebratory theme, "Still I Rise," a poem by Maya Angelou, highlights the accomplishments of and equal rights given to women in America.

The commemorative concert celebration will feature MSU Jazz Orchestras, conducted by Michael Dease.

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OverDrive

from page 21

the Quincy line-dancing bar Stampede as a bartender and DJ through the '90s, and eventually took over as owner from 2004 to 2006. From 2014 to 2016, Johnson helped operate Backroads Saloon in Marshall as co-owner, before selling his share to a business partner.

Johnson has no reservations about operating within the Lansing Mall, despite recent closures and relocations that saw the mall lose Houlihan's and Chipotle.

"In fact, the location kind of helps me. The parking lot is so large that we'll have a section where we'll be able to hold outdoor shows," Johnson said. "We're close to I-69, we're close to the hotels. There are restaurants around here that will benefit from it as well."

Lansing Symphony members fill empty Knapp's space with music

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

From 1937 to 1980, the first floor of Knapp's Department Store was the place to be in Lansing at Christmas-time.

The fancy window displays, perfume counter and toy trains aren't coming back anytime soon, but a community concert Thursday with members of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra, plus food and drink from Troppo, hopes

Downtown Traffic Jam wsg Lansing Symphony Orchestra

Thursday, Dec. 12

4 to 6 p.m.

\$5

Knapp's Centre
300 S Washington Square, Lansing
downtowntrafficjam.eventbrite.com

to catch a bit of that old magic.

Four top musicians from the LSO will play,

alone and together, on the empty first floor of the refurbished downtown icon. The grazing begins when the doors open at 4 p.m. with craft beer, wine and small plates from Troppo. Music starts at 5 p.m.

Thursday's "Traffic Jam" is the first in a planned series of pop-up concerts

organized by Downtown Lansing, Inc., to energize vacant downtown spaces.

Cathleen Edgerly, director of Downtown Lansing Inc., said the series is intended to reverse, or at least delay, the daily exodus of downtown workers and bring new visitors downtown.

"Our goal is to bring more energy and excitement to downtown," Edgerly said.

The nation's largest Streamline Moderne landmark, once in danger of being torn down, is again full of activity, with penthouse apartments on the top floor and corporate offices in the middle floors. But the Eyde Co., owner of the building, has found a first-floor anchor tenant elusive.

Thursday's concert offers a chance to go inside a unique space with a lot of history.

"We're very fortunate to have the approval of the Eyde family to work in that space," Edgerly said.

The concert is also a first for the LSO. Maestro Timothy Muffitt called it a "happy hour concert."

"It's a new time and a non-traditional venue for us," Muffitt said.

Muffitt and the musicians chose lively and unusual shorter pieces they hope will appeal to a wide range of listeners.

"The main thing is to present very engaging, great music for people who don't have chamber music at the top of their list of things to do," Muffitt said. "We want to demonstrate the mass appeal of great music."

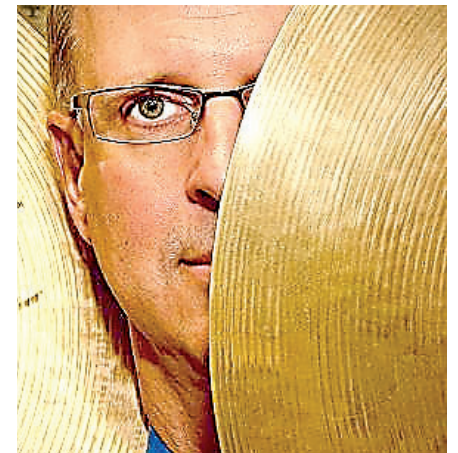
The ensemble itself is unusual: LSO principal percussionist Andrew Spencer, principal clarinetist Guy Yehuda, principal second violinist Flory Petrescu and cellist Tom Sullivan.

"It's a kind of informal coffee house concert, where the musicians will interact with the audience," Muffitt said.

The symphony's new composer in residence, Patrick Harlin, has reworked one of his most appealing scores for this particular group. Also, on the slate are pieces by Argentinian tango master Astor Piazzolla, including his dark and pulsating "Libertango."

The flow of the evening will oscillate between the full ensemble and solo works from each individual musician.

Part of the draw will be a chance to get up close with Yehuda, who has contributed many memorable solos at LSO concerts in recent years. In addition to playing with the ensemble,



Courtesy/Lansing Symphony Orchestra

Lansing Symphony musicians will kick off a new downtown concert series at the Knapp's Centre Thursday. Clockwise from upper left: cellist Tom Sullivan, principal second violinist Flory Petrescu, principal timpanist Andrew Spencer and principal clarinetist Guy Yehuda.

Yehuda will play a fiery solo homage to Spanish composer Manuel de Falla.

"Guy plays this with a lot of grace, elegance and character," Muffitt said.

Spencer, the silver-haired god of timpani thunder stationed at the rear of the orchestra, will get to show another side, as a witty and engaging performer in a more intimate setting.

The concert will be set up in the round, with the audience on all sides of the musicians.

Muffitt has ogled the Streamline Modern curves of the Knapp's building, the largest commercial building in that style in the world, since before it was refurbished in 2014.

"I just love that building," Muffitt said. "It's so exciting to me that it's full of life again, and for us to bring music into that space seems like a wonderful addition to its rebirth."

The Eyde Co., owners of Knapp's, and Downtown Lansing Inc. contacted the symphony with the idea of a pop-up concert about a month ago. Muffitt was already thinking about launching a concert series featuring members of the symphony in non-traditional ven-

ues, a trend that is taking increasing hold in the orchestral world.

"One of the next steps for the symphony will be to play more of these kinds of concerts, focusing on music of our time that has broad appeal, inviting a whole new cohort of listeners to great music," Muffitt said.

Many symphony orchestras across the nation, from San Francisco to New York, have launched one or more series of this kind.

"It's a recognition that in the 21st century, it's not enough to sit in the concert hall and say, 'We're playing some music, everyone come,'" he said.

"This is a great way to bring what we do to new audiences. The musicians are excited about it, too, because you'll get to hear a different side of what they do, and you'll hear from them as they interact with the audience."

More Traffic Jam concerts will be announced soon, Edgerly said. They will continue to pop up one Thursday evening a month for the next six months, and feature music ranging from classical to blues and jazz, folk and other formats.



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The hoax of cool in Michigan's emerald city detailed in 'Broke'

By **BILL CASTANIER**

In the late '70s, while I worked for the State of Michigan's Department of Labor, a researcher-futurist completed a report that concluded Detroit had become the victim of what he called "economic apartheid." In the report, he compared the economy of southeast Detroit to a doughnut with Detroit the hole in the middle. It was thought too controversial to release and it sits somewhere in the Library of Michigan or the State Archives.

"Broke" can mean a couple of different things, as in someone who is penniless, or it can mean something that doesn't work.

In her new book, "Broke: Hardship

and Resilience in a City of Broken Promises," Jodie Adams Kirshner deftly explores both definitions when discussing the aftermath of Detroit's 2013 bankruptcy and its daily impact on residents.

The narrative follows seven residents who are representative of the city's population and what happened to them after bankruptcy. Through their stories, Kirshner keeps a keen eye on a mortgage and foreclosure system that is broke and not working for its residents.

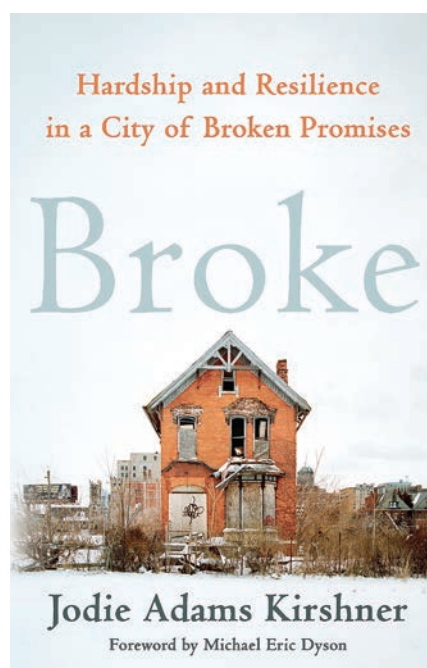
Kirshner is a research professor at New York University and previously on the law faculty at Cambridge University. She also teaches bankruptcy law at Columbia Law School in New York City. Her multiyear research was funded by the Kresge Foundation.

She followed the Detroit bankruptcy closely and believes it helped the city clean up its balance sheet, but did little to alleviate the problems that people who live there are facing.

At the time, Detroit was the largest municipality to seek bankruptcy protection. Following bankruptcy, sections of Detroit were rebounding, fueled by developers like Dan Gilbert, billionaire co-founder of Quicken Loans and Rock Ventures who has bought and restored nearly 100 buildings in the city.

One measure that Kirshner cites of a city still struggling is from 2005 to 2015, 100,000 homeowners became renters due to foreclosure. Kirshner noted the city at one time had the highest rate of home ownership in the country during the mid 20th century.

Most of these foreclosures were due to predatory subprime mortgages. In



Detroit in 2005, 70% of new mortgages qualified as subprime.

A recent article in the Wall Street Journal proclaimed "Bonds Backed by Rentals Bolster Landlords, Flippers." It pointed out that since 2018, 11% of all homes were purchased by landlords and flippers buying foreclosed homes to "turn into rentals."

"At the time of the bankruptcy I was a real advocate of the process, but I wanted to tell the story of those who were caught up in it and what bankruptcy can't do," she said. "I started with the real estate story and the challenges before and after bankruptcy," Kirshner said.

Included in the mix of the seven individuals Kirshner followed are Lola, an African-American who makes a two-hour commute to work at a call center in the suburbs. There is Miles, an African-American con-

struction worker, who despite a building boom can't find work. Cindy, a white community activist, is depicted as a woman who works diligently to improve the neighborhood. Lastly, the book follows Reggie, who put all his money in his home, and Robin, a white property developer from Los Angeles, who buys foreclosed homes and rents them as a get-rich-quick scheme.

As an outsider, it's easy to be judgmental about the difficult situations facing these people, but they work hard despite it all to hold on to the American Dream which includes a home of their own.

Kirshner provides adequate examples of what's wrong with the broke foreclosure system. In 2008, banks foreclosed on 37,000 properties in Detroit with half of them selling for less than \$10,000 at auction. In another situation, the author cites statistics pointing to the Detroit Land Bank Authority, which owns more than 100,000 properties, becoming by default a landlord with lacking expertise. Perhaps the most egregious is the bundling of foreclosed properties which are then sold to one bidder, preventing individuals from buying a home, sometimes the one they are living in.

Kirshner is best when she describes the seemingly mundane auto insurance with a rating system that is skewed against Detroit residents. Miles is caught driving with fraudulent insurance (not his fault) and is thrown in to the court system. Even the tow truckdriver rips him off, and something called driver responsibility fees are assessed which he cannot pay. Without a car he can't work. His troubles just cascade.

In her book, Kirshner writes "On the one hand, the name Detroit has increasingly become synonymous with grit and cool. On the other hand, the rising fortunes of greater downtown have seemed to do little to help the majority of the city and its remaining residents."

"Many in Detroit like Charles, Reggie, Joe, Cindy and Miles have not felt their life improving and, in some cases, they have felt it getting worse," Kirshner wrote.

In Kirshner's words, the issue that led to the crumbling market is "we had overlooked urban residents and considered the issues in the wrong way."

SCHULER BOOKS

STORYTIME W/ MRS. CLAUS December 14 • 11am

Mrs. Claus is taking a break from helping Santa and is joining us for storytime! Stop in and enjoy some holiday stories straight from the North Pole.

BOOK SIGNING W/ RICHARD P. SMITH December 16 • 2pm

Join us for a signing with award winning outdoor writer, photographer and speaker Richard P. Smith.

SCHULER BOOK CLUB December 18 • 6pm

Join us monthly for the Schuler Book Club—a great way to create community, and engage with new books. This month we are reading *The Shadow of the Wind*.

2ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVE STORYTIME December 24 • 11am

We've made our lists, decorated the tree, and finished almost all of the shopping. Come and settle in with your family for our 2nd annual Christmas Eve storytime and craft!

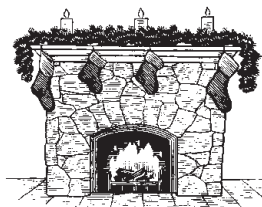
SchulerBooks.com / Event
Meridian Mall • Okemos

Curious Book Shop

307 E. Grand River Ave., E. Lansing
(517) 332-0112 • Mon-Sat. 10-8, Sun. 12-5
We validate parking
curiousbooks.com

Archives Book Shop

519 W. Grand River Ave., E. Lansing
(517) 332-8444 • Mon-Sat. 11-6, Sun. 12-5
Free parking
thearchivesbookshop@gmail.com



The stockings were hung by the chimney with care
knowing a book would fit perfect in there!

20% Off

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through Christmas Eve!

OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Suzi at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, December 11

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Aqua Fitness - Fun for all fitness levels. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Five Elements Tai Chi & Qigong for Grief & Loss Program - 3:45-5 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Line Dance Lessons - 7-9 p.m. Overdrive, Lansing Mall, 5330 W Saginaw Hwy, Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Bookworms at the Broad - Story time and creative fun! 10 a.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broad.msu.edu

Family Storytime (Ages up to 6) - 11 a.m.-12 p.m. CADL Webberville, 115 N. Main St., Webberville. cadl.org.

Kids Reading to Dogs (Age 6 & up) - Read to a library-loving dog! 4-5 p.m. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin Street, Haslett.

Library of Things Petting Zoo (All ages) - Get to know many of the amazing things you can check out with your CADL card. 6-8 p.m. CADL Holt - Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Rd., Holt.

Rock n' Read Storytime - This storytime combines books, music and movement. 10:30-11 a.m. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett.

EVENTS

8th Annual Festival of Trees - Hosted by

The Friends of Turner-Dodge House and Lansing Parks and Recreation. Turner-Dodge House & Heritage Center, 100 E. North St., Lansing.

Allen Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. with Chara Love performance at 5 p.m. 1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

FOHL Holiday Bazaar - Unique gifts by local artists. The Bookend, Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett.

Holiday Celebration & Reindeer Visit (All ages) - 6:30-7:30 p.m. CADL South, 3500 S. Cedar, Lansing. cadl.org

Holiday Open House & Reindeer Visit (All ages) - 3:30-5 p.m. CADL Webberville, 115 S. Main, Webberville. cadl.org

Holiday Open House & Reindeer Visit (All ages) - 6-8 p.m. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash St., Mason.

Lansing Area Mindfulness Community - 7-9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S MLK, Lansing. 517-420-5820. lamc.info.

Line Dancing - No partner or experience needed. 1-2 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Lansing Codes: Coworking at The Grid - 9 a.m.-12 p.m. 226 E. Grand River Ave, Lansing.

NACW Holiday Bazaar 2019 - 5:30-8 p.m. University Club, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing.

Threads of Wisdom: Summerland and Astral Work - Meet local pagans. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Inner Ascended Masters Ministries, 5705 S. Washington, Lansing.

Volunteer Information Session & Orientation - 2-4 p.m. Michigan History Center, 702 W Kalamazoo St, Lansing.

Winter Workdays - stewardship workday. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Capital City Bird Sanctuary, 6001 Delta River Dr., Lansing, michiganaudubon.org.

ARTS

City of Lansing 2020 Arts Impact Project Pitch - 4-7 p.m. Arts Council of Greater Lansing, 1208 Turner St, Lansing.

The Rainmakers Exhibit - All week, 12-4 p.m. Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. thepeopleschurch.com.

Relief/Linocut Printmaking & Spreading Ideas: 4:30-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Study Smart - at the MSU Broad + Art Lab! 12-7 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing.

Sunrises & Smokestacks - Fenner Nature Center's inaugural exhibition. Ongoing. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mt. Hope, Lansing.

Helene Murray is a force with alcohol ink. Her method using brushes, straws and household items makes this art form accessible to all abilities. Leave the class with a finished product and a new skill.

11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., \$35
1701 S. Cedar St., Lansing
[facebook.com/LansingArt](https://www.facebook.com/LansingArt)



Plant painting workshop at Where The Wild Things Bloom

The best gifts come from the heart. Learn how to paint luscious leaves and blooming bouquets in one of Lansing's

Plant Painting

2 to 5 p.m., \$55
523 E. Cesar E. Chavez, Lansing
Purchase tickets at svitlanas.com

more beautiful flower shops. Led by Svitlana Martynjuk, a contemporary fine artist currently residing in the capital city, this lesson

will break down the fundamentals of painting still life portraits.

Martynjuk was born in Rivine, Ukraine and came to the United States to complete her education in Fine Arts and Strategic Management. Her portfolio includes a wide array of commissioned pieces, published book illustrations, and collaborations with both West Elm and Minted. The majority of

her work comprises watercolor and acrylic medium.

Martynjuk will walk through color theory and break down key elements to replicating a plant's structure. Not into realism? Martynjuk has a demonstrated history in working in abstraction and is setting up the workshop to accommodate participants at all levels.

Provided supplies for the class includes acrylic paints, paint trays, brushes, paper and of course, plants. Participants are welcome to select a plan from the shop as their reference or bring in a photo of their own. For shop's plant health & safety we are unable to accept your own physical plants. Guests are welcome to bring their own materials and snacks.

Teen Wheel - 6:30-8 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Tween Wheel - 4:30-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Walk-in Wednesday at REACH - Snowflakes. 4-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643.

Thursday, December 12

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Aqua Fitness - Fun for all fitness levels. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Book Page Ornaments (Adults) - Create holiday ornament from recycled book pages. 6-7 p.m. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash, Mason.

Taste of Jewelry: Cold Forming - 6:30-9:30 p.m. Lansing Makers Network, 2400 W. St. Joe, Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Holiday PJ Storytime (All ages) - Registration at 517-655-1191. 6-6:30 p.m. CADL Williamston, 3845 Vanneter Road, Williamston.

The Poetry Room Open Mic: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Henry's Place, 4926 Marsh Rd., Okemos.

Queer Poetry of Color Discussion Group - Discuss the works of queer poets. 5:30-7 p.m. Salus Center, 408 S Washington, Lansing. 517-580-4593. thethoughtclub.com.

EVENTS

25th Annual Wonderland of Lights - 5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. 517-483-4222.

8th Annual Festival of Trees - Turner-Dodge House & Heritage Center, 100 E. North St., Lansing.

Bath Township Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. Bath Community Center, 5959 Park Lake Rd, Bath. bathtownship.us.

Case for Racial Equity in Lansing Hackathon. Brainstorm actions. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. One Love Global, 3525 S. MLK Jr. Blvd., #B, Lansing.

December 2019 Local First Social - Join us for a fun evening of networking. 5-7 p.m. Preuss Pets, 1127 N. Cedar, Lansing.

Downtown Traffic JAM! - Avoid end of the day traffic. 4-6 p.m. Knapp's Centre, 300 S. Washington, Lansing.

FOHL Holiday Bazaar - Unique gifts by local artists. 12-6 p.m. The Bookend, Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett.

The Future - Talk about the future. 10-11:30 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Good Morning, Mason! - 7:15-8:30 a.m. Ingham Co. Fairgrounds Community Building, 700 E. Ash, Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

Holiday Drop and Shop - MI National Guard Child and Youth Program Holiday Drop and Shop. 5:30-8:30 p.m. 3423 N. MLK Jr., Lansing.

See Out on the town, Page 28



SATURDAY, DEC. 14 >> ALCOHOL INK WORKSHOP AT CEDAR STREET ART COLLECTIVE

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Save IT Till the End"--- those last two.
by Matt Jones

Across

1 "Anaconda" singer Nicki

6 Bot. or ecol.

9 Earth-shaking event

14 Singer with three albums named after ages

15 PC key beside the space bar

16 Detach

17 Salad ingredient that's fuzzy on the outside

19 ___ di pepe (tiny pasta variety)

20 Shoo-___ (favorites)

21 Raise crops

22 Barn-roof adornments

23 Drug buster, for short

25 Much of Mongolia

28 Titular host of NBC's "Game of Games"

30 It can cause a row

31 Geometry calculations

33 Belt loop puncher

34 False pretense

38 Busy spot for Finnish travel

42 "Bonanza" role

43 Linseed product

44 "I have ___ / the plums ..." (poem line spoofed in memes)

45 Big ___, California

46 De-lumps, as flour

48 Obi-Wan or Luke, e.g.

53 It's got 14 points on Malaysia's flag

56 Not just some

57 Aquatic barrier

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14						15				16				
17					18					19				
20				21						22				
23			24		25			26	27					
		28		29				30						
31	32						33				34	35	36	37
38					39	40				41				
42					43					44				
				45				46	47					
48	49	50	51				52				53		54	55
56							57			58		59		
60						61				62				
63						64				65				
66						67				68				

59 Nutritional amt.

60 Anniversary gift before wood

61 Dwyane Wade's team for most of his career

63 Singer Cleo or Frankie

64 1099-___ (bank-issued tax form)

65 Decline slowly

66 Beginning

67 "Evil Dead" hero

68 Puff pieces?

Down

1 "___ Whoopee"

2 Menzel of "Frozen 2"

3 Bygone documentaries

4 "Thrilla in Manila" victor

5 "Bring the Funny" judge Foxworthy

6 "Lord of the Rings" villain

7 Get on up

8 "Addams Family" cousin

9 Eighth note, in the U.K.

10 "The Last of the Mohicans" character

11 "___ kettle of fish"

12 Baseball Hall of Famer Ralph

13 Are real

18 Boil over

24 Reunion group

26 "Field of Dreams" state

27 "The Burning Giraffe" painter

29 Acronymic 1992 single by The Shamen (from "The Terminator")

31 "That feels good!"

32 "Can't Fight This Feeling" band ___ Speedwagon

33 Feel unwell

34 Petty arguments

35 Great series of wins

36 "___ you kidding me?"

37 ___ Dew (PepsiCo product)

39 Grammatical subject

40 Welsh stand-up comedian Pritchard-McLean

41 Court judge

45 Evil computer system in "The Terminator"

46 Dagger holder

47 "Big-ticket" thing

48 Jiggly dessert

49 Aquafina competitor

50 Leary of the "Ice Age" series

51 "Fame" actress Cara

52 Goofy smiles

54 "It's ___!" ("I'll see you then")

55 Hotel postings

58 Alfa Romeo rival

61 "Paper Planes" rapper

62 "Last Week Tonight" aier

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Answers Page 28

SUDOKU

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

Advanced

TO PLAY

Fill in the grid so that every row, column, and outlined 3-by-3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 exactly once. No guessing is required. The solution is unique.

Answers on page 28

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezсны

Dec. 11 - Dec. 17, 2019

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "Nobody knows really what they're doing," says Aries comedian Conan O'Brien. "And there are two ways to go with that information," he continues. "One is to be afraid, and the other is to be liberated, and I choose to be liberated by it." I hope you'll be inspired by O'Brien's example in the coming weeks, Aries. I suspect that if you shed your worries about the uncertainty you feel, you'll trigger an influx of genius. Declaring your relaxed independence from the temptation to be a know-it-all will bless you with expansive new perspectives and freedom to move.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Creativity expert Roger von Oech tells us, "Everyone has a 'risk muscle.' You keep it in shape by trying new things. If you don't, it atrophies. Make a point of using it at least once a day." Here's what I'll add to his advice. If your risk muscle is flabby right now, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to whip it into better shape. Start with small, modest risks, and gradually work your way up to bigger and braver ones. And what should you do if your risk muscle is already well-toned? Dream and scheme about embarking on a major, long-term venture that is the robust embodiment of a smart gamble.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Many people engage in laughably feeble attempts to appear witty by being cynical—as if by exuding sardonic irony and sneering pessimism they could prove their mettle as brilliant observers of modern culture. An example is this lame wisecrack from humorist David Sedaris: "If you're looking for sympathy you'll find it between s--- and syphilis in the dictionary." I bring this to your attention in the hope of coaxing you to avoid indulging in gratuitous pessimism during the coming weeks. For the sake of your good health, it's important for you to be as open-minded and generous-spirited as possible. And besides that, pessimism will be unwarranted.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "You can shop online and find whatever you're looking for," writes pundit Paul Krugman, "but bookstores are where you find what you weren't looking for." That's a good principle to apply in every area of your life. It's always smart to know exactly what you need and want, but sometimes—like now—it's important that you put yourself in position to encounter what you need and want but don't realize that you need and want.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "Bachianas Brasileiras" is a nine-part piece of music that blends Brazilian folk music with the compositional style of Johann Sebastian Bach. The poet Anne Sexton relied on it, letting it re-play ceaselessly during her long writing sessions. My painter friend Robin sometimes follows a similar method with Leonard Cohen's album "Ten New Songs", allowing it to cycle for hours as she works on her latest masterpiece. In accordance with astrological omens, I invite you to select a new theme song or collection of theme songs to inspire your intense efforts in behalf of your labors of love in the coming weeks. It's a favorable time to explore the generative power of joyous, lyrical obsession.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "I've spent my life butting my head against other people's lack of imagination," mourned Virgo musician Nick Cave, who's renowned for his original approach to his craft. I'm bringing this to your attention because I suspect you will be endowed with an extra fertile imagination in the coming weeks. And I would hate for you to waste time and energy trying to make full use of it in the presence of influences that would resist and discourage you. Therefore, I'll cheer you on as you seek out people and situations that enhance your freedom to express your imagination in its expansive glory.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A scholar counted up how often the Bible delivers the command "Fear not!" and "Don't be afraid!" and similar advice. The number was 145. I don't think that approach to regulating behavior works very well. To be constantly thinking about what you're not supposed to do and say and think about tends to strengthen

and reinforce what you're not supposed to do and say and think about. I prefer author Elizabeth Gilbert's strategy. She writes, "I don't try to kill off my fear. I make all that space for it. Heaps of space. I allow my fear to live and breathe and stretch out its legs comfortably. It seems to me the less I fight my fear, the less it fights back." That's the method I recommend for you, Libra—especially in the coming weeks.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Isaac Newton (1642–1726) was one of history's most influential scientists and a key contributor to physics, astronomy, mathematics, and optics. His mastery of the nuances of human relationships was less developed, however. He had one close friendship with a Swiss mathematician, though he broke it off abruptly after four years. And his biographers agree that he never had sex with another person. What I find most curious, however, is the fact that he refused to even meet the brilliant French philosopher Voltaire, who reached out to him and asked to get together. I trust you won't do anything like that in the coming weeks, Scorpio. In fact, I urge you to be extra receptive to making new acquaintances, accepting invitations, and expanding your circle of influence.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): How did humans figure out that a luxurious fabric could be made from the cocoons of insect larvae? Ancient Chinese sage Confucius told the following story. One day in 2460 B.C., 14-year-old Chinese princess Xi Ling Shi was sitting under a mulberry tree sipping tea. A silk worm's cocoon fell off a branch and landed in her drink. She was curious, not bothered. She unrolled the delicate structure and got the idea of using the threads to weave a fabric. The rest is history. I foresee a silk-worm's-cocoon-falling-in-your-cup-of-tea type of event in your future, Sagittarius. Be alert for it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "It is the soul's duty to be loyal to its own desires," wrote Capricorn author Rebecca West. "It must abandon itself to its master passion." That's a high standard to live up to! But then you Capricorns have substantial potential to do just that: become the champions of devoting practical commitment to righteous causes. With that in mind, I'll ask you: How are you doing in your work to embody the ideal that Rebecca West articulated? Is your soul loyal to its deepest desires? Has it abandoned itself to its master passion? Take inventory—and make any corrections, if necessary.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I would never try to talk you into downplaying or denying your suffering. I would never try to convince you that the pain you have experienced is mild or tolerable or eminently manageable. Who among us has the wisdom to judge the severity or intractability of anyone else's afflictions? Not I. But in the coming months, I will ask you to consider the possibility that you have the power—perhaps more than you realize—to diminish your primal aches and angst. I will encourage you to dream of healing yourself in ways that you have previously imagined to be impossible.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "You owe it to us all to get on with what you're good at," wrote Piscean poet W. H. Auden. In other words, you have a responsibility to develop your potential and figure out how to offer your best gifts. It's not just a selfish act for you to fulfill your promise; it's a generous act of service to your fellow humans. So how are you doing with that assignment, Pisces? According to my analysis, you should be right in the middle of raising your efforts to a higher octave; you should be discovering the key to activating the next phase of your success—which also happens to be the next phase of your ability to bestow blessings on others.

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

TURN IT DOWN!

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

Saturday, Dec. 14

Q&A: ROB STONE TALKS WITL, MSU AND GOING COUNTRY



Former WITL-FM radio personality Rob Stone has spent 2019 juggling country-radio work at 99.5 WYCD, his family life and a budding music career. (photo by Bert Vermeersch)



Rob Stone headlines Saturday at The Loft's Cap-City Concert & Coat Drive. Every coat donated equals a half-off drink voucher and door-prize entry. (photo by Mike Sexton)

Country radio DJ headlines The Loft's Cap-City Concert & Coat Drive

Saturday, Dec. 14, @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$15, \$10 adv., 7 p.m.

After years of playing other artists' country music over Michigan's airwaves, radio personality Rob Stone chased another dream: getting onstage and performing his own music. While he cut his teeth locally at 100.7 WITL, Stone now lives in St. Clair Shores and hosts the "Rob and Holly" show on 99.5 WYCD Detroit's Country. From 2004 to 2008, Stone also attended Michigan State University and earned a broadcasting journalism degree. Saturday, he returns to his old stomping grounds to perform at The Loft. Opening is Playing Gypsy.

Looking back, how did you wind up at WITL-FM, Lansing's country station?

Rob Stone: During my senior year at MSU, I landed my first full-time radio position on-air at 100.7 WITL. Prior to that, I had several internships and part time positions at the same company, but feel very fortunate to have landed a full-time position before I even graduated. The cur-

rent afternoon host and personality there, Chris Tyler, was an amazing mentor to me and really helped get me where I am today.

Has your radio experience helped you with your own music career?

I think being on the radio for 10 years has prepared me to be an entertainer onstage. I've hyped up so many crowds for artists, but in the back of my mind I was always thinking, "That should be me performing out there and not just announcing."

You're performing at the Cap-City Country series at The Loft—what can people expect?

I'm a country radio personality by day, but my music is a melting pot of rock, country, soul and even hip-hop. You'll sing along to everything from Johnny Cash to Eminem.

Over the past year, you've played everywhere from Coyote Joe's in Shelby Township to the massive Faster Horses Festival—what's next?

I was recently just down in Nashville recording my first studio single called "Firework Girl." We have plans to head back down to Nashville to finish up my EP and book a small radio tour to promote the new music. I couldn't be more excited to do something I've wanted to my whole life. I guess some people are just late bloomers.

When did you first pick up a guitar and start singing?

I've been playing guitar since I was 14 and used to play parties and what not, but never really thought I could take it much further. I was also very self-conscious about singing for the longest time. It remained a hobby for years until I decided to push myself. I made it my New Year's resolution to put my music out there at the start of 2019. Not even a year later, things have come a long way.

You're juggling radio, your family and being a musician. Are you busier than ever?

Busy is an understatement! It's great, though. My wife Katie and I definitely have our hands full with our 7-month-old at home. Katie is a school psychologist, so during the week I'm with our son Emmett in the morning and she has him in the afternoon. Then I head to the radio station. On top of that, I also do on-camera hosting at Ford Field for Detroit Lions home games. I'm the "Jumbotron Guy."

Lastly, is there a secret to writing a legit country song?

The truth. Whether it's a happy song, sad song, party song or whatever, they all normally tell the truth. I think country is so popular because so much of the population can directly relate to what they're hearing.

For more information, visit iamrobstone.com or facebook.com/robstoneradio.

LIVE AND LOCAL

Upcoming show? Contact
Suzi@lansingcitypulse.com

DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Trivia Night/Christmas Classics 10PM	All Request Cocktail Party 9PM	80's Karaoke 9PM	Tease-A-HoHo 9PM
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.				Run 4 Cover 9PM
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River, East Lansing			Karaoke 9PM	
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Wednesday Vibes Eddie Bandz 9:30PM	Old School Thursdays DJ Jalese 8:30PM	The Hot Mess 9:30PM	The Hot Mess 9:30PM
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.			Miranda & the M80s 9:30PM	90s V 00s 9:30PM
Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee	Trivia with Sporcle 9PM			
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			Odd Squad Family 9PM	Rob Stone 7PM
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Funknight 9PM		Monee 8PM	Chavro Sinatra & Friends 8PM
Reno's North, 16460 S US 27,			The New Rule 7PM	The New Rule 7PM
Spiral, 1247 Center St.		Campy Holiday Comedy Show 9PM	Nightmare before Christmas 9PM	Ugly Sweater Party 9PM
Unicorn, 327 Cesar E. Chavez, Lansing	Open Mic 9:30PM		Live Music with The Corzo Effect 9PM	Live Music with Shelby & Jake 9PM
Urban Beat, 1213 Turner Rd.				Terri's Christmas Cabaret 6PM
Wildlife Pub, 6380 Drumeller Rd., Bath			Open Mic 7:30PM	

From Page 25
Lansing Grassroots Philosophy - Discussion group. 6:30-8 p.m. Kelly's Downtown, 220 S Washington Square, Lansing.
Lansing Night In Recovery - 5:30-10 p.m. University Lutheran Church, 1020 S. Harrison Rd, East Lansing.

TOPS - Take Off Pounds Sensibly. 6-7 p.m. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St. Room 207, Haslett. 517-927-4307

ARTS

Drag Thrillers Presents: A Campy Holiday Comedy Show - 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Spiral Dance Bar, 1247 Center St, Lansing. 517-371-3221.

Intro to Clay on the Pottery Wheel - 6:30-8 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Studio (in)Process - 6-9 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

TOS-CAPS - 3-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Friday, December 13

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

AIS-HETI Open House - for students interested in the Heavy Equipment Industry. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. AIS Construction Equipment, 3600 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

Aqua Fitness - Fun for all fitness levels. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Jr. Geologist - . 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Line Dance Lessons - All ages welcome. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Overdrive Lansing Mall, 5330 W Saginaw Hwy, Lansing. 517-331-2701.

Sensory Friendly Hours - 5:30 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Jingle Bell Storytime (Ages 1–5) - 10:30-11 a.m. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash St., Mason.

EVENTS

2019 Holiday Lights - Stadium Style! - 5:30 to 8:30 PM! 5:30 p.m. Cooley Law School Stadium, 505 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. 517-483-7400.

25th Annual Wonderland of Lights - 5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. 517-483-4222.

8th Annual Festival of Trees - Turner-Dodge House & Heritage Center, 100 E. North St., Lansing.

Holt Farmers Market Mini-Market - 2-6 p.m. Holt Farmers Market, 2150 Cedar St, Holt. delhitownship.com.

Howl at the Moon: Guided Night Walk - Dogs on a leash and flashlights welcome. 7-8 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Rd., Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

Lunch & Swim with Santa at Goldfish Okemos! - 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Goldfish Swim School of Okemos, 5135 Times Square Dr.

Monthly Game Night - 7-10 p.m. Inner Ascended Masters Ministry, 5705 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-657-5800.

Pancakes with Santa - 5:30-7:30 p.m. Eaton Area Senior Center, 804 S. Cochran Ave., Charlotte.

Refuge Recovery Lansing - 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Just B Yoga, 106 Island Avenue, Lansing.

Shop & Dine ‘til Midnight -Enjoy a little Old Town madness until midnight! Absolute Gallery, 307 E Grand River Ave, Lansing. 517-482-8845.

TGIF Dance Party - 7 p.m.-12 a.m. Hawk Hollow, 15101 Chandler Rd., Bath. 734-604-5095. tgifdance.com.

ARTS

Friday Clay Lab - 4:30-6:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Sarah Hillman Exhibition and Reception - 5-7 p.m. Arts Council of Greater Lansing, 1208 Turner St, Lansing.

Teen Studio: Portfolio - 3-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

MUSIC

A Circle of Friends: A Winter Concert. sistrum.org. 7-9 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing.

An Evening of Lessons and Carols - to benefit Advent House! 7-8 p.m. The Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Rd., Okemos.

Holiday Concert for Mint City Singers and Junior Mints - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Wilson Center, 101 W Cass St, St. Johns.

Saturday, December 14

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Hoopng 101 - Adult Class. 2-3 p.m. Cedar Street Art Collective, 1701 S. Cedar Street, Lansing.

Jr. Geologist - 11 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Life Under Blazing Stars: Supernova Mysteries. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 1300 FRIB Lab, 640 S. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. frib.msu.edu.

Make It! Think Tank Workshops - Innovative workshop for ages 9-14! Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116.

Second Saturdays for Families: Explore Secret Lives of Michigan Objects. 11 a.m. 702 W. Kalamazoo Street, Lansing.

Winter Woodworking - 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-

485-8116. impression5.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Sing, Dance, and Move Storytime - 3:30-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014.

EVENTS

2019 Holiday Lights – Stadium Style! - 5:30 p.m. Cooley Law School Stadium, 505 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. 517-483-7400.

25th Annual Wonderland of Lights - 5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. 517-483-4222.

8th Annual Festival of Trees - Hosted by The Friends of Turner-Dodge House and Lansing Parks and Recreation. 100 E. North St., Lansing.

Balloon Guys at the Fire Barn - Stop by the fire barn to visit Santa. 7-8 p.m. Fire Barn, 315 W Walnut St., Webberville.

Charlotte’s 2nd Annual Merry Little Christmas - 7-9 p.m. Charlotte Performing Arts Center, 378 State St, Charlotte.

Environmental Stewardship Work Day - volunteer for natural area work days. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

HandCrafted Holiday Sale - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Unitarian Universatlist Church of Greater Lansing, 5509 S. Pennyslvania, Lansing.

Holt Farmers Market - 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 2150 Cedar St, Holt. delhitownship.com.

Pokémon Party (Age 8 & up) - Join us for a celebration of all things Pokémon! 1-3 p.m. CADL Downtown, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing.

Psychic Fair Fundraiser - Get readings. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Inner Ascended Masters Ministry, 5705 S. Washington Ave., Lansing.

Second Saturday Supper - 5-6 p.m. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing. 517-484-3139. mayflowerchurch.com.

St. Andrew Orthodox Church Cookie Walk - 10 a.m.-1 p.m. St. Andrew Orthodox Church, 1216 Greencrest Ave, East Lansing.

Tease–A–Hoho: Holiday Burlesque Extravaganza - 9-11:30 p.m. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave, Lansing. 517-492-7403.

Williamston Pop Up Art & Craft Show - 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Keller’s Plaza, 100 E. Grand River,

See Out on the town, Page 29

SATURDAY, DEC. 14 >> BREAKING BREAD AT WENTWORTH PARK




Hosted by Mid Michigan Gospel Fest, this cause aims to feed and serve the Downtown Lansing community. Participants can serve meals or join the congregation for dinner, live entertainment and free hygiene products and coats.

2 p.m. till dusk
111 N Grand Ave., Lansing
(517) 285-2640
ttmusicco@gmail.com

SUDOKU SOLUTION									
From Pg. 26									
9	5	1	3	7	6	8	4	2	
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CROSSWORD SOLUTION														
From Pg. 26														
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SUNDAY, DEC. 15 >> HOLIDAY KID’S BIKE GIVEAWAY AT ALLEN MARKET PLACE



The hands of the Lansing Bike Co-op have refurbished 50 children’s bikes and are giving them away, along with free helmets, to families this holiday season. The bikes will be distributed on a first come first serve basis. There will be no limit on the number of bikes per family. Children do not need to be present to receive a bike, however, volunteers will be onsite to properly fit children to the right bike and adjust helmets.

Noon to 3 p.m.
1629 E. Kalamazoo Ave., Lansing
lansingbikecoop@gmail.com
lansingbikecoop.org

From Page 28
Williamston.

ARTS

2019 Red Hot Fundraiser - for Lansing Art Gallery. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Fireworks Glass Studios, 119 S. Putnam, , Williamston.

Drop-in Ornaments (All ages) - 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster, Lansing.

Free Public Tours - 1-3 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Dr., East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Kids’ Crafting for Christmas - Ages 6 and up. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Grand Ledge Library, 131 E. Jefferson St. To register 517-627-7014.

Melik Brown - Gallivant, a photography collection. 12-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado, 204 E Mt Hope Ave, Lansing. 517-402-0282.

NSSN - Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org

Pet Portrait - Pillow Make and take workshop 10 a.m.-2 p.m. ALT Printing Co, 1139 S. Washington Ave., Lansing.

Reach A Not So Silent Night Benefit 2019 - 7-9:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643.

Screen Printing A-to-Z Workshop - 1-6 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing.

Taste of Jewelry: Gold Forming - 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Lansing Makers Network, 2400 W. St. Joe, Lansing.

UnCovered Christmas Gala - A evening of Art and Jazz in support of UnCovered. 7-10 p.m. La Fille Gallery, 336 E Michigan Ave., Lansing.

MUSIC

A Circle of Friends: A Winter Concert - 3-5 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing.

A Jazzy Little Christmas - MSU Professors of Jazz and friends. 8 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, East Lansing. 517-355-1855. music.msu.edu.

Cap-City Country Concert & Coat Drive - Country Music with a holiday giving twist. 7-11:30 p.m. The Loft, 414 E Michigan Ave, Lansing.

CHRISTmas Concert - 5-7:30 p.m. Agape Christian Church, 3021 Turner Rd., Lansing.

Holiday Sing-A-Long with Carrie Quisenberry - 10-11:15 a.m. MSU Community

Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn, East Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Men of Orpheus Christmas Concert - 4-5:30 p.m. St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 218 West Ottawa St., Lansing. menoforpheus.org.

Sunday, December 15

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Broad Wellness: Yoga - 11 a.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Juggling - Learn how to juggle! 2-4 p.m. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing.

EVENTS

25th Annual Wonderland of Lights - 5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. 517-483-4222.

8th Annual Festival of Trees - Turner-Dodge House & Heritage Center, 100 E. North St., Lansing.

ARTS

Free Public Tours - 1-3 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Dr., East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Melik Brown - Gallivant, a photography collection. 12-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado, 204 E Mt Hope Ave, Lansing. 517-402-0282.

Watch + Make: Martin Puryear - Are you interested in learning about contemporary art? 2-3:30 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing. .

MUSIC

Feel the Beat” Drumming Circle - Bring a drum or percussion instrument. 2-4 p.m. Bath Community Center, 5959 Park Lake Rd., Bath. bathtownship.us.

The Lange Choral Ensemble Annual Christmas Concert - 3 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 510 W Ottawa, Lansing.

Monday, December 16

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Aqua Fitness - Fun for all fitness levels. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Intro to Italian Conversation - 3-4 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Kids Reading to Dogs (All ages) - 4-5 p.m. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos.

EVENTS

CanHope Support - 6:30 p.m.-7:45 a.m. Allve, 800 W Lawrence Ave., Charlotte.

Game Night at the Fledge - board and card games. 7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka, Lansing. 517-203-9287.

Pet Photos with Santa - 6-9 p.m. Meridian Mall, Okemos. meridianmall.com.

Refuge Recovery Lansing - ! 6-7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing.

The Springtails: Holiday Benefit Concert - for Willow Tree Family Center. 6-8:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St. Old Town, Lansing.

ARTS

Drawing Foundations - 4:30-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Tuesday, December 17

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Aqua Fitness - Fun for all fitness levels. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Drop-in Citizenship Test Prep - 1-2 p.m. CADL South, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. cadl.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Tadpole Storytime at I5 - Ages 3-6. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116.

EVENTS

8th Annual Festival of Trees - Turner-Dodge House & Heritage Center, 100 E. North St., Lansing.

Prime Time Crime Time - Featuring movies of the 60s and 70s. 1-3 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

ARTS

Kid’s Clay: 4:30-5:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

MUSIC

A Grand Christmas - 7-9 p.m. Michigan Princess Riverboat, Grand River Park, Lansing. 517-627-2154. michiganprincess.com.



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SUNDAY, DEC. 15 >> LANGE CHORAL ENSEMBLE AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



The first half of the program will consist of three texts relating to the Virgin Mary. Composers will include Vittoria, Palestrina, Schuetz, Stopford, Finzi and Poulenc. The second half of the program will include Christmas music for choir and harp by contemporary composers, as well as a setting of two Hebrew texts set by East Lansing composer MarJan Helms.

3 p.m., \$8-10
510 W. Ottawa, Lansing
(517) 321-4102
mrepaskey@gmail.com

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Sindhu's ethereal Chana saag

By AUDREY MATUSZ

I've eaten myself into oblivion many a time at Sindhu, but have had to limit myself to the FDA-approved entrée portions. Until one foggy Monday afternoon, I transcended my stale consciousness of lunchtime fast-food after landing on Sindhu Indian Cuisine in the Hannah Plaza off Hagadorn Road.

Sindhu

Daily
11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.,
5:30 to 9:30 p.m.
4790 S. Hagadorn Road,
Ste 132, East Lansing
(517) 351-3080
sindhurestaurant.com

I can hardly consider my past self a fan of Sindhu, considering I wasn't privy to their afternoon lunch buffet. Upon entering the tranquil space (no over-

head music, clanging kitchen or amplified chatter) my eyes immediately darted to the back of the dining area where coils of steam rose out of large metal pans.

Seven days a week, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Sindhu is serving a hot spread of its most popular menu items.

The star-studded lineup features the Indian outlet's most popular poultry dishes including Butter Chicken, Chicken Tandoori, Chicken curry and Chicken Biryani. Basmati and lemon rice held down the grains, as well as the beloved naan.

For my plate, I took the opportunity to load up on my favorites (butter chicken and lemon rice) and try something new, the Chana Saag. The curry dish contains chickpeas, ginger, onion and loads of spinach. Chana



Audrey Matusz/City Pulse

The lunch spread from Sindhu, featuring chicken and vegetarian dishes, including Chana saag.

means "chickpea" in Hindi and Urdu. It is a popular dish from the Punjabi region of India and is loaded with protein, dietary fiber and zinc. The spinach packs another punch of vitamin

C, vitamin K, folic acid, calcium and iron.

As someone who was never invited to homecooked Indian meals, I can only guess that the chana saag was perfection. However, it lacked the spice of garam masala, or at least the quantity one might get as an entrée dish. What stuck out was a hint of sourness.

The only downer about the supreme spread is it does not cater to those who love the cuisine for its out-of-this-world flavors. The buffet is spice less, enough to make fans of Indian cuisine weep in its absence.

Regardless, while reality was telling me to stop after my first serving, something in the atmosphere pushed me for another round. I asked for my bill and when my waiter appeared, it was then that I could've sworn I saw Siddhartha appear before my eyes. The total of my bill read \$10.99. A divine number for a divine delight.

Aladdin's 'Mix Three Fresh Juices' better than Faygo

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

I like a good head on top of my tall glass drinks — especially when the foam is a pink color. Luckily, Aladdin's' juices have both.

They offer a "Mix Three Fresh Juices"

for \$4.50. I chose a blend of beets, cucumber and parsley. The concoction was a deep magenta color with a thick, pinkish foam at the top that lasted until the tasty, last sip.

It tasted like a garden in a glass. The mix had an earthy flavor that was super fresh. Hard vegetables like beets are put in a juicer before being blended. The result

is a very smooth drink with no lumps or stray bits of any kind.

I asked for some lemon, which was quickly provided, to give my drink an added zip. No salt or pepper was added and I liked it that way. The flavor and aroma made a can of V8 juice in comparison seem more like a Faygo pop than a real juice mixture. Mine was garden-fresh, thinner without being watery, and more authentic. It came chilled in a tall, beveled glass but without any ice to dilute the mix or take away from the serving amount.

The juice choices also include celery, orange, mango, guava, carrot, lemon,



David Winkelstern/City Pulse

A blend of beets, cucumber and parsley served at Aladdin's.

apple, strawberry, pineapple, ginger, banana, yogurt, green onion, cabbage and garlic. The options for different flavors are endless. I was told that more than four items could be requested at no extra charge.

I honestly felt like I had more energy after drinking my choice. Perhaps it was sugar from the beets, although I never felt a sugar rush. Maybe my increased vigor came from knowing I had something red that was healthy instead of a red pop.

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Holt • 2040 Aurelius Rd #13 • (517) 699-3670
 Monday - Saturday: 11am to 2am • Sunday: 9am to 1am

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 Friday & Saturday 5-10

Brunch: Saturday & Sunday 8-3



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 artspublansing.com

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 www.buddiesbars.com

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 (517) 694-8655

AirPort Tavern
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 Lansing, MI 48906
 (517) 321-3852 FB:
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 (517) 580-4400
 meatbbq.com

EASTSIDE FISH FRY & Grill
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 eastsidefishfry.com

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 www.miwildlife.org

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