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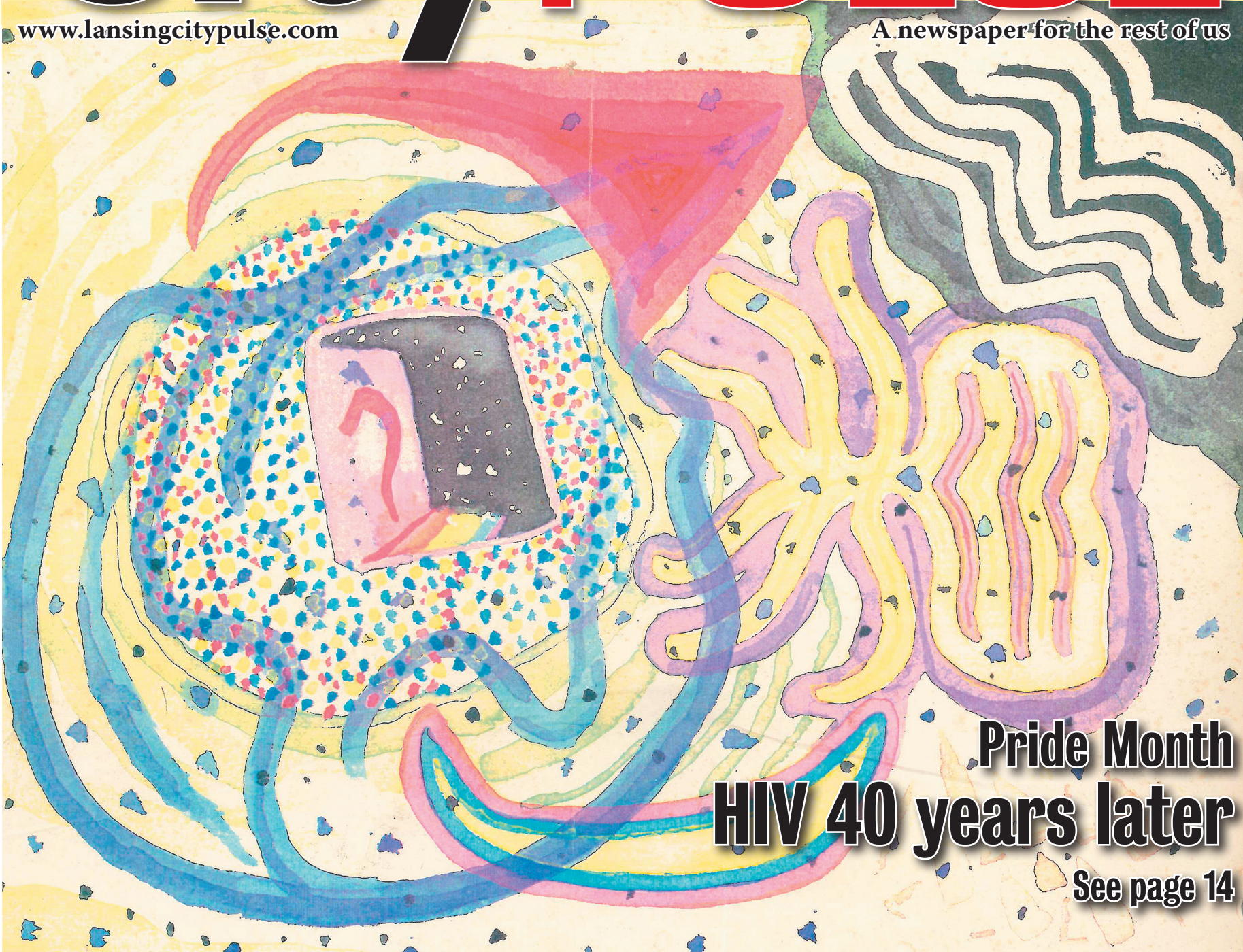
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A newspaper for the rest of us



Pride Month
HIV 40 years later

See page 14

ABOOD

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A photograph of a man and a woman smiling and holding up glasses of beer in a toast. The man is on the left, and the woman is on the right. They are both looking at the camera and smiling.

sidebar

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Stacking the Democracy Deck

THE SENATE IS WILDLY DISPROPORTIONATE RELATIVE TO POPULATION, BENEFITING REPUBLICANS.

1 WYOMING VOTER = 70 CALIFORNIA VOTERS

GERRYMANDERING DISTORTS REPRESENTATION IN THE HOUSE, BENEFITING REPUBLICANS.

THERE, WE JUST PICKED UP THREE SEATS!

FALSE CLAIMS OF VOTER FRAUD ENABLE VOTER SUPPRESSION, BENEFITING REPUBLICANS.

GOT THROUGH THE LONG LINE, DID YOU? WE'LL SEE WHAT OUR "POLL WATCHERS" HAVE TO SAY!

THEN, EVEN IF DEMS MANAGE TO WIN SOMEHOW, THERE'S THE FILIBUSTER.

DEMOCRACY MEANS THE MAJORITY LOSES. MAKES SENSE TO ME!

AND DON'T FORGET THE "RECOUNTS!"

CITY PULSE

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THIS MODERN WORLD

THE RETURN OF THE SENSIBLE LIBERAL

JOE MANCHIN AND KRISTEN SINEMA ARE ABSOLUTELY **RIGHT**--GETTING RID OF THE FILIBUSTER WOULD BE A **MISTAKE**!

HEH, HEH! WELL, WE PROBABLY DON'T SEE EYE TO EYE ON A LOT OF THINGS--

DEMOCRATS MUST REACH ACROSS THE AISLE TO ACHIEVE **REASONABLE BIPARTISAN COMPROMISES**--FOR THE GOOD OF THE NATION! DON'T YOU AGREE?

--BUT SURELY WE CAN FIND COMMON GROUND ON **SOME** ISSUES! LIKE **VOTING**, FOR INSTANCE! IT'S FUNDAMENTAL TO OUR DEMOCRACY! PERHAPS WE COULD MEET IN THE **MIDDLE**--

by TOM TOMORROW

I THINK DEMOCRATS ARE ALL **TRAITORS**! AND THE ELECTION WAS **STOLEN** FROM OUR RIGHTFUL PRESIDENT, DONALD J. TRUMP!

--AND AGREE TO **SLIGHTLY LESS** VOTER SUPPRESSION!

HOW ABOUT IF WE HAVE **MORE**.

UH, WELL--I GUESS THAT'S AN OPTION, TOO.

I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL ALL THE LIBERALS ARE IN **GUANTANAMO**!

PERHAPS WE CAN FIND A **COMPROMISE**!

CityPULSE

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Eye Candy of the Week celebrates gardeners' hard work



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Lansing Community Radio looks to keep WLNZ local



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Flash in the Pan: Radish arugula salad



**Cover
Art**

Courtesy Maxine Thorne

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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Toward less lethal policing

One year after the inexcusable and depraved murder of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police officers, lawmakers here in Michigan are stepping up to limit the broad authority held by police to use lethal force. Bipartisan legislation introduced in the Michigan Senate last week would enact a series of important reforms that aim to reduce police brutality and officer-involved deaths, while increasing the accountability of law enforcement officers and agencies across the state. We endorse the package of bills and urge lawmakers to move expeditiously to adopt them.

Among other provisions, the bills require the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards to establish guidelines for independent investigations of officer-involved deaths, enhance record-keeping of officer infractions to help track bad actors, give the commission the authority to revoke the license of an officer who uses excessive force causing great bodily harm or death, and develop training standards for deescalation, implicit bias and behavioral health. The bills also require officers to intercede when another officer uses excessive force and authorizes disciplinary action against those who fail to do so. Perhaps most important, the proposed reforms require officers to exhaust all possible alternatives before using deadly force. Of these changes, we think independent investigations of officer-involved deaths, enhanced training standards and requiring officers to exhaust alternatives before using deadly force are paramount.

Here in Lansing, the tragic case of Anthony Hulon, who died in the city lockup while being restrained by a group of detention officers, highlights the need for truly independent investigations. Hulon's death was ruled a homicide by the medical examiner, but a subsequent investigation by the Michigan State Police and a review of the case by Attorney General Dana Nessel's office ended with no charges against any of the officers. This was a shocking and perplexing outcome given compelling video evidence that the officers violated multiple policies and that they ignored no less than eight directives from an automated external defibrillator machine to provide rescue breathing support to Hulon. Their failure to do so constitutes dereliction of duty at the least, and criminal culpability for Hulon's death at the most. It now falls to the Lansing Police Department's internal disci-



The CP Edit

Opinion

plinary process and the outcome of the Hulon family's wrongful death lawsuit against the city to determine if the officers will be held accountable in any way whatsoever.

Most recently, a Lansing man was killed last month by an Ionia County sheriff's deputy following a car chase. The suspect used the stolen vehicle to ram the police car. In response to the vehicular assault, the officer shot and killed the suspect. This begs the question: Should police officers be allowed to administer the death penalty on the spot when they perceive a threat to their safety? Or should they be trained to avoid such situations in the first place (whenever possible), retreat as needed to avoid a deadly encounter, call for reinforcements, or pursue another course of action to capture the suspect?

When it comes to impactful solutions, the crux of the matter is how police officers are trained to respond to threats. Critical incidents sometimes require split-second decisions, and those decisions must be grounded in rigorous training that provides a solid foundation for determining when to pull the trigger and when to walk away. There will be errors in judgment, to be sure, but lives can be saved by narrowing the scope of actions officers are allowed to take when faced with an active threat and then training them to that standard.

The U.S. Congress is also moving forward with the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act, which passed the House of Representatives in March on a largely party line vote and is awaiting action in the Senate. If adopted, the measure will force states and local governments who receive federal funds to adopt anti-discrimination policies, revise their use of force policies, and establish independent investigations. Among the key provisions of the federal legislation is creating a national registry of officers who have been convicted of excessive force violations and limiting the use of qualified immunity as a defense against police misconduct.

We would be remiss if we didn't also point out the direct correlation between the easy availability of firearms in America and the need for armed police officers to confront gun-toting thugs. In England, where personal

ownership of firearms is strictly regulated, most police officers don't even carry guns. The classic image of a British bobby on patrol with nothing but a nightstick should remind us all that a heavily armed society is itself a threat to the safety of its people.

In each of the past four years, about 1,000 U.S. citizens were killed by police officers. Roughly twice as many white people were killed as Black people, but the raw totals hide the disturbing reality that Blacks are killed by police officers more than twice as often as whites in proportion to their share of the population. This harsh reality suggests that racial biases are deeply ingrained in the law enforcement community, leading officers to judge people of color as a greater threat to their safety than other groups. While implicit bias training can help officers identify their own prejudices, it is incumbent on the entire policing profession to embrace transparency, to eradicate bad actors rather than shuffling them off to another agency, and to change the mindset that leads too many officers to shoot first and ask questions later.

In Washington and in Lansing, it remains to be seen if the police reform proposals will survive a process where partisanship is oftentimes more important than protecting the interests and well-being of the American people. Much like our national struggle to rein in the proliferation of guns, the effort to rein in cops who kill is marked by cycles of outrage that fade all too soon into complacency and inaction. Perhaps this time will be different.

Send letters to the editor to letters@lansingcitypulse.com.
Please limit them to 250 words

Schor: Lansing is stronger, but there's more to do

By ANDY SCHOR OPINION

Serving as Lansing's mayor has been an honor. We have grown the city for everyone and have tackled crises head-on. I'm proud of the achievements we've made and look forward to another four years of growing Lansing!

We accomplished so much during my first term. Over \$1.5 billion was invested in Lansing, including the affordable Capital City Market grocery store, new housing for all income levels throughout the city, new Rotary and Beacon parks and much more. We provided funding and assistance for facade improvements, created public art and issued neighborhood grants citywide.

Together, we handled unprecedented challenges and emerged stronger.

During the massive floods of 2018, I preemptively declared a state of emergency and we saved hundreds of homes in the Urdandale area, avoiding nearly \$2.2 million in damages.

The polar vortex of 2019 brought nearly a foot of snow and the lowest temperatures in many years. I declared



Schor

This is the third in a series of guest columns by candidates for mayor of Lansing in the Aug. 3 primary election. The order was determined by lot. Farhan Sheikh-Omar and Patricia Spitzley declined to participate. Schor is seeking a second term.

a snow emergency and mobilized all hands-on-deck to keep our residents, visitors and workers safe.

In 2020, when the pandemic hit, we had to provide critical city services while protecting our employees, residents, small businesses and those most vulnerable. By connecting neighborhood services, organizations and people, the city provided grants for small businesses, rent and mortgage assistance for residents and safe housing options for the homeless. We created the Community Response Cabinet to find creative ways to help our Lansing community.

We partnered with the Lansing School District to offer a learning lab for students whose parents needed to work in person. We found creative ways to offer outdoor opportunities with drive-thru events such as the mayor's senior fair, trick-or-treating, and holiday lights.

We listened to the public in many public input sessions on a variety of topics including budget, roads, park-

ing, development and issues of equity. We are also finalizing our racial justice and equity plan based on community input.

Lansing is stronger than ever, but there is more work to do, and I look forward to further growing Lansing if the voters elect me in August and November. I invite folks to view my plan — at andyschor.com — for the next four years, which focuses on neighborhood revitalization, community and economic development, infrastructure and city services, equity and strengthening partnerships.

We will have safe, walkable neighborhoods, ensure properties are safe for homeowners and renters, provide resources to neighborhoods and much more. My newly created Neighborhoods Department will continue programs like SERVE Lansing, neighborhoods of focus and neighborhood grants. Programs like community policing and Operation Slowdown will keep people safe, and Lead Safe Lansing will help our older homes.

Lansing will continue fixing roads and sidewalks, filling potholes, separating sewer and water pipes to protect our environment and updating infrastructure. We will continue to address legacy costs so limited dollars can be used for city services. I will also further improve communication between residents and their government through One Call to City Hall.

Lansing continues to attract development opportunities. New businesses and restaurants are coming to the Stadium District and downtown,

and our corridors and business districts will be more vibrant with new and exciting amenities for residents and visitors. I will continue to work with the state so our downtown can rebound and adjust so any new remote work doesn't hurt Lansing's economy. I remain committed to exciting new entertainment options (like a performing arts center) and taking pride in Lansing by showing our art and culture.

Equity plays a critical role in how we grow our city in housing, policing, social services, financial empowerment and so many other areas. We will assist residents through all stages of life to help them reach financial stability through Lansing SAVE, BOLD Lansing, and the work of our Financial Empowerment Center.

We will celebrate our diversity and ensure all are treated fairly by implementing the community-based racial justice and equity plan, monitored by a new diversity, equity, and inclusion city board and our new diversity, equity and inclusion officer.

I will further strengthen relationships with the Lansing School District, higher education, the state of Michigan, local governments, nonprofits and others for the Greater Lansing region. I will continue to work with city employees, as well as my Lansing City Council partners.

While I believe that Lansing's time is now, we must look to the future of our city. This election and campaign is about the vision for our city's growth in a post-pandemic world. As long as I am mayor, I will fight every day to make Lansing a place all are proud of. To do this, I need your vote on Aug. 3 to continue the momentum in Lansing for you, your family, your neighborhood and your future.

Notice of Public Hearing

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy will hold a public hearing June 14, 2021 at 6:00 pm at 730 W. Maple Street, Lansing, MI 48906, (517) 485-5379, to review the proposed 2021-2022 operating budget. A copy of the proposed budget is available for public inspection at the above address.

CP#21-132

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2021 AT 7:00 P.M. IN COMPLIANCE WITH MICHIGAN PUBLIC ACT 254, THIS MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM PLATFORM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Sanders, Treasurer McKenzie
Trustees: Harris, Brewer, Broughton, Ruiz

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney
John Joseph, Chief of Police

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.

Approved minutes of meetings held on April 27, 2021.

Agenda approved as amended.

Adopted Resolution 21-08: Authorization for Approval and Signing of Contract between Michigan Department of Transportation and Charter Township of Lansing as presented.

Approved 2021 Accounting Fees Agreement and Schedule as presented.

Approved budget amendments as presented.

Approved DDA Budget as presented.

Approved Letter of Understanding as presented.

Approved claims as presented.

Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor
Maggie Sanders, Clerk

CP#21-136

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As backups at SOS offices continue, Benson becomes a bigger GOP target

Back in 2002, the Michigan Republican Party had a nifty

(albeit unsuccessful) slogan

for the three major

Democratic gubernatorial candidates:

— Bad experience: Former Gov. Jim Blanchard, on the argument that he raised taxes and used the state airplane for personal reasons when he served in the '80s.

— Wrong experience: U.S. Rep. David Bonior, on the argument that he was a Washington D.C., legislator who knew little about state government or being an executive.

— No experience: Attorney General Jennifer Granholm, on the argument she was plucked out of Wayne County government based on her personal charisma and intellect, but had no real experience in governing.

Look for the Republicans to do similar packaging in 2022 as three Democratic statewide officeholders presumably look to retain their seats. Instead, I expect the not-so-subtle narrative they'll form to shake out like this:

— Bad decisions: Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's overly restrictive COVID policies went on for so long, even she wasn't able to follow them near the end.

— Political decisions: Attorney General Dana Nessel's office is sharing why former Republican governor Rick Snyder should be criminally charged, let alone convicted of any Flint Water Crisis crimes. Meanwhile, it's hard to see how her quixotic legal crusade to stop natural gas from flowing through Line 5 is anything less than filling a campaign promise to environmentalists.

— Incompetent decisions: The lines outside Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson's branch offices were getting so long that security was brought in to prevent tempers from getting out of hand. That was before COVID-19 shut down everything down for 10 weeks.

Today, appointments for some Lansing offices are booked up into August. In Detroit, the first available appointment to get a first-time driver license in some downtown branch offices is November.



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

It's here the Democrats may have their toughest incumbent to defend unless Benson can stabilize the situation.

Whitmer's COVID performance likely will age well. I can hear it now. She did the best she could under trying times. She erred on the side of protecting public safety. She blew it with her trip to Florida and the Landshark, but we are all people. We were all sick of COVID, right? Time breeds a certain degree of forgiveness. Sharp passions dull.

For Nessel, politics is politics. People either blame Snyder for Flint or they don't. People either want Line 5 shut down or they don't.

Benson's situation has the potential to linger well into 2022. It potentially could impact every person who owns or leases a car, truck or motorcycle. Yes, branch offices were shut down for 10 weeks ... but that's been a year now.

From what I see, there's a lot of people still driving around without a rear plate, which is illegal after a 30-day grace period. The COVID exception that allowed drivers to get away with this went away in the spring. Police can and are pulling people over now for driving without a plate. The fine is up to \$500.

What is Benson's plan to thin out her branch office backlog?

Her offices do offer some same-day appointments if people are quick with their computers between 8 a.m. and noon. But since when should scoring a title transfer or a Real ID be as competitive as getting floor access to a Rihanna concert?

Rep. Julie Brixie, D-Meridian Twp., and Rep. Stephanie Young, D-Detroit, are trying to score Benson \$25 million to hire 200 more branch employees and cover overtime so the offices can stay open longer and, presumably, be open on Saturdays.

Would Republicans be so Machiavellian as to hold up these bills, prolonging the problem so drivers keep blaming Benson for the problem? I wouldn't put it past them.

But unless they do and Benson can re-hang the problem on Republicans, it's her stew and it could cost her 18 months from now.

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

Legislators can rebuild trust with more transparency

By MARK MEADOWS
OPINION



Meadows

(Mark Meadows is a former East Lansing mayor, state representative and assistant attorney general. He resides in East Lansing.)

Americans' trust in our government has steadily eroded since the 1960s. A 2019 poll showed that only 17% of our population trusted government to do the right thing — the lowest expression of trust recorded.

The origins of this mistrust run deep and include some politicians' living in luxury while families struggle to pay bills; countervailing policy decisions that make the problems they are trying to address even worse; and interminable bickering that puts party first instead of people first.

It is not hard to see why the public faith in government is spiraling downward.

In what some consider a sea of mismanagement, Michigan's House of Representatives deserves credit for committing to restore trust. Recently, policymakers proposed 10 bills aimed at overhauling the state's outdated government ethics laws. The proposal received bipartisan support, creating the potential that real transparency could be established in a state that consistently receives low rankings when it comes to ethics enforcement and accountability.

Though the fate of this legislation remains to be seen, one thing is clear: Michigan's legislature is taking real steps toward ethics reform—and Michigan's federal lawmakers should take note. Michigan's congressional delegation should introduce and support legislation establishing greater accountability and transparency at the federal level, too.

For starters, our federal elected officials need to place a strong padlock on the ever-spinning "revolving door." A lack of sound ethics regulations gives elected officials opportunities to come and go between the public and private sector as they please. This "revolving door" creates clear conflicts, risking the integrity of public institutions by increasing the likelihood that decisions made on behalf of the public are really intended to benefit private interests.

Most concerning is the frequency with which these moves take place at the federal level. In some branches of the federal bureaucracy the practice is basi-

cally commonplace. Smaller, sometimes overlooked nuances in federal law such as the ambiguous definition of "lobbying activities" also pave the way for former or future elected officials to gain and maintain power and influence within the government long beyond their tenure. In fact, some officials even take smaller public service paychecks because they know they can get major salary jumps on the other side of service if they play their cards right.

As long as these kinds of incentives are allowed, separating private influence from public decision-making remains impractical at best, impossible at worst — and makes further erosion of the public's trust in government inevitable.

Ultimately, federal lawmakers need to prioritize legislation that holds our country's highest-ranking officials to the highest standards of ethical and transparent behavior, no matter what their political affiliation may be. The Project On Government Oversight, an independent government watchdog, recently released its "Baker's Dozen" report, which details policy reforms necessary to create an "effective, ethical, and accountable government" at the federal level.

The report highlights how inconsistent enforcement of existing ethics laws creates gaping holes in our government's ability to hold political appointees accountable for violations, giving way to greater public mistrust. Even more unnerving, many of these laws simply don't apply to the president or vice president.

That has to change.

The damning research contained within this report plainly illustrates our country's lack of accountability at the federal level. Our current low standards for ethics regulation, reform, and enforcement are at least partly responsible for our country's current divide.

The good news is that transparency and accountability aren't totally out of reach. And our policymakers at the state level are proving it. Michigan's congressional delegation should take note of the groundwork laid by organizations like POGO and acknowledge what newly elected Speaker of the House Jason Wentworth and Minority Leader Donna Lasinski know all too well: Michiganders lack trust in government and politicians and ethics reform is the essential first step to building trust. State lawmakers are leading the way. It's time our federal legislators follow suit.

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS



By KYLE KAMINSKI



Pride Month begins in Michigan

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer signed a proclamation marking June as Pride Month to commemorate the 52nd anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising and to recognize the accomplishments of the LGBTQ+ community, which reportedly includes more than 370,000 people living in Michigan.

CATA recruits bus drivers

The Capital Area Transportation Authority has scheduled a series of job fairs with the goal of hiring 50 new bus drivers in Greater Lansing. No experience is necessary. Those hired will be paid \$17.50 per hour for training and will receive a \$2,500 signing bonus. The next job fair is from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. June 30 at the for-



mer Sears building in the Frandor Shopping Center.

BigPharma builds in Delhi Twp.

The global healthcare company McKesson announced plans to build a 174,000-square-foot pharmaceutical distribution center in Delhi Township near the corner of Holt Road and Holloway Drive, which is set to open this fall and could create over 80 jobs within the next three years.

McKESSON

Whitmer names preservation officer

Lansing resident Mark Rodman was appointed to serve as Michigan's historic preservation officer. Rodman most recently served as the executive director of the Michigan Historic Preservation Network. His appointment begins next month and will continue indefinitely.



Rodman

Post-pandemic normalcy returns to Lansing

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor reeled back restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, announcing plans to lift a longstanding, citywide hiring freeze and to reopen the Foster, Schmidt and Gier community centers this month. All other city buildings are still closed to the public.

Fundraising begins for 'Afterglow Night Markets'

Local officials are looking to raise \$13,000 in donations by July 25 to help open a series of recurring pop-up markets featuring local artists, vendors, food trucks and live music along the Lansing River Trail. Funds will be matched through the Michigan Economic Development Corp. *Visit patroncity.com/afterglow for more information or to make an online donation.*



900 Britten Ave. — and many other local homes

Dennis Hinrichsen (a former poet laureate of Lansing) and his wife have lived along a peaceful stretch of the Moores Park Neighborhood for more than 20 years. And they haven't had to mow the lawn since 2013.

For the last eight years, the local couple — like dozens of other nearby homeowners — have been quietly ditching their traditional grassy front yards for a more natural and scenic alternative. Every spring and summer, the duo replaces a chunk of Kentucky bluegrass with a colorful array of new flora — columbines, bearded irises, ornamental onions, poppies and more.

Nearly a decade of hard work has certainly paid off. The couple doesn't have any grass left. Even the curbs and nearby medians have been carefully pruned into a symphony of wild color.

"I thought it would be easier than grass, but this is way, way more work," Hinrichsen joked.

Over the last few years, more and more local residents have abandoned their finely manicured front lawns for native and scenic alternatives. For some, it's about natural beauty. Others are focused on environmental concerns or would rather have more space reserved for gardening.

Some native plants help support natural wildlife. Other natural options don't use as much water. Whatever the cause, it's making our local neighborhoods much more attractive and we've noticed. Hats off to Hinrichsen, his wife and others like them who have joined in the effort.

— KYLE KAMINSKI

"Eye Candy of the Week" is our look at some of the nicer properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eyesore of the Week and Eye for Design. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call Berl Schwartz at 999-5061.

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WMU-COOLEY COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

THE HISTORY OF LGBTQ RIGHTS

How Far Have We Come and the Movement Forward with ACLU Attorney Jay Kaplan.

Join the WMU-Cooley Community Conversation virtual event on Friday, June 11, 2021 at noon with ACLU of Michigan attorney Jay Kaplan for an important discussion surrounding the history of LGBTQ rights, where we are today, and the path forward to equity and justice in society.



ACLU Attorney Jay Kaplan

SCAN FOR EVENT SIGN UP



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Corporate cannabis companies lobby for caregiver crackdown

Activists organize boycott against select pot brands

A trade group that represents some of the largest cannabis companies in Michigan is lobbying for more regulations for medical marijuana caregivers, pushing some activists to boycott several popular pot brands — including Skymint, Pleasantrees and High Life Farms in Greater Lansing.

If the proposed restrictions come to fruition, some activists think they could throw a wrench into longtime patient-caregiver relationships statewide, reducing the number of marijuana plants that caregivers can grow and the number of patients they can serve. Some also suggested the changes could toss the whole medical marijuana program into jeopardy, ultimately steering up to 72,000 medical marijuana patients away from their caregivers and into licensed pot shops.

The Michigan Cannabis Manufacturers Association, the trade group leading the crackdown efforts, formed in 2019 to “operate exclusively for the promotion of the cannabis manufacturers by promoting the common business interests and general welfare of the industry,” according to articles of incorporation filed with state records.

Its executive director, Steve Linder, is a longtime lobbyist in state politics and a Republican activist with a history of advocating for more stringent cannabis regulations. Among its board of directors are executives with High Life Farms, Skymint, LivWell and Common Citizen, which Linder has described as the “General Motors, Fords and Chryslers” of the weed business.

Until he resigned last month, Pleasantrees CEO and founder Randy Buchman was its president. Neither Linder, Buchman nor executives from any association members returned calls to City Pulse. The group reportedly represents more than a dozen companies, but only a handful have been identified, namely because their executives are listed as directors in state records.

The boycott efforts have also expanded to include brands affiliated with the trade group’s members, including Fluresh, Two Joints, Jolly Edibles, North, Short’s Brewing, Petra, Wana, Sherbinski’s, Kiva Confections, DNA Genetics, Clout King, Chief Solventless and Crown Jewels.

THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES ARE AFFILIATED WITH THE MCMA



Courtesy

A graphic shared on social media is encouraging customers to boycott cannabis brands affiliated with the Michigan Cannabis Manufacturers Association. Its source is unknown.

The recent controversy kicked off last month when an interview with Linder was published in the cannabis industry newsletter “Grown In” in which he advocated for tighter industry regulations.

“The first law I would want to pass is a law that would start to get at the non-licensed supply out in the marketplace,” Linder explained, labeling medical caregivers as part of the “gray market.” “It’s not tested. We don’t know where it’s grown. We don’t know who’s growing it. People are not employing, they’re not investing in infrastructure,

they’re not paying taxes. So, we have to get at the unregulated supply and that law needs to be passed. And we’re going to lead the charge.”

Multiple state lawmakers told City Pulse this week that Linder has been shopping legislative amendments for months that aim to reduce plant and patient allowances for medical marijuana caregivers and also require that their products be tested at a licensed laboratory.

State law allows licensed caregivers to cultivate up to 12 marijuana plants or purchase up to 2.5 ounce-

es of product each for up to five different patients — enabling a harvest of up to 72 plants if the caregiver is also registered as a medical marijuana patient. Unlike retailers, caregivers are not required to submit any lengthy business plans to state officials or pay nearly as much in licensing fees. Their products also don’t have to be tested at a safety compliance laboratory.

State records showed there are about 30,000 caregivers servicing more than 250,000 patients outside of the nearly \$1 billion licensed retail market in

Cannabis

from page 10

Michigan, including more than 1,200 caregivers and 8,600 patients across Greater Lansing in Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties. State officials said about 72,000 patients statewide are connected to a licensed caregiver.

Linder's proposal would reportedly steer caregivers into a similar regulatory structure required of licensed retailers, pushed as a way to bolster patient safety with new mandates that caregiver harvests also be tested for pesticides, heavy metals and other potentially harmful additives.

Some also speculated that his plans could include more limitations for personal home grows.

In a recent episode of the industry-focused "Medical Mondays Podcast," Buchman suggested that changes to caregiver regulations would also help to cut back on black market sales that have continued unchecked by local law enforcement under the guise of medical treatment.

And though Buchman resigned from the trade group, he still voiced a desire for legislative change.

"I don't care if you're growing weed in your basement or your pole barn or whatever and you're doing it for yourself and your patients," Buchman said. "It's the guy who is blowing out 100, 200 or 300 lights. That guy is not playing on your field or my field. He calls himself a caregiver."

Although state law dictates that caregivers only provide a limited amount of weed for a limited number of patients, Buchman and Pleasantrees' chief legal officer, Ben Sobczak, argued that some caregivers have essentially gamed the system, turning a patient-focused model into a commercial enterprise while local law enforcement and state regulators turn a blind eye.

"Nobody should be forced to buy weed from licensed operators. Nobody here has ever said we want to see people get raided and go to jail. But that doesn't mean it can be a free-for-all," Sobczak said. "If you want to make millions and millions of dollars moving duffle bags, you should get a license. They aren't doing that for patient access. They're doing it for money."

This reporter was able to locate at least three unlicensed companies in Greater Lansing advertising unli-



After sampling several products that were featured in last week's summer cannabis guide, our

in-house stoner needed a week off to rest. Lansterdam in Review will return next week.

Have any recommendations for local cannabis businesses or dank new products to feature in a future print edition?

Drop managing editor Kyle Kaminski a line at kyle@lansingcitypulse.com.

censed pot products this week. Most identified themselves as medical marijuana providers. Items were also listed at significantly lower costs than local retail averages.

This reporter also bought weed from and wrote about an unlicensed dispensary on the city's northside last year. Despite the news coverage, it still appeared fully operational this week.

A spokesman for the Lansing Police Department said local cops will still investigate complaints of unlicensed pot shops. But since Dec. 1, 2018, the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office has only issued seven charges involving illicit marijuana sales. Four involved companion charges, like possession of cocaine or assault on a police officer. Another involved a whopping 32 pounds of pot that police and prosecutors suspected were set to hit the black market in Greater Lansing.

Many pot activists, however, would prefer to keep the status quo and have argued that there is very little evidence to suggest that untested caregiver-grown marijuana creates any sort of public health risk. Rick Thompson, owner of the Michigan Cannabis Business Development Group, labeled any changes as "unnecessary" and has promoted the recent boycott online.

Thompson is also a patient who primarily receives his medicine through a medical caregiver.

"You have to appreciate that Linder has been a real problem for the cannabis industry for years," Thompson said. "The consistent message from him and the MCMA has been to put all cannabis sales under regulation. They want more sales to go through their stores. They're advocating to essentially change the way that caregivers are able to operate, to the degree to which most of us believe would fun-

damentally change the program and make it nonfunctional."

Forcing caregivers to shoulder the added burden of product testing — which can cost thousands of dollars per harvest — threatens the financial viability of the caregiver model, Thompson said. And with only 13 licensed safety compliance facilities statewide for all 30,000 caregivers and none located in the Upper Peninsula, availability for testing could also become an issue.

He added: "Our position is that the caregiver system works just fine the way it is. There's no reason to make any changes to the way things are being done. At this point, there's no compelling reason to make changes — except for the profit margin of those MCMA companies. It's a nonfunctional suggestion that comes from the greedy, black heart of the MCMA."

Jamie Lowell launched Michigan's first medical marijuana dispensary, The Third Coast Compassion Center, in 2009 and helped write the ballot language that legalized recreational weed. He said reeling back allowances for caregivers ignores the culture that built the industry.

Until next year, licensed growers and processors are required to have at least two years of experience as a caregiver or employ someone with caregiving experience under state law.

"We're opposed to it because it's damaging to caregivers and it's unnecessary based on this belief that big money interests think it's a way to eliminate a source of competition," Lowell said. "We need to be working on moving forward, not peeling things back and restricting activities."

As for those growers who are pushing the intended boundaries of the medical marijuana program? Multi-million dollar companies like Skymint and Pleasantrees should focus their efforts on working around rather than against the state's black market, Thompson and Lowell added.

"They're conflating caregivers with the black market. I think it's apples and oranges," Thompson said. "Laws already exist that make that activity illegal and if local law enforcement officers choose not to enforce that law, that's on them. This isn't the legislature's responsibility. The fact is, they're trying to use a tool that is inappropriate for the task that they're trying to set forth."

He added: "Even still, why would we care about the small segment of society that is still doing things in a bad way? We don't need to ramp up the

war on drugs. Nobody should be in jail for a plant. The system that we're operating in right now works pretty damn fine without change."

Added Lowell: "These big players should be worried about providing quality products at a reasonable price with good service, not what's happening elsewhere. We need to make this easier to bring people into the fold, not create more barriers and ways to obstruct the market."

Jeff Radway, CEO of Skymint, organized a rally at the Capitol lawn in 2019 amid another failed attempt to remove untested medical marijuana from the market. Those efforts stalled, but his message doesn't appear to have changed: BigCanna can't compete with the affordable prices offered by caregivers. Lawmakers need to gut "unsafe" weed from the market once and for all.

Just a few months (and plenty of criticism) later, the company, then known as Green Peak Innovations, rebranded itself as Skymint. Radway didn't return calls. The trade group's website has also gone offline in recent days.

Another group of Lansing lobbyists also pushed similar proposals last year when they formed the Great Lakes Cannabis Chamber of Commerce, again trying to rid the industry of caregivers who were purportedly "manipulating the medicine with harmful and dangerous additives."

The trade group may stand down, but their plans aren't going away, Thompson explained.

"I don't believe Steve Linder will stop," he said. "I think he's going to try to get this in place. Maybe not this year. It may drop in 2022, making it an election issue. This isn't going away."

State regulators have not taken a formal position on the early plans for legislative change. The Michigan Cannabis Industry Association has also tried to distance itself from the controversy, but it issued a statement this week opposed to anything that could harm patients.

"Our members know first-hand that our industry was built on the backs of caregivers and that patients deserve options including home grown. It is for this reason that our board of directors unanimously passed a resolution stating that the MiCIA will not support any legislative effort that is harmful to patients or their caregivers," explained Executive Director Robin Schneider.

— KYLE KAMINSKI

CORONAVIRUS IN MICHIGAN BY THE NUMBERS...

WEEK 63

Michigan

	CASES	DEATHS	VACC.
5/25/21	885,319	19,019	4,511,298
6/1/21	888,581	19,176	4,581,048
Weekly Change	↑0.4%	↑0.8%	↑1.5%

Greater Lansing

	CASES	DEATHS	VACC.
5/25/21	37,306	654	227,679
6/1/21	37,400	658	230,487
Weekly Change	↑0.3%	↑0.6%	↑1.2%

Ingham County

	CASES	DEATHS	VACC.
5/25/21	22,529	370	136,768
6/1/21	22,571	373	138,515
Weekly Change	↑0.2%	↑0.8%	↑1.3%

Eaton County

	CASES	DEATHS	VACC.
5/25/21	8,806	202	51,675
6/1/21	8,839	202	52,331
Weekly Change	↑0.4%	No Change	↑1.3%

Clinton Co.

	CASES	DEATHS	VACC.
5/25/21	5,971	82	39,236
6/1/21	5,990	82	39,641
Weekly Change	↑0.3%	↑1.2%	↑1.0%

The "Vaccines" category refers to residents that have received at least one dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, according to state data.

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City of East Lansing City Council

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AT ELECTRONIC MEETING Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

The City Council of the City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan ("City") will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.**, concerning the following:

The purpose of the public hearing is to consider a request for site plan and special use permit approval from MJW Investment, LLC, for the property at 128 Collingwood Drive to establish a Class A multiple family residence (fraternity). The subject property is zoned RM-32, City Center Multi Family Residential District.

This meeting will only be held electronically pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Act 267 of 1976, and the capacity restrictions and social distancing requirements set forth in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Director's Emergency Orders. The purpose of the meeting will be to hold the public hearing described above and consider any other business that comes before the City Council. Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, the City gives notice of the following:

1. **Reason for Electronic Meeting.** The City is holding this meeting by electronic means only due to the restrictions imposed by the MDHHS Director's Emergency Orders. If the Orders are revised and if an in-person meeting is to be held instead of an electronic meeting, the meeting may be rescheduled to a different date and time. Notice of any such change will be posted at the City Hall and on the City's website.

2. **Procedures.** The public may participate in the meeting and may make public comment electronically by video/telephone using the following method:

Join Zoom Meeting by Video: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83907859628>

Or Dial In By Telephone** - Call in: 312-626-6799, Toll Free: 888-788-0099

Meeting ID: 839 0785 9628

Password: Not required

**To unmute microphone from a cell phone dial *6 (star 6)
To raise your hand from a cell phone dial *9 (star 9)

3. **Contact Information.** For those who desire to contact members of the City Council to provide input or ask questions on the business that will come before the public body at the meeting, please contact Jennifer Shuster, City Clerk, at (517) 319-6881 prior to the start of the meeting.

4. **Persons with Disabilities.** Persons with disabilities may participate in the meeting through the methods set forth in paragraph 2. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services in order to attend electronically should notify City Manager's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-377, within a reasonable time in advance of the meeting.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#21-139



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-Walt Disney



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thearchivesbookshop@gmail.com



NOTICE TO ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING AND TO USERS OF THE CITY’S SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM OF INTENT TO ISSUE REVENUE BONDS AND THE RIGHT OF REFERENDUM THEREON

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of East Lansing, Counties of Ingham and Clinton, State of Michigan, intends to issue and sell revenue bonds pursuant to Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended, in an amount not to exceed Thirty-Six Million Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$36,060,000) for the purpose of paying costs to acquire and construct improvements to the City’s Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) and related appurtenances, site improvements and other related activities, including but not limited to: improvements and expansion to primary clarifiers, aeration system, and north secondary clarifiers, (collectively, the “Revenue Bonds”).

The Revenue Bonds may be issued in one or more series and may be combined with bonds issued for other purposes as shall be determined by the City Council. Each series of the Revenue Bonds will mature in annual installments not to exceed the maximum permitted by law, with interest on the unpaid balance from time to time remaining outstanding on said bonds to be payable at rates to be determined at sale of the Revenue Bonds but in no event to exceed such rates as may be permitted by law. Bond proceeds may be used for capitalized interest to the extent permitted by law.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF REVENUE BONDS

The principal of and interest on the Revenue Bonds shall be payable solely from the revenues received by the City from the operations of its sewage disposal system (the “System”), except as provided below if the revenue bonds are sold to the Michigan Finance Authority. The revenues will consist of rates and charges billed to the users of the System, a schedule of which is available at www.cityofeastlansing.com. The rates and charges may from time to time be revised to provide sufficient revenues to provide for the expenses of operating and maintaining the System, to pay the principal of and interest on the revenue bonds and other obligations of the System, and to provide reserves for these purposes.

ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL SOURCES OF PAYMENTS

In the event that the City deems it desirable to sell the revenue bonds to the Michigan Finance Authority, the City may be required to pledge for the payment of the revenue bonds money received or to be received by the City derived from imposition of taxes by the State and returned to the City as provided by law, except for money the use of which is prohibited for such purposes by the State Constitution. The City may enter into an agreement providing for the payment to the Michigan Finance Authority or a trustee of taxes collected by the State and returned to the City, and such funds may be pledged for the payment of the revenue bonds.

RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

THE REVENUE BONDS WILL BE ISSUED WITHOUT A VOTE OF THE ELECTORS UNLESS A VALID PETITION REQUESTING SUCH A VOTE SIGNED BY NOT LESS THAN 10% OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS RESIDING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY IS FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK WITHIN FORTY-FIVE (45) DAYS AFTER PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. IF SUCH PETITION IS FILED, THE REVENUE BONDS MAY NOT BE ISSUED WITHOUT AN APPROVING VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS RESIDING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY VOTING THEREON. If such petition is filed and the electors of the City voting thereon approve the issuance of the revenue bonds, then the bonds may be payable from revenues or from ad valorem taxes that may be levied on all taxable property in the City without limitation as to rate or amount.

THIS NOTICE is given pursuant to the requirements of Section 33, Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended.

Jennifer Shuster, City Clerk
City of East Lansing

CP#21-137

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING East Lansing Planning Commission

NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING

June 23, 2021 at 7:00 pm

THE MEETING WILL ONLY BE HELD ELECTRONICALLY FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Planning Commission of the City of East Lansing will hold a meeting and public hearings on **June 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** This meeting will only be held electronically pursuant to the Open Meetings Act and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Epidemic Orders.

- A public hearing will be held to consider a request from United Hospitality Group East Lansing to modify a condition of approval from a previously approved site plan and special use permit granted in 2017 to allow the construction of a four-story SpringHill Suites by Marriott hotel and a one-story multi-tenant commercial building with a drive-through lane at 1100 Trowbridge Road. The request is to modify a condition placed on the project by the East Lansing City Council requiring the construction of a six-foot concrete or brick wall on a portion of the western property line in the northwest corner of the site. The applicant is proposing to instead install an eight-foot wood fence. The 3.43-acre subject property is zoned B-2 (Retail Sales Business District).
- A public hearing will be held to consider a site plan application from Concord WP COL GP Holdings II, LLC for the property at 3225 West Road to construct a four-story, 12,383 sq. ft. hotel and the associated parking on a 4.5-acre site. The subject property is zoned RA, Residential Agricultural District but is proposed to be rezoned B5, Community Retail Sales Business District.
- A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1501, an ordinance to amend the Zoning Use District Map of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to rezone the property at 3225 West Road from RA, Residential Agricultural District, to B-5, Community Retail Sales Business District.

Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Act 267 of 1976, and the MDHHS Epidemic Order, the City also gives notice of the following:

- Reason for Electronic Meeting.** The Planning Commission is holding the meeting by electronic means only because of the gathering restrictions, capacity limits, and social distancing requirements set forth in the MDHHS Epidemic Orders.
- Procedures.** The public may participate in the meeting and may make public comment electronically by video or telephone conference using the following information:

URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86935779481>

Webinar ID: 869 3577 9481
Call in Number: 312-626-6799
Toll Free Call in Number: 888 788 0099
- Contact Information.** For those people who desire to contact members of the Planning Commission to provide input or ask questions on the business that will come before the public body at the meeting, please contact Peter Menser, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 319-6861, or pmenser@cityofeastlansing.com prior to the start of the meeting.
- Persons with Disabilities.** Persons with disabilities may participate in the meeting through the methods set forth in paragraph 2. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services in order to attend electronically should notify Rebecca Urdiales, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 319-6922, TDD 1-800-649-3777 or ruurdial@cityofeastlansing.com, within a reasonable time in advance of the meeting.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#21-138

Remembering AIDS: 40 years of life, love and medical advances

By TODD HEYWOOD

Among the memories burned into Maxine Thome's memory of the early days of the HIV pandemic is visiting one of her counseling clients in the AIDS Ward at Lansing General Hospital.

Thome, a lesbian, was among the first to actively support those living with the virus. She volunteered as a social worker, providing therapy for people with the disease then thought invariably fatal. Thome's client was one of many with the bizarre and baffling opportunistic infection, which takes hold among the sick after the virus has eaten up the immune system.

Thome was ordered to "gown up" with a mask, gloves. She felt alien as she entered his room.

"I just remember he looked so small in that bed," she said. "And I felt so much like an object rather than a person. I said to him: What do you need? And he said: A hug."

Thome shed her gown, gloves and face mask.

"And we hugged. That's a moment that will never leave me because people were still considered to be untouchable," she explained. "And it seemed to last forever."

This was HIV in the mid-'80s. The virus, now widely believed to have arisen from a chimpanzee virus in Africa at the turn of the 20th century, came to Ingham County with the same vengeance it did in the nation's coastal cities — along with the same stigmas, social isolation and fears that it carried to New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco. It was a brutal disease.

Dr. Peter Gulick arrived in Lansing in 1965 after a residency at the Cleveland Clinic, where he studied oncology and infectious disease. He came to Michigan State University to teach and treat cancer and other diseases, including HIV. He had already had similar experience in 1982 with the strange new disease that was slaughtering young gay men with unexplained and catastrophic immune collapse and a host of infections that took advantage of their weak bodies.

His first years working at Lansing General Hospital's AIDS Ward were "horrible."

"When people with HIV were admitted, they'd put yellow tape on the doors. Food was left outside the door. People were gowned up like spacemen in treating patients because of the fear," Gulick recalled. "It was just horrible because of the fear."

In 1983, Suellen Hozman was a nurse working in infection control at Lansing General Hospital, where



(Left) Jake Distel and his partner Jon Hoffer joined together in a commitment ceremony in the early '80s. This was before marriage for same-sex couples was much of a discussion, let alone a legal possibility.

(Bottom left) Jon Hoffer was Jake Distel's partner. The two men were together throughout the '80s. Hoffer died from complications related to HIV in 1996.

(Bottom right) Jon Hoffer (left) and Jake Distel in the '80s. Hoffer died from AIDS in 1996. Distel has been executive director of the Lansing Area AIDS Network for 18 years and will retire later this year.



Courtesy MSU School of Medicine

(Above) Dr. Peter Gulick began treating people living with HIV in 1981 while doing his residency in Ohio. He has been one of the main infectious disease doctors in Ingham county since the mid-'80s.



Photos courtesy Jake Distel

McLaren is now on Pennsylvania Avenue. She met Ingham County's first two people diagnosed with AIDS and grew particularly close to one of them, according to the history of the Lansing Area AIDS Network.

She saw firsthand the fear and isolation that patients experienced, just like Gulick and Thome.

By 1985, both patients were dead and Hozman was teaching the hospital staff. It was clear to her that people living with HIV or an AIDS diagnosis were in need of far more than medical care. They needed support.

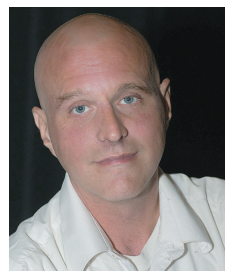
Thome and Doak Bloss, a figure in community theater, saw a news story about Hozman and reached out to her. They had one question: What do you need?

It was the beginning of not only the Lansing Area AIDS Network, but of the countywide and local community response to the strange and scary new disease that was ravaging the nation.

HIV by the numbers

Symptoms of the disease were first reported in the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly publication.

Todd Heywood has won state and national awards for his reporting over his 30-year journalism career. He has also been living with HIV since 2007. His work has been cited by the United Nations Commission on HIV and the Law, the U.S. House of Representatives and in numerous state legislative and administrative memos related to policy and HIV. Heywood also hosts conversations at universities in the state to discuss a variety of topics related to HIV and the law.



Dr. Michael Gottlieb, a physician in Los Angeles, reported on the cases of five previously healthy homosexual men who had developed pneumonia. Their immune systems were profoundly compromised. And most of them harbored a condition called cyto-

See AIDS, Page 15

Throughout June, City Pulse will mark Pride Month, starting with this look at HIV. Next week, City Pulse will kick off a series on local LGBTQ+ history by historian Tim Retzloff. On June 30, City Pulse will announce this year's Inclusion Award honorees for the work they have done for the LGBTQ+ community.

AIDS

from page 14

megalovirus, a herpes virus known for causing a mono-like illness in healthy people. It was June 5, 1981.

The next four cases Gottlieb would see in Los Angeles were in people of color, he told PBS’ “Frontline” a decade ago on the 30th anniversary of the disease. The first five cases he reported were white. Nationally and statewide, this racial disparity would continue to the present day.

The epidemic can be told in numbers. In 2018 — the most recent data available from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services — Black men had a new HIV diagnosis rate of 45.6 per 100,000 Black men in Michigan, while white men had a rate of just 4.8 per 100,000. Black women had a rate of 8.9 infections per 100,000. White women were tracking at below one infection per 100,000 people. The racial disparities were statistically clear.

Thousands of Michiganders have died from the disease since 1981. Today, at least 16,306 Michigan residents are living with the virus, with more than 10,000 cases in southeastern Michigan. An estimated 13% of those people are unknowingly living with the virus.

One of every 10 people diagnosed with HIV in Metro Detroit has never been linked to care — including an opportunity to access antiviral medications, which is similar to the rest of the state. Of those undergoing treatment, about 44% weren’t connected until 30 days after their diagnosis.

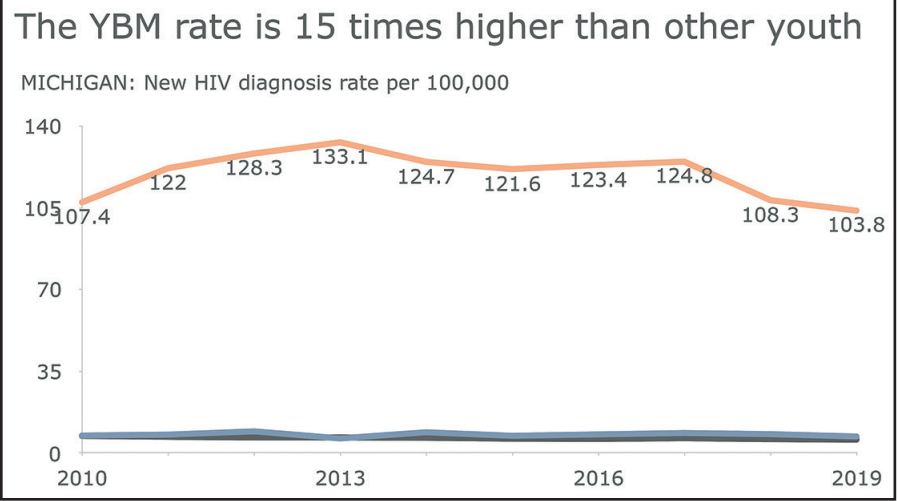
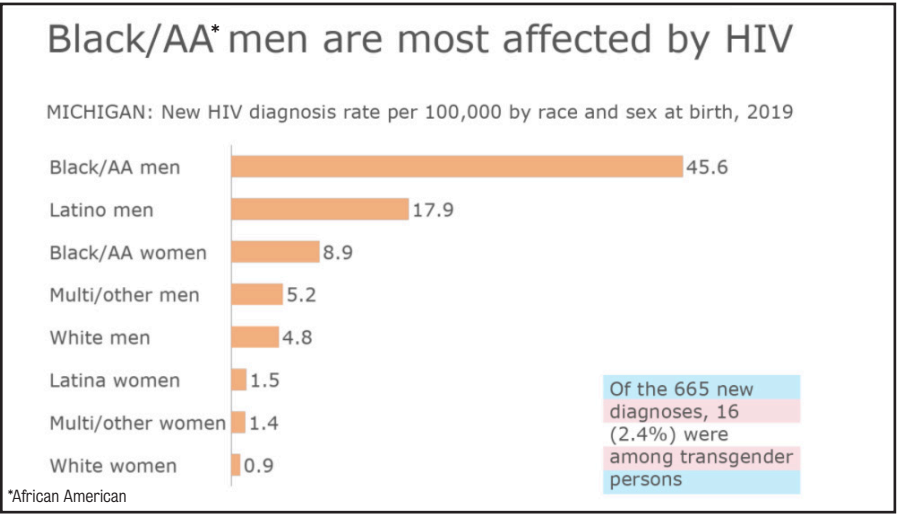
Outside of the Detroit area, 92% of those in care have an undetectable (or suppressed) form of the virus. In Metro Detroit, 88% of those in care have achieved an undetectable viral load.

COVID-19 has delayed reports on the status of HIV at both the county and state level. The most recent data from 2018 shows 445 people knowingly living with HIV in Ingham County. Eaton County has 91 people who know they are living with HIV and Clinton has 43. Officials estimate there to be more than 100 people across all three counties who don’t know they have the virus.

The good news is that living with HIV is no longer the death sentence it was until the early ‘90s. The advent of effective medications means that a person living with HIV is expected to survive the same life span as a person without the virus. Drugs stop the virus from replicating.

Medical science has determined that a person with an undetectable virus is unable to transmit HIV to another person during sex. Science has also discovered that using one of the HIV medications by people who are at risk of contracting HIV can prevent them from acquiring the virus through sex. That intervention is called Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) and is thought to be up to 99% effective.

Despite these interventions, data from the state shows that 88% of people who know they are living with HIV in Ingham County are linked to medical care and, of those, 91% have



(Top) 2019 Comparative rates of new HIV infections per 100,000 people based on gender assigned at birth.

(Bottom) A comparison of infections per 100,000 men ages 13-29 in Michigan over the last decade.

an undetectable viral load. In Eaton County, 90% of people who know they are living with HIV are receiving medical care, but only 87% have an undetectable virus. In Clinton County, 93% are undergoing treatments for the virus in medical care, and 90% of those are undetectable.

Because the disease was first reported in sexually active gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men, it was initially referred to as Gay Related Immundeficiency, or GRID. The new syndrome began manifesting as a host of bizarre and aggressive infections with telltale purple lesions of Kaposi’s sarcoma, a skin cancer associated with older men of Mediterranean descent.

Initially, people diagnosed with HIV were given a life expectancy of no more than two years.

When the disease began appearing in people who had blood transfusions and in the children of women who injected drugs, the disease was renamed AIDS: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. Regardless of its name, it was deadly and no one knew quite what was causing it.

It would take scientists three years to identify the retrovirus responsible for the new syndrome. And even that discovery, announced in 1984, would be overshadowed by scientific scandal as Dr. Robert Gallo would take credit for the discovery, but a review of his work would determine the virus was the exact same genetic virus as the one discovered by the French in 1983.

Scientists brought them together and renamed the virus HIV — human immunodeficiency virus.

A test for the virus was approved by the FDA in 1985, but medical sci-

ence could offer no intervention to slow or stop the relentless war that the tiny package of RNA would wage in a human body, slowly destroying the immune system and allowing other bacteria, fungus and viruses to overwhelm and ultimately kill its human host. There was no cure at their disposal.

Bias in the beginning and now

There was barely a governmental response to the pandemic. After all, the virus was mostly impacting gay and bisexual men and people who injected drugs. This was the era of President Ronald Reagan — the zenith of power for the religious right and the birth of the war on drugs.

Reagan himself would not give a speech about the disease until 1987, and even then, he would only mention it in passing and in sparse selection of budget priorities. The Reagan administration had abandoned entire swaths of America to the virus.

Queer communities rose up to fight the virus and support those who had become ill. Curtis Lipscomb, executive director of LGBT Detroit, was living in New York City when the radical protest movement AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power arose from the communal grief and rage.

The movement staged highly theatrical protest events, including die-ins, targeting high profile sites like St. Patrick’s Cathedral, Wall Street and even the “CBS Evening News” with Dan Rather. They wanted to make sure the plight of gay men — most of whom were white — was known.

As a Black man living in the most

populated city in America who was aware of the virus’ impact in his community, Lipscomb was thankful for ACT UP but he didn’t feel part of the movement.

“I knew at the time that what they were doing was important to me, for me,” he said. “But it was not a space I felt welcome in.”



Courtesy photo

Curtis Lipscomb executive director of LGBT Detroit.

Lipscomb talked about how queer spaces — discos and sex clubs — were racially segregated in New York and in Detroit. Menjo’s, a popular night club in Detroit, was infamous for requiring Black patrons to present multiple forms of identification to get in. And once inside the bar, Black men were largely relegated to an isolated corner of the bar.

“It was the Black corner,” Hank Millbourne, a Black man who helped run AIDS Partnership Michigan in Detroit, said. Millbourne recalled community members referring to the Menjo’s area.



Hank Millbourne was leading an AIDS service organization in Detroit when he was diagnosed with HIV in 1996. He said he had symptoms in 1993, but feared getting tested and finding out for years.

HIVE education materials that circulated in Michigan in the ‘80s predominantly featured white men.

“It didn’t speak to me,” Millbourne added. He and his team recreated the educational materials to speak to Black and brown communities in Detroit.

In the late 80s, when AZT was approved as the first drug to treat HIV, it had not been tested thoroughly in the Black community. One of the unforeseen side effects included turning fingernails and toenails black. Millbourne recalls his friends in the late ‘80s asking him why he was speaking to certain Black men in the bar scene.

He was told they had “the package” — as evidenced by the Black nails on their hands. Millbourne said he was unclear at first that the package meant HIV.

In 1987, Renee Canady landed her “very first professional job out of college” at the Ingham County Health Department as the county’s first AIDS educator. The position was brand new. She was told to “figure it out,” on how to raise awareness and education about HIV.

“As a Black straight woman, the framing and the narrative back then wasn’t really anything I perceived

AIDS

from page 15

as impacting me or my community. When I saw this opportunity and started reading and learning about what was really going on I was like: This is terrible — not just for these people they are shaping the narrative around, but for a lot of people, for all of us.”

Canady would go on to helm the

department as the county’s health officer and now leads the Michigan Public Health Institute. Racial disparities are a common point of concern in funding and structuring programs to address public health statewide. HIV laid bare the racial inequities in healthcare and access that plague Black communities locally, Canady explained.

Meeting local needs

Hozman told Bloss and Thome what was needed was support. People with the disease were unable to complete basic life tasks like grocery shopping or caring for their pets. The disease left them feeling afraid. Their community often turned its back, leaving them isolated and alone. The people living with the virus needed, more than anything, some human compassion.

Bloss had just ended a 10-year relationship with his college boyfriend. The two were popular in local theater groups. They were the “acceptable” gays, he joked — the charming theater couple.

He said he was looking for something to do as he rebuilt his life after his boyfriend died. Assisting those with AIDS seemed like an opportunity to get to better know the gay community and help.

Bloss threw himself into the work of supporting people living with AIDS — driving them to appointments, grocery shopping for them, assisting them in getting to doctor’s appointments. It was called the



Renee Canady, now the executive director of the Michigan Public Health Institute, was Ingham County Health Department’s first HIV educator at a time when the virus was a mystery and generally thought to be deadly.



Maxine Thome, a founder of the Lansing Area AIDS Network, holds a painting by one of her clients. The painting depicted what the world looked like through his CMV retinitis infection, a viral infection which caused blindness in many people with HIV in the early days of the pandemic.

Buddy Program, which paired volunteers with people living with AIDS.

At the time, in 1985, there were only 10 people known to be living with AIDS in Ingham County, he said. As he tried to raise awareness, he faced pushback from the gay men’s community, which pointed to how few cases there were. There was still denial, he said, still “a lot of fear.”

Meanwhile, Thome was doing the same thing as Bloss. It became obvious quickly that the Buddy program needed funding and a way to handle financial donations from people unwilling or unable to join. The bylaws for the Lansing Area AIDS Network were written, she recalled, over a meal in El Azteco.

Closing a chapter

For 18 years, Jake Distel has helmed the Lansing Area AIDS Network, shepherding fundraising, grant writing, prevention programming and medical case management for people living with HIV. Like so many others, he said he watched his friends die from the virus in the 80s and 90s.

While they lived in Toledo, his partner, Jon Hoffer, was diagnosed with HIV in the late ‘80s. For a time, Distel wrongly presumed he too had the virus, and both men took AZT to stave off the effects. Hoffer died in 1996 from AIDS, just months before the miraculous HIV cocktails were released to patients.

Distel recalled how the small newspaper in his hometown refused to run Hoffer’s obituary because it explicitly said he died of AIDS. He said Hoffer’s mother took the paper to task and shamed them into running the memorial.

He also recalled his first real interaction with a person living with HIV via his friend Dennis Michaels, a popular female impersonator in Columbus. Distel and Hoffer would travel from Toledo to watch his performances. He recalls Michaels’ last appearance on stage.

“He performed in a wheelchair,” Distel said. “Everyone knew what was going on at that point, but he did it. He rolled out onto the stage to a

standing ovation.”

Even after Hoffer and Distel moved to Washtenaw County, the couple would still travel to Toledo for Sunday brunches. It was a community response that grew out of the isolation and rejection of queer identities in the AIDS crisis. The families of many of the men who died didn’t want to acknowledge they were gay. Their identity was hidden. To deal with that, the local bars began hosting Sunday brunches, for free, as a

memorial to those who lost their lives to the virus.

Millbourne recalls during the late 90s, the Black queer community would host parallel memorials for those lost to AIDS in which “We could remember people completely,” he explained.

And in Ingham County, Thome and others created the “Remember My Name” project, held on the steps of the Capitol on the mornings of gay pride marches. The names of people who had died of AIDS would be read. Their names were inscribed on ribbons and affixed to sticks.

Those ribbon-streaming sticks would lead the march, but by the mid-’90s there were too many names to read in the five hours before the march.

As Thome recalled the early days of the pandemic, she thought of her time serving on the board of the Michigan Organization for Human Rights, one of the state’s first LGBTQ organizations.

“I just think back to those times, and it seems like every month, another person was gone,” she said. “It was like the table was emptying. It was. People were just gone.”



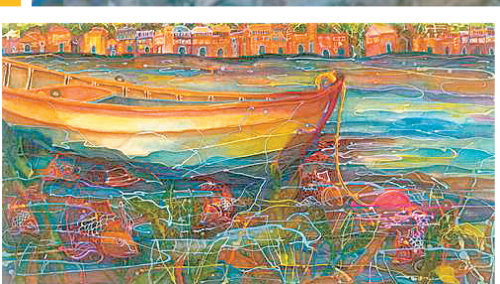
Jake Distel, executive director of the Lansing Area AIDS Network, talks about the loss of his partner and many friends in the late ‘80s and early ‘90s.



Courtesy Jake Distel

Denis “Denise” Michaels was a beloved female impersonator in Columbus Ohio, and the first close friend of Jake Distel’s to succumb to HIV.

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What's going on with LCC's radio station?

Task force recommends
LCC partner
with Michigan Radio

By SKYLER ASHLEY

Lansing Community College's WLNZ radio station might be taken over by Michigan Radio, should the college follow the recommendation of a task force it formed late last year.

The fate of the radio station has been an ongoing drama since the college's approved fiscal budget for 2020 did not include any funding for the radio station, which last operated at a cost of \$360,000.

When word got out that WLNZ could be on the chopping block, a group of local radio aficionados — including former WLNZ station manager Dave Downing and City Pulse publisher Berl Schwartz — formed the citizen advocacy group, Lansing Community Radio, with the hopes of raising enough of a ruckus to sway LCC from nixing WLNZ.

After the group pleaded with the college through public Zoom meetings to seek alternatives to shutting down WLNZ, former LCC president Brent Knight said that the station “wouldn't go dark.” Knight's replacement, Steve Robinson, who happens to have a background in college radio himself, at one point working for The Impact, WDBM 89FM, at Michigan State University, also decided to engage the public before making a final decision regarding WLNZ.

LCC then opened the floor to requests for proposals, ultimately receiving only two submissions. One came from Lansing Community Radio; the other was provided by Michigan Radio.

Lansing Community Radio's proposal is to essentially convert WLNZ into a volunteer-run community radio station with content that is entirely locally produced. Under its plan, a partnership would exist between Lansing Community Radio, the Lansing Public Media Center and LCC. The media center would cover the capital costs necessary to keep WLNZ afloat using



Courtesy

Lansing Community College's WLNZ radio station is located in downtown Lansing at the Abel B. Sykes Technology Learning Center.

its access to PEG fees. PEG is an acronym for Public, Educational and Governmental. These fees are collected from Lansing customers by cable company Comcast and are then passed through to the city of Lansing to help fund public access endeavors such as the media center.

The plan also includes establishing a nonprofit corporation to raise additional funds necessary to operate the radio station, and the eventual transfer of ownership of WLNZ and its operational costs to Lansing Community Radio.

Michigan Radio is an Ann Arbor-based nonprofit public station owned by the University of Michigan with a massive reach across the state. If you've ever tuned your radio to 91.7, you're surely familiar with its extensive news coverage.

According to Seleana Samuel, senior VP of business operations at LCC, Michigan Radio's proposal detailed a 24/7/365 simulcast of its programming, potential options for weekly local programming on WLNZ, sponsorship credits and opportunities to engage

LCC students. The proposal is cost neutral and also includes the immediate transfer of management responsibilities from LCC over to Michigan Radio.

LCC announced its task force recommended Michigan Radio's proposal at a May 24 Board of Trustees meeting. The task force also recommended that LCC utilize its resources to host a 24/7 internet stream station that would be used to support LCC-specific programming and host local content provided by local community members. Though the task force has made its recommendation, Samuel said there is much more to be done before LCC reaches an ultimate decision.

“Additional work and conversations must take place in order to finalize plans for WLNZ and internet radio at the college,” Samuel said.

Dominic Cochran, manager of the Lansing Public Media Center, attended the virtual Board of Trustees meeting and provided public input in support of Lansing Community Radio's proposal.

“FM radio is one of the most accessible forms of media that exists. To keep content as locally relevant as possible

is important to a community,” Cochran said.

Cochran said he was told firmly by Robinson during the meeting that the college was still poring over its options.

“There hasn't really been a resolution to the situation yet. They have reached out to schedule meetings, which is encouraging. It sounds like they are still willing to collaborate on some level,” Cochran said.

Though Cochran would be greatly disappointed, he said WLNZ being acquired by Michigan Radio isn't the worst possible scenario imaginable — especially compared to the station being shut down altogether or being taken over by an entity that has nothing to do with Michigan-related affairs whatsoever.

“I do think it would be a loss. WLNZ was volunteer-driven. Anybody who had an idea for a show could generally get a timeslot. That kind of thing is rare and precious,” Cochran said.

Cochran mentioned the possibility of one day purchasing another available radio frequency in order to create a community radio station entirely independent of WLNZ and LCC.

Jeremy Whiting, general manager of Impact 89 FM, and supporter of Lansing Community Radio, stressed the value of local radio content. If LCC does hand the keys to WLNZ to Michigan Radio, he hopes there's still space for the local content that made the station special to the community.

“If that's the route LCC goes with, I'm hoping it's able to come to some sort of agreement to keep community programming on the airwaves in some fashion,” Whiting said.

City Pulse took a little time off for the holiday, which is why you will find the following online this week:

“Lev Raphael revisits the murderous world of Nick Hoffman,” by Bill Castanier

“Turn It Down,” by Rich Tupica

“The Drink,” by David Winkelstern

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Farmers markets cautiously reopening around Lansing

By COLE TUNNINGLEY

While shopping at ALDI the other day, I heard a young girl beg her mother, "Can we go to the farmers market? Please?"

Shopping at the grocery store is convenient, but farmers markets have a sense of heart that a big box store could never match. After a difficult year under the pandemic, farmers markets in the Lansing area are opening up and expecting waves of shoppers. Here are some of the best spots you can find around town, each one full of locally grown food and artisanal goods. You can also go beyond our list with our larger farmers market directory.

Allen Farmers Market

2:30 to 7 p.m., Wednesdays
2100 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 999-3911
allenneighborhoodcenter.org

The Allen Farmers Market started small, with only a few vendors and a 10-week season. Since its inception, it has steadily grown into a thriving weekly event that many eagerly look forward to. Its mission is to provide the residents on Lansing's east side with affordable and locally grown produce. This year, Allen Farmers Market is partnering with local groups to make the market experience even more fun. Since opening in May, it has worked with both the Woldumar

Nature Center, the MDHHS Foster Parent Recruiters and the Shiawassee Street Mosaic Project. More partnerships are on the horizon.

Charlotte Artisans and Farmers Market

2 to 6 p.m., Thursdays
248 W. Lovett St., Charlotte
(517) 543-8853
[Facebook.com/CharlotteArtisansAndFarmersMarket/](https://www.facebook.com/CharlotteArtisansAndFarmersMarket/)

The Charlotte Artisans and Farmers Market recently relocated to an indoor space at the historic Beach Market. You can still find all the locally made goods you could want, including products like raw honey and handmade glass art. The market is no longer accepting applications for indoor vendors, but there is still room for vendors to sell their goods outside. To encourage people to come out, the community group Charlotte Rising started the hashtag, #ShopCharlotte.

East Lansing Farmers Market

280 Valley Court, East Lansing 48823
Open Sundays June 6 to Oct. 31, 2021
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
(517) 319-6823
cityofeastlansing.com/farmersmarket

The East Lansing Farmers Market is preparing to open up for the season Sunday. The first 100 shoppers will receive a coupon for \$2 off anything at the market. ELFM prides itself on its local bona fides. Vendors grow their own food or make their products by hand. ELFM started in 2009 and typically averages about 1,000 customers a day. This year, it hopes to once again draw a

crowd.

Eaton Rapids Farmers Market

Through Sept. 29
3 to 6 p.m., Wednesdays
9 a.m. to noon, Saturdays
114 Hall St., Eaton Rapids
(517) 663-818
cityofeatonrapids.com

To help fund the city's parks, you can purchase a piece of Eaton Rapids history. This summer, the Eaton Rapids Farmers Market is offering bricks from the city's Main Street on sale for a dollar. Every purchase goes towards funding the Eaton Rapids Parks and Recreation Department. Besides that, the market has plenty to offer the casual shopper, including wood sculptures, plants and more. ERFM is located on a grass lot right in the heart of Eaton Rapids. It's the perfect place to spend an early summer afternoon.

DeWitt Farmers Market

414 E. W. Main St., DeWitt
4 to 7 p.m., Tuesdays Through Oct. 12
(517) 624-0286
dewittdda.org/farmers-market/

The DeWitt Farmers Market has got the goods, no matter what type of produce you're looking for. Whatever fresh fruit or vegetables you're craving, one of its many vendors will surely be able to hook you up. The market is accessible on Tuesdays from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. and runs through Oct. 12. For a full list of promotions, vendors and special events, check out the market's website.

See Farm markets, Page 21



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 May through October

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www.peckhamfarms.org
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 Peckham Farms!



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Every Tuesday 4 - 7 PM
 June 1 - October 12
 Downtown DeWitt

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 Baked Goods
 Flowers
 Crafts
 Food trucks

Sponsored by:

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LAKE TRUST CREDIT UNION

Farm markets

from page 20

LFA Farmers Market
Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
103 E. Maple St., Mason
(517) 441-8456
103 E. Maple St., Mason

The LFA Farmers Market is a shop located in downtown Mason that focuses on “hyper-local” goods. Designed to combat massive conglomerates like Amazon or Walmart, LFA Farmers Market hopes to provide a mom and pop vibe with locally produced goods. If you’re looking for an old school, humble shopping experience, this is it.

Peckham Farms
Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
5408 W. Grand River Road, Lansing
(517) 321-3305
facebook.com/Peckham.Farms

Peckham Farms is a one-stop shop for all of your gardening needs. The farm provides locally grown flowers and seedlings, on top of its vast array of fresh produce. You can also stop by Peckham Farms to pick up as much soil and mulch as you could possibly need. Peckham Farms also provides paid job opportunities in the farming and food production field for individuals who have disabilities and other barriers to employment.

South Lansing Farmers Market
3 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursdays
June 3 to October 21
800 W. Barnes Ave., Lansing
(517) 374-5700
facebook.com/
SouthLansingFarmersMarket

Opening up on June 3, the South Lansing Farmers Market expects to have a fruitful and COVID-safe summer. Each week, the market will come to life with a diverse array of smells and tastes. From Amish egg noodles to fresh Mexican food, you can find basically anything at SLFM. The market is handicap-accessible and has lots of room to park your bike or car. SLFM also plans to invite live entertainment and non-profit groups to join in on the fun.

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facebook.com/CharlotteArtisans
AndFarmersMarket/

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LFAFarmersMarket.
com/citypulse

Farmers Market Directory

Bath Farmers Market

3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursdays
James Couzen Park
13753 Main St., Bath Twp.
(517) 281-7402
shopbfm.org

Dimondale Farmers Market

136 N Bridge St, Dimondale 48821
Open Thursdays 3 to 7 p.m.
(517) 646-0230
https://www.villageofdimondale.org/

Farmers Markets at the Capitol

Returns Sept. 30
Check online for full schedule
of markets
(517) 432-3381
mifma.org/fmat-the-capitol

Grand Ledge Farmers Market

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturdays
Through Oct. 2
Jaycee Park
525 E. River St. Grand Ledge.
(517) 242 - 2756
grandledgefarmersmarket.com

Holt Farmers Market

2 p.m. to 6 p.m., Fridays
9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturdays
Through November
2150 Cedar St., Holt
(517) 268 - 0024
Holtfarmersmarket.org

Meridian Township Farmers Market

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays,
Through October
Wednesday hours begin in July
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos
(517) 712-2395
meridian.mi.us

Old Red Mill Farmers Market

9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturdays
June to October.
Water Street, Portland
(517) 647-4014
facebook.com/
OldRedMillFarmersMarket

St. Johns Farmers Market

8 a.m. to Noon, Saturdays
June to October
100 Maple St., St. Johns
(989) 227-1717
cityofsaintjohnsmi.com



Dimondale Farmers Market
Thursdays, June - October, 3-7 pm
136 N. Bridge Street
Follow us on Facebook!



Eaton Rapids Farmer's Market

118 Hall Street
Downtown ER
Wednesday 3p-6p
Saturday 9a-Noon

For more info: 517-663-8118 x8157 or email smithj@cityofeatonrapids.com

Allen Farmers Market

Wednesdays 2:30-7:00 pm

2100 E Michigan Avenue
(corner of Fairview & Michigan Ave)

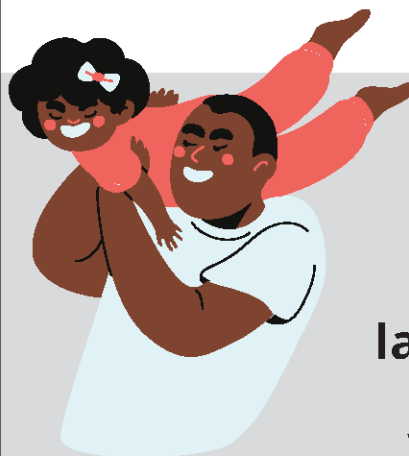
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Father's Day is June 20

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"It's Elemental"--parts of a full set.

by Matt Jones

Across

1 Jazz group

6 Org. that meets in schools

9 Winter Olympics vehicles

14 Without missing ____

15 Director Howard

16 Campus town bordering Bangor

17 "Batman & Robin" role for Uma Thurman

19 One making references

20 "Desperate Housewives" actress Hatcher

21 Three ____ match

22 Four, in France

23 *What your remote might have slipped under

26 Cartridge contents

29 Boise-to-Missoula dir.

30 Source of some pressure before photo day?

31 Airline until 1991

33 Treasure hunter's need

34 ____ California (Mexican state)

38 What each character in the starred theme answers is (comprising a full set from the periodic table)

42 Carries out

43 Participate in crew

44 Word after zinc or iron

45 Used chairs?

46 Utter

48 "____ Tac Dough" (Wink Martindale game show)

49 *Response to "I had no idea"

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14						15				16				
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49	50	51	52				53			54				
55							56			57	58	59	60	
61							62			63				
64							65			66				
67							68			69				

55 Offers one's views

56 Roget's entry: Abbr.

57 Line of symmetry

61 Less than enthusiastic

62 *WWE wrestler and member of the Undisputed Era (and not the chess player)

64 Split second

65 Craft in the tabloids

66 Alphabet quintet

67 "Bellefleur" author Joyce Carol

68 Payroll deduction

69 Command that can also create a PDF

7 Actress Feldshuh who played 3-Down on Broadway

8 Indeterminate number

9 Plague member?

10 "David Copperfield" character Heep

11 Crime boss known as the "Teflon Don"

12 First month in Madrid

13 Tabitha formerly of MTV News

18 It's definitely a thing

22 Witty remarks

24 "All Eyez ____" (1996 Tupac Shakur album)

25 Policy honcho

26 With 27-Down, Apple portable player from 2005 to 2017

27 See 26-Down

28 ACL's locale

32 Gore and Green

33 Tiny noise at a bowl?

34 Bike race with hills

35 Kinda

36 "Harvesting the Heart" author Picoult

37 Guinness of "Star Wars"

39 Waiter's weights

40 Cairn terrier of film

41 Toy with a string attached

45 Stockholm citizens

46 Pricey stadium seating

47 "And ____ Davis as Al-ice" ("The Brady Bunch" credits closer)

49 ____ voce (softly)

50 "Pagliacci," e.g.

51 ____ in the bud

52 Preserved for later

53 Uncle Sam's land, informally

54 Nilla cookie

58 Number not found on a clock

59 "The pressure ____"

60 Kubrick's "Eyes Wide ____"

62 Nevertheless

63 Talk and talk and talk

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Answers on page 24

SUDOKU

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

Beginner

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 24

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezсны

June 2-8, 2021

ARIES (March 21–April 19): "There is ecstasy in paying attention," writes Aries author Anne Lamott. That's always true for everyone, but it's extra true for you Aries people. And it will be extra ultra especially true for you during the next 20 days. I hope you will dedicate yourself to celebrating and upgrading your perceptual abilities. I hope you will resolve to see and register everything just as it is in the present moment, fresh and unprecedented, not as it was in the past or will be in the future. For best results, banish all preconceptions that might interfere with your ability to notice what's raw and real. If you practice these high arts with exhilarating diligence, you will be rewarded with influges of ecstasy.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Your guiding wisdom comes from Taurus author Annie Dillard. She writes, "I think it would be well, and proper, and obedient, and pure, to grasp your one necessity and not let it go, to dangle from it limp wherever it takes you." I suspect that Dillard's approach will enable you to maintain a righteous rhythm and make all the right moves during the coming weeks. If you agree with me, your crucial first step will be to identify the nature of your "one necessity." Not two necessities. Just the single most important.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): "All I want to be is normally insane," said actor Marlon Brando. Yikes! I have a different perspective. I would never want to be *normally* insane because that state often tends to be sullen and desperate and miserable. My preferred goal is to be quite abnormally insane: exuberantly, robustly, creatively free of the toxic adjustments that our society tells us are necessary. I want to be cheerfully insane in the sense of not being tyrannized by conventional wisdom. I want to be proactively insane in the sense of obeying my souls' impulses rather than conforming to people's expectations. I bring this to your attention, Gemini, because I believe the coming weeks will be a fruitful time for you to be my kind of insane.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): "It's one thing to make a mistake, it's another to become wedded to it," advised author Irena Karafilly. Let's make that one of your key truths in the coming weeks. Now is a good time to offer yourself forgiveness and to move on from any wrong turns you've made. Here's a second key truth, courtesy of composer Igor Stravinsky: "I have learned throughout my life as a composer chiefly through my mistakes and pursuits of false assumptions, not by my exposure to founts of wisdom and knowledge." Third key truth, from Sufi teacher Pir Vilayat Inayat Khan: "Don't be concerned about being disloyal to your pain by being joyous."

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): According to my analysis of the astrological omens, the number of perfect moments you will experience during the next two weeks could break all your previous records. And what do I mean by "perfect moments"? 1. Times when life brings you interesting events or feelings or thoughts that are novel and unique. 2. Pivotal points when you sense yourself undergoing a fundamental shift in attitude or a new way of understanding the world. 3. Leaping out of your own mind and into the mind of an animal or other person so as to have a pure vision of what their experience is like. 4. An absolute appreciation for yourself just the way you are right now.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): "There is strong shadow where there is much light," wrote Virgo author Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749–1832). That's a good metaphor for you these days. Since I suspect you are currently shining as brightly as you possibly can, I will urge you to become acutely aware of the shadows you cast. In other words, try to catch glimpses of the unripe and unformed parts of your nature, which may be more easily seen than usual. Now, while you're relatively strong and vibrant, investigate what aspects of your inner world might need improvement, care, and healing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): According to physicists, it's impossible for a human being to suck water up through a straw that's more than 34

feet long. So please don't even try to do that, either now or ever. If, however, you have a good reason to attempt to suck water up a 33-foot straw, now would be an excellent time to do so. Your physical strength should be at a peak, as is your capacity for succeeding at amazing, herculean tasks. How else might you direct your splendid abilities? What other ambitious feats could you pull off?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): Scorpio poet Ezra Pound had character flaws that bother me. But he also had a quality I admire: generosity in helping his friends and colleagues. Among the writers whose work he championed and promoted with gusto were 20th-century literary icons James Joyce, T. S. Eliot, Marianne Moore, Hilda Doolittle, William Butler Yeats, Ernest Hemingway, William Carlos Williams, and Robert Frost. Pound edited their work, arranged to get them published in periodicals and anthologies, connected them with patrons and editors, and even gave them money and clothes. In accordance with astrological omens, I encourage you to be like Ezra Pound in the coming weeks. Make an extra effort to support and boost your allies. Assist them in doing what they do well. To do so will be in your own best interest!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): Poet Tess Gallagher praises those times "when desire has strengthened our bodies." I want you to have an abundance of those moments during the coming weeks. And I expect that cultivating them will be an excellent healing strategy. So here's my advice: Do whatever's necessary to summon and celebrate the strong longings that will strengthen your body. Tease them into bountiful presence. Treasure them and pay reverence to them and wield them with gleeful passion.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): "To live is so startling it leaves little time for anything else," observed poet Emil Dickinson. That's the truth! Given how demanding it is to adjust to the nonstop challenges, distractions, and opportunities of the daily rhythm, I'm impressed that any of us ever get any work done. According to my astrological analysis, you Capricorns are now experiencing a big outbreak of this phenomenon. It's probably even harder than usual to get work done, simply because life keeps bringing you interesting surprises that require your ingenuity and resourcefulness. The good news is that these surges of ingenuity and resourcefulness will serve you very well when the hubbub settles down a bit and you get back to doing more work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): Aquarius-born August Strindberg (1849–1912) was a masterful and influential playwright. He also liked to dabble in painting and photography. His approach in those two fields was different from the polish he cultivated in his writing. "I am an amateur and I intend to stay that way," he testified about his approach in the visual arts. "I reject all forms of professional cleverness or virtuosity." Just for now, Aquarius, I recommend you experiment with the latter attitude in your own field. Your skill and earnestness will benefit from doses of playful innocence, even calculated naïveté.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): Which of the astrological signs feels the deepest feelings? I say it's you Pisceans. You're connoisseurs of deep feelings, as well as specialists in mysterious, multi-splendored, brushes-with-infinity feelings. And right now, you're in the Deepest Feelings Phase of your personal cycle. I won't be surprised if you feel a bit overwhelmed with the richness of it all. But that's mostly a good thing that you should be grateful for—a privilege and a superpower! Now here's advice from deep-feeling author Pearl Buck: "You cannot make yourself feel something you do not feel, but you can make yourself do right in spite of your feelings."

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.

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, June 2

Allen Farmers Market - Open 2:30-7 p.m. May-September at 2100 E Michigan Ave. Lansing. 517-999-3911.

ArtPath 2021 - June 1 - Aug. 31. 6 a.m.-10 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 119 N Washington Sq, Ste 101, Lansing. 517-374-6400. lansingartgallery.org.

Comedy Night - Every Tuesday beginning at 10pm. Crunchy's, East Lansing. 517-351-2506. crunchyseastlansing.com.

Lansing Bike and Seek - through June 20. bicycle treasure hunt around the city of Lansing. Foster Community Center, 200 N Foster, Lansing. Info at bikeandseek.org.

Michigan Young Birders Network Virtual Meeting - 7-8 p.m. via Zoom. Michigan Audubon, 2310 Science Parkway, Suite 200, Okemos. michiganaudubon.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12x12 Show - 10 a.m.-7 p.m. through June 30th. Framers' Edge, 856 W. Grand River Ave, Okemos. 517-347-7400. midmichiganartguild.org

Varsity S Golf Outing 2021 - 9 a.m.-6 p.m. MSU Forest Akers Golf Course, 3535 Forest Rd., Lansing. msuvarsityclub.org

Wednesday Workdays at CCBS - 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Capital City Bird Sanctuary, 6001 Delta River Drive, Lansing. michiganaudubon.org.

Thursday, June 3

Bath Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St, Bath. shopbfm.org.

Dimondale Farmers' Market - 3-7 p.m. 136 N Bridge St, Dimondale. 517-230-0520. villageofdimondale.org.

Virtual Refugee Foster Care Information Session - 5:30-7:30 p.m. via zoom. samaritas.org for link.

Friday, June 4

Clayworks Summer Pottery Sale - Functional and decorative pottery. Also check out our summer markdown table! Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Clayworks, 13121 Wacousta Rd., Grand Ledge. 517-626-1160.

Dinner for Parkinson's - Steak Dinner Fundraiser for Parkinson's. Friday, 5-7 p.m. Eagles, 1111 N. Cedar, Mason.

Saturday, June 5

Chalk of the Town - 1232 Turner St. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Lansing. iloveoldtown.org.

Make a Flag to Commemorate 20th Anniversary of 9/11 - Create a special flag for friends, family, or local organizations to remember 9/11. 12-2 p.m. retreadart.com.

World Migratory Bird Day - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

Sunday, June 6

Western Michigan Adult & Teen Challenge Rally Team - 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. New Hope Community Church, 436 W. Harris St, Charlotte. charlottenewhopechurch@att.net.

Monday, June 7

Refuge Recovery Lansing (Virtual) - 6-7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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FAST FORWARD



UPCOMING EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS COMING TO LANSING

By SKYLER ASHLEY



The Lansing Patio Grand Opening

Friday, June 4, 4 p.m.

The Lansing Studio
701 E. South St., Lansing

[Facebook.com/PottersMillLansing](https://www.facebook.com/PottersMillLansing)

The Lansing Patio, one section of the larger Lansing Studio public facility, is a 1,100-square-foot outdoor space that will be available for the public to rent throughout the entire summer. To celebrate its grand opening, you are invited to mingle with friends and enjoy some tasty beverages.

Starfarm at the Nuthouse

Saturday, June 5,
9 p.m.

The Nuthouse
420 E. Michigan

Ave., Lansing

[Facebook.com/NuthouseSportsGrill](https://www.facebook.com/NuthouseSportsGrill)

Lansing's favorite cover band Starfarm is returning to its familiar haunt The Nuthouse for the first time in seemingly forever to play the greatest hits from the '80s and onward. Come rock out to great tunes and enjoy delicious food and drinks.



Extra Inning at Capital City Market

Sunday, June 6, 4 p.m.

Capital City Market

600 E. Michigan

Ave. Ste. 100,
Lansing

[Facebook.com/CapitalCityMKT](https://www.facebook.com/CapitalCityMKT)

Following the Lugnuts game, All of the Above Hip Hop Academy will be spinning tunes at a special kids' day event at Capital City Market. Come hangout, play games and enjoy some great specials.



Tuesday, June 8

Board Game Meet Up for ages 18 & up. Everyone welcome! Every Tuesday at Spare Time Bowling Alley, 6:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Peckham 27th Annual Golf Outing - at both Eagle Eye and Hawk Hollow. Secure your sponsorships today! 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Info at: peckham.org/golf-outing.

Mi Bird-Friendly Communities

Lunch & Learn Webinar Series: Bird-Friendly Backyard Featuring Native Plants. 12-12:45 p.m. Michigan Audubon, 2310 Science Parkway, Suite 200, Okemos. michiganaudubon.org.

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Radish arugula salad

By **ARI LeVAUX**

This time of year, the radishes stand out like bright bunches of candy. Sometimes, at the farmers market, I ask the vendors what to do with their pretty orbs because I am chronically at a loss for ideas. The most common guidance, by far, is to use radishes in salads and stir-fries. In other words, the farmers are just as clueless as I am.

Those sassy, juicy roots are tricky. Unadulterated, the feisty flavor of a radish is more difficult to appreciate than that of, say, an apple or carrot. And in mixed company that blast of mustard fire can stick out awkwardly.

Or, in the case of that stir-fry, the radishes are all too often overcooked to a catatonic state where they have nothing to offer but their limp, bland remains. I can think of some great Thai stir-fries that use pickled radish, which has a unique and enduring flavor. But I've yet to find a stir-fry that was improved by adding radish fresh.

In a stir-fry, at least, the bland mediocrity of overcooked radish won't drag the dish down. But when it comes to adding radish to salads, the possible downside is greater. A fresh radish can be as rowdy as a drunk passenger on a plane to Las Vegas. Obnoxious, loud and overpowering, a bowl of gentle leaves in a delicate vinaigrette will get bowled over, unless the radish is applied in just the right amount, in just the right way, and surrounded by the right ingredients.

I found a magnificent case in point the other day at The Camino, a Mexican-style restaurant in Missoula that serves a radish arugula salad that's more than rad — it's totally rad.

The recipe involves gently roasting the radishes to remove the edgy flavor, and surrounding the spiciness that remains with other similarly fiery ingredients like arugula, shallots and guajillo chile.

Together, these spirited flavors complement the radish, helping it blend in rather than stick out. The fire is enhanced by a zesty lime dressing and smothered joyfully with creamy chunks of avocado, a balance that the rest of the salad makes you crave.

Radish and Arugula Salad, a la The



Camino.

The owners, Phil Schaefer and Tad Hilton, were kind enough to share the recipe, created by their sous chef, Rob Troiano. The ingredients include chayote squash, a pear-shaped, bumpy-skinned fruit that I have noticed on occasion at the store but never used. Since chayote can be hard to find, I recommend using daikon radish, which is similarly mild and crunchy.

The guajillo pepper is ubiquitous in Mexican cuisine, and is by definition dried — it goes by a different name, mirasol, when fresh. If you can't find it, you could probably get away with using your favorite dried chile.

Phil's wine recommendation: A Chenin blanc from Baja, Mexico's Guadalupe Valley

Guajillo Lime Vinaigrette

Juice of two limes (about 2 ounces)

Zest of one lime

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon agave nectar

1 small shallot, minced

2 guajillo peppers (or a tablespoon of guajillo powder)

1 cup oil (they use a neutral canola. I prefer the bitterness of olive oil here)

Gently roast the guajillo peppers in a dry pan until crispy but not burnt. (I use the same pan to simultaneously toast the almonds for the salad, below.) When cool, remove the stem and seeds from the toasted peppers and pulverize the remains in a blender or mortar and pestle. (Omit this step if you are using guajillo powder.)

Combine the lime zest and juice in a medium-sized mixing bowl. Add the salt, agave, shallots and chile powder and stir it together. Whisk in the oil.

The Salad

5 radishes, trimmed such that a little stem and the long taproot remain

Oil to coat the radishes



Photo by Ari LeVaux

Radish arugula salad pairs well with a Chenin blanc.

3 cups fresh arugula
¼ cup shaved onions
3 tablespoons toasted almond slivers
½ cup diced chayote squash (or daikon radish)
½ cup diced avocado
Black pepper and salt to taste
½ cup chopped herb mix of chives, cilantro and epazote – if available.
3 tablespoons Guajillo lime dressing

Toss the radishes in oil, salt and pepper and roast whole at 375 for 16 minutes. When cool, slice them in half along the stem-to-tail axis.

Add the arugula to a plate, topped with radish halves, shaved onions, toasted almond slivers, chayote or daikon pieces, and finally the herb mix. Grind black pepper over the whole thing, add a pinch of salt and drizzle the whole thing with the Guajillo Lime Vinaigrette.

(Flash in the Pan is food writer Ari LeVaux's weekly recipe column. It runs in about 100 newspapers nationwide, nourishing food sections large and small with complete protein for the belly brain.)



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REO Town Lansing © James Lenon

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