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FREE

PULSE

A newspaper for the rest of us.

June 22-28, 2022

**Environmentalism:
Just another
Doomsday
Cult**

**STOP
GLOBAL
WHINING!**

**I DIDN'T
REALIZE
MY BODY WAS
NOT MINE!**

**VOTE
RED!**

**I'll Keep my
Guns and my
Money. You can
keep the
CHANGE!**

**FINE
I
EVOLVED,
YOU
DIDN'T!**

**VOTE
BLUE!**

**THAT STUFF
TRICKLING
DOWN
ON YOU
ISN'T
MONEY**

**GOP
FAMILY VALUES:
Your RIGHTS
Begin with
Conception
and END at BIRTH!**

**If you cut off my
reproductive rights,
Can I cut yours off!**

PRIMARY ELECTION PREVIEW

See Page 13

ABOOD

LAW FIRM 1956

517-332-5900

sidebar

dine & tap
East Lansing

Absolute GALLERY

AND CUSTOM FRAMING

307 E Cesar E Chavez Ave; Lansing, MI 48906



Ladies Night in Old Town!

Thursday, June 23, 2022 5-8pm

Linocut demonstrations and opportunity to try with Jane Cloutier



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CityPULSE

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(517) 371-5600 • Fax: (517) 999-6061 • 1905 E. Michigan Ave. • Lansing, MI 48912 • www.lansingcitypulse.com

ADVERTISING INQUIRIES: (517) 999-5061
or email citypulse@lansingcitypulse.com
CLASSIFIEDS & OBITUARIES: (517) 999-6704

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER • Berl Schwartz
publisher@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5061

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR •
arts@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5068

EVENTS EDITOR/OFFICE MANAGER • Suzi Smith
suzi@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6704

NEWS REPORTER • Todd Heywood
heywood.reporter@gmail.com • (517) 899-6182

STAFF WRITER • Lawrence Cosentino
lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5065

SALES EXECUTIVE
Lee Purdy • lee@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5064

SALES ASSISTANT
Caleb Woloszyn-Duffy
caleb@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6707

Contributors: Andy Balaskovitz, Capital News Service, Bill Castanier, Ryan Claytor, Mary C. Cusack, Tom Helma, Dedria Humphries Barker, Ari LeVaux, Gabrielle Lawrence, Kyle Melinn, Tom Perkins, Dennis Preston, Carrie Sampson, Jen Sorensen, Nevin Speerbrecker, Tom Tomorrow, Rich Tupica, David Winkelstern, Paul Wozniak

Delivery drivers: Dave Fisher, Melodee Mabbitt, Curt Lauck



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Should ex-felons serve on boards? Schor says yes.



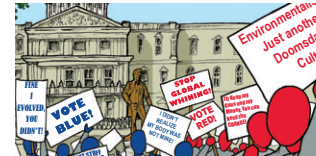
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Creatives crawling in Lansing this weekend.



PAGE 21

New dispensary heading to town this summer.



Cover Art

Cover by Nevin Speerbrecker

The Guilty Party

THESE JANUARY 6 HEARINGS ARE DAMNING. THEY HAVE TO PROSECUTE TRUMP.

YEAH...

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE REPUBLICAN MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WHO STILL SUPPORT THE BIG LIE THAT HE WON?

AND THE CORPORATIONS AND BILLIONAIRE-BACKED SUPERPACS FUNDING CAMPAIGNS FOR ANTIDEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES?

AND THE RIGHT-WING MEDIA OUTLETS THAT CONTINUE TO SPREAD DISINFORMATION ABOUT VOTER FRAUD?

AND THE TEXAS GOP PLATFORM THAT SAYS BIDEN IS NOT THE LEGITIMATE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES?!!?

I GUESS WE HAVE TO HOPE THERE ARE ENOUGH INFORMED VOTERS LEFT TO SAVE THE COUNTRY.

NOW YOU'RE SCARING ME.

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



IN MEMORY OF SHELLY OLSON

May she rest in peace

Memorial
Noon to 4 p.m.
Saturday
June 25

Moore's River Park

Bring a dish, if you wish

THE REPUBLICAN GUIDE TO DEFENDING DONALD

1. DOWNPLAY JANUARY 6

THERE WAS NO **INSURRECTION!** JUST SOME GOOD NATURED **HIJINKS** THAT GOT A **LITTLE** OUT OF HAND!

THE SLIGHTEST OF **KER-FUFFLES!** WHY ARE WE EVEN STILL TALKING ABOUT IT?



4. DISTRACT VIEWERS

COMING UP NEXT--ANOTHER **SCARY MIGRANT CARAVAN** IS HEADED FOR OUR BORDER! WILL THEY TAKE **YOUR** JOB AND CORRUPT **YOUR** CHILDREN?

ALSO, INFLATION AND GAS PRICES AND **HUNTER BIDEN!**



2. DENY EVERYTHING

DONALD **TRUMP** IS A GENTLE AND SERENE MAN WHO ENCOURAGED EVERYONE TO BEHAVE **PEACEABLY!**

ANY VIOLENCE THAT **MAY** HAVE OCCURRED WAS COMMITTED BY **F.B.I. PRO-VOCATEURS!**



5. DELUDE THE GULLIBLE

YOU SEE, AN ATTEMPTED COUP IS ACTUALLY **LEGAL** IF YOU THINK YOU **WON** THE ELECTION! IT'S A BASIC PRINCIPLE OF OUR LEGAL SYSTEM!

WOW! I DID NOT **KNOW** THAT!



3. DEFLECT VIGOROUSLY

WHY ARE THEY INVESTIGATING **THIS** AND NOT ALL THE CITIES THAT **ANTIFA** BURNED TO THE **GROUND?**

I HEAR THAT NOTHING REMAINS OF PORTLAND BUT A POST-APOCALYPTIC **HELLSCAPE!**



6. DISREGARD REALITY

IT'S ALL **FAKE NEWS!** THESE SO-CALLED INSIDERS DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'RE **TALKING** ABOUT!

BILL BARR? IVANKA TRUMP? I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO THESE PEOPLE **ARE!**



DON'T FORGET TO CONTRIBUTE TO MY VERY LEGITIMATE **PAC!**



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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Will Lansing face another summer of gun violence?

Police chief, community leaders see progress in effort to make 2022 more peaceful than last year

Last year was a bloody, violent and deadly summer for Lansing residents. By the end of the year the city had 36 homicides on the books, the highest toll in years. Earlier this year, the city seemed on track to continue the wave of violence.

But for about six weeks, law enforcement has seen a significant drop in gun violence. More stolen guns, which were the main weapon of choice in last year's wave, have been seized by law enforcement. The reason, Police Chief Ellery Sosebee said, has been a community acting on the public safety mantra "See something, say something."



Lansing Police Chief Ellery Sosebee

As summer begins, he credits the reduction in violence to the intervention of churches, nonprofits and activist organizations as well as a concerted effort by leaders and elders in the city to intervene.

The Rev. Sean Holland, pastor of the Epicenter of Worship Church, agrees.

"I think they are saying, much more, 'No, that's not going to happen,'" he said. "You're not going to use a gun to settle this. It's just not going to happen."

Holland sees a community of youth who are brilliant, innovative and "already living in the future," not one full of violent youth.

But he does see young people trapped in systems like schools and government failing over and over again to meet their needs.

"They are calling out for change," he said.

The community, he said, must address economic, reproductive and educational systems that need to be reimagined and representative of well trained, culturally competent leaders to unleash that excellence.

"We have seen this cycle of gun violence increasing, a community response, then a decrease for years," he said. "You can trim the tree, but if you don't get the root issues, it's going to come back again and again."

The school shooting at an Uvalde, Texas, elementary school and the grocery store shooting in Buffalo, New York, by a white supremacist have become teachable moments locally. So, too, have the fatal shooting of Patrick Lyoya by a Grand Rapids police officer and the nonfatal shooting in East Lansing of



This photo captured from a Lansing resident's Facebook page shows a thief holding a gun inside the resident's house. The resident reported that a gun was stolen during the break-in. Lansing Police Chief Ellery Sosebee said one reason he's hoping for a less violent summer is the police have seized more stolen guns this year than last, when gun violence was high.

20-year-old DeAnthony VanAtten of Lansing.

City and county officials have also invested heavily in the Advanced Peace initiative. The project, which was created by an Eastern High School graduate, is designed to engage at-risk youth in mentoring that ultimately disrupts the cycle of gun violence. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been committed to it over the next three years. Peckham Inc. has been selected as the local nonprofit to administer the program.

"These are all things we're talking about, and looking at with the youth," Holland said. "The youth get it. They have the capacity to intervene with conflict resolution — but you don't hear that."

Holland said that is partly true, but again pointed back to the "whole of community response" as a more accurate assessment in the reduction of violence. That response has also included afterschool and summer activities designed to engage young people.

Michael McKissic, head of the Mikey 23 Foundation, runs a program that assists young people learning building trades.

"Our philosophy is to encourage young people to put down a gun and pick up a hammer," said McKissic, who lost his 23-year-old son to a shooting seven years ago. "We want to build up the community, not tear it down."

But Holland said more needs to be done to address the underlying issues of economic inequity and educational inequity.

"We really have to have conversations about recreating our educational system, which was built for factory work, not for an information age," he said. "Recent surveys of young people who dropped out

of high school found the reason for doing so for 53% of those students was that they were bored."

For Holland, if students are bored, the educational system is failing. And he said the community can no longer hold to an outdated construct that there isn't enough money. Educational austerity, he said, is an excuse not to evolve.

"Lansing is literally producing the leaders of tomorrow," he said. "These kids are brilliant. We need to lift them up and encourage them."

Both Holland and McKissic pointed to the restrictions of COVID over two years as a major contributor to the gun violence.

"We just were not prepared for the problems that arose from the COVID lock downs," McKissic said. "We weren't ready to deal with the increased bullying and harassment that arose with all the online interactions during that period, that fed the violence."

COVID lockdowns and online schooling revealed the ongoing educational inequity. Students didn't have computers at home, so districts would provide them. But not every child had access to the internet.

"That contributed to the educational achievement gap," said Holland. "We weren't prepared for it, and the students weren't prepared for it."

Sosebee said the gun violence is not tied to what is traditionally defined as a gang — there's not established leadership structure. Instead, it's peer groups that have developed an anger toward each other. As a result, the city has seen many of the shootings are retaliation.

Because there is no traditional leadership structure as would happen with a gang, law enforcement has a more difficult time intervening.

"We used to be able to engage gang leadership and at least calm the violence," he said. "The leaders had an absolute say in what would or would not happen. Now, with this loose affiliation situation, we have to do more work to talk to more youth to engage them in discussions about more effective, less violent responses to each other's provocations."

Both McKissic and Holland were clear: The answer is not law enforcement per se — it's engagement by community. That means churches and nonprofits as well as activist organizations connecting with youth.

"It takes a village to raise a child," McKissic said, citing an African proverb.

Holland added, "And it takes a child to raise a village."

— TODD HEYWOOD

Ex-felon inspires Lansing charter amendment vote in General Election

Schor wants to end banning former convicts from being on boards

When Mayor Andy Schor sought to nominate a local businessman to the city's Economic Development Corp., he made an interesting discovery: He couldn't.

"I had to call the mayor and tell him I couldn't do it because of that provision," said the businessman, who has a retail food shop. He asked not to be identified.

"That" provision is a prohibition in the City Charter that bans anyone convicted of a felony in the last 20 years — the businessman has a marijuana arrest on his record — from serving on boards and commissions.

And that is something the mayor wants voters to change. As a result, an amendment to overturn the ban will appear on the General Election ballot in Lansing in November.

"I honestly don't know why that was put in the charter," Schor said.

"Frankly, I didn't need to look into the history because it was wrong."

"The mayor and the Council can evaluate the impact, if any, of a nominee for a board or commission for a person with a criminal record," Schor added.

"It doesn't mean a conviction doesn't become a part of the process. It means we can use our ability to determine on a case-by-case basis whether the conviction is a problem. A blanket ban is not helpful to the city or to those who have

maybe made a mistake but have turned their lives around and are contributing members of our community."

Last week the City Council unanimously approved an amendment to the 1978 City Charter that will allow people with felony convictions to serve on boards and commissions, clearing the way for the Nov. 8 vote. It would maintain another provision that still prohibits felons from seeking elective office.

The conservative Mackinac Center has estimated 50,000 Michiganders are convicted on felony charges each year in Michigan.

One of them was Henry Meyer, who owns Eastside Fish Fry. Twelve years ago, Meyer was convicted of manufacturing marijuana plants and served 30 months in prison.

Meyer said he is excited about the potential change.

"For years I didn't tell anyone about my convictions, I just built my business," said Meyer, 37. "But now that I am talking about it, I am finding people really don't care. They care about delivering good food at a reasonable price. That's what they value. And while I may have had four

negative emails when I was on 'Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives,' I had 20 more people congratulating me and choosing to come to my business."

He said a similar thing can happen with felons serving on volunteer boards.

"At some point," he said, "that person can turn to another on the commission or the board who has harbored a negative idea about felons, and say, 'Hey, I've worked beside you for two years. We've accomplished this and done that for the

community, together. Suddenly, that changes a person's stigma or perception of felons — and that will ultimately make reintegration easier for everyone."

Meyer deliberately seeks out and hires people with criminal records.

"It's a chance for them to start over," he said. "It gives them the chance to be part of the community by being employed."

Safe and Just Michigan, an advocacy organization for criminal justice reform in Lansing, reports that 67% of paroled Michigan felons are unemployed, despite a worker shortage and a 4.3% state unemployment rate in May.

Being unemployed and without access to affordable housing are two contributors to recidivism, said Meyer. Former Gov. Rick Snyder signed an executive order in 2018 that bars employees from asking on applications if a person has been convicted of a felony. The

law only applies to state jobs however. East Lansing banned the question in a 2014 ordinance.

Schor said the city has been working with the Michigan Department of Corrections on a program to increase successful re-entry into the community for people convicted of crimes. The

pilot project, he said, provides access to housing, employment and other assistance, helping to integrate those returning from prison to create the stability that studies show reduce recidivism.

He said his move to amend the City Charter will help in the integration process as well.

"People who have made a mistake," he said, "and paid their debt to society bring an important voice and representation to the table for our commissions and boards. Those are voices we need to have at the table."

—TODD HEYWOOD

"A blanket ban is not helpful to the city or to those who have maybe made a mistake but have turned their lives around and are contributing members of our community."
Lansing Mayor Andy Schor



Lansing Mayor
Andy Schor



Henry Meyer, owner
of Eastside Fish Fry

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, June 27, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to Amend the Lansing Codified Ordinances by Amending Chapter 1060, Section 1060.09, to add City waste hauler license application requirements, including description of materials and weight/volume/estimates of material collected, and curbside collection schedule.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

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

CP#22-138



Graduating Class of 2022

CONGRATULATIONS AND JOB WELL DONE!

As you complete this important milestone, I'd like to extend my sincere congratulations and best wishes. While not so many years ago, I remember well when I crossed the stage at graduation.

This is your time and season to reflect on the past journey of dedication and hard work, and look forward to an amazing future of possibilities!

As you embark on the next steps in your life, I encourage you to remember the words of wisdom from your parents, and keep them in your heart. Let this wisdom be your guide, and perseverance unlock the door to all of the wonderful opportunities life holds for you.

I am proud to serve this community, and so very proud of each of you!

Blessings, and All the best,

Wanda M. Stokes
Honorable Wanda M. Stokes
30th Circuit Court Judge

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

By TODD HEYWOOD



Eastside residents were in an uproar last week when a third rainbow flag was stolen from a 'Welcome to Lansing' sign on Michigan Avenue. The flags had been disappearing since June 1, the kickoff of Pride month. To steal the last one, the perpetrator cut down the flagpole too. As social media began ramping up outrage, northside residents Shawn Dyer and his daughter Aubrey planted 50 mini-Pride flags, a new flag pole and a large Pride flag. They also laid down some mulch to spruce up the garden. The flag thievery was condemned by law enforcement, the mayor and Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel.



Peffley

BWL warns of possible rolling black outs

On Tuesday, the BWL announced the regional power regulator had ordered all power companies to prepare for possible "rolling blackouts" due to energy shortages outside of BWL's territory. The move has been ordered by Mid-Continent Independent System Operator, the regional regulator for 15 states, including Michigan. Rolling blackouts are designed to prevent the entire electrical grid from failing because too much energy is being drawn in one area or another. BWL will have 30 minutes from the time MISO orders a rolling blackout to implement it. Blackouts are expected to last 20 minutes, according to a press release on the company's website. "The BWL has a legacy of generating plenty of energy to supply our customers, however, if directed by MISO to load shed, we'll be required by law to follow instruction," said BWL General Manager Dick Peffley. "We're just as frustrated as customers will be at the potential for these black-outs, however, there's unfortunately nothing within our control to prevent these from happening. I'm frustrated that despite BWL's successful strategic planning for our energy needs, our customers still potentially face the consequences from the lack of power resources elsewhere." To minimize the risk of blackouts, BWL is encouraging customers to hold off charging electric vehicles until evening, reducing air conditioning use, turning off unused electronics and doing high energy use activities like laundry in the morning or evening when it is cooler outside.

'Gateway' to REO Town

Developer Brent Forsberg has begun the process to build a 72-unit apartment building in a long vacant lot on the southeast corner of Washington Avenue and Malcolm X Street, along I-496. The site had been home to a disreputable motel for years, but it fell into disrepair and was ultimately taken by the county for back taxes. The new apartments will have a view to the west of the controversial Board of Water and Light central power substation. Forsberg told the Lansing State Journal the new apartments will be market rate and feature car charging stations in the parking lot tucked behind the building, as well as access to the Grand River for kayaking and other water recreation opportunities. This development also ties into the City View apartment project in the former Lake Trust building on the north side of I-496. Forsberg said the developments are part of tying downtown with REO Town and restoring at least some of the continuity of the community that was lost when 840 homes were destroyed to put in 496.

Ultium Cells charges ahead

Construction has begun on the battery plant tied to GM auto plant in Delta Township. Ultium Cells has promised a \$2.5 billion factory spanning 2.8 acres. It will produce the batteries for GM's plan to invest \$7 billion across four plants in Michigan including the Delta plant. The plan is to shift the GM model offerings to electric and away from fossil fuel. An Ultium Cells spokesperson said the project's foundation is expected to be laid in July and steel work begun in late August. The hope, the spokesperson said, is to begin producing batteries in 2024 and to be fully operational by 2025. As many as 1,500 people are expected to be employed in the construction project.



Swope

Watch for new voter ID cards

With state redistricting complete for local, state and federal offices, Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope is sending out new voter identification cards to 88,000 voters. The cards include a voter's precinct, City Council ward and districts for Ingham County, state House and Senate and the U.S. House. Swope said in a press release that tens of thousands of Lansing voters will have new voting locations as well as precinct designations. While the card is not necessary for in person voting in August, the information will be helpful. Citizens can also get the same information at Lansingvotes.com.



807 E. Cesar Chavez Avenue, Lansing

This empty property, which has seen a variety of retail uses over the years, has been cited for weeds and trash five times since 2015, most recently on May 19. There was also a 2017 citation for the exterior of the property.

City records show the property is owned by Dave Schmidt LLC, of Bay City. State records show the company is not in good standing because it has not filed required paperwork since 2012.

In a phone conversation with Schmidt Monday, he claimed he no longer owns the property because he is selling it on land contract. There is no land contract registered to the property records. He said he entered into the land contract 10 years ago. When asked who was purchasing the property and how to reach the purchaser, he said he would have to look that up and hung up after taking contact information. He has not yet provided the information.

On the upside, taxes have been paid on time since 2017. The building is valued at \$140,300, putting its taxable value at \$69,708, according to city records.

— TODD HEYWOOD

"Eyesore of the Week" is our weekly look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eye Candy of the Week and Eye for Design. Have a suggestion? Email Managing Editor Kyle Kaminski at eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call in a nomination at 517-999-6715.

Saving our democracy

From the mildly ridiculous to the utterly bizarre, the 2022 political season is shaping up to be a real barn burner. Six months ago, who would have predicted that half the Republican gubernatorial field would get kicked off the ballot over fake signatures on their nominating petitions? Who would have believed that getting arrested by the FBI for allegedly aiding and abetting the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol would actually strengthen a gubernatorial candidate's campaign rather than derailing it?

Only in America, and only in these still unsettled days of not-so-post-Trumpism, a festering wound is in our nation's political psyche that may never heal, at least so long as a majority of Republicans yearn for his return to the White House, while the rest of us yearn for his incarceration in a federal penitentiary. The timing of the congressional hearings into the Jan. 6 insurrection has been fortuitous, reminding all of us — Democrats and Republicans alike — at exactly the right time precisely what is at stake as the battle for the heart and soul of America's democracy rages on.

That the magnetic attraction to Trump is still so strong among his acolytes — recent polling shows that fully 60% of Michigan Republicans want him to run for president again — is both frightening and confounding. That so many of our fellow citizens still fully embrace the twice-impeached former president should give all rational Americans nightmares. Four decades ago, Isaac Asimov called out America's "cult of ignorance ... the strain of anti-intellectualism (that) has been a constant thread winding its way through our political and cultural life, nurtured by the false notion that democracy means that 'my ignorance is just as good as your knowledge.'" Sadly, his commentary still rings true today.

Indeed, as much as we may think the danger to our democracy has passed, it may have only just begun. That's why derailing the second coming of Trump in 2024 must start now, everywhere. Small victories, accrued across the state and nation, can cause seismic shifts in power in the halls of Congress and in state legislatures. It's time for all people of goodwill and common sense to exercise their franchise as voters to send a decisive message to the Republican establishment: Enough is enough. Trumpism is over. It's time to move on.

Of course, here in Michigan it starts with reelecting the top of our ticket — Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Attorney General Dana Nessel and Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, the potent and capable triumvirate that stands as a bulwark against the ridiculous excesses of the state legislature's Republican majority. And, though most Lansing area legislative races presumptively are in the win column for Democrats, two mid-Michigan contests stand out for having the potential to amplify Trump's political foothold in Michigan if they go the wrong way.

One is the anticipated race pitting incumbent Democratic U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin against Republican state Sen. and ever-Trumper Tom Barrett in the

7th Congressional District. The newly drawn district leans more heavily Republican than the old 8th district, which Slotkin first won in 2018 and then narrowly retained in 2020 with 51% of the vote.

It's no surprise that Barrett is already in on the attack, having the temerity to suggest that Slotkin, who served her country with honor and distinction as a CIA analyst deployed three times to Iraq and who is married to a retired Army colonel and helicopter pilot, thinks "veterans are cowards." An Army veteran himself, Barrett should and probably does know better, but he's also the sort of politician who will say literally anything to win.

The good news is that Slotkin is crushing Barrett on the fundraising front, raising more than \$1.3 million in the first quarter of this year. With \$5.5 million in cash on hand, Slotkin is in a strong position to defend herself against an expected tsunami of right-wing gibberish and outright lies from her opponent's campaign. But she still needs your vote, especially from independents and Republicans in places like Clinton, Livingston and Shiawassee counties.

In Eaton County, incumbent State Rep. Angela Witwer is expected to face challenger Jeremy Whittum, who chairs the Eaton County Board of Commissioners. While it is less than clear where Whittum stands on the Trumpian spectrum, we know he was endorsed for his county position by the seriously unhinged Make Michigan Great Again Forever organization. We presume he passed some sort of

wackadoodle Trump loyalty test to earn their support. We also know that at a time when the nation is still reeling from the aftershocks of mass killings in Texas and New York, Whittum still proudly flies the flag of the National Rifle Association. Witwer is the kind of Democrat even a rational Republican can love. In her first two terms in office, Witwer has shown what a moderate, sensible elected official who listens to her district and embraces bipartisanship looks like.

The choice we face as voters has never been more clear. We can cede our democracy to the looney tunes and pay the price for generations to come, or we can step up and protect our shared values as Americans by supporting candidates for office who respect our democracy. We appeal especially to our readers who usually vote Republican,

scarce as they may be, and urge you to consider any candidate who shows the slightest adherence to Trump's false claims of a stolen election as unfit to serve. Even if you have to vote for a Democrat, suck it up and do it.

We encourage people of every political stripe to get to the polls or return your absentee ballot for the Aug. 2 primary election. We have one last chance to crush the remnants of the Trumpian plague before it comes roaring back in 2024 and gains a permanent foothold in our nation's political milieu. Please do your part to make sure we don't turn back the clock and put our democracy at risk once again.



The **CP** Edit
Opinion

Have something to say about a local issue or an item that appeared in our pages? Now you have two ways to sound off:

1.) Write a letter to the editor.

• E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com • Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912 • Fax: (517) 371-5800 • At lansingcitypulse.com

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



CELEBRATE PRIDE

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Also, freelance opportunities reviewing theater and writing about the visual arts.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, email publisher@lansingcitypulse.com.



CityPULSE

Capital Area Transportation Authority
Public Meeting Notice
Proposed Service Changes
Effective Aug. 29, 2022

The Capital Area Transportation Authority will host a series of public meetings to present proposed service changes effective Aug. 29, 2022, or later. The following routes and services are included in the proposal:

- Route 3.....Willow – Lansing Mall
Extend the route west of the Lansing Mall along Saginaw Highway to Marketplace Blvd. in Delta Township beginning Oct. 2022 or Jan. 2023.
- Route 12.....W. Michigan – Waverly – LCC West
Introduce year-round weekday service to Lansing Community College West and eliminate the winter, spring and summer breaks schedule beginning Aug. 29, 2022. Weekday shuttle service between Ollie’s and LCC West will be provided Aug. 18-26, 2022.
- Route 13.....Groesbeck Area
Reroute service to Lake Lansing Road between Wood Road and Coolidge Road beginning Aug. 29, 2022. Buses would no longer travel into Eastwood Towne Center.
- Route 20.....South Harrison – Jolly – Duncel
Provide year-round service to MSU’s Spartan Village complex on Harrison Road beginning Aug. 29, 2022.
- Route 24.....East Lansing – E. Lake Lansing Road
Reroute service between East Lansing High School and Hagadorn/Saginaw beginning Jan. 2023, with buses traveling Burcham Road. Service on Alton Road would be eliminated.
- Route 26.....Abbot – Chandler
Operate weekday service during MSU’s fall and spring semesters at a 15-minute frequency until 8 p.m. beginning Aug. 29, 2022. Postpone resuming Route 26 Late Night service between downtown East Lansing and Abbot/Chandler Road (Thursday through Saturday) until Oct. 2022.
- Route 38.....Spartan Village
Eliminate the route, which operates during MSU’s fall and spring semesters, and provide year-round service to Spartan Village on Route 20 beginning Aug. 29, 2022.
- Introduction of Holiday Service
Introduce a new demand-response holiday service to provide curb-to-curb transportation within the Spec-Tran service area on the seven major holidays CATA has typically been closed.
- Spec-Tran Boundary Extension
Extend the Spec-Tran service area into Delta Township so the Spec-Tran service area continues ¾ of a mile west of the upcoming Route 3 extension. New boundaries to begin Oct. 2022 or Jan. 2023 with the Route 3 service extension.

Details of proposed changes will be available online after June 22 at cata.org/Fall2022updates. Representatives from CATA will be present at the open-forum public meetings listed below. There is no formal presentation planned, which will allow CATA staff to meet and interact with attendees on an individual basis. Public comment is welcome. The same service information will be available at each meeting, allowing area residents to attend any session of their choosing.

Date	Municipality	Facility	Address	Time
Mon. July 18	Delhi Township	Community Services Center	2074 Aurelius Rd., Holt	6 – 7:30 p.m.
Thurs. July 21	City of Lansing, Lansing and East Lansing Townships	Former Sears Building, Frandor Shopping Center	3131 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing	6 – 7:30 p.m.
Fri. July 22	Meridian Township	Central Fire Department	5000 Okemos Rd., Okemos	6 – 7:30 p.m.

All facilities are served by CATA fixed routes and Spec-Tran for the duration of each meeting. Spec-Tran rides must be reserved by 5 p.m. the evening before the session you plan to attend. If you require special accommodations, please contact CATA Customer Experience at 517-394-1000 with your request. CATA will make every attempt to provide reasonable accommodations requested by Friday, July 16, 2022.

If you are unable to attend a meeting but would like to provide input, visit cata.org/Fall2022updates, email your comments to marketing@cata.org or write us as at the following address:

Fall 2022 Service Changes Feedback
Capital Area Transportation Authority
Attn: Marketing Department
4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, MI 48910

You may also call our hotline at 517-999-2549 between 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. during scheduled meetings, and a CATA Representative will document your feedback. Calls will not be monitored when meetings are not in session. All comments must be received by 7:30 p.m. July 22, 2022. Follow us at facebook.com/rideCATA and twitter.com/rideCATA for the latest information.

CP#22-136



CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF REGISTRATION
FOR THE TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2022 ELECTION

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing:

Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold an Election on Tuesday, August 2, 2022.

For the purpose of nominating candidates to the following offices:
Governor, U. S. Representative in Congress, State Senator, State Representative, County Treasurer, County Commissioner, City Council Member Ward 1, Delegates to County Convention

For the purpose of voting on the following proposals:
Ingham County: Animal Control Program Operations and Services Funding Question, Juvenile Justice Millage Renewal and Restoration Question
Eaton County: 9-1-1 and Central Dispatch Millage Renewal and Restoration Question, Juvenile Millage Renewal and Restoration Question
City: Sale of a Portion of North Cemetery Ballot Question
District Library: Capital Area District Library Ballot Proposal for a District Wide Tax
Local School District: Waverly Community Schools Operating Millage Renewal Proposal

Any qualified elector who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of their local clerk, the office of their county clerk, a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms may be obtained at www.Michigan.gov/vote and mailed to or dropped off at the office of the of the local clerk. Any qualified elector that has a Michigan Driver’s License or Personal ID can also register to vote at www.Michigan.gov/vote. Voters who are already registered may update their voter registration at www.Michigan.gov/vote.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the Lansing City Clerk’s Office is **Monday, July 18, 2022.**

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the following locations and times:

Location	Address	Regular Business Hours
Lansing City Clerk – City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933	Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm
Lansing City Clerk – Election Unit	2500 S Washington Ave Lansing, MI 48910	Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm Wednesdays 8am - 7pm

Additional times outside of the above listed regular business hours are as follows:

Location	Address	Additional Hours
Lansing City Clerk – City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933	Election Day August 2 7am - 8pm
Lansing City Clerk – Election Unit	2500 S Washington Ave Lansing, MI 48910	Saturday July 30 10am – 4pm Sunday July 31 noon - 4pm Election Day August 2 7am – 8pm

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS
Any registered voter may request an Absent Voter Ballot. No reason required.

The Lansing City Clerk’s Office must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at the locations referenced in the above table or by visiting our website at www.lansingvotes.com.

Monday, August 1, 2022 at 4:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot except for those who register to vote on Election Day. Ballots issued on Monday, August 1, 2022 must be requested and voted in person at the Lansing City Clerk’s Office, locations referenced in the above table.

Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, August 2, 2022, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk’s Office, locations referenced in the above table.

Chris Swope, MMC/MIPMC
Lansing City Clerk
Phone: 517-483-4131
Email: city.clerk@lansingmi.gov
Website: www.lansingvotes.com
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#22-134

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for the City of Lansing, City of East Lansing, and Charter Township of Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, and Case No. 22-05-1554P. The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) solicits technical information or comments on proposed flood hazard determinations for the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable, the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for your community. These flood hazard determinations may include the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries or zone designations, or the regulatory floodway. The FIRM and, if applicable, the FIS report have been revised to reflect these flood hazard determinations through issuance of a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR), in accordance with Title 44, Part 65 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that your community is required to adopt or show evidence of having in effect to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. For more information on the proposed flood hazard determinations and information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, please visit FEMA's website at https://www.floodmaps.fema.gov/fhm/BFE_Status/bfe_main.asp, or call the FEMA Mapping and Insurance eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).

CP#22-133

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL
PROPOSED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY OF EAST LANSING'S
FISCAL YEAR 2020 AND 2021 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
PROGRAM BUDGETS**

The East Lansing City Council of the City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan will hold a meeting and public hearing on Tuesday, July 12, 2022, at 7:00PM. This meeting and public hearing will be held at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. The purpose of the public hearing is to consider the following proposed substantial amendments to the City of East Lansing's Fiscal Year 2020 and 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Budgets:

- FY 20: Reappropriate \$23,030 from Capital Area Housing Partnership's Homeownership Opportunity Assistance Program to Capital Area Housing Partnership's Homeowner Rehabilitation Program.
- FY 21: Reappropriate \$83,820 from a line item for business support to the Stoddard Park Improvement Project.

The public may attend and participate at all meetings in person. Additionally, members of the public may participate electronically in all meetings. Please contact the City Clerk or visit the City's public meeting portal for electronic access information:

Jennifer Shuster – City Clerk
410 Abbot Road
East Lansing, MI 48823
jshuster@cityofeastlansing.com
<https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/>

The public may view and provide comment on the above substantial amendments during the following period: 8:00AM on Wednesday, June 22, 2022- 5:00PM on Tuesday, July 12, 2022. Comments to the proposed amendments can be addressed to Matt Apostle via email (mapostle@cityofeastlansing.com) or mailed to 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 C/O Matt Apostle. A document providing context and reasoning behind these substantial amendments is posted online at: <https://www.cityofeastlansing.com/320/Community-Development-Block-Grant-Progra>

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

This notice is posted in compliance with P.A. 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and published in compliance with the City of East Lansing's CDBG Citizen Participation Plan.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#22-135

STATE OF MICHIGAN, INGHAM COUNTY PROBATE COURT - NOTICE TO CREDITORS, Decedent's Estate. Case No. 22-504-DE. Estate of Gary Steven Tuma. Date of birth: 09-04-1952. **TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The decedent, Gary Steven Tuma, died 03-02-2022. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Margaret Elizabeth Billig, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo, Lansing, MI 48933 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. 6-16-2022. Margaret Elizabeth Billig, 2635 E. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing, MI 48910. 517-930-0720.

CP#22-137

At Coontz Law, we believe the justice system can do better. We believe in holding the Government accountable. We believe in empathetic representation of the accused. We believe Black Lives Matter. We believe we can—and will—change the world, starting right here in our backyard.

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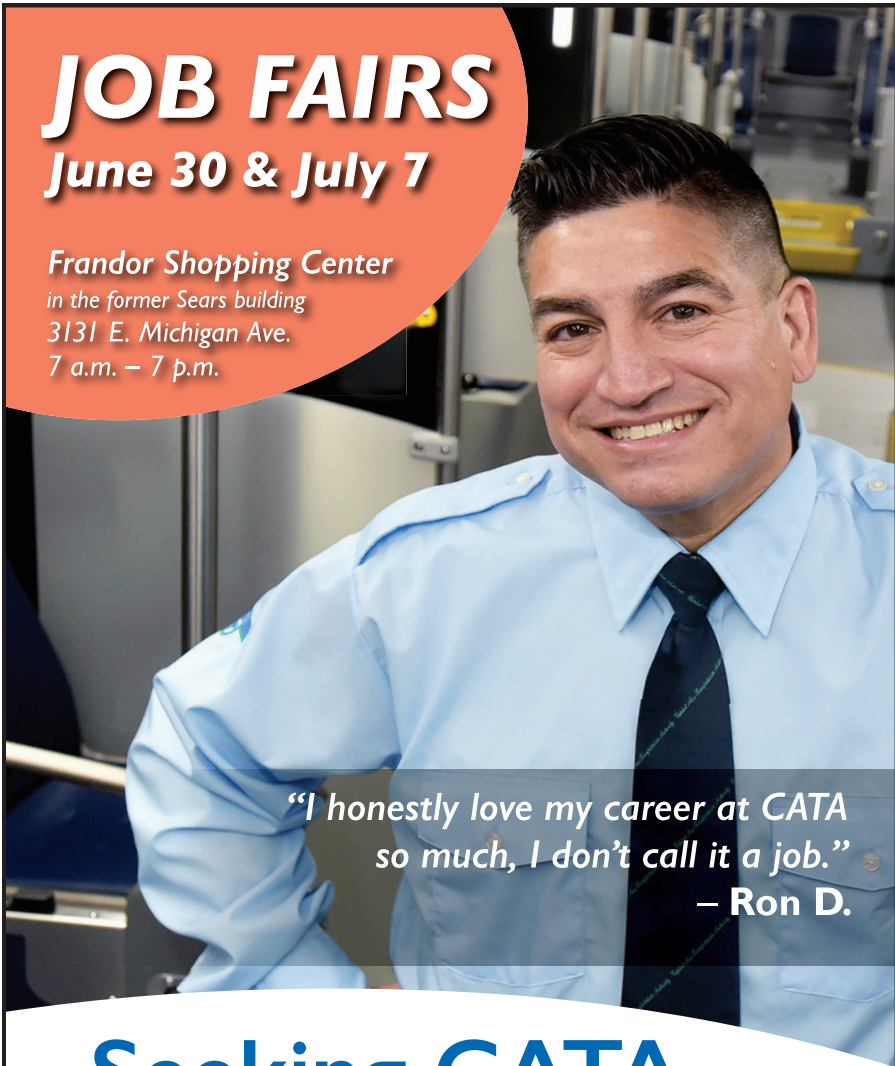


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Is anyone paying attention?

The August primary election approaches

By **KYLE MELINN**

Ingham County voters can start voting absentee this week for the Aug. 2 primary election ... if you remember that there's a primary.

The door-knocking and campaign mail and yard signs we've come to expect with contested gubernatorial and legislative primaries are hit and miss, to be kind.

We're all voting in new congressional, state Senate and state House districts. Most of the districts don't feature an incumbent.

Yet, with few exceptions, long-time political observer Bill Ballenger conceded, "There hasn't been a damn thing!" as far as political activity.

The turmoil and confusion over the new legislative districts and whether they'd withstand judicial challenge led to late decision-making, he said.

That's led to little opportunity to fundraise. That's led to limited opportunity to organize and put together the type of door-knocking and activity we're used to in the Capital City.



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

Emblematic of the situation is the Republicans' fluid gubernatorial race, where half of the 10-candidate field of "political amateurs" was kicked off the ballot for falling victim to widespread petition fraud.

A few political newcomers didn't qualify for the ballot locally. Those who did qualify got into the race relatively late.

In the opinion of former Ingham County Commissioner Thomas Morgan — himself a commission candidate on Lansing's south side: "People are exhausted."

"They're exhausted from the pandemic. They're exhausted dealing with misinformation that's been put out there by extremists in

the GOP. It's just been a long couple of years, and a lot of people can't take it anymore. They don't want to get involved. It's unfortunate and understandable.

"They're throwing their hands up in the air and saying, 'Fuck it. I'm too tired.'"

How to find your districts

Whatever else redistricting may have accomplished, it has created confusion. The quickest and easiest way for voters to verify which congressional and state legislative district they now reside in is to visit the web pages at which the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission posted its final maps.

Once there, voters can type in their address in the search bar at the top left of the screen.

The congressional map link is: <https://michigan.mydistricting.com/legdistricting/comments/plan/279/23>

The state Senate map link is: <https://michigan.mydistricting.com/legdistricting/comments/plan/281/23>

The state House map link is: <https://michigan.mydistricting.com/legdistricting/comments/plan/280/23>

Also, voters can visit the secretary of state's website at <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/Public-Ballot/Index> to see the issues on your ballot.

KYLE MELINN

For Republicans, the name of the game is the governor's race, but recent polling has shown around 50% are undecided. Former Detroit Police Chief James Craig is running as a write-in candidate. "Quality Guru" may be following suit.

The candidate with the most support in two recent polls is Ryan Kelley, whose antics, captured on videotape, during

the Jan. 6 U.S. Capitol riots earned him four federal misdemeanor charges this month.

There's a contested state Senate race in the new East Lansing/Meridian Township/Clinton County on the Republican side, but the Democratic nominee is likely Sam Singh, the former state House minority leader and East Lansing mayor running with token opposition.

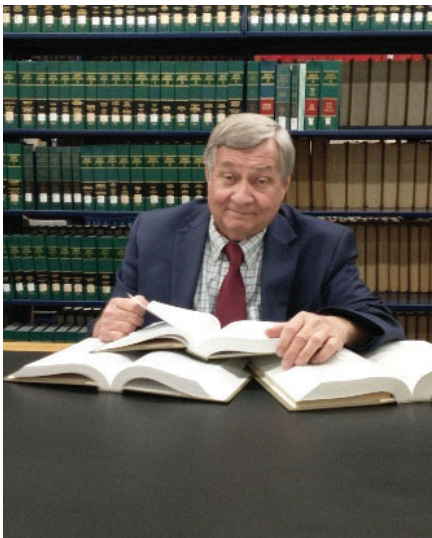
The Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission reduced the number of districts that included portions of Lansing from five to two.

The long-awaited Singh-Rep. Sarah Anthony state Senate race is not happening. Anthony has her own seat in the new 21st District, which is most of Lansing and Eaton County. She has no primary and only token Republican opposition in the fall.

The action for Democrats is in the state House, where Democrats likely will win out all five Lansing area seats after the Dem primaries are settled in the three contested races.

Outside of the Penelope Tsernoglou-Emily Stivers race in the new East Lansing/Meridian Township/

See Primary, Page 15



DON KESKEY

FOR
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
75TH DISTRICT – DEMOCRAT

«YOUR KEY TO THE HOUSE»



Assistant Attorney General Don Keskey working with Attorney General Frank J. Kelley (1973-1998)

Career

Veteran	Vietnam War Veteran (1970) and US Naval Reserve (1968 - 1974), Active Duty (1969 - 1970)
Public Servant	Michigan Assistant Attorney General and an Assistant Attorney General in Charge (1973 - 1998)
Public Law Attorney	Private Practice focusing on economic development; broadband initiatives in rural areas; representing utility customer groups in utility and renewable energy cases (1998 - present)
Small Business Owner	Principal Member, Public Law Resource Center, PLLC, East Lansing (2009 - present)
Homeowner and Board Member	Homeowner in East Lansing and Haslett since 1975; condo board member/President (93 condos in Haslett - 15 years; 28 condos in Haslett - 10 years)
<u>Legal Experience</u>	Don Keskey from 1973 to the present has prepared and argued numerous cases before state and federal agencies, including the Michigan Public Service Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Federal Communications Commission, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and state and federal courts, including State District and Circuit Courts, the Michigan Court of Appeals and Michigan Supreme Court, the United States Courts of Appeal, and the United States Supreme Court, and has testified on behalf of Michigan and its utility ratepayers before the United States Congress

Education

Northern Michigan University - BA (1968)
University of Michigan Law School - J.D. Law (1973)
Michigan State University - MBA (2005)

Issues and positions

Infrastructure	Promote improved roads, renewable energy, high-speed broadband, cost-effective and reliable utilities, enhanced transportation development
Public education	Promote and support public education
Public safety	Enhance public safety, including security in schools and in other public gatherings
Economic Development	Promote economic development and expansion; focus on state strategies to address inflationary impacts
Environmental Protection	Support clean air and water and combat pollution of natural resources, ensure safe public water resources, promote conservation programs
Climate change	Promote renewable energy and customer distributed generation; energy efficiency
Personal Medical rights	Support Roe v Wade principles and personal medical decisions and privacy
Voter rights	Expand citizen participation and oppose voter suppression

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Primary

from page 13

Clinton County 75th District, the primaries have been relatively low-energy affairs.

Even the Ingham County Board of Commissioners' primary races are falling under the radar as observers see a very real scenario where no African Americans end up on the 15-member board come 2023.

The Lansing City Councilmember Brian Daniels needs his appointment to the post verified by the voters of the First Ward, but his two opponents aren't engaged in widespread direct voter engagement.

With that backdrop, below is a breakdown of primary election races that seem competitive at this point:

Governor



Craig

James Craig, 65, a Detroit Republican, is the former Detroit police chief of eight years, originally brought into the job by then-Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr in the Gov. Rick Snyder administration. A Cass Tech High School product, Craig retired after 28 years with the Los Angeles Police Department at the rank of Captain III in 2009.

From there, he became the police chief for Portland, Maine, for a couple years before moving to the Cincinnati Police and becoming the police chief there. He received his bachelor's

in business management from West Coast University and a master's in management and business administration from the University of Phoenix.

Craig was disqualified from appearing on the primary ballot May 27 but is running as a write-in candidate.



Dixon

Tudor Dixon, 44, a Muskegon Republican, is a conservative television host of an afternoon program for America's Voice News. She also works in the radio news business.

Previously, the married mother of four and cancer survivor was the co-founder of Lumen Student News, a product designed to share news with middle and high school students with a bent toward "reinforcing traditional American values."

From June 2002 until June 2017, Dixon worked off and on in the steel industry, mostly in sales. The Chicago-area native did take some years off within that window to raise her kids. Dixon received her bachelor's in psychology in 1998.



Kelley

Ryan D. Kelley, 39, an Allendale Republican, is a real estate agent with Nu-Con Realty and an Allendale Township planning commissioner. He also produces vlogs that he'll put on YouTube through his company, "The Kelly Krew." He is the "founding father" of the American Patriot Council, a group that gathered online signatures for the arrest of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Attorney General Dana Nessel and Secretary

of State Jocelyn Benson for actions taken to control COVID-19.

Kelley attended the Jan. 6 protests outside the U.S. Capitol, although Kelley said he left before things became destructive. Kelley and his wife, Tabitha, have five children.



Rebandt

Ralph Rebandt, 62, a Farmington Hills Republican, is the lead pastor for Oakland Hills Community Church in Farmington Hills. He serves as chaplain for state and local police organizations, including the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police and the Southeastern Michigan Chiefs of Police.

He serves on the board of the Farmington Hills Crime Prevention Advisory Committee and is a member of the Farmington Hills S.A.F.E., an organization dedicated to suicide awareness. He also is a member of Farmington Families in Action.

At the national level, Rebandt is a member of the Board of Governors for the Council of National Policy. On the state level, he served as religious adviser on Gov. John Engler's Sex and Drugs Education Task Force. Before



Rinke

becoming a pastor, he worked in construction, a collision shop and for the United Parcel Service.

Kevin Rinke, 60, a Bloomfield Hills Republican, works with

Centria Healthcare, which provides autism therapy to children across the country. Prior to this experience, Rinke bought Cassell & Associates, which is a rehabilitation workplace for those with traumatic brain injuries. The company became the largest company of its kind and Rinke sold it a national service provider.

Rinke started his career working for his family's automotive business, where he picked up trash, cleaned customer restrooms and washed cars. After graduating from Michigan State University in 1983, he joined the Rinke Automotive Group as a full-time member and eventually became the head of the company. He and his wife of 25 years have three children.



Soldano

Garrett Soldano, 43, a Mattawan Republican, is a chiropractor, small business owner, public speaker and author of "God's True Law, a parent's guide to raising successful children." In 2020, he became a leader of the 386,000-member Facebook group Michiganders Against Excessive Quarantine, which sought to pressure the governor to end her administration's orders that were designed to slow COVID-19 spread.

Earlier in life, Soldano was most valuable player for the Western Michigan University football team. He signed a free agent contract with the

See Primary, Page 16

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for STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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Primary

from page 15

Chicago Bears, but was cut before the season began. He and his wife, Jennifer, have two sons.

Commentary: Rinke pledged to spend up to \$10 million of his own money to win this primary, but that hasn't translated into overwhelming success in the polls. He's run the most traditional campaign with a statewide bus tour, but he lacks organic enthusiasm behind his campaign. Kelley and Soldano have that, but neither of them has much money.

Soldano is riding his anti-COVID lockdown organization for everything he can. Kelley's dissatisfaction with government runs much deeper. Dixon has all the tools to be a quality candidate, but even the Chamber of Commerce, Right to Life and DeVos family endorsements haven't pushed her beyond the mid-single digits.

Craig was the only candidate with built-in name ID, but he's now running a write-in effort. With absentee voting starting soon, anybody who says this isn't a jump ball has a dog in the race.

State Senate, Republican primary, District 28 (East Lansing, Meridian Township)

Madhu Anderson, an East Lansing Republican, is the director of govern-



Anderson

ment relations at The Nature Conservancy, prior to which she served as the deputy director for both the Michigan Agency for Energy and the Department of Environmental Quality.

Anderson ran to represent the 93rd House district in 2018, losing in the primary. Along with raising three children in Bath Township, Anderson served as former Gov. John Engler's deputy state treasurer.

Anderson was born in India and immigrated to the United States as a child, choosing to become a citizen as a young adult. The University of California, Berkeley graduate holds an undergraduate degree in political science. She earned her master's in public policy from the Gerald R. Ford School at the University of Michigan.



Howard

Daylen Howard, 26, an Owosso Republican, works in retail sales. Howard has attended classes at American University.

He was the assistant manager at JB Robinson Jewelers until the store shutdown during the COVID pandemic, which he said was a driving reason for him to file to run. The first-time candidate also interned for a state senator's office while in high school.

Howard has been involved in politics since he was five, working as a volunteer for various candidates for office.

Sam Singh, 50, an East Lansing



Singh

Democrat, is the chief executive officer at Public Policy Associates, Inc. and former House minority leader. Singh also served three terms on the East Lansing City Council.

In 2005, he was elected as the youngest mayor in the history of East Lansing at that time.

He was the president and CEO of the Michigan Nonprofit Association from April 1997 to July 2007 and senior consultant at the New Economy Initiative from June 2009 to November 2012. Prior to obtaining an array of leadership positions, Singh graduated from Michigan State University in 1994, where he studied economics and religious studies and earned a bachelor's degree in history.

The married father of one served on the boards of more than 20 organizations, such as the Capital Area United Way, Lansing Refugee Development Center and the Michigan Municipal League.



Rais

Muhammad Rais, 47, a Dewitt Democrat, is a doctor at McLaren Greater Lansing Hospital and specializes in family medicine. He received his medical degree from

Nishtar Medical College and has been in practice for more than 20 years. He did his residency at Loyola University and Forest Park Hospital. The Pakistan native did his medical school training at Nishtar Medical School in

Pakistan. A DeWitt resident for over 13 years, Rais is married with three kids. He's volunteered with several different charities including food banks.

Rais ran for the state House in 2020, losing to Rep. Graham Filler 63% to 37%.

Commentary: The conventional wisdom has the Republican winner here being eaten for lunch by Sam Singh, who has nominal opposition in the primary. But with elections becoming more national in focus over the last few years, and inflation/gas prices emerging as a central focus among voters, nothing can be taken for granted in this 55% Democratic base seat.

Michigan Chamber-endorsed Anderson has a long resume in state government while Howard is a relative newcomer to the political and policy scene, who nabbed the endorsement of the Freedom Fund. Whether he can translate early enthusiasm into votes will be the question.

State House, Democratic primary, District 74



Hope

Rep. **Kara Hope**, 47, a Holt Democrat, is a second-term House member who began work as a pre-hearing attorney in the Michigan Court of Appeals. Following that, she worked as a defense attorney before going on to teach as an adjunct professor back at Cooley Law School, and eventually started her solo practice in 2015, specializing in family law. Hope began considering serving her community in a political capacity and ran for the Ingham County Board of Commissioners in 2012, where she served until her election to the House.



Kelley

Albert L. Kelley Jr., 72, a Lansing Democrat, is the senior pastor at the Pennsylvania Avenue Original Church of God, a post he's held for the last 24 years. He grew up in Lansing and attended Lansing public schools. After high school, he took a few classes at Lansing Community College and worked at the General Motor Fisher Body Plant for 37 years. He joined the U.S. Air Force for four years, reaching the rank of sergeant and receiving an honorable discharge.

He and his wife have been married for 42 years. They have four adult sons and eight grandchildren. He is a member of the Greater Lansing Clergy Forum, which is made up of 23 different churches and denominations. At the forum, he heads up the social justice group.



Knott

Carlee Knott, 27, a Holt Democrat, has been working for U.S. Sen. Gary Peters, D-Mich., for a year and a half. Prior to that, she spent five months as a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Southern California. She also spent four months as a legislative analyst intern for the Senate Fiscal Agency. Knott attended the University of Michigan, where she earned her Bachelor of Arts in political science.

The product of Holt Public Schools, she then attended the USC Sol Price

See Primary, Page 17



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ARTS & CULTURE

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Crawling with artists

Citywide event showcases art in its native habitat

By SARAH SPOHN

Bar crawls sound like fun to begin with, but they always leave you the worse for wear. A Creative Crawl has the opposite effect — the more stops you make, the more energized, inspired and enlightened you get. What, exactly, is a creatives crawl? Lansing is about to find out: Makers and artists are joining forces to celebrate the creative community with the first-ever 2022 Capital City Creatives Crawl on Saturday (June 25).

Event organizer Sara Pulver said the idea for this citywide art studio and driveway sale event came at the beginning of the pandemic, when many festivals and markets were canceled and artists lost thousands of dollars in income. Pulver, an illustrator and designer, noticed that in other cities, artists opened up their driveways and studios, inviting people into their space and coming together as a community.

"I thought it would be a perfect fit for Lansing, as we have such an incredible community of creatives here," Pulver said. Armed with a background in arts administration and her own work as a professional artist, Pulver set about organizing an all-ages, accessible event for local artists. She not only knew what she wanted to do — she knew what she wanted to avoid.

2022 Capital City Creatives Crawl

Greater Lansing area
Saturday, June 25, 10
a.m.-6 p.m.
Map: bit.ly/2022CCmap

"A lot of shows and markets can have barriers to access — booth fees, hosting site, travel fees, a jury panel that is focused on educational background," she said. She invited local artists to sign up for free and offered to host artists without traditional spaces or studios at nearby businesses.

The event spans 20 local venues across the greater Lansing area, encouraging people to shop locally. Some artists are opening up their home studios, some are hauling their wares into their driveways in yard sale fashion and others are showcasing their work in a pop-up style at local businesses like Cedar Street Art Collective, Vintage Junkies, and Capital Hippy.

Locations include Cedar Street Art Collective, Debbie Carlos Studio & GRAMMAR, Sadsquatch, Sunset Clay Studio, MexOne Creative, Dennis Preston, The



Photo by Jennifer Berggren.

Local illustrator and designer Sara Pulver organized the first-ever 2022 Capital City Creatives Crawl.

Artist's Umbrella, Dear Ollie & SarahJean Sews, Capital Hippy, Downy Tree Art, Ari Franklin Paints & Elizabeth Vickers, REO Town Marketplace, and Vintage Junkies.

Cedar Street Art Collective's goal in joining the Creatives Crawl is twofold, according to Annie Signs, co-founder and operations director: to exhibit and promote emerging and professional artists in the area and to recognize the existing building's rich history of opportunities for artists.

The collective has housed local artists in full working studios since 2016. "Cedar Street Art Collective has been operating for over five years and has culturally impacted many visitors and, most importantly, some of our neighbors in the Baker Neighborhood," Signs said. "This event gives us the opportunity to show the community what a great resource

we have here in South Lansing."

Special guest Jacob McCormick, who chairs the Ingham County Historical Commission, will join present and former resident artists at a historical marker unveiling event in front of the collective's 1929 building at 1 p.m., in conjunction with the Creatives Crawl.

Andrew D. Sandstedt, Collective co-founder and creative director, is acting as both a site host and artist. He hopes that after visiting these studios and workspaces, visitors will feel a sense of wonder and appreciation of what it takes to produce art.

"I'm hoping the public will also gain a deeper respect for the artist community here in Lansing and the depth of talent they will get to experience up close," he said. "I believe that art appreciation and creative impact happens in a community when people are educated on the 'how' of the art, not just the finished product."

Sandstedt said patrons, collectors and consumers of art aren't just buying a pretty painting, but "a story, a 'why' of that artist. An event like this will help foster those critical personal connections."

Kaity Hemgesberg, a.k.a. Sadsquatch, is a local artist who makes stickers, cards and prints.

"The Creatives Crawl offers a low-

stakes way for anyone to put their artwork in front of the community," Hemgesberg said. Sadsquatch will be setting up her art and hosting two other confirmed artists, Waxwitch and Jam-Katz, at her home at 216 W. Gier St.

The Creatives Crawl is a way for art lovers to nurture a growing creative community while buying from local artists. Hemgesberg encourages people to stop by. "If you've ever wished Lansing could be more like Ferndale, Grand Rapids, Ann Arbor, etc., it starts with supporting the local artists and shops that make our city unique," she said. "Lansing has a real shot to be viewed as a city of creatives, makers, and artists. With every event like this, that reputation grows, and I think it inspires others locally to venture into the creative realm as well."

Pulver hopes the event becomes a recurring gig for artists and art appreciators alike.

"This is an event hosted by the artists, the creators, the makers themselves," she said. "It's a unique opportunity to see their work exactly as they want it to be seen. The fact that folks will be traversing across town is an added bonus — so easy to swing in and grab lunch at your favorite local restaurant, snag an ice cream cone, enjoy a walk downtown, and more."



Courtesy image

A sculpture by artist Andrew D. Sandstedt, co-founder and creative director of Cedar Street Art Collective, where he and other artists will have work for sale.



Courtesy image

(Left) Colleen Conrad (WaxxWitch) and Kaity Hemgesberg (Sadsquatch) are participating artists at the 2022 Capital City Creatives Crawl. Here, they are shown at Art Feast in Old Town.

Grind those spices: Taste Coffee Co. makes it all from scratch

By SARA SPOHN

For Taste Coffee Co., the first step to any menu item is high-quality ingredients. General manager Molly Vanderwey said her family's business focuses



Taste Coffee Co.

3056 Okemos Rd.,
Mason
<https://www.tastecoffeecompany.com/>
(517) 899-3171
Monday – Sunday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

on made-from-scratch menu items. “The excellence of our product is really important to us,” Vanderwey said. “Of course, our name is Taste, and we need to live up to our name. We’re very committed to keeping things tasting excellent, and that starts with high quality products.”

Taste is across from Jackson National Life, just south of I-96, making it a convenient location for many, said Vanderwey. “People hear Mason and think, ‘Oh, that’s far out there,’ but we’re really just off of the

highway. People have been enjoying the fact that they can get here easily from just about anywhere.”

The space was formerly Country House Catering (and before that the Golden Rose Restaurant) before the Vanderwey family transformed the building into a coffee shop and event venue. The shop showcases baristas at the forefront making drinks at the espresso machine, several different indoor seating areas, and an outdoor tent with picnic tables, Adirondack chairs and more. The event room is available for business-related rentals for 60 to 100 people, but if not in use, is also a seating option for customers.

“We would like to call it warm and inviting,” Vanderwey said. “Hospitality is one of our top most passions at Taste.”

All syrups and flavors for lattes are made in-house, using real vanilla beans, honey, cinnamon and maple. All lattes

are available hot or iced. “We make our own chai concentrate,” Vanderwey said. “We start with whole spices, and we grind them ourselves. It’s very flavorful and not sugary and artificial.”



Baked goods are served fresh each morning and syrups and flavors for lattes are made in-house at Taste Coffee Co., at 3056 Okemos Road in Mason.



Courtesy photo.

The shop also offers a variety of teas, with three current options: masala chai, jasmine green and Earl Grey, in addition to the classics like house espressos, cappuccinos, Americano and decaf

options via its partner roaster, Rowster Coffee, of Grand Rapids.

Vanderwey said the food menu, a draw for many customers, sets them apart. Her sister, Anneke, is a baker. “She trained in a baking school in England this past summer,” Vanderwey said proudly. “She makes cinnamon rolls, soft pretzels, everything bagels, chocolate chip cookies, lemon blueberry sweet bread, challah bread and focaccia bread.”

All food items are baked fresh every morning on site, with an in-house grain mill and sourdough starter. “People love the fact that if they come here at 7:30 or 8 in the morning, then your cinnamon roll is still warm from the oven. They just taste so much better,” Vanderwey said.

Popular drink items include lavender honey latte, iced peach green tea, strawberry lemonade and hot chocolate for kids. Taste, which opened in January and held a grand opening celebration on June 4, plans to offer live music and more baked goods and pour-over coffee.

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Ex-Detroit Lions players near end zone on Lansing pot shop

Primitiv to open 2nd retail location on Cedar Street

If you feel like I just wrote about a new pot shop coming to Lansing this summer, that's because I did. Pure Roots is still expected to open on Larch Street soon — though company officials still aren't returning my emails, so I don't know exactly when they plan to officially launch.

But in the meantime, Lansing still has plenty of room for another dispensary. Next up is Primitiv, a company that city officials say plans to open its second retail location in Michigan at 5620 S. Cedar St. this summer.

For whatever reason, the folks at Primitiv are also ignoring my messages, possibly because they're not ready to announce details. So, I guess I'll also handle their jobs for them this week:

Founded by former Detroit Lions Calvin Johnson and Rob Sims, Primitiv bills itself as a "cannabis research company" rather than a pot shop — namely because of its stated mission to advance the medicinal cannabis industry by researching the natural health benefits of the plant.



Photo by Kyle Kaminski

Primitiv opened its provisioning center in Niles this year.

Both Johnson and Sims suffered from long-term physical effects of football injuries. That's no surprise to anyone who has watched Megatron bulldoze through a defensive line, but being one of the greatest wide receivers of all time can take a toll on the body. As it turns out, weed was a pretty solid approach to pain management, and Johnson and Sims wanted to take measures into their own hands, starting with a large growing facility in Webberville, opening their first pot shop in Niles this year, and now moving into Lansing.



Don't be fooled. This "research company" sells some pretty damn good weed too.

While I was waiting for company executives to call me back, I decided to take a 264-mile round trip to the Indiana border to snag a preview of what's coming to Lansing.

The pot shop in Niles used to be a popular billiards hall — and it looked nothing like the sleek, modern designs implemented at most other dispensaries in Michigan. There were no cheesy marketing gimmicks. It didn't feel like an Apple Store. It was just a windowless fortress of weed that you probably wouldn't even know sold pot unless you were specifically looking for some.

The cold, sterile, industrial interior made it feel much more like a laboratory than a store. The brick walls were adorned with scientific posters about terpene profiles and cannabinoids — and, of course, a Johnson jersey was prominently displayed in a glass case in the waiting room.

Budtenders directed me toward a wide selection of prerolls and packaged eighers, many of which grown and harvested under the Primitiv brand in Webberville. The shelves were stocked with plenty of other Michigan brands, but I stuck with two of the top in-house favorites.

Peanut Butter Breath \$30/3.5g at Primitiv

Billed as a hybrid, these deliciously dense, pistil-laden nuggets were named for an obvious reason: an overtly nutty and earthy scent, with a similar flavor to go with it. A few tokes was great (maybe a little too great) for unwinding after work in the summer sun. I smoked this at a quiet spot along the Lansing River Trail and almost couldn't find the energy to bike back home.



Sensi Star \$30/3.5g at Primitiv

This strain is a great example of how the terms "indica" and "sativa" are pretty much useless conjectures. Because for me, this so-called "indica" packed a real energetic punch that ended up gluing me into a Netflix binge until about 2 a.m. Frosty, earthy, fruity buds. Maybe a touch of pine. Then, about four blissful hours of Stranger Things and a whole tube of Pringles. Success.



Photo by Kyle Kaminski

Primitiv is expected to open its second location at 5620 S. Cedar St. in Lansing.



In other cannabis news...

Bazonzoes has made it easier than ever to grab a bag and hit the road.

On June 10, the company launched its third retail location, at 920 American Road in south Lansing — and it's not just any old pot shop. It's the first (and only) provisioning center in the city with a drive-thru window. That means you can order online and be in and out in under 10 minutes, and you hardly have to speak to anyone at all.

The company, founded in 2010, opened the first medical marijuana provisioning center in Oakland County before expanding into Lansing in 2020. It also plans to launch its own cultivation and processing facilities this year. Check out bazonzoesmi.com to place an order — and make sure it's from the Redemption Cannabis brand if you want some top-notch product.

Kyle Kaminski is a journalist and cannabis enthusiast. Editor & Publisher magazine has labeled him "arguably, the state's authority on everything you need to know about cannabis." Have a suggestion for a dank new product or a feature idea? Email lansterdam@lansingcitypulse.com.

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 - CADL Downtown Lansing Library
401 S Capitol Ave
Lansing, MI 48933
- **August 1st – 3pm to 7pm**
 - CADL Foster Library
200 N Foster Ave
Lansing, MI 48912



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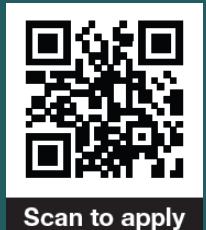
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Live & Local

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B&I Bar

5247 Old Lansing Rd., Lansing
Devyn Mitchell
 Thurs., June 23, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Blue Owl

1149 S Washington, Lansing
Elden Kelly and Gregg Hill
 Thurs., June 23, 6-8 p.m.

Green Door

2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Be Kind Rewind
 Fri., June 24, 8:30 p.m.
Double Shot
 Sat., June 25, 8:30 p.m.

Eaton Rapids Craft Co.

204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids
Alan Sloan
 Friday, June 24, 7-10 p.m.
Matthew Adkins
 Sat., June 25, 7-10 p.m.

The Exchange

Off the Ledge
 314 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
 Fri., June 24, 9:30 p.m.

Lansing Brewing Company

518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing
Shelby & Jake
 Sat., June 25, 7-10 p.m.

Urban Beat

1213 Turner Rd., Lansing
Mighty Uke Day XII
 Sat., June 25, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
QuinTango
 Sun., June 26, 6-8:30 p.m.



TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene

BY RICH TUPICA

MIGHTY UKE DAY RETURNS TO OLD TOWN



Hassenger photo by Heidi Swedberg

Mighty Uke Day showcases world-class ukulele talent and offers public participation strums and workshops. Organizer Ben Hassenger has hosted it since its inception.

Annual ukulele festival brings aloha spirit to Lansing

After two years of online festivals, the 12th annual Mighty Uke Day, a festival celebrating the ukulele, returns as an in-person event in Old Town Lansing. This year's roster includes sets from Victoria Vox, Ukulenny, The Birdwatchers, The Springtails, Jen Sygit, and The Ukulele Kings. Along with indoor and outdoor performances, the event hosts a group ukulele strum, an open mic and workshops across Old Town.

Event organizer Ben Hassenger talked with City Pulse about the event. Hassenger became enamored with the uke after a music-filled 2009 visit to Hawaii. Since then, has become known as "Michigan's Ukulele Ambassador" and a fixture at the Lansing Area Ukulele Group.

Why do you continue to love the uke?

Ben Hassenger: The ukulele is truly the most accessible and versatile instrument there is. It's easy to start playing. You can learn three chords in minutes, yet some of the finest musicians I've ever heard play the ukulele. You can get a very playable uke for under \$100, yet can spend many thousands on high-end custom-made models. The ukulele is rhythm, melody and harmony all in one tiny package, allowing you to play everything from Bach to The Beatles and beyond. It has no boundaries. I've met the most wonderful people by way of the ukulele.

What is your past in Lansing's music scene?

My musical career began in the early 1970s when Gene Hayhoe and I were arrested for playing "Smoke on the Water" on accordion and singing in animal sounds in the cafeteria at Lansing Community College. It was the start of something special, for sure. I began writing my own songs, and in the early '90s I had the opportunity to join the local world-beat band Mystic Shake, which was just what I needed

to express myself. We played together for over 20 years.

How has Mighty Uke Day evolved over the years?

In May of 2011, The Lansing Area Ukulele Group (LAUGH) hosted a showing of "Mighty Uke: The Amazing Comeback of a Musical Underdog," a documentary that nicely captured the supportive and shared experience the uke creates and nurtures. Filmmakers Tony Coleman and Margaret Meagher drove in from Toronto and presented the movie. Afterwards, we wrapped up the day with an open mic and strum at Sir Pizza.

I was happy that it all went well and then someone said, "That was so much fun, what are we going to do next year?" From this first "Mighty Uke Day," a tradition began. Each year since, Mighty Uke Day has grown from its humble beginnings to one of the premier ukulele events in the country. Mighty Uke Day's success brought about the creation of Music is the Foundation, a nonprofit that underwrites music programs in Michigan classrooms and communities.

Is there anything you're most excited about for this year's event?

For Mighty Uke Day 12, we've worked hard to put together a festival that's inclusive, features some of the finest players on the planet, and allows all to participate as safely as possible.

I'm looking forward to it all, but above everything else, after two years of online gatherings, it's exciting to finally be able to roam the streets and establishments of Old Town Lansing, gathering together and sharing the aloha spirit of the ukulele.

Old Town Lansing
 Friday June 24-Sunday,
 June, 26
mightyukeday.com



Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Even Steven”—or is it Stephen?
by Matt Jones

Across

1. Swimmer's stroke
6. Monastery superior
11. Las Vegas's ____ Grand Hotel
14. Cabinetmaker's machine
15. City served by Dallas/Fort Worth Airport
16. Dove sound
17. Book lover who focuses on insects?
19. ____ Talks
20. Music system
21. Time before someone becomes a best friend?
23. Twosome on "Everybody Loves Raymond" or "Friday Night Dinner"
24. Wanna-____ (pretenders)
26. Exceed
27. '98 and '99, but not '100
28. "Slumdog Millionaire" actor Patel
29. Last period of the Paleozoic Era
30. Venus's sister
32. She, in Rome
33. The art of hand-drawing national outlines?
37. Sightseeing trip
38. "All in the Family" in-law Mike
39. Without slowing down or speeding up
42. Co. that makes ATMs and introduced LCDs
43. Palindromic plea at sea
46. Iran, long ago

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
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56					57						58			
59					60						61			

47. ____ Khan
48. S'mores need, traditionally
49. Reason your 1990s Hypercolor shirts might work later in the decade?
51. 1964 Hitchcock thriller
53. Brain activity meas.
54. Star player of an old flip-phone game?
56. Issa of the upcoming "Vengeance"
57. "Slithy" creatures in "Jabberwocky"
58. "Hello" singer
59. '60s activist org.
60. ABBA member, e.g.
61. Portended
- modern Olympics
4. Rotor noises
5. Bury the ____
6. "Bored" NFT character
7. Tells all
8. Grammy winner Erykah
9. Anxious
10. Lethargic state
11. Graham of "The Hobbit" and "Preacher"
12. Handles gently, with "on"
13. Pfizer alternative
18. Pattinson of "The Batman"
22. Desktop not meant for the office
25. Terribly
28. Lion lair
29. Summoning, as at an airport
30. Most confident
31. Paper that now owns Wordle, for short
33. "Saturday Night Live" alien
34. Scandalous acts
35. Lot to park and stay overnight, maybe
36. Service station offering
37. They may tap a percentage
40. Central positions
41. Webpage option under an invoice
43. Fell from grace
44. Maryland state bird
45. Appeared to be
47. Solicited
48. Brother of Michael and Sonny Corleone
50. Building projection
52. Melville mariner
55. Ending for Japan or Sudan

Down

1. Stylish
2. "Jurassic World: Dominion" classification
3. Site of the first

SUDOKU

Intermediate

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

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.

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezсны

June 22-28, 2022

ARIES (March 21–April 19): Aries actor Marilu Henner has an unusual condition: hyperthymia. She can remember in detail voluminous amounts of past events. For instance, she vividly recalls being at the Superdome in New Orleans on September 15, 1978, where she and her actor friends watched a boxing match between Leon Spinks and Muhammad Ali. You probably don't have hyperthymia, Aries, but I invite you to approximate that state. Now is an excellent time to engage in a leisurely review of your life story, beginning with your earliest memories. Why? It will strengthen your foundation, nurture your roots, and bolster your stability.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Poet Elizabeth Bishop noted that many of us are “addicted to the gigantic.” We live in a “mostly huge and roaring, glaring world.” As a counterbalance, she wished for “small works of art, short poems, short pieces of music, intimate, low-voiced, and delicate things.” That’s the spirit I recommend to you in the coming weeks, Taurus. You will be best served by consorting with subtle, unostentatious, elegant influences. Enjoy graceful details and quiet wonders and understated truths.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): In the coming weeks, you will need even more human touch than usual. Your mental, physical, and spiritual health REQUIRE you to have your skin in contact with people who care for you and are eager to feel their skin against yours. A Tumblr blogger named Friend-Suggestion sets the tone for the mood I hope you cultivate. They write, “I love! human contact! with! my friends! So put your leg over mine! Let our knees touch! Hold my hand! Make excuses to feel my arm by drawing pictures on my skin! Stand close to me! Lean into my space! Slow dance super close to me! Hold my face in your hands or kick my foot to get my attention! Put your arm around me when we’re standing or sitting around! Hug me from behind at random times!”

CANCER (June 21–July 22): Author John Banville wrote what might serve as a manifesto for some of us Crabs: “To be concealed, protected, guarded: that is all I have ever truly wanted. To burrow down into a place of wombly warmth and cower there, hidden from the sky’s indifferent gaze and the harsh air’s damagings. The past is such a retreat for me. I go there eagerly, shaking off the cold present and the colder future.” If you are a Crab who feels a kinship with Banville’s approach, I ask you to refrain from indulging in it during the coming months. You’re in a phase of your long-term astrological cycle when your destiny is calling you to be bolder and brighter than usual, more visible and influential, louder and stronger.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): “We wish to make rage into a fire that cooks things rather than a fire of conflagration,” writes author Clarissa Pinkola Estés. That’s good advice for you right now. Your anger can serve you, but only if you use it to gain clarity—not if you allow it to control or immobilize you. So here’s my counsel: Regard your wrath as a fertilizing fuel that helps deepen your understanding of what you’re angry about—and shows you how to engage in constructive actions that will liberate you from what is making you angry.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): Virgo author Jeanette Winterson was asked, “Do you fall in love often?” She replied, “Yes, often. With a view, with a book, with a dog, a cat, with numbers, with friends, with complete strangers, with nothing at all.” Even if you’re not usually as prone to infatuation and enchantment as Winterson, you could have many experiences like hers in the coming months. Is that a state you would enjoy? I encourage you to welcome it. Your capacity to be fascinated and captivated will be at a peak. Your inclination to trust your attractions will be extra high. Sounds fun!

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): Libran lexicographer

Daniel Webster (1758–1843) worked hard to create his dictionary, and it became highly influential in American culture. He spent over 26 years perfecting it. To make sure he could properly analyze the etymologies, he learned 28 languages. He wrote definitions for 70,000 words, including 12,000 that had never been included in a published dictionary. I trust you are well underway with your own Webster-like project, Libra. This entire year is an excellent time to devote yourself with exacting diligence to a monumental labor of love. If you haven’t started it yet, launch now. If it’s already in motion, kick it into a higher gear.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): “Shouldn’t the distance between impossible and improbable be widened?” asks poet Luke Johnson. I agree that it should, and I nominate you to do the job. In my astrological view, you now have the power to make progress in accomplishing goals that some people may regard as unlikely, fantastical, and absurdly challenging. (Don’t listen to them!) I’m not necessarily saying you will always succeed in wrangling the remote possibilities into practical realities. But you might. And even if you’re only partially victorious, you will learn key lessons that bolster your abilities to harness future amazements.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): Sagittarian novelist George Eliot wrote, “It is very hard to say the exact truth, even about your own immediate feelings—much harder than to say something fine about them which is not the exact truth.” I believe you will be exempt from this rule during the next seven weeks. You will be able to speak with lucid candor about your feelings—maybe more so than you’ve been able to in a long time. And that will serve you well as you take advantage of the opportunity that life is offering you: to deepen, clarify, and refine your intimate relationships.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): Author bell hooks (who didn’t capitalize her name) expressed advice I recommend for you. She said, “Knowing how to be solitary is central to the art of loving. When we can be alone, we can be with others without using them as a means of escape.” As you enter a phase of potential renewal for your close relationships, you’ll be wise to deepen your commitment to self-sufficiency and self-care. You might be amazed at how profoundly that enriches intimacy. Here are two more helpful gems from bell hooks: “You can never love anybody if you are unable to love yourself” and “Do not expect to receive the love from someone else you do not give yourself.”

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): In April 2005, a 64-year-old Korean woman named Cha Sa-soon made her first attempt to get her driver’s license. She failed. In fairness to her, the written test wasn’t easy. It required an understanding of car maintenance. After that initial flop, she returned to take the test five days a week for three years—and was always unsuccessful. She persevered, however. Five years later, she passed the test and received her license. It was her 960th try. Let’s make her your role model for the foreseeable future. I doubt you’ll have to persist as long as she did, but you’ll be wise to cultivate maximum doggedness and diligence.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): In the eighth century, Chinese poet Du Fu gave a batch of freshly written poems to his friend and colleague, the poet Li Bai. “Thank you for letting me read your new poems,” Li Bai later wrote to Du Fu. “It was like being alive twice.” I foresee you enjoying a comparable grace period in the coming weeks, Pisces: a time when your joie de vivre could be double its usual intensity. How should you respond to this gift from the Fates? Get twice as much work done? Start work on a future masterpiece? Become a beacon of inspiration to everyone you encounter? Sure, if that’s what you want to do. And you could also simply enjoy every detail of your daily rhythm with supreme, sublime delight.



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Grant support for the 2022
Summer Solstice Jazz Festival
is provided by the East Lansing
Arts Commission.

From Nick Adams to Malcolm X, these books cry Michigan

By **BILL CASTANIER**

In a recent survey by National Public Radio, literary experts and listeners were asked to name books that best represent each of the 50 states. Local poet Laura Apol suggested two of her favorite books: "Poetry in Michigan/Michigan in Poetry," edited by William Olsen and Jack Ridl, and "The Collected Poems of Theodore Roethke."

I herewith offer my own take on authors and books that represent the vastness and greatness of Michigan. And I ask our readers to submit their own favorite books by Michigan authors or books about Michigan. (Send them to castanier@sbeglobal.net.)

At the top of my list is "The Nick Ad-

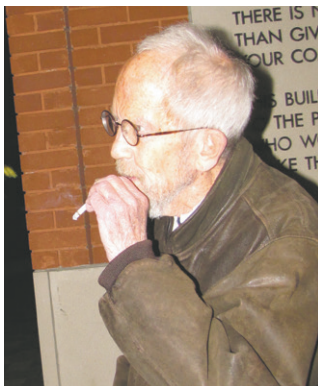
ams Stories," Ernest Hemingway's semi-autographical collection of short stories. Set in northern Michigan, the saga follows the life of a youthful, Hemingwayesque character who is coming of age in and around the Petoskey area at the turn of the 20th century.

Jeffrey Eugenides' 2002

Pulitzer Prize-winning novel "Middlesex" weaves the history of Detroit into a groundbreaking exploration of gender identity through the eyes of three generations of Greek immigrants.

In "Waiting for the Morning Train," Bruce Catton details his coming of age in the early 1900s in northern Michigan. Catton's early experiences growing up in Benzonia, and his encounters with former Civil War soldiers piqued his interest in the Civil War. He would go on to write several volumes on the conflict and win the Pulitzer Prize in 1954 for his book "A Stillness at Appomattox."

"The Autobiography of Malcolm X," cowritten by "Roots" author Alex Haley, was published in 1965, following the assassination of Malcolm X. The book, still a worldwide best seller, details the life of Malcolm X as he grows up in Lansing and Mason and rises to become a leading Black nationalist in the 1960s. The book contains a strong redemptive



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Elmore Leonard at a book signing in Birmingham, Michigan.

shot in Marquette and Dollar Bay, Michigan. The movie included an all-star cast, including Jimmy Stewart, Lee Remick, Ben Gazzarra, Eve Arden and George C. Scott. Today, the book is considered a classic courtroom thriller. If you are ever in the Marquette area, be sure to take the driving tour of the important sites shown in the movie. The plot revolves around a real murder and the subsequent trial, which saw Voelker as the lawyer for the defense, using temporary insanity as a defense.

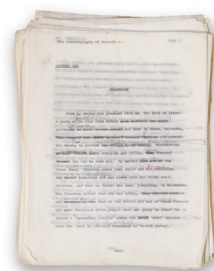
Jane Johnston Schoolcraft is considered the first Native American to become a literary writer. She was the spouse of Henry Schoolcraft, the local Indian agent in Sault Ste Marie, Michigan, in the 1820s. Some of her writing is preserved in a "Literary Journal" published by her husband. It is widely accepted that Henry Wadsworth Longfellow borrowed extensively from Schoolcraft's works for his book "The Song of Hiawatha." The biography of Schoolcraft, "The Sound the Stars Make Rushing Through the Sky: The Writings of Jane Johnston Schoolcraft," written by Robert Dale Parker, contains the most complete record of her writing,

including a vast trove of unpublished manuscripts. The book won a Michigan Notable Book Award in 2008.

Maritta Wolff had barely graduated from the University of Michigan when her novel "Whistle Stop" was published in 1941. The manuscript had already won the coveted Hopwood writing award when Wolff was still a senior. The novel was perceived as seamy for 1941, especially since it was written by a woman. The book came to the attention of movie moguls and was made into a movie of the same name, starring George Raft and Ava Gardner. Wolff's second novel, "Night Shift," was acclaimed by critics and also became a major movie. Mysteriously, Wolff stopped writing by 1972.

Finally, no list would be complete without one of the creations of Elmore Leonard, who used Detroit and its nearby environs for several of his crime books. "City Primeval" is considered one of Leonard's best, classic noir from one of the best crime writers ever. Leonard's lean writing has become a standard for young crime writers, and his novels are studied for their ability to drive a dense plot over a rainbow-colored oil slick of dialogue.

From the inner city to the deep woods, from shore to sandy shore, Michigan's rich literary heritage spans a diverse, complex and fascinating state. What are your favorites?



Manuscript of "The Autobiography of Malcolm X," from the Schomburg Center for Black Culture, in New York.

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OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com.
Deadline is 9 a.m. Monday for the upcoming Wednesday edition. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Suzi at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, June 22

50 over Fitness - Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Allen Farmers Market - 2:30-7 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1611 E Kalamazoo, Lansing.

Babysitting Workshop - Ages 12+. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. register.gladl.org

Backyard Bash Concert Series - 6-10 p.m. Eagle Eye Golf Club, 15500 Chandler Rd., Bath. 517-641-4570. sharethemusic.org.

Concert in the Park - Capital City Brass Band. 7-9 p.m. St Johns City Park, 801 W Park St. clintoncountyardarts.org.

Concerts in the Park - 7-9 p.m. Comstock Park, 800 Dale, Lansing.

MMAG 12x12 Art Show! - 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River, Okemos.

Meditation in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition - All are welcome! 7-9 p.m. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. MLK Jr Blvd., Lansing. lancm.info.

Meridian Township Democrats meeting - meet the candidates. 6-8 p.m. Henry's Place, 4926 Marsh Rd., Okemos.

Meridian Township Summer Concert Series - 6-8:30 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Dr., Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

Pagan Community Night - online or in-person. 6-8 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., 7A, Lansing. 517-657-5800. weaversoftheweb.org.

Romeo and Juliet - 7-9:30 p.m. Lansing Community College, 419 N Capitol Ave, Lansing. Tickets at lcc.edu.

Storybook Stroll - through August. Read while you stroll the trails at Lincoln Brick Park and downtown! 10 a.m.-9 p.m. gladl.org

Wine Wednesday - Wine & cheese tasting at 6 p.m., wine & chocolate 8:30 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-721-1330.

Your Art's Desire - new multi-media exhibit. all month. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing.

Thursday, June 23

Artist Talk Brown Bag Lunch Series - Jenny Schu. 12 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 119 N Washington Sq, Ste 101, Lansing.

The Babysitters Book Club - Join us for a discussion on the graphic novel adaption of the Babysitters Club books. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. eradi.org.

Bath Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. 13753 Main St., Bath. shopbfm.org.

Computer Help - get your computer looked at for free! 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S.Main. eradi.org.

Cristo Rey Community Center's 16th Annual Golf Fore Giving - 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Wheatfield Valley Golf Course, 1600 Linn Rd, Williamston. cristoreycommunity.org.

Dimondale Farmers' Market - 3-7 p.m. 136 N

Historical Society of Greater Lansing hosts walking tours

Thursday, June 23, 6:30 p.m.

Begins at Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Dr., Lansing. tinyurl.com/HSGLFacebook

Thursday, June 30, 6:30 p.m.

Begins at Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing

The Historical Society of Greater Lansing hosts two neighborhood walking tours during June, one of Moores River Drive and the other of the North Washington-Capitol Avenue neighborhood. Learn interesting stories behind these historic homes. On 6:30 p.m. Thursday (June 30), the Washington-Capitol Tour begins at Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave., and proceeds to homes on Maple Street,



Capitol Avenue and César Chávez Avenue. The tour includes homes of a notable World War I pilot and Antarctic explorer, the founding member of the Lansing Symphony, a woman inventor and a suffragette. The tour finishes at the former Pulver Gas Station on César Chávez Avenue. In recognition of Elderly Instruments' 50th birthday, cake and ice cream will be served.

The tour of Moores River Drive begins at 6:30 p.m. Thursday (June 23) at the entrance to the Lansing Country Club, 2200 Moores River Drive. The architectural tour (exterior only) includes a classic California style arts and crafts bungalow and the homes of several Lansing industrialists and business leaders, including automotive industrialist Billy Durant.

Bridge St, Dimondale. 517-230-0520.

Field of View Film Series - Red Heaven. 9:20 p.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Happendance Summer Camp - for ages 5-12. June 27-30, 1-4 p.m. 3448 Hagadorn Rd., Okemos. 517-333-3528. happendance.org.

Make a Cork Boat - 2 sessions, 2 & 6 p.m. 2-3 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org

Mixer with Blind Wine Tasting or Sangria - 5-10 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

Music in the Park - There will be food concessions available. 7-9 p.m. Jaycee Park, 525 E. River St, Grand Ledge. grandledgechamber.com.

Ocean Bingo - Ocean stories & bingo. Playground of Dreams at Pavilion #2. 10:30-11:30 a.m. 100 Howe Dr., Eaton Rapids. eradi.org.

Romeo and Juliet - 7-9:30 p.m. Lansing Community College, 419 N Capitol Ave, Lansing. Tickets at lcc.edu.

Stitch 'n Bitch - Come hang out with fellow stitching witches! 5-8 p.m. Keys To Manifestation, 809 Center St. #7, Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

Summer Concert Series - Legends of Rock/Elvis Tribute Show. 7-9 p.m. McCormick Park, 300 N. Putnam St., Williamston.

Summer Concert Series - Kathleen & the Bridge Street Band. 6:30 p.m. Courthouse Lawn, 100 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte.

Friday, June 24

50 over Fitness - The Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Amazing Artists - 8 a.m. Impression 5, 200

Museum Dr, Lansing. impression5.org.

Art Adventure - 8 a.m. Impression 5, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. impression5.org.

Book Scavenger Hunt - Do you love books? 6-7 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-721-1330.

Charlotte Bluegrass Festival - June 23-25, 2021! Fairgrounds, 1025 S. Cochran, Charlotte. charlottebluegrassfestival.com

Charlotte Fire Flow Jam Series 2022 - hosted by Nat Spinz and Flames 'N Dames! 9 p.m. Old Courthouse, 100 W Lawrence, Charlotte.

Cruise-Ins - 5-8 p.m. Holt Farmers' Market, 2150 Cedar St. delhitownship.com.

Friday Night Concert Series - 7 p.m. Lake Lansing Park South Band Shell, 1621 Pike St, Haslett. pk.ingham.org.

See Events, Page 28

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 24

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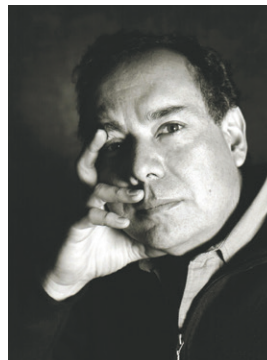
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The Broad presents talks with Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera's family members MSU Broad Art Museum

547 E. Circle Dr., East Lansing
Wednesday, June 29: 6–8 p.m.
Thursday, June 30: 6–8 p.m.
broadmuseum.msu.edu/calendar

The MSU Broad Art Museum offers talks by two relatives of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera. These intimate family talks are presented alongside the exhibition Kahlo Without Borders, on view at the museum through Aug. 7.

"Family Ties: Juan Coronel Rivera" today (June 29) features curator, writer and Rivera's grandson Juan Coronel Rivera discussing Kahlo works from his collection that are on view at The Broad. "Family Photos: Cristina Kahlo," Thursday's (June 30) talk, is by artist, curator and Kahlo's grandniece Cristina Kahlo discussing themes in Kahlo Without Borders, including family archives, photography and her own work. Seats for both events are limited.



Courtesy photos

Cristina Kahlo and Juan Coronel Rivera

Events

from page 27

Haven House Annual Golf Scramble - 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Forest Akers East Golf Course, 2231 Harrison Rd., East Lansing. havenhouseel.org

Kids Fest! - many fun activities including video game truck! 4-8 p.m. Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Rd, Lansing. deltami.gov

Romeo and Juliet - 7-9:30 p.m. Lansing Community College, 419 N Capitol Ave, Lansing. Tickets at lcc.edu.



Saturday, June 25

2022 empowHER Leadership Retreat - for 4th-9th grade girls. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Rd, East Lansing. events.msu.edu

2022 Max's Race for The Davies Project - 8-9 a.m. MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. runsignup.com

2nd Annual Charity Golf Tournament - 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Prairie Creek Golf Course, 800 E. Webb Dr., DeWitt. ishiodamttenfoundation.org

Black Girl Day of Play - Come join us in the celebration of Black girlhood! 11 a.m.-4 p.m. State Capitol Lawn, 100 N. Capitol, Lansing. 313-205-2462. blackgirldayofplay.com

Celebrate Meridian Festival - 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Dr., Okemos. meridian.mi.us

DIY Floral Arrangements w/Cait Schneider - 10 a.m.-12 p.m. 500 Clifford St, Lansing.

Faithfest - all day Christian music fest starting at 1 p.m. St Francis Retreat Center, 703 E Main St, DeWitt.

Frankenfest - Abnormal art and monstrous creations. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E North St, Lansing. frankenfest.com

Lansing Roller Derby - 5-9:30 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing.

Public Making Hours - Feeling crafty? Join us! 1-4 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing.

Romeo and Juliet - 7-9:30 p.m. Lansing Community College, 419 N Capitol Ave, Lansing. Tickets at lcc.edu.

Sundown Safari Camping - 6:30 p.m.-9:30 a.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org

Tease A Gogo & House of Manifestation Presents: EVOLVE! - 6-11 p.m. 117 W South St., Lansing.

Sunday, June 26

East Lansing Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. with Dan Dan Solo at 10 a.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com

Kids Day - 1-4 p.m. Absolute Gallery, 307 E Grand River Ave, Lansing. absolutegallery.net

Romeo and Juliet - 7-9:30 p.m. Lansing Community College, 419 N Capitol Ave, Lansing. Tickets at lcc.edu.

Sunday School for Witches - workshop series. 3-4:30 p.m. Keys To Manifestation, 809 Center St. 7A, Lansing. manifestlansing.com

Monday, June 27

50 over Fitness - Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. 517-853-4600.

Advanced LEGO Robotics - 8 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org

Arrg! Pirate Science - 8 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org

Comedy Night - 9-11:30 p.m. Crunchy's, 254 W Grand River Ave, East Lansing. 517-351-2506. crunchyseastlansing.com

Intro to Redstone Logic in Minecraft - 1-week coding camp for ages 11-18. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. codewizardshq.com

Slime Entrepreneur - 8 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org

Space Cadets - 8 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org

Tuesday, June 28

Avast ye Pirates! - Performance by Ring of Steel Stunts & Action Theatre 2-3 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org

Board Game Meet Up - ages 18 & up. 6:30 - 10:30 p.m. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Spare Time Bowling Alley, 3101 E Grand River, Lansing.

Jedi Academy from Ring of Steel - age 8+. Costumes encouraged! 6-7:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St. gladl.org

Pancake Art - 7-12th grades. Show off your pancake-making skills! All materials supplied. 2-3 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main. eradi.org

Parent Happy Hour - Storytime for kids and wine flight specials for parents. 5-7 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-721-1330.

Picnic Playdate Family Storytime - 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org

Sporcle Live! Trivia - 7:30 & 8:30 p.m. Crunchy's, 254 W Grand River Ave, East Lansing. 517-351-2506. crunchyseastlansing.com

Toastmaster Meeting - in person or Zoom. 6:30-7:30 p.m. Downtown Lansing Branch Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. 517-367-6363.



A 'mercado' and more at Casa de Rosado

Looking for entertainment while you shop? Check out Casa de Rosado Galeria & Cultural Center, 204 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. A variety of ethnic arts and craft vendors will be on hand. Entertainment starts at 2 with music aimed at kids; then at 3 a dance exhibition by Lorenzo Lopez; and jazz inspired by root music at 3:30. Salanaz Catering will offer taco dinners throughout the event, which is underwritten by the Michigan Hispanic/Latino Commission. For more info, go to casaderosado.org or call (517) 402-0282.

Agreed: Shrimp at Gregory's Soul Food sets the standard

By **GABRIELLE LAWRENCE**

I turned 40 this week. I have spent the vast majority of my life living in Lansing, and I pride myself on being a townie who went to camp as a child at the Fenner Nature Center and the Turner-Dodge House, whose first job was at the Moores Park Pool, who remembers that first season of the Lugnuts (and the confusion my preteen self had over the name — what's a lugnut?). But this month's eating assignment goes to show that even longtime Lanstronauts can learn a thing or two about this community — and find a new favorite breakfast in the meantime.

Until a month ago, I had never been to Gregory's. Of course, I knew where it was, and I am familiar with the well-earned lore surrounding owner Gregory Eaton, who maintains an absolutely flawless landscaping situation in his front yard, which I drive past several times a day on my way in and out of our shared neighborhood.

other former classmate of one recent weekday and we a cross-section of the

My hands-down favorite batter was light, which shrimp were large, juicy came in one basket, I took myself. I will be forever

My runner-up was the famous wings, again lightly breaded and flash-fried. Both baskets came with corn muffins and garlic toast, but I quickly turned my attention to the wide variety of side dishes we'd chosen.

The black-eyed peas were my favorite of the bunch. I love all varieties of beans and firmly believe that a simple preparation is best. These beans were creamy but retained their texture. They were just the tiniest bit spicy. In short, they were perfect. My companions gobbled down the dressing, and although it's not ever my natural inclination, I will reserve judgment on that item, because I don't prefer any dressing or stuffing I have ever had. I didn't love the mac and cheese — my standards for which are exacting, and I like the dish to have a bit more texture in the form of bread crumbs or toasted panko. The French fries were milquetoast, and while a seasoned fry would be a nice surprise, I'm willing to overlook them due to the absolutely legendary status of the shrimp and wings.

We also ordered a New York strip steak to share at the suggestion of the server. While a 12-ounce steak for \$17.25 provides an incredible bang for your buck, ours was tragically overcooked. Alas, maybe we weren't meant to eat an entire steak dinner during lunch on a Monday.

On a return visit I ordered a takeout breakfast for the family. Mr. She Ate chose a meat lover's omelet, which included ham, bacon, sausage, and cheddar. First of all, the omelets are seriously large and come with home fries and toast. My husband waxed on and on about the home fries for the rest of the day. He's never seen a sear like that on a potato, he said. He couldn't stop composing poems about the texture of the home fries and the perfection that was the bacon.

I chose the farmer's omelet, which was stuffed with cubes of ham, sliced onion and cheddar cheese. I loved the bite of the onion with the sharpness of the cheddar, and next time I'm excited to try the vegetarian omelet with its delicious-sounding combination of green peppers and mushrooms. I'm also eager to sample the grilled shrimp and grits with toast.

The Babies She Ate shared an order of pancakes and bacon. The pancakes were not at all what I was expecting, and I mean that in the best way possible. They were thin — almost as thin as crepes — and more tangy than sweet. My 2.5 year old got her money's worth out of her newly developed fork skills and gobbled down two of the pancakes, barely coming up for air. The 4-year-old is a bacon man and is also a very deliberate eater (I don't like to call kids "picky" eaters.) Well, he found something that he liked from Gregory's and took down three large slices of bacon quickly.

My late, beloved former Lansing School Board colleague Shirley Rodgers used to promise me that she would take me to Gregory's with her. We never got the chance. As I sat with Bryan Beverly, who also loved Shirley, I felt her there with us. I know that she would have loved us being there, together, both silently but undoubtedly thinking about her. Shirley, I promise I'll bring my fine-ass husband with me next time I go back to Gregory's.

By **BRYAN BEVERLY**

Black-owned watering holes in Lansing have a rich heritage as a convenient space for after-work drinks and home to diverse life celebrations (birthdays, anniversaries and post-funeral repasts). Soul or Southern-inspired cuisine often takes center stage. In the early 1950s, Sonny Adams opened the Tropicana Lounge on the corner of Division and William streets near the Oldsmobile main gate. The establishment touted fine foods and cocktails with visiting jazz bands. In the early 1970s, Starr's Black & Tan, owned and operated by Roland Starr, opened nearby, on River Street, and was a destination spot for GM workers coming off of various shifts. The Black & Tan was known for pickled pig feet, eggs, bologna and homemade burgers.

The establishment hosted several themed nights in its large banquet hall with space for bands. Around this time, Gregory Eaton, a Lansing native and first Black lobbyist, on Capitol Avenue. A local business, educators and workers, menu items called the Pipe and the Rolls Rueben. The Garage closed in 1991, but Eaton soon opened on North Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard as Gregory's Soul Food. Gregory's continues to draw crowds for large gatherings and music but has also carved out a niche as a soul food mecca in the Capital City.

What's decent

Having had my grandmother's cooking when I was younger, I have a strong sense of what good soul food looks and tastes like. It also means my bar is set pretty high. With that being said, the collard greens and Mac & Cheese are Gregory's were respectable — I just can't call them great. The greens were flavorful and there were bits of smoked meat slow simmered with them, but they ranked lower in comparison to the other items I tasted. They were also a bit tougher than I like them, but that's probably a personal preference. Likewise, in terms of Mac &

Cheese, I'm usually in the baked mac camp, and while it was acceptable, it wasn't a standout like some of the other sides.

What's really good

Gregory's are known for their wings, and let me tell you — they did not disappoint. They come golden brown and piping hot, so it's best to break the wing pieces apart to let them cool for a few seconds before putting in your mouth. When you do get a chance to taste them, the crispy-battered skin and seasonings will tantalize your tastebuds. I prefer mine with a dash of hot sauce, a move that was mimicked by my first-timer companions. Next, the dressing (not to be confused with stuffing) is also superb. A flavorful cornbread casserole-like dish, it includes shredded turkey, celery, and plenty of sage. I'm also a big fan of the black-eyed peas and rice, and the yams, both traditional southern favorites. The peas are savory and smokey with a mild burst of heat on the end. The yams are served in a delectable syrup but are almost too popular as they aren't always available on the menu.

Best bite

This month is a tie. First, the fried shrimps at Gregory's are a secret gem. The chicken gets a lot of recognition and rightfully so, but I'll put these shrimp up against any of the You-buy, We-fry fish markets that have become popular around town. Battered and crisped to perfection, the shrimp are large and well-seasoned, partnering nicely with a basket of fries or onion rings. Next, while chicken and waffles are trending menu item at a lot of soul food restaurants across the country, I preferred the fried whiting (fish) over the waffle. The cornmeal crust serves as a textural contrast to the fluffy freshly made waffle. I top mine with hot sauce and syrup and honestly can't wait to go back for more this weekend.



Lawrence



Beverly



Primo pasta primavera

By ARI LEVAUX

It translates to “Spring Pasta” from the Italian, so forgive me for assuming Pasta Primavera is a classic spring-time Italian dish. But while Primavera sounds classy, it turns out Pasta Primavera was invented in Nova Scotia during the summer of 1975. The bottom line is, we can prepare cheesy noodles with vegetables any time of year, with summer and fall probably being the best seasons to do so, because they offer more fresh produce than spring.

As Pasta Primavera is an American dish, we can use American cheeses if we want. Ultimately, we are talking about mac ‘n cheese with extra vegetables, and there’s nothing wrong with that. Mac ‘n Cheese Primavera is an effective and delicious way to eat vegetables. And making the entire dish from scratch takes barely any

longer than preparing the boxed, veg-less version.

A proper Mac ‘n Cheese Primavera has a smooth, non-lumpy cheese sauce and al dente vegetables. I don’t sprinkle it with bread-crumbs and bake it because that makes it difficult to control the cooking, and potential overcooking, of the vegetables.

The most common recipes for Pasta Primavera include tomato, bell pepper and other veggies from deeper into the summer,

as well as broccoli and peas, which come earlier. Whichever you use, the essential task of this recipe is to cook the vegetables perfectly. The most reliable way of doing so is to steam the veggies separately, shock them in cold water to stop the cooking and keep them crisp, and add them to the almost finished product.



Mac ‘n Cheese Primavera



Today’s recipe for an early summer Mac ‘n Cheese Primavera features rounds of green and yellow zucchini and fresh herbs like parsley and/or basil. Because zucchini is the only vegetable I’m cooking, I don’t have to worry about overcooking some and undercooking others, so I’ll skip the steaming and briefly sauté the zukes before adding the noodles, fresh from the boiling water and still wet. The water drips off the noodles and into the pan and steams the zucchini in place, while we build the sauce on top with handfuls of shredded cheese.

You can use this recipe to track the harvest by incorporating whatever produce is available. Vegetables like peas and broccoli, which need at most a mere hint of cooking, can be incorporated the same way as the zucchini. Steam heartier veggies like cauliflower or carrot before tossing them into the silky and cheesy finished product.

Mac ‘n Cheese Primavera alla Zucchini

This dish combines the best elements of two classic pasta dishes: Pasta Primavera and Mac ‘n Cheese. It’s extremely flexible in the type of cheeses you add, as well as which vegetables to include.

Serves 6

1 pound pasta – preferably short, stubby and hollow, such as penne, which is basically like un-bent elbows and holds sauce similarly

1 pound zucchini, cut into rounds about a half-inch thick

3 tablespoons olive oil

2 tablespoons butter

3 cloves garlic, chopped

1 tablespoon mustard powder

1 teaspoon nutmeg

1 teaspoon garlic powder

1 teaspoon black pepper

1/4 lemon, juice and zest

1 cup milk

3/4 pound of cheese, grated: I like a mix of sharp cheddar, orange cheddar and fontina

Salt – for the pasta water and for seasoning

Fresh parsley and/or basil

Bring four quarts of salted (about a tablespoon) water to a boil and cook the pasta. While the pasta is boiling, add the zucchini, butter, oil and garlic to a deep pan or heavy bottom pot and sauté

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Primo pasta

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for about five minutes on low/medium heat. When the noodles are done, quickly drain and add them to the zucchini, but don't stir it together.

Sprinkle the mustard powder, nutmeg, garlic powder, black pepper, lemon juice and zest on top of the noodles, but still don't stir it.

Add the milk, and about a quarter of your grated cheese, and give it a stir. Add another quarter of the cheese and stir again. Keep adding the cheese and stirring it in until it's all in, and keep stirring until it turns into a glorious cheese sauce. If it's too dry or starts to burn, turn down the heat and add more milk or some pasta water to loosen it. Add salt to taste. It will need some, even if the cheese is salty. Top with fresh herbs and serve.



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