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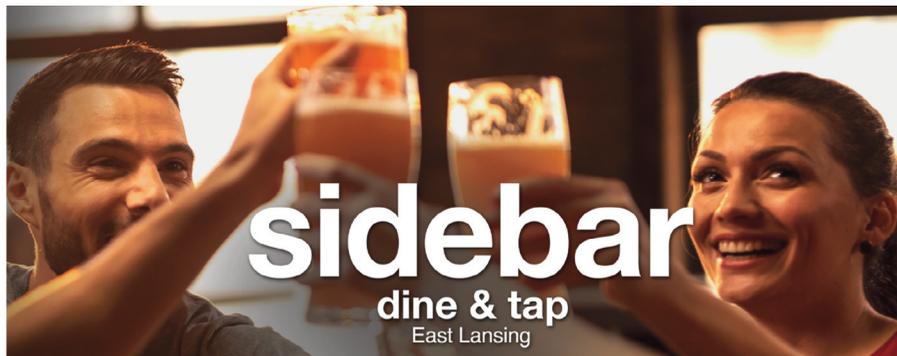
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sidebar

dine & tap
East Lansing

ARTS NIGHT OUT

May 5th

5:00-8:00PM



2023 Venues

- Arts Council of Greater Lansing
- Bradly's Home & Garden
- Curvaceous Lingerie
- Elderly Instruments
- Great Lakes Art & Gifts
- MICA Gallery
- Mother & Earth: Toys + Baby
- Neighborhood Empowerment Center
- Odd Nodd Art Supply
- Old Town Commercial Association
- Old Town General Store
- Preuss Pets
- UrbanBeat



See art and fun come together Friday night in Lansing!

Old Town is your next Friday destination for live music, art exhibits, shopping and more. Come explore, meet the artists, wine and dine - Arts Night Out has something for everyone!

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ARTS COUNCIL

greater lansing

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The number of things that keep me awake at night is endless, and I wish I had more space than a page to put my thoughts on paper. I always liked to connect the dots when I was little. You start numerically, but eventually you get to the point that you know what it's going to be, so you really don't need the numbers anymore, you can finish it without them. I think I still mentally connect the dots as I interact with people. I look back on history and I connect the dots. While we cannot change history, I can see how the dots connected all of us and why things are the way they are.

Promises were made of freedom and liberty. A war was fought and a flag was flown. A few guys came up with some papers that assured that anyone with a penis and skin tone like theirs was granted these inalienable rights. Some people without appendages were left out and had to fight for over a hundred years for a fraction of those rights that were promised to the founders. Others who were brought here against their will were forced to endure living an inhumane existence and laid the foundation for our capitalistic society. For many, it made America great, and for many more, it was riddled with torture and generations of trauma that are only now being acknowledged by anyone who can connect the dots.

As the country grew, the promise of the American Dream brought Europeans by the droves. It was not meant for everyone, though, and just reinforced the footings in the foundation of white supremacy. It solidified generational wealth in the hands of the few, and it contributed to the tradition of patriarchy. The American Dream was awarded to those who could overlook injustice, and it eroded the consciences of many young men and has been passed down to even my own generation. It is a fallacy, and it is a fallacy that has been pushed by those who put profit over progress. The American Dream's crescendo has been the rise of MAGA. It is preposterous to imagine that someone could create such a title as to call ourselves "great." It reeks of narcissism and self-absorption, and it avoids or erases the trauma and injustice that is created.

There are far too many people who condemn the 2020 riots. The same people treat January 6th as their patriotic duty. It is not only hypocritical, it's a false equivalency. You can't witness the countless times that Black and Brown people have been on the receiving end of injustice: whether it be the institution of slavery, slave patrols (police), the renegeing of the promise of 40 acres and a mule (the one thing that could have closed the wealth gap), the simple fact that those who were plantation owners received reparations for lost "property" by paying them for losing their right to enslave people, for reconstruction, share cropping, Jim Crow, the KKK, red lining, gentrification, the GI bill, segregation at home and at war, job discrimination, banking, loans, civil rights and the right to vote, and the list goes on and on. The 2020 riots were a culmination of the fact that since the advent of the cellphone camera, we were now witnessing police brutality on a daily basis, and if the video of Rodney King was a distant memory, it is now apparent that the stories we are seeing with our own eyes were happening all along and you can't deny it. Police were getting away with murder, and it just kept happening over and over and over, and even after George Floyd was killed, the calls for justice seemed to fall on deaf ears, because police continued to do it. It was like they couldn't get out of their own way, and they couldn't even acknowledge their own role in the reason for these riots. They often escalated situations to violence at the protests. They continued the same behaviors that led up to the protests in the first place. We are talking about 400 years of angst. January 6th is a bunch of entitled history revisionists whose poster-boy president wasn't going to be their sounding board for their bad behavior anymore.

I don't put all the blame on the police. I definitely am not naive enough to think that. I do believe that we can blame white supremacy, though, and while it is a long history to go through, a 2007 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services report spoke about the possible spike in homegrown terrorists after the election of, you guessed it, Barack Obama. The report was not received well by conservatives, because it said that young white males were alarmingly being radicalized into groups affiliated with white supremacy. It went on to suggest that they were potentially more dangerous to America than Al Qaeda. Conservative media — you know, Fox News — went on the air to dismiss this report as liberal propaganda. What is interesting is that the report was written by a lifelong Republican who grew up in a Mormon home and was the furthest from Antifa, or the liberal agenda. He was removed as the head of DHHS, and his team was disbanded. You can look it up. Obama became president, and I think we can all see what has happened since. Hate on the alt right has skyrocketed. You can search and see a number of videos of young men who have been radicalized and then had an awakening to realize their draw to these groups was rooted in fear and power, and now they work to keep people from making the same mistakes. Another issue for me is the finger pointing at Antifa. I think Antifa is certainly noteworthy, and certainly its platform is rooted in hate. I mean, I hate fascists too, so I could definitely be considered Antifa. It is the one thing that Antifa and the alt right have in common, hate. BUT without fascists or the alt right, Antifa wouldn't even exist. The thing about inclusion is that there are absolutely some things that you should not be willing to accept, and an ideology that is rooted in division is one of them. Antifa may be rooted in hate, but the hate is rooted in love.

There is a special place in history for Americans. Some will be remembered as the ones who resisted and contributed to the greater good, others will go down calling themselves great and contributing to the destruction of honor and decency. I mean, honestly, how can you support someone who says to "grab them by the pussy," or mocks a person with disabilities, and claim you believe in honor or decency. It is really as simple as that.

When I think of great — and forgive me for using sporting figures, but I want this to relate to as many as possible — I think of Serena Williams, Berry Sanders, Michael Jordan, Wayne Gretzky or Derek Jeter. They were great — among the best of all time with respect to their sports. They probably realize their greatness, but I never once heard them call themselves great, for they left that up to the opinions of their peers, or critics, and that is equally part of their greatness: to lead by example.

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Sadie Bass' "Wake N' Bake" is the stoner song of the summer

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Lansing-area musician performs Taylor Swift hits at UrbanBeat

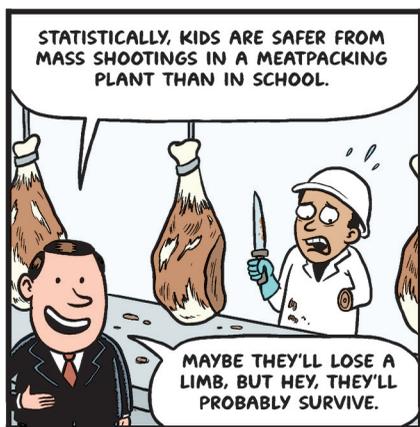
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Sample a range of delicious bites for cheap at Sushi Moto

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Cover illustration by Nevin Speerbrecker



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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

LAND OF THE FREE AND HOME OF THE BRAVE*

***TERMS AND CONDITIONS MAY APPLY**

RIGHT WING MEDIA SERVES UP A CONSTANT DIET OF FEAR, PARANOIA, AND CULTURE WAR GRIEVANCE. CITIES ARE CRIME-INFESTED HELL-HOLES! MIGRANT CARAVANS ARE HEADED TO YOUR SUBURB! DANGER LURKS EVERYWHERE! BE AFRAID! BE VERY AFRAID!

COMING UP NEXT--IS THE BEER YOU DRINK MANLY--OR WOKE?

MANY OF THEIR VIEWERS ARE HEAVILY ARMED.

I AM A RESPONSIBLE, LAW-ABIDING GOOD GUY WITH A GUN!

THE WAY YOU CAN TELL--IS THAT I HAVE A GUN!

PREDICTABLE RESULTS ENSUE. WE INTERRUPT THE STORY OF THE BOY WHO GOT SHOT FOR RINGING THE WRONG DOORBELL WITH BREAKING NEWS ABOUT A WOMAN WHO GOT SHOT FOR PULLING INTO THE WRONG DRIVEWAY!

SORRY, I NEED TO BREAK IN--WE'VE GOT ANOTHER SHOOTING!

WOW, WHAT WERE THE ODDS OF THAT?

REPUBLICAN STATE LEGISLATURES HAVE AN ANSWER--MORE GUNS! UNDER OUR NEW GUNS ARE GREAT AND SAFE BILL, EVERY CITIZEN IN THIS STATE WILL BE LEGALLY REQUIRED TO CARRY A LOADED FIREARM!

WHICH THEY CAN USE FREELY THANKS TO OUR "STAND YOUR GROUND WHEREVER YOU HAPPEN TO BE STANDING" LAW!

BUT THERE'S SOME GOOD NEWS! IF YOU GET SHOT BY A GUN WEIRDO AND SURVIVE, YOU CAN ALWAYS BEG STRANGERS ON THE INTERNET FOR HELP WITH YOUR MEDICAL BILLS!

I JUST READ A HEARTWARMING STORY ABOUT A SHOOTING VICTIM WHO RAISED ALMOST ENOUGH TO PAY FOR RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY!

THE UNSTOPPABLE POWER OF AMERICAN INGENUITY CAN SOLVE ANY PROBLEM!

EXCEPT FOR ALL THE SHOOTING.

RIGHT, EXCEPT FOR THAT.

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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

13 candidates to face off in Lansing City Council primary

At stake are 4 seats; veterans Wood, Spitzley won't be on ballot

With only two incumbents running for four seats, the Lansing City Council is facing a shakeup this year.

Thirteen candidates filed paperwork by the 4 p.m. Tuesday deadline for the Aug. 8 primary election. But two veteran incumbent members stuck to their decisions not to run again: Carol Wood, who is finishing her sixth four-year term, and Patricia Spitzley, who has served since 2016. They are both at-large.

Third Ward Councilmember Adam Hussain, elected twice to full terms, is seeking to return. The First Ward's Ryan Kost is seeking his first full term after voters chose him in a special election last November.

The four spots represent half the Council. Primary elections are non-partisan. The top two primary-election vote-getters in the two ward races will face each other in the Nov. 7 General Election. In the at-large race, the top four vote-getters in August will compete for the seats in November.

Claretta Duckett-Freeman, the far-left candidate for at-large two years ago, pulled paperwork to run in January, but she didn't file by the 4 p.m. deadline. As a former member of the U.S. Army, she did better with voters in 2021 than the rest of the slate known as "The Crew" — which also included mayoral candidate Kathie Dunbar and Second Ward candidate Oprah Revish. She lost the at-large seat to Jeffrey Brown by just .07%.

Here's the breakdown of the candidates, with photos if available:

At-large

JODY WASHINGTON This former two-term First Ward Council member is attempting a political comeback after being ousted four years ago by Brandon Betz. Washington, 66, is not without baggage, mostly of her own



With veteran incumbents Carol Wood and Patricia Spitzley not seeking reelection, candidates have a better-than-usual shot of winning seats on the Lansing City Council.

making because of ill-thought-out statements. Most recently, when news broke of the MSU mass shooting, she told City Council, "Gosh, imagine that, it didn't even happen



Jody Washington

on the south side of Lansing." The comment came as she was defending south Lansing from developers who had bad-mouthed the area in an attempt to push another storage unit development on the city. Since being ousted, she's worked extensively with the homeless and flirted with the ill-fated People's Council out of The Fledge. She's married and has two adult children, one of whom is Third Ward incumbent Hussain.

FARHAN SHEIKH-OMAR Sheikh-Omar, 28, hits the trail after a disappointing 8.5% in the August 2021 primary race for mayor. He also lost a race for City Council in 2019 for the First Ward and racked up a campaign act violation warning for Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum for failing to disclose his campaign committee



city's south side. But without a car, he's going to have problems campaigning citywide.

KESHAWN MITCHELL-ROLAND Mitchell-Roland, according to his Facebook politician page, is a West-side Neighborhood Organization board member and serves on the board of the Village Summit, which provides free books and tutoring. Mitchell-Roland, according to Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum, still hasn't filed his statement of organization and has \$300 in fines as a result.

OLIVIA VADEN Vaden, 27, will graduate from the University of Michigan Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy later this month. She said she decided to return to school during the height of the pandemic. She identifies as a Black queer woman and lives on the city's south



Olivia Vaden

side with her partner and their chocolate Labrador retriever. Vaden said she hopes to serve as a bridge between government and nonprofits as well as community leaders. "Nothing changes if nothing changes," she said. She said she understand poverty, having grown up in a low-income family in Lansing.

TAMERA CARTER Carter, 39, is a branch manager for Lake Trust Credit Union. She also serves on a host of boards, including Impression 5 Science Museum, the Tabernacle of David, Greater Lansing Food Bank and Downtown Lansing, Inc. Her website highlights four areas she wants to address: housing insecurity and homelessness, gun violence and safe neighborhoods, economic development and equity and inclusion, but

information on flyers stuffed in voters' mailboxes. In 2018, he had a failed bid for the Democratic nomination for the 68th House District, garnering just 4.3% of the vote in the Democratic



Farhan Sheikh Omar

primary. He's a Somalia refugee who was born in a refugee camp in Kenya.

MISSY LILJE This Lansing School District Board of Education member is hoping to take the step from education to city government with an eye on an At-Large seat. Lilje, 47, scored her seat on the LSD Board in 2016, taking 17.88% of the vote. She was reelected to a two-year term on the board in 2022. She ran unopposed. Her Linked-In profile lists her current job as development and education services director for Happendance, a local dance troupe.

NICKLAS ZANDE This neighborhood activist is a Lansing City Council regular. His monologues often focus on bread-and-butter issues in neighborhoods, particularly in the

Candidates

from page 5

it provides no specifics. She was honored by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce as “Ten over the next Ten Years.” Her undergrad work was at Michigan State University, where she earned a bachelor of arts in social science law and society. She earned a master’s from Cornerstone University in organizational leadership.



Tamera Carter

TRINI LOPEZ PEHLIVANOUGHU A Lansing resident since age 4, Pehlivanoghu, 42, works for the Michigan Licensing and Regulatory Agency. She is the daughter of Lansing Board of Education member Guillermo Lopez. The community meeting on the future of Logan Square, she said, “struck a chord with me.” The opportunity to see community members involved and providing answers was important to her. She’s lived on the south side of Lansing since moving to the area. She is on the City of

Lansing Ethics Board, representing the Third Ward. She’s been married for 10 years and has four children between 7 and 21.

First Ward

RYAN KOST The firebrand neighborhood activist knocked out City Council’s appointment, Brian Daniels, in November to serve the remaining year of former Council member Brandon Betz’s term. Even before being sworn in, Kost, 35, was making waves when audio surfaced of former Code Compliance Manager Scott Sanford bad-mouthing him and one of the office’s inspectors offering to punch him in the face. Since then, he’s led the charge on reforming the office’s inspection process.



Ryan Kost

MICHAEL VANDEGUCHTE Vandeguchte, 29, is a retail manager who touts his residency in Michigan as an asset. He was born in Holland and graduated from Canton schools. His website says his focus is on the

economy, housing, public safety and mental health. His focus on public safety is a form of broken windows policing, which the Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy says has mixed efficacy.



Michael Vandeguchte

D. TAFT This minister hit the streets and the ballot in 2021 for an at-large seat, coming in last out of eight candidates with only 2.4% of the vote. In 2022, he ran in the primary for the one-year term as First Ward Council member, garnering 359 votes, coming in a distant third behind Kost and Daniels. Taft, 48, is suing the city in federal court for a litany of allegations stemming from his 2020 arrest for attempted murder after he pulled a knife on what he describes as “thugs” in his Oakland Avenue neighborhood. He claims all the allegations are the result of racial animus by the Lansing Police Department and the city.

Third Ward

ADAM HUSSAIN A middle school teacher in the Waverly Community Schools, Hussain, 41, has been a dogged defender and activist for the southwest area of Lansing for his two terms on the Council. His first race for the seat was tainted with anti-Muslim mailers from a shadowy group that also raised concerns he would be a puppet for his mother, Jody Washington. Hussain ran unopposed four years ago.



Adam Hussain

KING L. ROBERTSON Robertson, 22, said on Facebook he was inspired to run for the Council by his mother’s failed Republican bid for the State Senate in November. He is a student at Michigan State University study-

ing pre-med. The neophyte has already run afoul of Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum. He’s failed to file his campaign’s statement of organization and has already accumulated \$230 in fines.



King L. Robertson

— TODD HEYWOOD

**READ
JOAN
NELSON**

**on the
first
Wednesday
of every
month.**



CityPULSE



CITY OF GRAND LEDGE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET

The City Council will hold a public hearing during its regular meeting at 7:30 p.m., on Monday, 08 May 2023, to consider and receive public input on the proposed Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Ending 30 June 2024. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.** The City intends to levy 10.4474 mills for Operations/Streets (unchanged) and 0.8032 mills for Recreation (unchanged). The proposed budget is available for review on the City’s website at www.cityofgrandledge.com and at the City Clerk’s office, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, Michigan, between 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, as amended, and will also be livestreamed via Zoom for informational purposes only. The online stream can be accessed at <https://www.zoom.us> with the Meeting ID: 867 5926 3873, or by calling +1 646 931 3860 US, +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC), +1 305 224 1968 US, +1 309 205 3325 US, +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago), +1 646 876 9923 US (New York), +1 719 359 4580 US, +1 253 205 0468 US, +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma), +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston), +1 360 209 5623 US, +1 386 347 5053 US, +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose), +1 507 473 4847 US, +1 564 217 2000 US, +1 669 444 9171 US, +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose), +1 689 278 1000 US, with Meeting ID: 867 5926 3873.

The City Council invites anyone interested to attend in person and offer comments at the public hearing. Written comments can be mailed or delivered to Elected or Appointed Officials at 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, placed in the drop box in front of City Hall, or emailed to cityhall@cityofgrandledge.com. All written comments will be considered if received by 5:00 p.m. the day of the hearing. Please call (517) 627-2149 or email cityhall@cityofgrandledge.com for further information or to request accommodations for disabilities.

Gregory Newman, City Clerk **CP#23-101**

Notice to Creditors. Decedent’s Estate. Case No. 2023-441-DE. Karen Sue Klein. Date of birth: 07/13/1956. The decedent, Karen Sue Klein, died 01/26/2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Jamie Carnes, personal representative, or to both the Ingham County Probate Court at 313 W. Kalamazoo St. Lansing, MI 48933 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

04/17/2023 Jamie Carnes 3756 Oaks Bluff Drive Grand Rapids, MI 49546

CP#23-095

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

BY NICOLE NOECHEL



RON BACON

The East Lansing City Council voted to hire attorney J. Randall Secontine to investigate an anonymous complaint that blames the government's "turmoil" on "poor and unethical leadership" by Mayor Ron Bacon with the aid of Council members Dana Watson and Jessy Gregg. A Council statement said the complaint was purportedly written by a city employee. The complaint charges the Council members with "what is tantamount to illegally ignoring the Charter" and influencing the city's daily operations. The allegations follow multiple resignations by city employees in the wake of the Council's decision to terminate city manager George Lahanas in January. Secontine, a former Oakland county prosecutor, will conduct a "transparent, outside, third-party review" under the supervision of City Attorney Anthony Chubb, the Council said in a joint statement issued by all five members. "We have no reason to believe these allegations are accurate," it also said. Bacon described the complaint as having "hints of racism."

The Michigan State University Board of Trustees again denied a state request for documents related to Larry Nassar.

Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel recently renewed a request for more than 6,000 documents connected to the former MSU physician and convicted sexual criminal, which the school has withheld for years. The board's makeup, including its chair, has changed since the state's last request, but its decision remained the same. Board Chair Rema Vassar said the board denied the request to maintain attorney-client privilege and keep from re-traumatizing victims. Students took to the Hannah Administration Building to protest the board's decision. Nessel, who told the Lansing State Journal last year that she believes the school is withholding the documents to hide specific information, said the state will continue to pursue the documents "until the standards of investigation and justice are met."



In other news:

The trustees voted to increase room and board rates by 6.95% for freshmen this fall, citing inflation, but spokesperson Dan Olsen said the rates are still the third lowest in the Big Ten. First-year undergraduate students who choose the standard double room and silver dining plan will pay \$11,754, whereas second-year students will pay the current price of \$10,990. The board also approved a 5% increase in rent at the 1855 Place and University Village Apartments and a 3% increase in rent at the Spartan Village Apartments.

The trustees also authorized planning a health education building as a new home to the College of Osteopathic Medicine, among other uses.

Two teens have been charged in the Feb. 5 homicide of 18-year-old Makhi Williams. Keif Chatman, 17, and an unnamed 13-year-old suspect were arrested and charged with second-degree murder and felony firearm possession. Chat-

man was charged in adult court, while the younger suspect was charged in juvenile court. If convicted, the younger suspect would undergo specialized treatment. If the youth does not show progress, the youth will be moved to adult court.



A Wisconsin-based development company wants to turn the site of the former El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz Academy into low-income senior housing, the Lansing State Journal reported. The 1919 building, originally the Barnes Avenue School, was designed by architect Judson Churchill, who also designed numerous other area schools. It needs to be added to the National Register of Historic Places so the developer, Commonwealth Companies, can use federal historic tax credits and other financial aid



to help with the \$16 million renovation cost. The U.S. Interior Department is reviewing the firm's application after federal officials requested revisions. Once the review is finished, the department has 45 days to list the property as a historic site. Commonwealth Companies executive Greg Baron said he also expects the state Housing Development Authority to grant low-income tax credits. If the project continues, Commonwealth Companies will create 21 units from classrooms and add a new section to the building off Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard with 30 units.



A mobile pizza oven was stolen from Slice by Saddleback's west Lansing location, then found and returned by police and community members.

The theft came just a week after Slice's south Lansing location was broken into. Owners Matt Gillett and Travis Stoliker said on Facebook that the \$12,500 oven holds a special place in their hearts because it was used to feed people affected by the tornado in Gaylord last year and has been "an integral part of countless funerals, graduations, weddings and other significant family events." They offered a \$1,000 reward to anyone with information leading to the oven's recovery and worked with neighboring businesses, the Eaton County Sheriff's Office and the Hastings Police Department. A Facebook tip led them to Hastings, where they found the oven near a home. Gillett told the Lansing State Journal that it's believed the thief sold the oven to a buyer who was unaware of the circumstances.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL**

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7:00 P.M., at the Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823. The hearing will be for the purpose of reviewing the Special Assessment Roll for Special Assessment District No. 77 in conjunction with the Downtown Management Board.

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:

Marie Wicks – Interim City Clerk
410 Abbot Road
East Lansing, MI 48823
mwicks@cityofeastlansing.com
<https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/>

Notice is further given that the said Roll is on file in the office of the City Clerk where it may be found for public examination, as well as online at <https://www.cityofeastlansing.com/371/Downtown-Management-Board>. Any objections to the assessments on said Roll must be presented in writing at the above mentioned meeting. Appearance and protest at the hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of Special Assessment to the State Tax Tribunal. A property owner or party-in-interest or his/her agent may also appear in person at the hearing to protest the Special Assessment or may file his/her protest by letter received on or before the date of the hearing, and his/her personal appearance will not be required.

For more information, please contact Matt Apostle at (517) 319-6859 or at mapostle@cityofeastlansing.com. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to mapostle@cityofeastlansing.com.

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

This notice is posted in compliance with P.A. 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Marie Wicks, Interim City Clerk
City of East Lansing
Ingham and Clinton Counties

CP#23-102

East Lansing seems to be mired in a crisis of identity. On one hand, the community aspires to be an inclusive and welcoming city that values diverse people, thought and cultures. On the other hand, a series of issues and challenges, including several racially charged incidents in city government and public schools, stand in earnest opposition to this vision — calling into question just how deep the commitment to a shared sense of belonging is. The principles are clear, but the early results are less than promising.

According to current census data, the East Lansing population is 77% white, 6.8% Black, 4.8% Hispanic and 9.4% Asian. The city is home to Michigan State University and draws faculty and staff from across the globe that offer cultural, racial, and community diversity, and many of these professionals call EL home permanently. Still more undergraduate and graduate students arrive each fall, bringing with them every possible demographic identifier alongside recreational and housing dollars. It's not hard to see that a college town is a hub for innovative thought and cultural diversity, and East Lansing is a shining example of this. Yet, the city's history shines light on the challenges of today.

In 1964, despite a U.S. Supreme Court decision that ended enforcement of restrictive housing covenants, Realtors in East Lansing blocked civil rights leader Robert L. Green, an MSU professor and member of the East Lansing Human Relations Commission, from buying a home in East Lansing. Green appealed to the state's Civil Rights Commission, which then forced a company to sell a home to him. Nearly 60 years later, in summer 2022, the state erected a marker to commemorate Green as the first African American to buy a home in East Lansing. A school was renamed in his honor.

Consider that history when also reflecting on East Lansing's recent contradictions. Several instances of progressive activity align with aspirational values. In 2020, Dana Watson and Ron Bacon were appointed as the

city's first Black Council members since Thelma Evans was appointed way back in 1973. Bacon became the city's first Black mayor in 2021. Further, City Council decided this year to become a sanctuary city, which limits cooperation with federal authorities for the sole purpose of enforcing immigration law. It chose instead to stand with undocumented persons who are living in and contributing to the greater community. Similarly, East Lansing Public Schools stated a commitment to increasing diversity, equity and inclusion efforts, such as implementing a system known as Restorative Practices to increase respect and responsibility; hiring more Black teachers and staff; establishing equity teams in all schools; deciding to no longer employ a school resource officer; and removing police presence in its school buildings during the school day. These commitments came in the aftermath of George Floyd's murder and complaints decrying a lack of diversity among the district's educators.

These progressive actions are admirable, but the current challenges are numerous. In April 2022, a young Black man was shot in the Meijer parking lot on Lake Lansing Road by East Lansing police. The incident called into question racial bias on the part of the officers and led to calls for transparency in the investigation. In January, the administration of the East Lansing Public Library wrongly accused a Black teen of lighting a fire and called the police. The library's board heard several other allegations of racial profiling during a subsequent board meeting. East Lansing Public Schools have also experienced their share of issues this year, with several fights plaguing the teaching and learning environment for students and staff. One such fight in January included a gun falling on the floor as a teacher attempted to intervene. In subsequent school board meetings, public comments were directing blame for the behavioral issues onto "those kids" or "schools of choice" students. The district's restorative practices, DEI lens and removal of school resource officers have all come into question and had some in the community asking if the schools had become too "woke."

Both city government and the district have hired leadership for DEI work, and while some of the hiring and training goals in the district are improving, albeit slowly, issues at the city are more contentious. Recently, the city's DEI director was anonymously accused of bullying amid a mass exodus of administrative personnel. The high number of resignations occurring under the city's first Black leadership is seemingly more than coincidence.

The resonant conflict in East Lansing is a debate between intentional pledging and planning vs. visible action, outcomes and results — in essence, can the community live with and up to its virtuous ideals? East Lansing has been talking the talk, but it is finding it far harder to walk the walk.

East Lansing's crisis of identity

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
- 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.)

Everything is fast about U.S. 127 north of St. Johns — except fixing it

Here's a news item from the Capitol news service MIRS last week:

Members of the Tri-County Bicycle Association's advocacy committee asked the Michigan State Transportation Commission to stop using J-turns, commonly referred to as Michigan lefts, on the stretch of U.S. Route 127 north of St. Johns by Uncle John's Cider Mill.

The group claimed the turns are dangerous for anyone on a bicycle because, in the face of traffic moving at 65 miles per hour, they can't pedal fast enough to safely cross the highway.

I had that same perplexed look on my face. Bike across U.S. 127? Are you crazy?

As a League of Michigan Bicyclists member who's put in a few miles on our mid-Michigan roads, I'd only cross U.S. 127 under two circumstances: over a bridge and under a bridge.

Yet, sadly, neither option appears imminent in that 16-mile stretch between Ithaca and St. Johns. The Michigan Department of Transportation has "slow-walked" this project to the point where it's basically "no-walk."

Allegedly, land is being purchased occasionally, but it's not a priority, and it never has been. All the while, that road gets a little more dangerous.

Turning out of Uncle John's Cider Mill on a fall weekend day between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. is a white-knuckle test of bravery. Turning right off a dirt road onto northbound U.S. 127 may have been the scariest thing I did in 2022.

It's not just bicyclists or cider mill tourists, either. It's the local farmers who are functionally blocked off from driving their farm equipment over this road.

It's the local economic development folks, too. The Middle Michigan Development Corp. did a study five years ago that concluded the obvious.

The majority of U.S. 127 is a limited access, four-lane freeway, and it's long past time that the final 16-mile stretch of this road is made one, too. Studies show higher rates of

accidents here. The speed limit drops to 65 miles per hour, but the traffic keeps blowing through at 75 to 80.

The cops aren't nabbing speeders here like they used to be, but law enforcement isn't the answer.

U.S.127 needs to be a limited-access freeway before more people are killed and more economic development and tourism are chased away. It's not safe. Everyone knows it.

But the big dollar signs and higher-than-usual difficulty in pulling this off have frozen the bureaucracy into paralysis. Still expensive. Still unfinished. Still startlingly unsafe.

There have been other headwinds, too.

The Granholm administration didn't want to do it. It exchanged the philosophy of building new roads for improving existing roads for environmental reasons.

The Snyder administration had no money to spend on new roads. Its gas tax increase was a phased-in deal. There's no way it could have pulled in more than \$100 million for this project while doing several other projects. Folks like former Sen. Roger Kahn tried; he ran into a brick wall.

Now we're onto Whitmer. U.S. 127 — with its traffic light over the railroad tracks — is still the fastest way to get Up North from Lansing and points south. And, yet, MDOT seems more interested in making smaller fixes than fixing the damn road.

The roads all over the state are so bad, it's hard to justify backing up the truck and unloading a bunch of money onto one 16-mile project.

Buying up that remaining bit of right-of-way is expensive. There's a railroad track that needs to be moved. There are some wetlands. There are some farmers who don't want to sell. That's eminent domain. That's expensive.

Still expensive. Still unfinished. Still startlingly unsafe.

But Biden's infrastructure was made for something like this. It's improving something that isn't safe. It's making our infrastructure better. It would improve tourism Up North. We wouldn't have to risk our lives going to a cider mill.

And maybe we bikers could finally cross U.S. 127 safely.

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



KYLE MELINN

Opinion

POLITICS

CITY OF EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION
ORDINANCE 1519

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL EAST LANSING CITY ORDINANCE
CHAPTER 6, ARTICLE III, SECTION 6-175 SUBSECTION 1006.4

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

City of East Lansing Ordinance Chapter 6, Article III, Section 6-175 Subsection 1006.4 will be repealed as follows:

1006.4 Information to be provided at occupancy. At the time occupancy is given to the tenant, the owner or owner's legal agent shall provide each tenant with specific information on how to register to vote and the requirements to register, notice that election information and further registration information is available on the Secretary of State's website as well as the City's website through the City Clerk department, and a copy of the State of Michigan Voter Registration Application. The failure of an owner or owner's legal agent to do any act required by this section shall not be construed to affect the validity of the lease or the enforcement of any of the lease provisions. A violation of this section shall be deemed a civil infraction.

Marie Wicks
Interim City Clerk

CP#23-99



2023 CHARTER TOWNSHIP
OF MERIDIAN PUBLIC MEETING CHANGES

DUE TO RENOVATIONS IN THE MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL BUILDING THE FOLLOWING PUBLIC MEETINGS
WILL NOW TAKE PLACE IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS

Park Commission 4:30 pm

- June 13 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- July 11 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- August 8 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos

Land Preservation Advisory Board 6:00 pm

- May 31 - Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road
- June 14 - Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road
- July 12 - Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road
- August 9 - Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road
- September 13 - Central Fire Station, 5000 Okemos Road

Downtown Development Authority 7:30 am

- May 1 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- June 5 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- July 10 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- Aug 7 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- Sept 11 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority 8:00 am

- May 11 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- June 8 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- July 13 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- Aug 10 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- Sept 14 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos

Economic Development Corporation 7:30 am

- May 4 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- June 1 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- July 6 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- Aug 3 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos
- Sept 7 - Central Fire Station-Community Room 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos

CP#23-100

What we talk about when we talk about football

By **DEDRIA HUMPHRIES BARKER**

In mid-April — just as I was thinking about what to write in this column — National Football League player Damar Hamlin decided to return to play professional football. He suffered a very serious injury to his heart during a game in January, four months ago.

He made me think about how the danger of football — at all levels — makes it a guilty pleasure.

Football with its explicit violence has been proven to cause concussions and other very serious injuries. Also, the talk often is graphic. Plays come with sound effects — bam! — and descriptions along the line of “flattened like a pancake.” Yet millions of Americans



celebrate watching a football game.

Danger is not what brings people to football. Excellence does. And community.

My son brought me to football. As a high school football mom, when I think football, I mean community. For players and their parents.

Community is related to the word communion from Christianity. Communion is bread and wine consumed by the faithful together. It is meant to bring people close together to be nourished by something bigger than they are. In the football community, some people — not me — go as far as giving the deity a nickname: Touch-down Jesus.

I enjoyed being a football mom. E.N.J.O.Y.E.D. IT. So much so that I wrote a book about it. My book (as yet unpublished) is titled “Balls: Memoir of a High School Football Mom.” In 275 pages, I recall the last four years of my son’s childhood. It’s a coming-of-age story seen

through the eyes of a mom. I did a lot of screaming in those days. At my son, yes. But also during games.

For women, football has changed. I enjoyed football more in the 21st century than I did in the 20th century. Last century, women were not especially welcome. My oldest son played middle school football in a small town in Illinois. The pee-wee football coach refused to shake my hand.

We moved to East Lansing. Home of Michigan State University, Big Ten football, Muddy Waters, George Perles, Nick Saban. Legends. Our youngest son played football at East Lansing High School. He loved the contact, including blocking, tackling and running the ball. Football’s uniform, with helmets and pads, was his idea of armor. I joined a group of football parents. Most were moms holding up our end with fundraising and team dinners.

For a football mom, the worst part is knowing your son has been hurt. That is when community is essential. In football, people who will feel your pain are right there with you. There is no need to send for anyone. The stadium goes silent with respect and concern for any player, ours or theirs, who goes down. We applaud that player when he leaves the field.

Our common mission is to win the game. At first, football moms might be leery in the stadium, but we learn the game from those around us, relax and enjoy our sons’ growing confidence. Nobody goes to the stadium to see injury, but we do go to see others who wish our sons a good game. Being inside the game of football has led to stronger relationships. With other moms. Especially with our sons.

Some people say that kids, especially high school boys, should spend the time studying. Then they can go to college and contribute to society. Cap and gown at commencement is a given. But graduation is an annual event, and it is tough to build meaningful community around a once-a-year event.

Football is a week-after-week commitment. For the players, there is practice and games, and no matter the season, football is there. It’s called



wrestling in winter, and track and field in spring.

Parents and friends reserve Friday nights from late August to Thanksgiving for games. Hype feeds anticipation for the game. There is no such thing as an “away game” because “away” can be a short drive across town. Smalltown fans caravan to the next town for the kick-off. At the stadium, friends from

church, from work and from the neighborhood congregate. It’s like being on aisle 3 at the Meier grocery store.

Every interested person can find a place to fit in because of the no-cut-no-quit policy. The team itself puts 11 players on the field, offense and defense. Then, there are special teams. And the nerd kid who films the game. Coaches and trainers on the sidelines. Announcers and statisticians in the booth. Competition for positions and the starting line-up can be tough, but the coach makes those decisions. In the process, kids learn that order, and authority and respect rule in a community.

Athletes dreaming of a pro career have plenty of company, though the stats show that level of play evades most people. Have a Plan B, coaches like Jim Bibbs urge their youth athletes. Bibbs, a legendary Michigan State University track and field coach, taught football players how to run. He summed up the challenge to make a living in sports this way: “It’s easier to get into heaven than into the NBA.”

Football is a dangerous game. But life is dangerous as well. What makes both worthwhile is a community where people, whatever their pronouns, or age or color, can find belonging. Because it takes a big community to field a good team, football is a sport that can’t afford to lose anybody. That’s a lesson it can teach the rest of our country.

(Dedria Humphries Barker, a Lansing resident, is the author of “Mother of Orphans: The True and Curious Story of Irish Alice, A Colored Man’s Widow.” Her column appears in the last issue of each month.)

Opinion

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

The East Lansing City Council of the City of East Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan will hold a meeting and public hearing on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 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 FY2024 Community Development Block Grant Budget.

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:

Marie Wicks – Interim City Clerk
410 Abbot Road
East Lansing, MI 48823
mwicks@cityofeastlansing.com
<https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/>

The CDBG Budget recommendation for FY2024 drafted by East Lansing’s CD Advisory Committee is available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm or on the City’s website located at <https://www.cityofeastlansing.com/2243/Community-Development-Advisory-Committee>. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to City Council, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to council@cityofeastlansing.com

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

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.

Marie Wicks
Interim City Clerk

CP23-098

How to reduce alcohol-related deaths, illness and heartbreak

By **VERNON SMITH** and **JANINE KRAVETZ**

(The authors are board members for the Michigan Council on Alcohol Problems. Vernon Smith is a former Michigan Medicaid director. Janine Kravetz is retired from Sacred Heart Rehabilitation Center in Bay County.)

April is Alcohol Awareness Month. For the Michigan Council on Alcohol Problems, this is the perfect time to look at how alcohol affects every one of us, whether we drink or not.

We often think of alcohol like the Psalmist, that it “gladdens the heart of man.” Yet even the Bible speaks of the dangers of alcohol. Rare is the

person who hasn’t seen alcohol’s impact at home, work or in personal relationships.

According to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, half of American adults said they drank alcohol in the past month, and 70% said they drank in the past year. One-in-four adults said they engaged in “binge drinking” in the past year.

Alcohol is legal, and no one is trying to change that. But being legal doesn’t mean drinking is without consequences.

The price of alcohol use

Drinkers and non-drinkers alike pay a high price for alcohol use. We see it in unnecessary illness, injury, violence, personal tragedy and heartbreak. We see car crashes and falls. We see alcohol-related illness and premature death. Dollar-wise, we pay higher health and car insurance premiums.

Sadly, some families bear a heavy burden of alcohol use, especially when an adult is unable to function effectively as an employee, parent or spouse.

More than 140,000 Americans die each year from alcohol-related causes, according to U.S. Centers for Disease Control. A large share are premature deaths from liver disease, heart disease and cancer.

Alcohol is linked to over 200 diseases. The American Cancer Society lists seven serious cancers for which alcohol significantly elevates risk. Breast cancer among women is especially concerning since drinking even a small amount of alcohol over time is linked to breast cancer, and the risk increases in direct proportion to the number of drinks.

For both men and women, drinking is strongly associated with cancers of the liver, mouth, throat, larynx, esophagus and stomach, colon and rectum.

The toll of impaired driving

Drinking too much in a short period directly causes thousands of U.S. deaths from vehicle crashes. Over the past decade, over 10,000 Americans died every year in alcohol-impaired driving traffic accidents. In 2020, the U.S. drunk driving toll was 11,654 deaths.

Michigan State Police report that 357 people died in alcohol-involved traffic accidents, one-third of all 1,131 traffic deaths statewide in 2021, the most recent year for which we have data. In other words, on average, one Michigan adult or child dies almost every day from alcohol-related traffic accidents.

Right now, the best way to make our roads and waterways safer, and to save thousands of lives of drivers and innocent victims is to reduce the number of drivers under the influence of alcohol.

The case for .05 BAC

Since Michigan adopted the .08 Blood Alcohol Concentration legal standard for drunk driving, evidence has mounted that alcohol affects drivers well before reaching .08 BAC.

In fact, National Highway Safety Board studies show “significant impairment throughout the BAC range of 0.02 to 0.10,” and that “by 0.04 BAC, all measures of impairment are statistically significant.”

The NHTSB recommended a decade ago that Michigan and all other states replace their current legal limit of .08 BAC with .05 BAC. Just last year, a new NHTSB study confirmed “that lowering the blood alcohol concentration limit from .08 to .05 will save lives and increase road safety.”

Across the country, legislatures in several states are discussing the proposed .05 BAC limit.

Studies show that drivers with a BAC between .05 and .079 are seven times more likely to be in a fatal crash and six to 17 times more likely to be killed than sober drivers, according to Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

In 2018, Utah became the first state to adopt the .05 BAC limit. After implementation, annual alcohol-related fatalities in Utah significantly dropped, by 19%.

Interestingly, around the world, the most common BAC limit is .05 or lower. Across Europe, countries renowned for enjoying their wine and beer enforce a .05 BAC limit, including France, Germany, The Netherlands, Ireland,

Italy, Portugal, and Spain. It is also .05 in Australia and New Zealand. In some countries, such as Norway and Sweden, the limit is .02 BAC. To be sure, some countries like Canada and the United Kingdom still have a .08 BAC like Michigan, but far more countries have a limit of .05 or .02, or even less.

The NHTSB estimates conservatively that lowering the BAC to .05 across all states would “reduce the number of fatal alcohol crashes by 11%, potentially saving 1,800 lives a year and preventing thousands more life-altering injuries.”

Reducing alcohol-related problems

Drinking alcohol is risky, but we can reduce problems associated with alcohol.

On a public policy level, to reduce drunk driving and save lives, adopting a .05 BAC in Michigan would be a surefire way to make our roads safer and reduce avoidable tragedies.

It would save lives if Michigan adopted .05 BAC.

On a personal level, we all might want to check out the benefits of drinking less. “Dry January” has become a phenome-

non, and many drinkers have discovered the benefits of a month or more away from alcohol.

For pregnant women, alcohol is simply not safe for you and your unborn child. Please don’t drink.

It was once thought that red wine conferred health benefits, but experts and respected medical journals around the world now routinely caution about the health effects of drinking.

The latest scientific evidence came last month, when the journal JAMA Network reported that no amount of wine or beer leads to longer life. Even moderate levels of drinking increased the risk of dying sooner.

Another 2023 study from the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction concluded: “It doesn’t matter what kind of alcohol it is — wine, beer, cider or spirits. Research shows that no amount or kind of alcohol is good for your health.”

“Drinking alcohol, even in a small amount, is damaging to everyone, regardless of age, sex, gender, ethnicity, tolerance for alcohol or lifestyle.”

That’s why, if you drink, it’s better to drink less.



Kravetz



Smith

Opinion

CITY OF EAST LANSING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PUBLIC HEARING ON PRELIMINARY FY2024 BUDGET AND TAX RATE

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed budget for the City of East Lansing is required by City Charter and the State Budget Law; and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing is required under the provisions of the Truth in Taxation Law; and,

WHEREAS, the general appropriations act must set forth the total number of mills to be levied and the purposes for the millage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Lansing does hereby establish the date of Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m., at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road in East Lansing, Michigan, as the date, time, and place for the required public hearing; and be it further resolved that for the purposes of the hearing it shall be assumed that the total tax rate will be **16.3552 mills consisting of 12.5362 mills for operating purposes, 1.8250 mills for solid waste, and 1.9940 mills for the Library pursuant to section 1 of 1877 PA164.**

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

The budget is available for public inspection at the East Lansing Library and City Clerk and Finance Office at City Hall; along with the City’s website: cityofeastlansing.com under Finance.

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, Marie Wicks, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, mwicks@cityofeastlansing.com, or visit the City’s public meeting portal, <https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/>, for electronic access information. Written comments or questions for City Council may be emailed to council@cityofeastlansing.com in advance of the meeting.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting upon seven (7) calendar days’ notice to the City of East Lansing. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should write or call: City Manager’s Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 319-6920, nmostel@cityofeastlansing.com.

This notice is published by Marie Wicks, City Clerk, City of East Lansing, Michigan, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6881. CP#23-084

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

Set phasers on ‘stunning’

National Air and Space Museum curator unpacks cosmic trove at MSU

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

As the curator and chair of the space history department at the Smithsonian’s National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C., when Margaret Weitekamp isn’t handling genuine space-travel artifacts like pressurized suits and lunar landers, she gets to play with toy robots, spaceships and ray guns all day. Nice work if you can get it.

She’ll visit Michigan State University’s Abrams Planetarium tonight (April 26) to share some of the 6,000 or so stories embedded in the museum’s collections.

Her visit is sponsored by the MSU Museum as part of the monthlong MSU Science Festival and sets the stage for the Statewide Astronomy Night on Saturday (April 29).

Weitekamp is a professor of history on a mission to unpack what all these “Flash Gordon” ray guns, “Lost in Space” robots and “Star Wars” lunch boxes tell us about our ongoing fascination with space travel. It’s play, but it’s serious play.

Her new book, “Space Craze: America’s Enduring Fascination with Real and Imagined Spaceflight,” takes readers behind the scenes of the museum and tells the cultural stories of many of the objects within, from the early sci-fi visions of H.G. Wells to the Apollo program, SpaceX, Afrofuturism and beyond.

“It’s the book I wish someone else had written before I got this job to help me make sense of all these things,” she said.

Weitekamp didn’t set out to be the national curator of space tchotchkes.

“I had no idea a job like this existed,” she said. “I thought I was going to be a college professor, and I was for a few years.”

While teaching at Cornell University and working on her doctoral dis-



Courtesy of the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum

A 1934 “Buck Rogers” space gun, made by Daisy Manufacturing Co. in Plymouth, Michigan, is one of about 6,000 space artifacts in the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum’s space history department.

sertation on the history of a women’s astronaut testing project from the late 1950s, she spent a lot of time at the NASA History Office in Washington, D.C. As it happens, NASA’s D.C. digs are a lunar-gravity hop away from the National Air and Space Museum.

She was impressed by the museum’s collection and its hardworking curators and scholars, but she didn’t know there was such a thing as a “curator for the social and cultural history of spaceflight collection” until the job opened up a few years later.

“I was doing a class about spaceflight imagination and real space history, teaching about ‘Buck Rogers,’ ‘Flash Gordon,’ ‘Star Wars’ and ‘Star Trek,’ so it was right up my alley,” she said.

Now she walks by the original starship Enterprise from “Star Trek,” not to mention the scorched command module from the Apollo

11 mission, on her way to the office.

The wildly popular museum gives her a much bigger platform than a college classroom.

“A million people a year come through the room for about 20 to 30

minutes, and they want to be there and learn something,” she said. “Or most of them do.” (She tries to make it interesting for the people “who got dragged along” as well.)

The collection runs the gamut from a well-loved Mercury capsule cookie jar to a fan-made Mr. Spock ear and a charm bracelet jingling with tiny replica spacecraft.

Many of the objects represent American enthusiasm, creativity and ingenuity at their best. Weitekamp brought in the personal collections of Neil Armstrong and Sally Ride after they died. She’s worked with many NASA luminaries, including Kathryn Sullivan, the first American woman to walk in space.

The collection is still growing. Weitekamp doesn’t have a buying budget, so she relies on donations.

“It could be people who have a relative that worked on the Apollo program or the shuttle program, and they’ve found things when they’re cleaning out their aunt’s or uncle’s house,” she said.

Other pieces reflect the same old conflicts that have played out on solid Earth for the past hundred years.

There are plenty of space-travel playsets with no women or non-white figures in sight, often battling vaguely swarthy or Asian-looking aliens. The frontier-taming trope persists all the way to toys that tie in with the first “Star Wars” movie and its infamously nearly all-white cast.

The most abundant cultural item in the collection is sadly predictable: ray guns, ray guns, ray guns.

Weitekamp isn’t shy to point out

the obvious links between pervasive gun culture in America and the astonishing ubiquity of ray guns in science fiction. She notes that early sci-fi hits like “Buck Rogers” and “Flash Gordon” were little more than zapped-up Westerns, complete with intrepid heroes, a hostile frontier, fragile women to protect and no shortage of interplanetary indigenous people to subdue.

Even “Star Trek,” with its optimistic and inclusive vision of the future, had its famous hand phasers — and they weren’t always set on stun. (Series creator Gene Roddenberry pitched the show to CBS as a “wagon train to the stars.”)

But all of that is clearly changing, both in reality and science fiction, Weitekamp said. NASA’s Artemis moon shot, set for 2024, will put the first African American and the first woman on the moon. A bevy of new space-themed shows, inside and outside the “Star Trek” and “Star Wars” galaxies, proudly prioritize gender, race and ethnic diversity and prefer emotion- and science-based story arcs over endless war on the frontier. All those ray guns are finally starting to look more like antiques than objects from the future.

On the other hand, Weitekamp’s analysis makes you look twice at a photo of Amazon mogul Jeff Bezos sporting a cowboy hat at the July 2021 launch of the New Shepard rocket.

In “Space Craze,” Weitekamp lays out an all-American buffet of rampant egotism, reckless daring, humanist idealism and humble curiosity.

“What strikes me now, after 20 years working in this field, is how much spaceflight continues to be a really powerful thing in American culture,” she said. “That’s because it’s a reflection of who we Americans like to think we are and want to be, but that carries with it all the complications of who we actually are.”

“Space Craze” talk and book signing

Wednesday, April 26
7-9 p.m.

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museum.msu.edu



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Courtesy photo

Family events range from baby to toddler to teen and beyond at CADL's 13 branches, but they actually “start in the womb,” CADL executive director Scott Duimstra said.

Bell, book and Kindle

Capital Area District Libraries navigates 25 years of change

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Are you one of those readers who like to open a biography in the middle, to get to the good stuff? You don't care what Napoleon or Catherine the Great did in diapers? This one's for you.

This year marks the 25th birthday of Capital Area District Libraries, or CADL. Going by the book, the system's official biography should start in 1998, with a list of the budgetary and public service benefits of bringing 13 libraries into a single system serving 23 cities, towns and villages in Ingham County, funded by a countywide millage.

Ha! You're already peeking at the middle. Fine.

In December 2013, a catastrophic ice storm left much of the Lansing area without power, some of it for as long as 11 days.

In calmer times, CADL's wide range of services, from books and electronic resources to adult classes, story times, tech help and on and on, often go unappreciated. The ice storm threw the incalculable value of a public safe space, in good times and bad, into quick and sharp relief.

“We had people everywhere, looking for places to

charge their phones and call for help, or just to get warm,” librarian Jessica Trotter recalled.

The story has played out in cities and towns across the nation, as libraries keep the lights on and shelter a beleaguered public after hurricanes, civil unrest or other disruptions.

Looking for a quieter moment? Flip ahead a few more pages. In 2017, CADL's downtown branch completed a major renovation, informed partly by the ice storm crush, that opened up the first and second floors and left plenty of space for people to gather — just in time for a global pandemic to hit.

Now the library was too quiet, but the system adapted, as it always has. In spring 2020, with the world and the nation shut down, CADL doubled down on its online services, from eBooks to virtual cooking classes to streaming movies and music and something about a live llama. Many of these things, including the llama, caught on and are still going strong, post-pandemic.

CADL 25th Anniversary Event

6-8 p.m. Friday, April 28
 Straight Ahead Jazz Trio
 CADL Downtown Branch
 Adult event
 Free; Registration required
<https://www.cadl.org/event/422902>

CADL is celebrating its 25th birthday by hosting an adult event Friday at the downtown branch with the stellar Detroit-based jazz trio Straight Ahead, hosted by WLNS anchor Sheri Jones. Straight Ahead is a versatile, swinging, all-female ensemble with a wide repertoire, from R&B and jazz classics to fresh original tunes. It features Detroit legend Marion Hayden on bass, Alina Moor on piano and Gayelynn McKinney on drums. The event will also feature hors d'oeuvres, a historical exhibit, staff presentations and special recognitions.

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What about now? There may no longer be such a thing as a normal time, but there are strong signals that CADL has found a fresh balance in its 25th year. After notching over a million visits in the pre-pandemic year of 2019, the system has recovered from the pandemic shutdown, logging more than 675,000 visits in 2022. Circulation in 2022 hit 2.1 million checkouts, twice as much as its first full year of 1998. Electronic media offerings like ebooks and streaming music and movies are expanding by the week. CDs and DVDs, a mainstay of library use for 20 years, are petering out, but, surprisingly, old-fashioned books still make up about half of the library's circulation — 1.1 million checkouts — and the demand for them is holding steady. Overall, CADL executive director Scott Duimstra said the statistics put CADL in the state's top five among library systems that serve a population of 50,000 or more.

Stacks and streams

For much of the 20th century, libraries were primarily repositories for books. That was already changing quickly when CADL was formed in 1997.

By the time Jessica Trotter came on board in 2017 as a collection development specialist, the library still had a huge stockpile of books on cassette.

Trotter's office in the downtown branch is right next to the second-floor space where she watched movies and enjoyed story time as a kid.

In 2020, the Michigan Library Association named Trotter Public Librarian of the Year. Her voracious appetite for books helps her curate the adult fiction, audiobook and e-book collection for the entire system.

Some of the books she fell in love with as a kid were still on the shelves when she came to the library. (She bought one of her old favorites, about Robin Hood, when the library put it up for sale at the Book Burrow downstairs.)

She pointed to a shelf that once groaned with dozens of VHS tapes of the cult TV soap opera "Dark Shadows." (The show hadn't yet been released on DVD.)

"Prior to the pandemic, this branch was the single largest loaner of books on CD," Trotter said. "People would walk out with stacks of DVDs and CDs. Now people have figured out streaming, and the online services we offer."

Among the streaming services now available to CADL cardholders are hoopla (audio books, comic books, e-books, movies, music and TV), Libby (ebooks and audiobooks), OverDrive (3,000 magazine titles) and Kanopy (thousands of movies).

"Books on CD have dropped off and probably will never, ever come back," Trotter said. "Now I'm spending a whole lot of money on audiobooks for download. There's lots of demand. The shift in just four years has been very dramatic."

Nevertheless, Trotter confidently asserted that books are still going to be around in another 25 years. Demand in one area — large-print books — is



Courtesy photo

Llamas visited CADL's downtown branch in December 2021, one of a series of llama-rific events inspired by Anna Dewdney's popular children's books.

even increasing. CADL's 2023 budget allots \$568,000 for print books and \$409,000 for eBooks.

"People specifically ask for books," Trotter said. "They'll tell me, 'I prefer the feel of it. I don't want to be on a screen all day.'"

She feels the same way. When CADL hosted its first big author visit since the pandemic, with bestselling "Booked" author Kwame Alexander, she showed up with three books in her purse. And a Kindle reader.

"I like both and I use both," she said. "But I read better with a physical book and there's a solid group of people who feel that way."

Sticky moments

On a sunny afternoon in mid-April, librarian and llama whisperer Cassie Veselovsky was busy unpacking boxes at CADL's Foster Library, on Lan-

sing's east side, to get ready for the library's reopening this week after a month-long hiatus.

Veselovsky has been with CADL since 2001, shortly after the system was formed.

"Harry Potter was really big," she recalled. "We had many copies of every volume, and they were going out all the time."

The basement-level space tucked into the Foster Community Center smelled of new carpet and fresh paint. The tiny yet heavily used library was re-furnished, cleaned and redesigned with new shelving to fit in more materials. On the center's second floor, two new computer labs host dozens of kids who come after school for classes or computer time.

Next in line for renovation is CADL's Mason branch, which goes into "limited service" mode on Satur-

day (April 29).

Veselovsky does hundreds of programs every year, in all three Lansing libraries, from gingerbread house construction to yarn doll making. She also visits area schools up to five times a week to do story times and other programs.

Nearly 20 years ago, she pioneered one of CADL's most enduring programs — Minecraft night. Duimstra said it's still one of the system's most popular programs.

"Their parents don't want them to play on the internet, because they don't know who they're playing with," Veselovsky said. "But we provide a safe environment and a server where nobody outside the room can join in."

One of Veselovsky's more inspired ideas is "Llamas in the Library" — a pair of live llamas wearing costumes from Anna Dewdney's "Llama Llama" children's books.

Veselovsky worked with Corky DuBois of Emerald Glen Farm in Lake Odessa to bring the soft, friendly quadrupeds within petting reach of amazed kids and their parents.

Last spring, dozens of adults and kids swarmed the Capitol Avenue plaza in front of the downtown library as passing motorists honked and yelled "llama!" The quadrupeds returned for a holiday program in December.

The day we talked, Veselovsky was fresh from story-time sessions with 14 kids downtown and 24 at the Foster branch.

Storytime has been a constant since the system formed in 1997, at every branch in the system. In 2022, the staff noted a sharp uptick in young parents bringing their kids to baby or toddler storytime, including a lot



Courtesy photo

Bestselling author Kwame Alexander packed the Everett High School auditorium April 17 in a special event celebrating CADL's 25th birthday.

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of unfamiliar, post-pandemic faces. Many of the parents said they remembered going to storytime as kids.

Duimstra calls it a “sticky moment” with the community.

“That’s not because it’s gross, like the kids are smearing food or anything, but because it builds repeated visits,” he explained.

Values and value

Library districts of various sizes are now well established in Michigan, from Kent District Library, a network of 20 libraries centering on Grand Rapids, to Ann Arbor District Library’s five branches.

The clear benefit of putting a library system on a firm financial footing, independent from the ups and downs of school or city budgets, and consolidating materials and services, has only increased in the era of digital streaming and eBooks.

“It’s worked well, not only for the viability of the library system, but also for the services we’re able to provide,” Duimsta said.

Judging by countywide support of CADL, the past quarter century has been one long “sticky moment.” County voters have approved every operational millage renewal and increase since the system was created in 1997, often by a wide margin. Since 2006, the millage has stood at (or close to) \$1.56 for every thousand dollars of assessed property value.

The pre-pandemic year of 2019 was a high point. For the first time in its history, CADL topped a million visits and offered so many programs and services that the Library of Michigan bestowed the State Librarian’s Excellence Award upon the system for superior customer service.



Courtesy photo

CADL librarian and avid reader Jessica Trotter said the increase in demand for downloadable materials has been “dramatic” in recent years, but books are still in high demand. The Michigan Library Association named Trotter Public Librarian of the Year in 2020.

For Duimstra and his staff, just letting the public know what it’s getting for its money has been a consistent challenge.

He still finds that many patrons have no idea of the hundreds of items offered in CADL’s Library of Things, introduced in 2016.

The items listed in under “B” alone include a bike, a button maker, a borescope (for peeping through tiny holes into unseen spaces), a banjo, a portable Blu-ray player, building blocks, badminton and a bocce ball set. Intangible “things” patrons can use their CADL cards to check out include a 31-day pass on all fixed route

CATA buses and family passes to the Potter Park Zoo.

The value of free access to books, music, movies and other media — not to mention “things” like a stud finder, a telescope or a Theremin — can be measured. The impact of other programs is not so quantifiable.

At the most basic level, libraries are among the last remaining public spaces where you aren’t required to buy something in order to enter, breathe and take up space.

“Our doors are open to anyone who wants to come in,” Duimstra said. “A family playing, a student doing homework, a homeless person plugging in

their smartphone to look up benefits, or just have a nice warm place to sit down.”

All three Lansing branches provide weekly food packs filled with items such as shelf-stable milk, fruit, vegetables, canned meals and more. There are no eligibility requirements.

Duimstra is especially proud of Connections and Corrections, a partnership between CADL and Ingham County Sheriff Scott Wigglesworth’s office.

In 2022, more than 200 recordings

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Courtesy photo

Minecraft night has remained one of CADL’s most enduring and popular programs for nearly 20 years.



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were made of Ingham County Jail inmates as they read books to their kids or grandkids. The recordings, and copies of the book, were shared with the kids.

“Not only did it touch 200 kids, but Sheriff Wrigglesworth has told me about the positive impact it has on the inmates,” Duimstra said. “It’s hard to quantify things like that.”

When CADL was formed in 1997, the growing digital divide between rich and poor was already a national issue. CADL jumped in to bridge the gap with public access to computer terminals, tech help and other programs.

A quarter century later, with smartphones or school-issued laptops in common use, the crucial issue isn’t hardware, but internet access.

During the pandemic, CADL lent out portable wi-fi hotspots for home use, but the two-week checkout period wasn’t enough for many students. CADL worked with area schools to identify students with the highest need and offer them yearlong hotspots to check out.

“Without the internet, you can’t go to school, can’t go to work, can’t apply for work, can’t apply for assistance — you can’t do anything,” Duimstra said. “We’re not going to solve it, but anything we can do to try to help people who can’t come into our space, to get them to that next point — we have to try.”

As usage trends change among the system’s 13 branches, Duimstra tracks the numbers, but he avoids using corporate terms like “underperforming.” CADL is not a for-profit chain store. using corporate terms like “underperforming.” CADL is not a for-profit chain store.

The downtown branch is heavily used, averaging more than 10,000 visits a month, outperforming all others in per-visit checkouts, but circulation there is declining overall.

“If 500 people visit our Webberville branch or 100 people, it’s still important to have that branch in the community,” Duimstra said. “If a branch’s transactions are low for a year, we don’t scale back and move those resources to another library. We have to be smart about it, but that potential access is important. Some people would love it if we were open 24 hours.”

‘Lucky bubble’

Two decades ago, when CADL was young, Madonna’s book “Sex” was a lightning rod for public objections. Taking potshots at library shelves is a familiar pastime that goes back to classics like “Lady Chatterly’s Lov-



Courtesy photo

Attendance topped 200 at farm story times at five farms near CADL’s Webberville and Williamston branches last year. Each event was tailored to the host farm, with stories that helped kids learn about a flower farm, a Christmas tree farm and a dairy.

er” and “The Adventures of Tom Sawyer,” and in 2023, it’s open season across the country.

Duimstra acknowledged that the problem is familiar, but he said it “took a different turn” in recent years, centering almost entirely on books about the LGBTQ+ community.

“We have books about sexual education and sexuality that are probably on a par with Madonna’s ‘Sex,’ but all of those are heterosexual — no objections to those,” Duimstra said. “But you can see the very specific focus of the objections, the books they are objecting to.”

In 2022, voters in Ottawa County’s Jamestown Township declined twice to renew the operational millage of the Patmos Library in West Michigan amid controversy over books with LGBTQ+ themes. The library might close in 2024 if funding runs out and a millage is not approved.

“They’re willing to burn the whole thing down — a library with 60,000 items — based on 25 materials,” Duimstra said. “They’re not going to realize what they’re losing until it’s gone.”

Anyone who objects to an item on



Courtesy photo

Pre-K weather forecasting at CADL’s downtown branch teaches kids about science and geography.

CADL’s shelf is welcome to fill out and submit a written challenge form that requires a certain amount of time, thought and literacy. A list of objectionable titles doesn’t cut the mustard.

“That’s what’s happening with a book like ‘Gender Queer,’” Duimstra

said. “They share a list of titles and say, ‘Take these off the shelf.’” (Maia Kobabe’s graphic novel “Gender Queer: A Memoir” was listed by USA Today among the “most banned books of 2022.”)

Leave it to a librarian to turn a book challenge into a teachable moment.

“It’s almost like a test,” Duimstra said. “Did you read it? Did you read the whole thing? What parts of it do you object to?”

There’s no way to measure how many potential objections this thinly disguised book report assignment has weeded out, but Duimstra said the CADL system only received three written challenges in 2022. Nothing has been taken off the shelf, although some books have been moved to the adult collection.

Only one challenge, over sexual content in a French graphic novel, has reached Trotter’s desk since she started working at CADL in 2017.

“We’ve never faced what other communities are facing right now,” Trotter said. “Those titles people are complaining about elsewhere are circulating very well here. People are checking them out and not complaining. Knock wood, but I feel like we’re in a very lucky bubble here.”

Presidential scholar discusses former President Gerald Ford on 'An Ordinary Man' book tour

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Gerald Ford, the only United States president to hail from Michigan, was an unlikely holder of the country's top office, ascending to the position only after President Richard Nixon resigned in 1974.

Ford was enigmatic and misunderstood but was considered a peacemaker for pardoning Nixon after the Watergate scandal. He also provided conditional amnesty for more than 100,000 young men who had crossed the border to Canada to avoid the draft.

Ford's plan would have required draft dodgers to serve two years in a public service job, but in 1977, President Jimmy Carter eliminated that requirement.

Ford, who was born in Nebraska but grew up in Grand Rapids, was elected to Congress when he was 35 years old and served as a representative for 25 years, rising to House minority leader. He was tapped to be vice president in 1973 after his predecessor, Spiro T. Agnew, resigned.

His time as president was brief, serving only 895 days in office. He was defeated by Carter in the 1976 election.

Presidential scholar Richard Norton Smith's new biography of Ford, "An Ordinary Man," is 832 pages, only slightly shorter than the number of days Ford served as president. Smith, who previously directed four presidential libraries

and museums, including the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum and Library in Grand Rapids and Ann Arbor, respectively, recently joined Hank Meijer, executive chairman of Meijer Inc., in a lively discussion about the book at the Michigan History Center. Meijer is also the author of a biography about another prominent Grand Rapids politician, the late U.S. Sen. Arthur Vandenberg.

Here's a look at a tiny part of the more than two hours of questions and answers.

Meijer: What did you learn in writing the book that might change how history views Gerald Ford?

Smith: There are all kinds of factoids that may surprise people. He was the first American president to proclaim Black History Month in this country, as the offshoot of the Bicentennial.

Before Pearl Harbor, Ford applied to the FBI to be an agent. I found documentation of that, but it wasn't the whole story. J. Edgar Hoover personally blackballed his application when the New Haven office found Ford had been involved with the group America First.

America First was a college organization of isolationists. A young John F. Kennedy was a supporter, and the range of support went from Walt Disney to Frank Lloyd Wright, who rallied behind the group, which was initially an anti-war organization. That changed when

people like Charles Lindbergh took center stage and brought with them an ugly message that bordered on antisemitism.

Before winning (his seat in Congress), Ford had been offered a job in state government by the governor, but he turned it down. Although he was the only president from Michigan, he was never drawn to state government. In the 1950s, the state GOP tried to get him to run for governor. He didn't have the executive temperament. His goal from day one was to stay in the House and become speaker of the House.

One of the surprising things was how close Ford and Kennedy were — a personal relationship and political relationship.

Meijer: Did Ford first come to notice with the Warren Commission?

Smith: It was particularly difficult (for Ford) to serve on the Warren Commission — he was the youngest member on the commission. The reason he was on the commission was President Johnson asked Robert McNamara and Dean Rusk who they would recommend, and they both said you could trust Jerry Ford.

It was personally painful for him. The last 15 years of his life, he was the go-to guy. His great concern was that young people would see the movie (Oliver Stone's "JFK") and believe that was what actually happened.

People think Gerald Ford was the ultimate apologist for the Warren Commission. The first draft of the Warren Commission report had the unequivocal assertion that there was no conspiracy to kill the president. He and others went to Chief Justice Warren (E. Burg-



Courtesy of Richard Norton Smith

Presidential scholar Richard Norton Smith recently published "An Ordinary Man," an 832-page biography of former President Gerald Ford. He sat down with Meijer Inc. Executive Chairman Hank Meijer to discuss the life and legacy of the former president as part of his statewide book tour.

er) to subtly but significantly rewrite that phrase. If you look at the report, it says, "We have found no evidence of a foreign conspiracy."

Ford went to his grave convinced that Lee Harvey Oswald was the sole gunman. You may be surprised by his personal theory about Oswald's motivation. Ford believed he killed the president to impress his estranged Soviet wife.

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Bath native debuts local music video for stoner summer anthem

By LUCAS HENKEL

Country singer-songwriter Sadie Bass' "Wake N' Bake" is the stoner song of the summer. Laingsburg dispensary Local Roots Cannabis and Michigan-based cannabis company Redemption Cannabis played a major role in making that happen.

Local Roots and Redemption produced and sponsored the music video for the song, which was released Thursday (April 20). It shows Bass and friends soaking up rays and smoking joints on a pontoon boat at a lake near Laingsburg.

This setting isn't unusual for Bass. When she isn't on tour with country music stars like Brantley Gilbert and Chase Rice, she can often be found hanging out on the lake in her home



In her "Wake N' Bake" music video, country singer-songwriter Sadie Bass soaks up the sun with friends at a lake near Laingsburg while enjoying products from Michigan-based Redemption Cannabis.

state with friends, family and her close acquaintance Mary Jane.

"I spend most of my lake days on Bass Lake up in Vestaburg, about an hour north of where I grew up," said Bass, 26, a Bath native. "We have a little cabin up there — nothing fancy but perfect for me! We take the pontoon round and round while my dad

catches fish and we wake and bake."

Folks can stream "Wake N' Bake" on Spotify, Apple Music and YouTube. Bass will return to Local Roots on Oct. 8 for a special homecoming show. After the show, she'll head to South Carolina to perform at the Greenville Country Music Fest alongside artists like Brooks & Dunn, Travis Tritt and Cody Johnson.

"Wake N' Bake" isn't just a catchy stoner anthem; it aims to normalize cannabis use, helping break the stigma that surrounds the drug, and highlights brands and organizations that are fighting to free those who have been harmed by the war on drugs. Ryan Basore, CEO of Redemption Cannabis and president of the Great Lakes Expungement Network, said recently that almost 900 Michiganders are in jail for marijuana-related charges.

"We don't want to forget them or their families. We want to help them as much as we can," Basore said. The Redemption Foundation "puts money on their commissary funds, we offer support to their families, and we offer expungement services for free. Since we started two and a half years ago, we have expunged the cannabis records of almost 1,000 Michiganders."

The folks at Local Roots also believe Bass' song has the power to break the stigma surrounding cannabis and the people who consume it. Last year, while Bass was a contestant on NBC's "The Voice," she debuted the



Courtesy of Ronda Liskey



song at the dispensary alongside Lansing guitarist Zach Hayes. Roy Liskey, co-owner and operator of Local Roots, heard the song and immediately wanted to be involved in creating the music video.

ed to be involved in creating the music video.

"There are a million songs about drinking beer. We need more cannabis songs," Liskey said.

Local Roots is a family-owned and operated dispensary that offers in-store shopping, curbside pickup and online ordering. Its mission is to provide high-quality, reasonably priced products and excellent customer service. It also offers a wide array of products from Redemption Cannabis. The shop is open every day from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Redemption provided a number of products for the video, including pre-rolls of Bass' favorite strain from Redemption, Mafia Funeral. This hybrid strain, cultivated by Driven Grow, is a cross between Garlic Grove and The Menthol, a perfect combination for folks that are looking for a strain that will make it so you "can't remember what you're forgetting," as Bass said.

"My favorite part about making the video for 'Wake N' Bake' was getting to have the day off to soak up the sun and hang out with my friends — and Mary Jane!" Bass said. "A lot of my friends that are in the video are also in the music industry, so it's hard to find a time for us all to get together with our crazy schedules. It was amazing — memories that I'll cherish forever."

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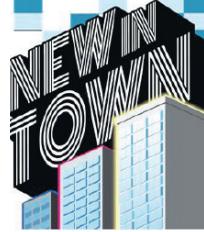


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New dispensary is a sight for sore eyes

By LUCAS HENKEL

After a year of development, Flora Cannabis Co. opened its doors in East Lansing just in time for 420. Excited stoners flocked to the store's grand opening celebration



Flora Cannabis Co.

7733 E. Saginaw St.,
East Lansing
9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday
10 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday
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Thursday (April 20) to take advantage of deals and enjoy food provided by People's Kitchen. I had the opportunity to meet with the team and get a sneak peek inside the facility two days before its grand opening and was blown away by what I saw. The inside of the store is absolutely stunning. The lobby's mint green walls are lined with framed prints of cannabis-themed artwork. Customers can take a look at Flora's selection of apparel and smoking accessories while they wait to go back and shop with a budtender, known as a "Florist."

The vibe inside the showroom is warm and welcoming. The room is flooded with natural light from the large windows on the northern side of the shop, and two large installments of dried flowers hang from the ceiling.

"We want to create a one-of-a-kind social shopping experience for every customer that walks through our door," said sales manager Nikki Salander. "We want to be community-minded when choosing which products to put on our shelves and offer those items at a competitive price."

Customers can choose from a wide selection of prepackaged and deli-style flower options as well as edibles, vaporizers and concentrates from a variety of top-tier Michigan cannabis brands like Element, FLWRpot, Fawn River Cultivation Co., Glacier Cannabis, Northern Lights FX, Wyld, Dog-House Cannabis, Terple Gang and, of course, Flora's own line.

Many of the employees I spoke to were excited about all the different flower strains from Terple Gang. Its Super Boof, for instance, won first place in the Best Flower category at the 2022

Goats of Cannabis festival in Cassopolis. The competition, hosted by The Goat Cannabis Co., was judged by weed entrepreneurs and celebrity stoners like Cookies CEO Gilbert Anthony Milam Jr. (better known as Berner), Cheech Marin and rapper Redman. With their stamp of approval and Terple Gang's commitment to cultivating strains with unique terpene profiles, it's safe to say this brand is the GOAT: Greatest Of All Time.

In addition to its in-store shopping experience, Flora also has a drive-through with a custom digital menu that displays a curated list of top-selling products, staff favorites and special offers.

"This isn't just a pick-up window that will be open for online orders. Customers will be able to drive up to our digital menu and order cannabis just as easily as they order fast food," general manager James Hendricks said.



Lucas Henkel/City Pulse

The inside of Flora Cannabis Co., East Lansing's newest dispensary, is absolutely stunning. The lobby's mint green walls are lined with framed prints of cannabis-themed artwork, and two large installments of dried flowers hang from the ceiling of the sunlit showroom.

Interested in checking out Flora for yourself? The dispensary is open seven days a week for online, in-store, drive-through and curbside shopping. It will offer deals throughout the rest of April, like buy one, get one free and 30% off specials on select products, so be sure to catch those while you can.

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ACROSS

- 1. Dutch flower
- 6. "Oh, ___ ..."
- 10. ALL ___ (THIS STYLE)
- 14. Adjective on taqueria menus
- 15. Without manners
- 16. One part of a whole
- 17. Video game designer Sid who created the "Civilization" series
- 18. Michael's "Family Ties" role
- 19. Present time, for short?
- 20. Person who picks up after an annual NFL or NBA event?
- 23. Hide out
- 24. Old parent company of NBC
- 25. "Call of Duty: Black ___"
- 28. Ride for hire
- 31. 1990s puzzle game on an island
- 33. Totally lit
- 35. Tire swing support
- 37. Votes overseas
- 39. Hard drink
- 40. Classic musical comedy involving a lifeboat?
- 43. Officially part of a fictional universe
- 44. Nats or Nets, e.g.
- 45. Film rating gp.
- 46. Singers Baker and Pointer
- 48. Wild guess
- 50. Longtime network for "Arthur"
- 51. A Bobbsey twin

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17						18					19			
	20					21					22			
28	29	30		31			32		33		34			
35			36		37			38		39				
40				41					42					
43						44					45			
46					47		48			49		50		
51					52		53		54			55		
		56	57					58				59	60	
61	62					63					64			65
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

- 52. Sox, on scoreboards
- 54. "ER" actor La Salle
- 56. Botanical transplant, but completely on the level?
- 61. Numbers to be crunched
- 63. Roman Senate garb
- 64. Biff the performance
- 66. Physicist's bit
- 67. "His Dark Material" comedian Jimmy
- 68. Apennines locale
- 69. Clothing department
- 70. Flower holder?
- 71. Peerage group
- DOWN
- 1. Scottish cap
- 2. Pre-owned
- 3. Animal abode
- 4. Optimal
- 5. French fragrance
- 6. Exercise wear
- 7. Barnacles' place
- 8. "Doe, ___ ..."
- 9. Company with a star logo
- 10. Die shape
- 11. Galaxy download, maybe
- 12. "Hairspray" actress Zadora
- 13. Pig's enclosure
- 21. Check the fit of
- 22. "Twin Peaks" actor Jack
- 26. Assembly-ready
- 27. Some mattresses
- 28. Diagnostic image, for short
- 29. Grande not on the menu at Starbucks?
- 30. Late Linkin Park singer Chester
- 32. Utensil points
- 34. Not negotiable
- 36. Four-award feat, for short
- 38. Jake's company
- 41. Carrie Ann of "Dancing With the Stars"
- 42. "Crying in ___" (2021 Michelle Zauner memoir)
- 47. Cells' features?
- 49. One under, in golf
- 53. Brown ermine
- 55. Assigned amount
- 57. 2000 Super Bowl winners
- 58. Villain in some fairy tales
- 59. Alpine transport
- 60. Corridor
- 61. Beaver construction
- 62. Took a meal
- 65. Functional lead-in

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezsky

April 26-May 2, 2023

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Before forming The Beatles, John Lennon, George Harrison and Paul McCartney performed under various other names: the Quarrymen, Japage 3 and Johnny and the Moondogs. I suspect you are currently at your own equivalent of the Johnny and the Moondogs phase. You're building momentum. You're gathering the tools and resources you need. But you have not yet found the exact title, descriptor or definition for your enterprise. I suggest you be extra alert for its arrival in the coming weeks.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): I've selected a passage to serve as one of your prime themes for the rest of 2023. It comes from poet Jane Shore. She writes, "Now I feel I am learning how to grow into the space I was always meant to occupy, into a self I can know." Dear Taurus, you will have the opportunity to grow ever more assured and self-possessed as you embody Shore's description in the coming months. Congratulations in advance on the progress you will make to more fully activate your soul's code.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Georges Rouault (1871-1958) was a Gemini painter who bequeathed the world over 3,000 works of art. There might have been even more. But years before he died, he burned 315 of his unfinished paintings. He felt they were imperfect, and he would never have time or be motivated to finish them. I think the coming weeks would be a good time for you to enjoy a comparable purge, Gemini. Are there things in your world that don't mean much to you anymore and are simply taking up space? Consider the possibility of freeing yourself from their stale energy.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Britain occupied India for almost 200 years. It was a ruthless and undemocratic exploitation that steadily drained India's wealth and resources. Mahatma Gandhi wasn't the only leader who fought British oppression, but he was among the most effective. In 1930, he led a 24-day, 240-mile march to protest the empire's tyrannical salt tax. This action was instrumental in energizing the Indian independence movement that ultimately culminated in India's freedom. I vote to make Gandhi one of your inspirational role models in the coming months. Are you ready to launch a liberation project? Stage a constructive rebellion? Martial the collaborative energies of your people in a holy cause?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): As crucial as it is to take responsibility, it is also essential to recognize where our responsibilities end and what should be left for others to do. For example, we usually shouldn't do work for other people that they can just as easily do for themselves. We shouldn't sacrifice doing the work that only we can do and get sidetracked doing work that many people can do. To be effective and to find fulfillment in life, it's vital for us to discover what truly needs to be within our care and what should be outside of our care. I see the coming weeks as a favorable time for you to clarify the boundary between these two.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Virgo-born Marie Laveau (1801-1881) was a powerful Voodoo priestess, herbalist, activist and midwife in New Orleans. According to legend, she could walk on water, summon clairvoyant visions, safely suck the poison out of a snake's jowls and cast spells to help her clients achieve their heart's desires. There is also a wealth of more tangible evidence that she was a community activist who healed the sick, volunteered as an advocate for prisoners, provided free teachings and did rituals for needy people who couldn't pay her. I hereby assign her to be your inspirational role model for the coming weeks. I suspect you will have extra power to help people in both mysterious and practical ways.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): What are the best methods to exorcise our personal demons, ghosts and goblins? Or at least subdue them and neutralize their ill effects? We all have such phantoms at

work in our psyches, corroding our confidence and undermining our intentions. One approach I don't recommend is to get mad at yourself for having these interlopers. Never do that. The demons' strategy, you see, is to manipulate you into being mean and cruel to yourself. To drive them away, I suggest you shower yourself with love and kindness. That seriously reduces their ability to trick you and hurt you — and may even put them into a deep sleep. Now is an excellent time to try this approach.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): As she matured, Scorpio poet Sylvia Plath wrote, "I am learning how to compromise the wild dream ideals and the necessary realities without such screaming pain." I believe you're ready to go even further than Plath was able to, dear Scorpio. In the coming weeks, you should not merely "compromise" the wild dream ideals and the necessary realities. You should synergize them and get them to collaborate in satisfying ways. Bonus: I bet you will accomplish this feat without screaming pain. In fact, you may generate surprising pleasures that delight you with their revelations.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Some primates use herbal and clay medicines to self-medicate. Great apes, chimpanzees, bonobos and gorillas ingest a variety of ingredients that fight against parasitic infections and help relieve various gastrointestinal disturbances. Our ancestors learned the same healing arts, though far more extensively. And many indigenous people still practice this kind of self-care today. With these thoughts in mind, Sagittarius, I urge you to spend quality time in the coming weeks deepening your understanding of how to heal and nurture yourself. The kinds of "medicines" you might draw on could be herbs but may also be music, stories, colors, scents, books, relationships and adventures.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The mythic traditions of all cultures are replete with tales of clashes and combats. If we draw on these tales to deduce what activity humans enjoy more than any other, we might conclude that it's fighting with each other. But I hope you will avoid this normal habit as much as possible during the next three weeks, Capricorn. I am encouraging you to actively repress all inclinations to tangle. Just for now, I believe you will cast a wildly benevolent magic spell on your mental and physical health if you avoid arguments and skirmishes. Here's a helpful tip: In each situation you're involved in, focus on sustaining a vision of the most graceful, positive outcome.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Is there a person who could serve as your über mother for a while? This would be a wise and tender maternal ally who gives you the extra nurturing you need, along with steady doses of warm, crisp advice on how to weave your way through your labyrinthine decisions. Your temporary über mother could be any gender, really. They would love and accept you for exactly who you are, even as they stoke your confidence to pursue your sweet dreams about the future. Supportive and inspirational. Reassuring and invigorating. Championing you and consecrating you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Congratulations on acquiring the big new riddle! I trust it will inspire you to grow wiser, kinder and wilder over the coming months. I've compiled some clues to help you unravel and ultimately solve this challenging and fascinating mystery. 1. Refrain from calling on any strength that's stingy or pinched. Ally yourself solely with generous power. 2. Avoid putting your faith in trivial and irrelevant "benefits." Hold out for the most soulful assistance. 3. The answer to key questions may often be, "Make new connections and enhance existing connections."

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Answers on page 26

SUDOKU

Intermediate

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

Wednesday, April 26

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

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

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

Auditions: "Love's Labor's Lost," by William Shakespeare - Prepare a short verse monologue (8-10 lines) from any Shakespeare play. Auditions will include short readings from the script (available online). 7-9 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. Contact jobm@star.lcc.edu with questions. lcc.edu/services/community-campus-resources/performing-arts.

Bear with Me: Wildlife Photographer & Author - Ron St. Germain takes us on a journey through nature to capture some amazing photographs. Brief annual Friends of GLADL meeting & refreshments. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

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

Code Club! - Learn to make websites, apps, animations and more! No coding experience necessary. Grades 3+. Register at hq.girlswhocode.com using club code M45609. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

"Creativity in the Time of COVID-19: Art for Equity and Social Justice" - On display at the Frandor Sears Building, Lansing Art Gallery, REACH Studio Art Center, Impression 5 Science Center and Refugee Development Center. artequitylansing.org.

Fitness Over 50 - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Meridian Mall Food Court. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

How to Reduce Your Spending - Learn how to identify and better understand your financial habits and develop new habits that can help you achieve financial goals. Registration req. 5:30 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

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

Meridian Dems Meeting - Lecture by Mark Brewer, Democratic political consultant and former chair of the Michigan Democratic Party. Open to the public. 6 p.m. social time, 6:30 p.m. meeting. Henry's Place, 4926 Marsh Road, Okemos. 517-351-8547. facebook.com/meridiandems.

Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society - "An Introduction to Heraldry" with Derek J. Blount. 7 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church, 528 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. mmsg.wordpress.com.

Open Mic Hosted by Rick Hansel - Family-friendly,

welcomes singers and musicians. No cover! 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Peggy Nusz - 7 p.m. Williamston Roadhouse, 3700 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-388-6133. williamstonroadhouse.com.

"Printmaking in Full Color" - Artist Sarah Der-shem uses monotype and linocut printmaking to explore a lifelong admiration of the natural world. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

"Space Craze": Understanding History and Fiction Using Artifacts - Join Margaret Weitekamp, chair of the department of space history at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, as she discusses her recent book, "Space Craze: America's Enduring Fascination with Real and Imagined Spaceflight." Registration req. 7 p.m. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

Spring Salad Luncheon - Variety of salads, brats, coffee, tea and dessert. \$10. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Liederkranz Club Lansing, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-882-6330. facebook.com/lansingliederkranzclub.

Wheel of the Year: Beltaine and Family - Join us online or in person for discussions, rituals, manifestations and more! 6 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

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

Thursday, April 27

"A Course in Miracles," a Group Discussion on ZOOM - 7 p.m. Meeting ID: 177 417 886 Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Auditions: "Love's Labor's Lost," by William Shakespeare - Prepare a short verse monologue (8-10 lines) from any Shakespeare play. Auditions will include short readings from the script (available online). 7-9 p.m. LCC Black Box Theatre, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. Contact jobm@star.lcc.edu with questions. lcc.edu/services/community-campus-resources/performing-arts.

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

"Creativity in the Time of COVID-19: Art for Equity and Social Justice" - On display at the Frandor Sears Building, Lansing Art Gallery, REACH Studio Art Center, Impression 5 Science Center and Refugee Development Center. artequitylansing.org.

Crystal Awards community reception - Honoring individuals, businesses, organizations and community groups that have made outstanding contributions in East Lansing. 5 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517) 319-6869. cityofeastlansing.com.

DIY Seed Bomb Event - Make seed bombs out of simple ingredients while learning about guerilla gardening and the library's new Seed Library. Registration req. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-

Books, Bites & Bids fundraiser

Friday, April 28

5:30-8:30 p.m.

East Lansing Public Library
950 Abbot Road, East Lansing

Friday evening (April 28), as part of National Library Week, the East Lansing Public Library will hold its first in-person Books, Bites and Bids fundraiser since 2019. The annual event will feature a silent auction, food — including giant Grand Traverse Pie Co. pies — beer and wine, live music and opportunities to connect with library staff and the community.

"I am thrilled that Books, Bites & Bids is back in person for the first time since 2019," library director Kristin Shelley said. "We have truly missed hosting these festivities, and I am excited to have the community celebrating in the library and raising money for library programs, resources and services."

This year's theme is "There's More to the Story," acknowledging that libraries provide so much more than just books — all for free. For instance, the East Lansing library offers a Maker Studio, a Library of Things and a variety of programs for all ages. Libraries also provide internet and technology access for those who don't have a computer or smart device at home.

All proceeds from the event will go toward the library's interactive children's garden, which will begin construction this year. Tickets are \$35 per person and \$70 per couple or family and can be purchased with cash or check at the library's service desk or through the library's website, elpl.org.



8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Eco Explorers - Ages 2-4. 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Jackalope - Donations benefit the Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art. 6:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeat-events.com.

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

Last Thursday '90s/2000s Party - 10 p.m. The Venue by Eleven 11 Events, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 313-423-1544. events.eventnoire.com/e/last-thursday-90s-2000s-party.

LUNA PIER; HEAT ABOVE; LOUD, SAD AND DISORIENTED - 8 p.m. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-484-6795. macsbar.com.

"Printmaking in Full Color" - Artist Sarah Der-shem uses monotype and linocut printmaking to explore a lifelong admiration of the natural world. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Summer Vibes Karaoke - 7 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

Take Your Child to Work Day - Tour the galleries to learn more about how we support artists by curating, installing and sharing their art with visitors of all ages, then practice thinking like an artist at

our hands-on creation stations! 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Watercolor Bookmarks - 18+, registration req. 5:30 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

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

Wind Symphony - Featuring guest composer Adam Schoenberg's "Losing Earth" and Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring" (arr. Merlin Paterson). Solo percussion performances by Jon Weber. 7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

Friday, April 28

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

Allan Harris & "Cross That River" - 8 p.m. Pasant Theatre, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene

BY RICH TUPICA

A SWIFT KICK OF MUSIC



Courtesy photos

Lansing-area singer-songwriter Kanin Wren may record her own music, but this year she's also debuting "A Taylor Swift Experience," a 90-minute performance of Swift's greatest hits.

Kanin Wren adds second 'A Taylor Swift Experience' show at UrbanBeat

While Friday night's (April 28) show is sold out, UrbanBeat has added a second matinee performance of "A Taylor Swift Experience" on Saturday. Fronted by local singer-songwriter Kanin Wren, this "live journey through the music of Taylor Swift" packs in all the hits, from "You Belong with Me" to "Look What You Made Me Do," and is enlivened by fun choreography and multiple costume changes. Dancing is encour-

aged.

Wren, 17, an emerging Lansing-area talent, was named Local Spins' first Artist to Watch of 2022 and has traveled far beyond Michigan over the last couple of years, including recording sessions in Los Angeles and Nashville. Last year, she headlined her first show, belting out her catalog of tunes in front of 1,000 Michiganders. Now, she's balancing her own gigs with a handful of

90-minute Swift-themed shows across the state and beyond.

"I've been performing since I was about 14, and, oddly enough, I've only played a couple of Taylor Swift songs," said Wren, a longtime Swift fan.

The idea for the show came about last year after she began working with Elle Lively, a music business consultant based in Grand Rapids.

"As we discussed my goals, one thing was clear: I wanted to keep writing music and create a large catalog of original music," Wren recalled. "Elle mentioned that I reminded her of a young Taylor Swift. At our next meeting, Elle brought the idea of bringing 'A Taylor Swift Experience' to life. I immediately said yes."

By November of last year, Wren and her band were mining through Swift's discography and perfecting each note. Since Wren typically sticks to originals, like her 2020 single "Torch Lake Breeze" and 2022's "Homecoming," this project was something her mates weren't expecting.

"The guys in the band are still in disbelief that they're doing this, but it's been super fun, and there's a ton of excitement for the show," Wren said. "With so many people not getting tickets to Taylor's show, we've created a nice family show."

Swift's fanbase, aka "Swifties," are famously passionate, and Wren said she's

putting on these shows so they can celebrate an evening devoted to the artist, who's sold 114 million records.

"We have about 20 shows booked for the summer at some really great venues all over Michigan and even Ohio," Wren said. "When a show is announced, I tend to read the comments. Most of the comments are filled with positive feedback, but you do get a few haters. I don't take that personally. Taylor Swift has a successful career in music, and I'm just sharing her music with people that want to come out and sing their little hearts out."

Of course, Wren's fanbase shouldn't be worried. She hasn't lost sight of her own growing catalog of fierce pop music.

"I do a lot of co-writing with people all over the country. I was recording in Nashville in February," she said. "I'll start releasing new music every six to eight weeks at the beginning of May. We're focused on releasing singles instead of an EP or an album. I'm having fun creating music and experimenting with genres. Some are so different that they probably wouldn't sit well together on an album. I guess that's the beauty of being so young — I haven't been labeled a certain type of artist yet."

For more information, visit kanin-wren.com.

Kanin Wren presents:

"A Taylor Swift Experience"

With The Westrins

Saturday, April 29

2-4 p.m.

UrbanBeat

1213 Turner St., Lansing

urbanbeatevents.com

Events

from page 21

Arbor Day Celebration - Learn about animals that live in trees and how to identify different kinds of trees here in Michigan, make a pledge to protect trees and more! Regular admission prices apply. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

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

Craft Club - Making hand-drawn fantasy maps. Grades 4-12. Registration req. 4 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

"Creativity in the Time of COVID-19: Art for Equity and Social Justice" - On display at the Frandor Sears Building, Lansing Art Gallery, REACH Studio Art Center, Impression 5 Science Center and Refugee Development Center. artequitylansing.org.

Durant St. Winds play Songs of Many Lands - Learn about the woodwind quintet and hear a short concert of folk songs and music from the U.S. and beyond. Some you'll be familiar with, some will be new! 7 p.m. St. Katherine's Episcopal Church, 4650 N. Meridian Road, Williamston. 517-349-4120. stkatherines.org.

Eco Explorers - Ages 2-4. 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

ELPL Books, Bites & Bids - Auction, food, music, a giant Grand Traverse Pie Co. pie, beer & wine and time to connect with library staff and the community. 5:30-8:30 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2420. elpl.org.

Fitness Over 50 - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Meridian Mall Food Court. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Graze Craze Grand Opening and Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony - 4 p.m. 2315 Jolly Road, Okemos. 517-709-2828. grazecraze.com.

Heartsick, Heart of Jordan and more - 7 p.m. The Junction, 410 S. Clippert St., Lansing. 517-574-4214. thejunctionmichigan.com.

Kanin Wren: "A Taylor Swift Experience" - 90-minute journey through Taylor Swift's discography, followed by music with DJ John Beltran. 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Katie Dahl - 7:30 p.m. University United Methodist Church, 1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. 517-337-7744. tenpoundfiddle.org.

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

"Moments to Remember" Dance Recital - Members of the Eastern Quakerette Dance Co. will perform pieces they created themselves or have performed throughout the school year. 7 p.m. Eastern High School Auditorium, 626 Marshall St., Lansing.

"Printmaking in Full Color" - Artist Sarah Der-shem uses monotype and linocut printmaking to explore a lifelong admiration of the natural world. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities Awards and Appreciation Reception - RSVP req. 2 p.m. 517-884-7273. rcpd.msu.edu.

SAXOPHONE IN PROGRESS - 5:30 p.m. Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, Room 1300, 640 S. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. jacobnance.com.

"School of Rock" - 7 p.m. Hannah Community

Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-319-6957. cityofeastlansing.com/allofus.

Tony Thompson at The Peanut Barrel - 8 p.m. 521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-351-0608. peanutbarrel.com.

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

Saturday, April 29

2023 Beltaine Ritual - Learn the secrets of creation and fertility as we dance the maypole and the bonfire! Celebrate the blessed union, blooming flowers and growing new life! Visit our website to purchase meal tickets for our shared feast (deadline is April 26). 4 p.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

Adult & Pediatric CPR w/AED Training Workshop - Students receive a course completion card. Class fee of \$35 payable to C.P.R.C. Inc. Ages 15+. Registration req. 10 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Beginners' Printmaking - In-depth explanations of image transfer, printmaking papers, carving tools, registration, inking and printing. Create an edition of 5-10 small prints. Ages 16+. 10 a.m.-noon. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Behind the Scenes in the MSU Herbarium - Learn what herbarium specimens are, where they come from and some of the unique ways they're used by researchers at MSU. 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Plant Biology Laboratories, Room 166, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

Big Astronomy: People, Places, Discoveries - Explore world-class observatories nestled in northern Chile's mountains and learn why Chile is an ideal environment for studying the cosmos. Registration req. 7 p.m. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. 517-355-4676. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

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

Butterflies in the Garden - See butterflies up close! 10 a.m.-2 p.m. MSU Horticulture Gardens Butterfly Flight House, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. 517-353-0443. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

Community Baby Shower - Celebrating expectant BIPOC parents and linking BIPOC families to community resources to ensure they thrive in birth and beyond. Food, prenatal massages, experienced doulas and an opportunity to create relationships across Lansing. Free. 1-4 p.m. The Cadillac Room, 1115 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. northstardoulas.com.

Courageous Conversations - Talk That Matters! "Islam in America" - Join Imam Sohail Chaudhry as he shares the impact of misconceptions faced by Islamic people in America. 3 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

"Creativity in the Time of COVID-19: Art for Equity and Social Justice" - On display at the Frandor Sears Building, Lansing Art Gallery, REACH Studio Art Center, Impression 5 Science Center and Refugee Development Center. artequitylansing.org.

Dave Sharp Worlds Quartet and Gemhara & The Fireballs - 8 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Events

from page 22

JOE BUCK YOURSELF, CASH O'RILEY, THE FIVE 'N' DIME POETS - 8 p.m. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-484-6795. macsbar.com.

Johnny Stix & The Outsiders - 7 p.m. Williamston Roadhouse, 3700 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-388-6133. williamstonroadhouse.com.

Kanin Wren: "A Taylor Swift Experience" - 90-minute journey through Taylor Swift's discography. 2 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Kenny Rogers & Dolly Parton Tribute Show - With Alan Turner and Laurie Lynn. Silent auction at 5:30 p.m., show at 7. Proceeds benefit Bath Senior Center and expansion. Bath Middle School, 13675 Webster Road, Bath. 517-641-6728. bathtownship.us.

Lansing-Area High School Scrabble Tournament - Teams play four 50-minute Scrabble games. One two- to four-member team per high school. Refreshments provided. Noon-5 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-319-6511. elpl.org.

Lansing-Area Soccer Fan Fest - Soccer tennis, trivia (with prizes!), keepy-uppy contest, chance to meet Lansing Common FC players and more soccer-themed activities. Food from Fire Food Truck and drinks from Ozone's Brewhouse. 2-5 p.m. Ozone's Brewhouse, 305 Beaver St., Lansing. facebook.com/LansingCommonSG.

Motor City Josh & The Big 3 - 8:30 p.m. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

Plant Science Exploration! - Meet researchers in the plant sciences, plant a pollinator garden and participate in hands-on activities! 10 a.m.-2 p.m. MSU Horticulture Gardens, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. 517-353-0443. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

"School of Rock" - 3 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-319-6957. cityofeastlansing.com/allofus.

Singers on the Grand presents: "Tapestry: the 1970s Revisited" - Featuring iconic music by '70s performers. Audience members are encouraged to wear 1960s clothing! 7 p.m. Portland Community Theater, 231 Maple St., Portland. 517-647-4041. portlandcivicplayers.com.

Statewide Astronomy Night: MSU Observatory - Activities will explore a variety of different astronomical concepts. Weather permitting, we'll set up telescopes to take a look at the night sky! 7-10 p.m. MSU Observatory, 4299 Pavilion Drive, Lansing. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

Symphony Orchestra and Choirs: "A Celebration of Legacies" - "Symbolum Nicenum" from Bach's "Mass in B Minor"; "Daphnis et Chloé" (Suite No. 2), by Maurice Ravel; "Missa brevis K. 192," by Mozart; and selections from "A German Requiem," by Brahms. 8 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

Tease A Gogo Presents: Pillow Talk! A Slumber Party Burlesque Extravaganza - Cozy cocktails, food from Gator's Grill, PJ contest and live music with Matthew Shannon. 18+. Music 7:30-8:30 p.m., show at 9. Country Creek Reception Hall, 5859 N Michigan Rd., Dimondale. 517-643-9797. teaseagogo.com.

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

Sunday, April 30

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

517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

BRIAN METZGER - GRAVITATIONAL WAVES AND THE ORIGIN OF GOLD - Metzger will recount the amazing discovery of gravitational waves, merging neutron stars and the next steps of our path towards identifying the origin of gold. 1 p.m. Virtual - register at frib.msu.edu/gateway/events/talk-brian-metzger.html.

brUNch and Walk with League 5K - Run (or walk!) at Lake Lansing. Brunch afterward at Mayfair Bar. Proceeds provide financial resources to community organizations that focus on food, shelter and access to those essential needs. 8:30 a.m. Lake Lansing Park South, 1621 Pike St., Haslett. 517-657-2017. jllansing.org.

Drum Circle with Greater Lansing Area Drummers (GLAD) - 1 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

Islam 101 with Imam Sohail Chaudhry - 9:30 a.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

JUGGLERS AND WOULD-BE JUGGLERS - Jugglers meet at the Orchard Street Pump House at 2 p.m. Sundays. 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. mikemarhanka@gmail.com.

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

LCC Jazz Band Concert - "Until I Met You," by the Count Basie Orchestra; "Well You Needn't," by Thelonious Monk; "Cheese Cake," by Dexter Gordon; and more. 3 p.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. 517-483-1122. lcc.edu/showinfo.

LCC Rock Band Concert - Rock classics and original works. 6 p.m. The Avenue, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-483-1122. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Museum Tour: "Blind Spot" - Syjuco's practice considers the way images, such as archives and collections, are constructed to convey narratives about history. Registration req. 1 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Neighborhood Action Fence Art at Pattengill Elementary and Saginaw Highway - Bring scissors, a small stapler, clear Scotch tape, water and snacks to share (optional). 2-5 p.m. 815 N. Fairview Ave., Lansing. jill.h.dombrowski@gmail.com.

Renaissance Music - The Renaissance Singers of Greater Lansing perform a spring concert of vocal and recorder works in costume. 3 p.m. Ascension Lutheran Church, 2780 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-9703.

"School of Rock" - 3 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-319-6957. cityofeastlansing.com/allofus.

Shamanic Education & Healing Clinic - With Teresa Wojtowicz of Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts. 3 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

Spartan Youth Wind Symphony and Alumni Band - 3 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

Spring Wildflower Walk - Join a Harris Nature Center naturalist for a look at spring wildflowers in bloom along the trails. 1 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866.

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

Lansing-Area High School Scrabble Tournament

Saturday, April 29

Noon-5 p.m.

East Lansing Public Library
950 Abbot Road, East Lansing



Think you have what it takes to out-spell other high schoolers in the area? At Saturday's (April 29) Lansing-Area High School Scrabble Tournament, groups of two to four high schoolers will compete in four 50-minute games for the chance to win gift cards and other prizes.

One team from each local high school will participate two-on-two in three round-robin Scrabble games and one final king-of-the-hill game. The team with the most wins, largest cumulative spread and highest total score will be crowned the overall winner, though there are prizes for other categories, such as highest-scoring bingo and high-scoring J, Q, X and Z words.

Teams should bring a rotatable Scrabble board with the standard 100 tiles and a rack; a timer with working batteries; and pencils, paper and erasers. To register for free, contact Rheanna Reeder, East Lansing Public Library's teen services specialist, at reeder@cityofeastlansing.com.



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clubtabu.info

Events

from page 23

Monday, May 1

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

Book Discussion Group – “Violeta,” by Isabel Allende - 1 p.m. Mason City Hall, 201 W. Ash St., Mason. 517-676-9088. cadl.org/about/our-locations/mason.

Charles P. “Lash” Larrowe 107th Birthday Celebration - Celebrating the former MSU economics professor and author of several publications, including “Lashing Out” (1982). 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Coral Gables, 2838 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing.

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

Family Storytime - Stories, songs, rhymes, games, movements and more! 2:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Finance Committee - 6 p.m. Laingsburg City Hall, 114 Woodhull St., Laingsburg. laingsburg.us.

Fitness Over 50 - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Meridian Mall Food Court. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian-50plus.com.

Gloss Mondays Open Floor - Aspiring drag performers showcase their talent. 7-10 p.m.

UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

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

Switch Gaming: Mario Kart Night - Feel free to bring your Switch to play between turns. All skill levels welcome! 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

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

Tuesday, May 2

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

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

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

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

See Events, Page 27

MSU large ensemble finale concerts

Wednesday, April 26, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 27, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 29, 8 p.m.

Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing

As Michigan State University wraps up its school year, the College of Music's large ensembles are preparing for their final concerts of the season at the Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall.

Tonight (April 26), in its “Viva la Musica!” show, the Concert Orchestra will perform “Shine,” by Evan Williams; “Symphony No. 1,” by Vasily Kalinnikov; “Nocturne,” by Zhou Tian, “Libertadores,” by Oscar Navarro; “Concert Piece No. 2,” by Vasily Brandt, featuring Concerto Competition winner Mark Davis; and “Love Letter,” a reflection on the tragic Feb. 13 shooting that won the Jere Hutcheson Composition Competition, by Arthur Wang.

Tomorrow evening (April 27), the Wind Symphony will perform guest composer Adam Schoenberg's “Losing Earth” and Aaron Copeland's “Appalachian Spring,” with solo performances by MSU percussionist Jon Weber.

Finally, Saturday evening (April 29), the MSU Symphony Orchestra, Choral Union, State Singers and University Chorale will perform works by Bach, Ravel, Mozart and Brahms in its “A Celebration of Legacies” show. David Rayl, director of choral programs, will give his last conducting performance for the school.

Tickets for each concert are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors (ages 60 and older) and free for students and children under 18. They can be purchased at the door, at music.msu.edu or by calling 517-353-5340.



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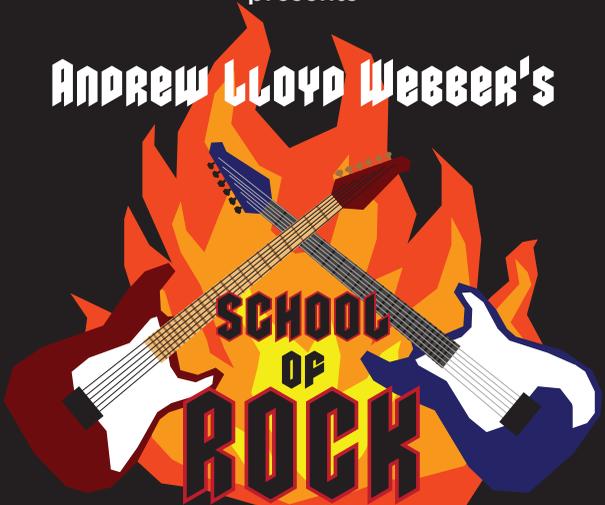
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SCHOOL OF ROCK

April 28 & May 5 7 p.m.	April 29 & May 6 3 p.m.	April 30 & May 7 3 p.m.
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For general information visit www.cityofeastlansing.com/allofus.

Tickets can be purchased at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, (517) 333-2580, ext. 0 or online at www.cityofeastlansing.com/allofus



Children's Theatre
East Lansing
Hannah Community Center
819 Abbot Road
East Lansing, MI 48823

Ticket Information*
\$12 adults
\$8 youth

FOOD & DRINK DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Bento box bonanza

By LIZY FERGUSON

I've lived in Lansing my entire adult life and have loved sushi for even longer, so I'm somewhat ashamed to admit that I just visited Sushi Moto for the first time. I've often heard it has the best sushi around, and I'm so glad I finally went to investigate.

Walking inside, you would never guess you were a stone's throw away from the busy intersection of West Saginaw Highway. I went for lunch with a friend on a Wednesday, but the quiet, dimly lit, beautifully appointed dining room would be an ideal setting for a date night. As it was lunchtime, we had the benefit of choosing from an extensive menu of lunch specials, which is always a boon for the budget-conscious.

Sushi Moto offers everything you would

expect from a Japanese restaurant, from a full sashimi and nigiri menu and a plethora of rolls to udon and yakisoba noodles to tempura, teriyaki and katsu dishes. I was seriously hungry and seriously love all these things, so I chose the Moto Bento box in order to try as many items as possible. There are eight variations of bento to choose from. My box included chicken teriyaki; shrimp and vegetable tempura; a California roll; salmon, tuna and shrimp nigiri; and fresh orange slices.



Moto Bento

\$12.95

Sushi Moto

436 Elmwood Road, Lansing

11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday

Noon-9 p.m. Sunday

517-580-4321

sushimoto.us

"Fresh" is the keyword. In recent years, I haven't been going out for sushi as much as I used to, as I often find myself disappointed in the quality of the ingredients and the care sushi chefs put into their preparation. This was not my experience at Sushi Moto, however.

Sushi rice is usually my biggest issue — I hate when it's mushy and unseasoned — but Sushi Moto's was perfectly cooked. Each grain glistened and was decidedly separate from its many identical neighbors. The crab salad in the California roll was, if I'm not mistaken, made from real crab and looked and tasted as though it had just been prepared. My piece of salmon nigiri melted in my mouth. The pickled ginger was even notably good. My faith in sushi was restored.

The non-sushi components were equally excellent. The tempura came in a massive portion, and each piece was fried to golden perfection. The sweet potato slice the size of my palm was my favorite. I also loved the chicken teriyaki, which was moist and tender and was served atop rice and sauteed peppers and onions soaked in the sweet, tangy sauce.

Not pictured are the miso soup and side



Lizy Ferguson/City Pulse

Sushi Moto offers eight variations of bento boxes to choose from on its lunch menu. The Moto Bento box includes chicken teriyaki; shrimp and vegetable tempura; a California roll; salmon, tuna and shrimp nigiri; and fresh orange slices, all of which are delectable.

salad I started with (\$1.95 each and both very good), which inhibited me from being able to finish my glorious lunchtime treasure trove of perfect bites. If you love sushi and, like me, you've managed to neglect this gem, I strongly recommend you visit soon.

TOP 5

DINING GUIDE

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

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

TOP 5 DONUTS

1. Quality Dairy Store — all locations

Convenience store with fresh donuts daily. See qualitydairy.com for locations, hours and phone numbers.

2. Groovy Donuts

Handcrafted donuts and locally roasted coffee. 3054 E. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing. 517-580-7302. groovydonuts.com. 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday-Sunday.

3. Strange Matter Coffee

Pour-over coffee and espresso bar with house-made vegan treats. 2010 E. Michigan Ave., Suite 103, Lansing. 517-224-5495. strangemattercoffee.com.

7 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday

7 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday

8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

4. Mitten Raised

Handcrafted, gourmet baked goods. 1331 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-490-3918. mittenraised.com.

8 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday

5. Flour Child Bakery

Family-owned, made-from-scratch bakery. 323 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. 517-622-4772. flourchildbakeryandcafe.com.

6 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday

6 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

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Cilantro root soup

By **ARI LEVAUX**

Every inch of the cilantro plant is edible, but the seeds (aka coriander) and leaves get most of the attention. At the farmers market the other day, I spotted cilantro plants with the roots still attached. I brought a bunch of them home and ate the leaves in tacos that evening.

Cilantro roots are mellower than the leaves and seeds but still have that unmistakable, penetrating flavor. The next day, based on a tip from Kou Moua, my cilantro root source, I prepared a pot of Thai stock. Moua said his mother-in-law makes the best cilantro root soup. In a whimsical lilt, he rattled off a list of familiar ingredients from Southeast Asia.

Cilantro abounds in Thai cuisine. Its strong flavor is often combined with equally assertive ingredients, which make the cilantro's flavor less glaring.

But not everyone is on board. Many find cilantro to taste soapy or even downright inedible. Julia Child famously boasted of plucking cilantro leaves from her food and unceremoniously tossing them on the floor.

A minority of cilantro haters are truly genetically averse to it, reacting to the aldehyde molecules that give the plant its unique flavor. But most cilantro haters simply



Courtesy of Ari LeVaux

The roots of the cilantro plant are mellower than the leaves and seeds but still have that unmistakable, penetrating flavor. They're perfect to use in a Thai stock, which can serve as the base of numerous soups, sauces and marinades.

haven't had the proper introduction necessary to acquire a taste for it. A trip to Thailand would probably cure that, but a pot of this magical Thai stock is a more accessible alternative, provided you can get the ingredients. My local store has all of them except cilantro root, but any farmer or gardener who grows cilantro has loads of that.

Like any stock, this one can be a gateway into many dishes. It's only a few



ingredients shy of tom yum, the iconic Thai sour soup that's often served with prawns. It's also the base of a chicken-coconut soup called tom kha gai.

The next time you look at a bunch of cilantro, you'll stare longingly at the spot where the roots should be. But there's no reason to act helpless. If you plant a crop

of cilantro now, you'll have roots in a month. While you wait, eat some leaves. When it flowers, eat the flowers. When the remaining flowers make seeds, enjoy your coriander. Or let them fall and plant themselves. Once you welcome cilantro into your garden — and your life — it tends to stick around.

Thai stock

This stock contains classic Thai ingredients and can be used in an endless array of sauces, marinades and even as a poaching liquid. It's also the backbone of many classic Thai soups.

- 1 tablespoon palm oil
- 2 cups minced shallot or onion
- 3 to 6 cloves garlic
- 4 lemongrass stalks, cut into thirds and pounded to release flavor
- 4 1/4-inch slices of peeled galangal root
- 4 1/4-inch slices of peeled turmeric root
- 4 lime leaves
- crushed red chili, to taste
- 10 slices of ginger, smashed
- 10 to 20 cilantro roots
- 4 quarts water

Heat the oil and fry the minced onion on medium heat until it's translucent (about 10 minutes). Stir in the garlic, lemongrass, galangal, turmeric, lime leaves, ginger and cilantro roots. Add 2 cups of water and turn the heat to high. Cook for 10 minutes with the lid on. Add the rest of the water and bring it to a near boil, then turn the heat to low-medium. Cover and simmer for an hour. Turn the heat off and let the stock cool to room temperature. Strain and store in the fridge for up to a week.

Tom yum

Most restaurants in the United States serve tom yum with seafood like shrimp, fish or mussels. You can also add pork or even go protein-free.

Serves 6

- Stock from previous recipe (about 2 quarts)
 - 1 pound tomatoes, cut into quarters
 - 3 tablespoons fish sauce
 - Juice of a lime
 - 2 stalks lemongrass, cut into thirds
 - Choice of protein
 - Cilantro or red pepper for garnish
- Heat the stock on medium. Add the tomatoes, fish sauce, lemongrass and lime. Check the seasonings and add more lime and fish sauce to taste. It should be plenty sour. Add the protein and any extra veggies you wish and cook until done. Remove the lemongrass and lime leaves if you wish. Garnish and serve.

Tom kha gai

This soup is typically made with boiled chicken, but I have to say, a rotisserie chicken does a nice job too. It doesn't have the same chewy texture, but it's quick and delicious.

Serves 6

- Tom yum (about 2 quarts, assuming you haven't devoured it)
- 8 ounces mushrooms, cut in half
- 6 slices of galangal root, about 1/8-inch thick
- 1 pound cooked chicken, cut into bite-sized chunks
- 1 14-ounce can coconut milk
- Lime juice and fish sauce for seasoning

Heat the tom yum on medium. Add the chicken, galangal, mushrooms and coconut milk. Simmer for 30 minutes. Season with lime juice and fish sauce to taste. Remove the galangal root slices if you wish. Serve garnished with cilantro leaves.

Case No. 22-000196-GM-P33. Declaration of Intent to Give Notice by Publication. Probate Court 313 W. Kalamazoo St. Lansing, MI 48933. In the matter of Kyel Anthony Sanders, Petitioner's Name Jan A. Sanders 4311 Courtland Dr. Lansing, MI 48911. Service of Annual Report of Guardian on Condition of Minor cannot be made on Jamal Anthony Sanders. I intend to publish notice on this individual because his/her address or whereabouts are unknown. I have made the following diligent efforts to ascertain his/her address or whereabouts: I have attempted to serve this notice via USPS and was returned undeliverable. I declare under penalties of perjury that this declaration has been examined by me and that its contents are true to the best of my information, knowledge, and belief. 4/21/23 Jan A. Sanders

CP#23-103

Appetizers

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 20

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C	A	B				M	Y	S	T		O	N	F	I	R	E		
T	R	E				O	U	I	S		C	I	D	E	R			
S	I	N	G	I	N	I	N	T	H	E	R	A	F	T				
C	A	N	O	N		T	E	A	M		M	P	A	A				
A	N	I	T	A	S		S	T	A	B		P	B	S				
N	A	N				B	O	S		E	R	I	Q					
						G	R	A	F	T	O	F	T	R	U	T	H	
D	A	T	A			T	O	G	A		D	O	B	A	D			
A	T	O	M			C	A	R	R		I	T	A	L	Y			
M	E	N	S			S	T	E	M		E	A	R	L	S			

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 20

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

Events

from page 24

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

Preteen Reads Book Club - Chat, eat snacks and have book-related fun. Grades 4-6. Registration req. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

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

Workplace Violence Prevention Forum - Informational session with state Rep. Angela Witwer, panel discussion, Active Violence Incident training and more. Registration req. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. James B. Henry Center for Executive Development, 3535 Forest Road, Lansing. fountainofsolutionsllc.com.



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Wednesday, May 3

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

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

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

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

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

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

Fitness Over 50 - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Meridian Mall Food Court. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian-50plus.com.

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

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

Real Estate Career Night - Learn more about the exciting industry of real estate and the unique opportunity through EXIT to generate residual income that lasts! 5:30 p.m. EXIT Realty at Home, 1427 W. Saginaw St., Suite 110, East Lansing. 517-489-2550.

"Star Wars"-Themed Trivia Night at LBC - 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.com.

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

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

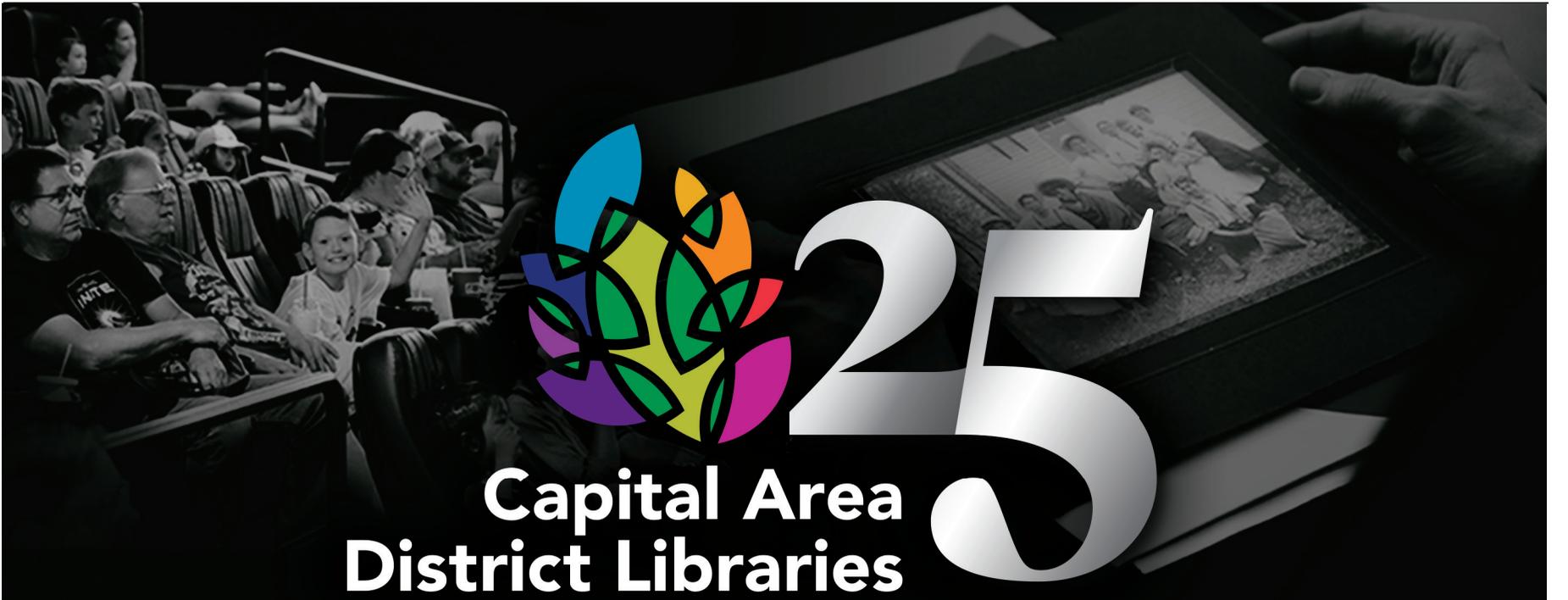


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