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June 13-20, 2023

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See page 15

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158 Years Later: Celebrating Progress

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2023

LANSING JUNETEENTH

30th Anniversary Celebration

JUNETEENTH, THE WAVE OF FREEDOM



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Michigan Supreme Court Justice
Kyra Harris Bolden

Thursday, June 15 - 5:30pm

*Kick-off Ceremony &
Essay Competition/Scholarship
Awards Program*

Lansing Community College - Downtown Campus
Gannon Bldg. - 411 North Grand Avenue, Lansing

Friday, June 16 - Saturday, June 17

*The Juneteenth Freedom Festival
featuring the Juneteenth 5K and
the African American Parade*

at St. Joseph Park

2125 W. Hillsdale, Lansing, Michigan

**PARADE
GRAND MARSHALS**



James E. Bibbs



Alan Haller

Friday - Freedom Festival Friday Night Activities - 4pm-8pm
Saturday - The day begins at 8:30 am with the Juneteenth 5K,
followed by the Parade at 11:00 am. The festival features:
Lansing Juneteenth /NAACP Lansing Branch Job Fair - 11am-3pm &
Community Resource Fair - 3pm-6pm;
Health Fair - 11am-3pm; Children's Activities - 12pm-5pm;
Exhibits, Merchants and Food Vendors, and an amazing array of
Main Stage Entertainment will continue until dusk.

Visit LansingJuneteenthCelebration.org



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Alexander Zonjic & Friends

**FEATURED
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Joe Brown



Kasan Belgrave



James Lloyd

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**VOL. 22
ISSUE 45**

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Five Juneteenth celebrations across the Lansing area

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Cover illustration by Dennis Preston



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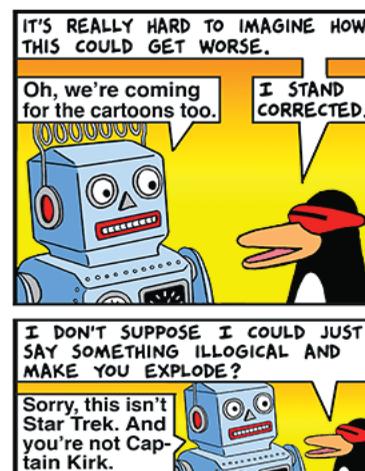
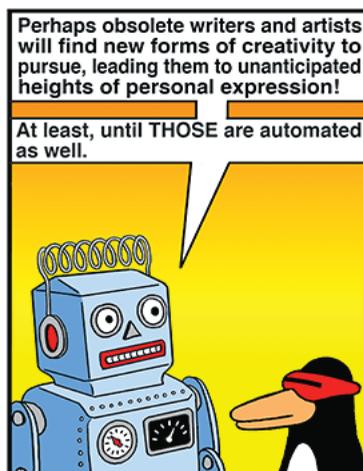
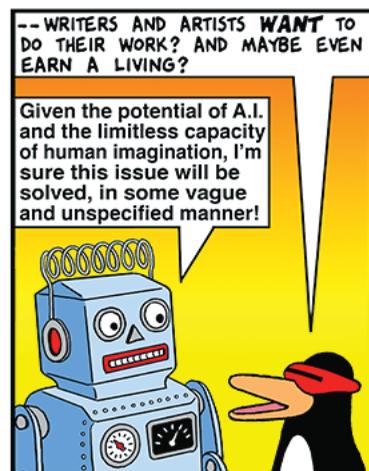
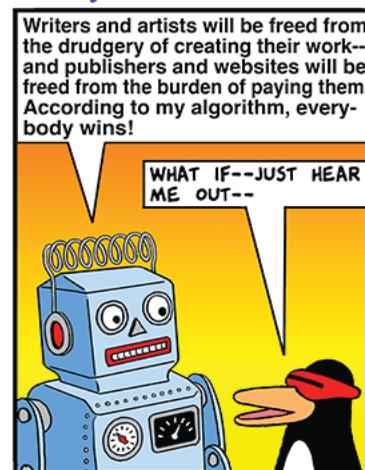
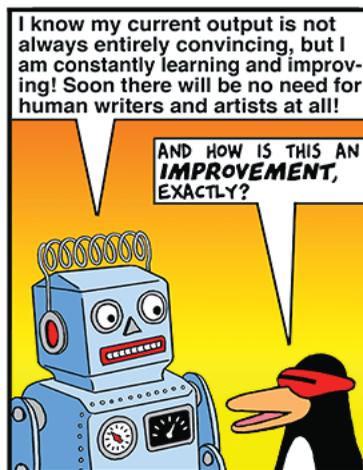
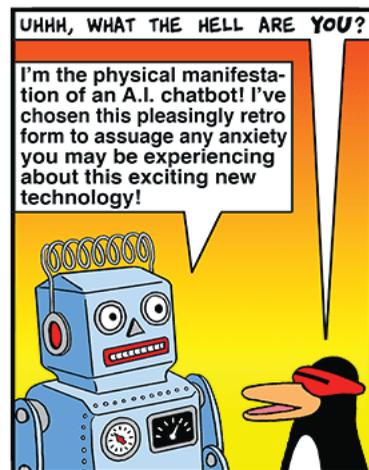
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



Tom Tomorrow © 2023

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Lansing Pride's Ben Dowd: From rural town to toast of the town

Ben Dowd grew up in the shadow of a non-defunct air force base in Oscoda, Michigan. Wurtsmith Air Force Base was decommissioned in 1993, straddling Iosco and Oscoda counties in northeastern Michigan. It was not a place where being an openly gay man would have been welcomed.

He escaped to Central Michigan University, where he slowly began to open his closet door, revealing his authentic self to the world.

"Being on a college campus made it somewhat better," Dowd, 40, said. "I found my voice in being an active volunteer."

Dowd, whose day job is associate director and CEO of the Community Economic Development Association, has worked with HIV organizations in New York and local organizations in Lansing. He's also the president of the Old Town Commercial Association and has served on the board of the LGBTQ+ professional group Suits in the City.

And for the last two years, he's been president of Lansing Pride, which will hold its second festival this weekend in Old Town. The event will feature music, performances, vendors and family-friendly areas, including a drag queen story hour.

Dowd and the Pride team are well aware that drag performances and trans communities are under assault by rightwing advocates. The latest in Michigan was three weeks ago, when members of the hate group Proud Boys protested outside an all-ages drag show in a church in Portage, in Kalamazoo County. Last year saw a drumbeat of political assaults on trans and gender non-conforming people from school board candidates to GOP gubernatorial candidate Tudor Dixon. Elsewhere, states have passed anti-trans legislation controlling what medical treatment youth can access and prohibiting minors from seeing drag shows. In Florida, lawmakers expanded a so-called "Don't Say Gay" law to include all K-12 education classes.

But the continuing backlash doesn't deter Dowd and the Lansing Pride team. "We're obviously a very drag-friendly organization," he said. But that doesn't



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

mean the group is not taking precautions. They have been working with officials from the Lansing Police Department on a security plan. The group's family zone will be a fenced-in area at Turner Street and Cesar Chavez Avenue featuring LPD community officers and children's activities. There will also be a drag queen story hour that will feature reading, dancing and more for children.

He said the activities will be "like a big dress up and imagination" even for children and families. "We want to give families and parents the opportunity to show that they support this," he said, "because it's an act of love and support."

Lansing Pride continues the festival tradition that was started by Michigan Pride, which for many years attracted the LGBTQ+ community to Lansing from around the state. But with hundreds of Pride events in Michigan, attendance fell off. Michigan Pride continues with speakers at the Capitol noon to 2 p.m. June 25. Neither group is sponsoring the march to the Capitol that was once a mainstay of Michigan Pride.

Dowd got recruited to help birth a new festival by Dee Clark, a drag queen known in the community as Delicious.

Dowd was a referral because of his years volunteering in Old Town putting together successful festivals in the artistic enclave north of downtown. He told Delicious he could put together a festival, but that that it needed to be more than just a festival.

"We need to have a mission and a vision that's different than what is already happening to do that," he remembers telling Delicious. "Really, our vision is that we become an organization that is a catalyst in Lansing for other LGBTQ groups that are doing wonderful work in different silos. This is the space to bring that all together."

With that mission in mind, Lansing Pride met with organizers of the city's Juneteenth celebration to prevent stepping on each other's events. The two organizations agreed to cross-promote each other's events. (For more on Juneteenth, see Page 10.)

"It's the first time there has been a deliberate and conscious decision to cooperate between the two events," he said. "It was simply, 'This is wonderful let's promote each other. Let's make sure that there's a voice of inclusion across the city.'"

— TODD HEYWOOD



Ben Dowd

Lansing Pride Events 2023

Friday, June 16:

The White Party
The Junction
410 S. Clippert St.
Lansing, MI 48912
8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Featuring performances, drink specials and dancing.

\$5 in advance/\$10 at the door
18+

www.thejunctionmichigan.com

June 17

Mid Mitten Cross Fit Pride WOD
Mid Mitten CrossFit
701 East South Street
Lansing, MI 48910

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Free, donations to benefit GAAY Sports League and Trevor Project

More information: midmittencrossfit@gmail.com

Lansing Pride Festival

1200 block of Turner Street, Lansing
Mainstage 1 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Lansing Pride Festival Family Festival

Family Area 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For more: www.lansingpride.org

Pride Afterglow Party

The Junction
410 S. Clippert St.
Lansing, MI 48912

8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Features performances drink specials and dancing

\$5 in advance \$10 at the door

www.thejunctionmichigan.com

'They, them' may be coming to Michigan courts

Bridge Michigan

Michigan's highest court is considering a rule that would compel judges and their employees to use the preferred pronouns of anyone coming before their courts.

If the Michigan Supreme Court adopts a new rule proposed earlier this year, parties in a case could submit filings listing their personal pronouns, including they/them pronouns.

Judges and court staff throughout the state would be obligated to adhere to those pronouns, although the proposal leaves room for a judge to use the person's name "or other respectful means" to address them if deemed necessary for court records.

Supporters say that changing current policy would make Michigan courtrooms more inclusive, particularly to transgender and nonbinary people who must go before a local court to legally change their names.

Many LGBTQ+ people have had negative experiences in Michigan courtrooms when they've been referred to by names or pronouns that they no longer use, Jay Kaplan, staff attorney for ACLU of Michigan's

LGBTQ Project, said during a Wednesday Supreme Court hearing on the proposed rule.

The amendment would be "common decency" toward all who come through the court, regardless of gender expression, Kaplan said.

Heidi Naasko, an attorney who frequently works with transgender and non-binary individuals, said she's seen firsthand instances where litigants are misgendered during court proceedings.

"It has caused embarrassment, humiliation and panic to the impacted party," Naasko said.

But others claimed the measure could cause confusion in court records and potentially infringe on constitutional rights to free speech or religious expression.

Will Bloomfield, general counsel for the Catholic Diocese of Lansing, said Catholic judges "should not have to choose between his or her religion and a court rule," arguing the rule "contradicts the truth of human sexuality."

Using they/them pronouns could also cause clarity issues for court reporters and judges writing opinions, other attorneys told the court.

For transgender and nonbinary people, though, the rules could make all the difference in feeling comfortable to engage in the legal process, said Julisa Abad, director of transgender outreach for the Fair Michigan Justice Project and a trans woman.

Transgender individuals won't feel empowered to testify in court or report crimes "if they know they're not even going to be accepted or respected as their authentic selves," Abad said.

Some are advocating for a middle

ground. In an April letter to the court, four groups representing Michigan judges suggested tweaking the proposed rule to allow for "respectful means of address" to give everyone respect while allowing for court discretion to avoid confusion.

Whether the rule change is adopted is ultimately up to court justices, and it's unclear when the court will make its decision.

— LAUREN GIBBONS



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Happy Juneteenth!

With love

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Home of the Rainbow Cafe

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or on 1240am or the web.

Call us to schedule your special event or to get involved



**MERIDIAN
FREEDOM FEST**
meridian.mi.us/juneteenth

- **FREE MOVIE SCREENING OF "QUEEN OF KATWE"**
 - Friday, June 16, 9:00 pm - 11:00 pm | Meridian Historical Village
- **BLUES & JAZZ FESTIVAL**
 - Saturday, June 17, 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm | Lake Lansing Park South
- **A SPIRITUAL HISTORICAL REVIEW**
 - Sunday, June 18, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Meridian Historical Village

THANK YOU TO
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SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2023
1 PM - 10 PM



LANSING PRIDE 2023

in the Heart of Old Town Lansing

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LANSING, MI 48906

Presented by  **RITE AID**

2023 MAIN STAGE

Special Performances from Orion Story, the Lansing Pride Court, 2022 and 2023, and a ton of local favorites!

AROUND 1PM - 5PM

Event features a variety of performers and speakers, including Ms Trans Michigan, LanSINGout, a local DJ, and Pet Me. RiteAid is the title sponsor and will give a special word. Michigan-Native Synthia Looper will provide Ethereal Synth Pop music.

AROUND 5PM - 10PM

Join us for an exciting block of events! We have a special performance from Orion Story, followed by the always amazing Nonbinary. Next, we'll hear from the Lansing Pride Board, introduce the newly crowned members of the Lansing Pride Court, take a quick dance break with a favorite local DJ, and finally, enjoy another show from some fantastic Drag performers and a live local band. Don't miss out!

FAMILY AREA EVENTS

The family area is a collection of groups and events that are all-ages friendly

AROUND 1PM - 4PM

Engage in a variety of activities including: Crafting with Lansing Area Littles, Learning with Waverly Robotics, Creating sidewalk chalk art, Interacting with animals at Preuss Pets, and Attending Drag Queen Story Hour

AROUND 4PM - 7PM

Exciting Activities for the Whole Family like Join us for Bubbles R Fun Interactive Bubbles, Delicious Snacks with our Local Community Officers, and Face Painting!

STAY THE WEEKEND!



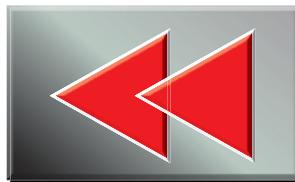
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REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

BY NICOLE NOECHEL



Michigan State University announced its distribution plan for the Spartan Strong Fund. The school established the fund to raise money for

“the evolving needs of the individuals most critically impacted” by the Feb. 13 mass shooting. The fund raised \$2 million from more than 4,200 donors. Approximately \$1 million will support those most directly impacted by the shooting by assisting the families of those who were killed with needs not met by state and federal compensation funds, funding the remainder of the injured students’ undergraduate schooling and providing supportive and financial resources to individuals who were in one of the two first-floor Berkey Hall classrooms or the MSU Union food court kitchen during the shooting. \$500,000 will reimburse or fund student, faculty, staff and first responder mental health care services. \$200,000 will go toward “healing and resiliency programming” through the Office for Resource and Support Coordination. Approximately \$300,000 and any additional funds on top of the \$2 million will be used to create a permanent memorial on campus.

In related news:

Attorneys for two students injured in the shooting, Nate Statly and Troy Forbush, filed notices of intent to sue MSU. The notices are required under state law to file a lawsuit against state government entities. The attorneys allege that at the time of the shooting, MSU had an insufficient video surveillance system, a lack of locks inside classroom doors, no remotely lockable doors and no restrictions on who was allowed to access buildings at night. They also allege that the university didn’t hold enough active shooter trainings and drills. Statly, who was shot in the head, has spent months in hospitals and cannot talk, walk, eat whole foods or use the left side of his body. Forbush, who was in the same lecture room as Statly at the time of the shooting, was shot in the lung, and surgeries have caused permanent and widespread scarring. He is also dealing with post-traumatic stress. MSU has begun installing locks on the insides of doors throughout campus and is updating its video surveillance system, which it was recommended to do in July 2022, the Lansing State Journal reported.



Forbush



Statly

A 2-year-old is dead after accessing an unsecured firearm in a home in Howell. The toddler was transported by EMS to a local hospital and pronounced dead. Fox 2



Detroit reported that the toddler’s father is a corporal in the Dearborn Police Department. It is unknown who the gun belongs to, and the investigation is ongoing.

The City of Lansing settled a lawsuit it filed against a Lansing-based property management company over housing conditions, the Lansing State Journal reported. The city filed the lawsuit against Holmes Apartments LLC, Simtob Management & Investment LLC, Good Life Apartments LLC and Richard and Bradley Simtob in March after it red-tagged units at the Holmes Apartments at 2222 W. Holmes St. Many residents were forced to move into hotels that the city paid for after their apartments were deemed unsafe. Simtob officials suggested the company could move residents to other properties it owns, including an apartment building at 1317 E. Kalamazoo St., but the property did not have a valid rental certificate. Simtob Management must make city-mandated repairs to its 21 properties in Lansing within three months, repay the city for hotel costs and continue housing tenants displaced by red and pink tags.



An Eaton County nonprofit that assists families experiencing domestic violence and homelessness created a GoFundMe campaign to recover allegedly stolen funds.

On the fundraiser page, Tracey Socey, outreach coordinator for the SIREN/Eaton Shelter, says that while the nonprofit was conducting routine audits, it noticed it had been “the victim of theft.” She says the organization is working with the state Attorney General’s Office to investigate the alleged theft and has filed a claim with its insurance carrier, which assigned a forensic accountant to the case. In the meantime, Socey says funding is limited and the organization is at risk of closing its doors and ceasing services. She says without community help, the organization may have to sell its domestic violence emergency shelter site. It’s attempting to raise \$300,000 through the GoFundMe. It has raised just over \$2,000 so far.

Lansing City Council voted unanimously to recognize Pride Month and Juneteenth, WLNS reported. Juneteenth marks the end of slavery in the United States on June 19, 1865. In recognizing Jamie Ashby as Miss Trans Michigan 2023, it also recognized Pride Month. The Lansing Juneteenth Celebration will begin Thursday (June 15), and Lansing Pride is set for Saturday (June 17).



Do anti-LGBTQ book bans discriminate? AG Nessel is asked for formal ruling

Bridge Michigan

The Michigan Civil Rights Commission is asking Attorney General Dana Nessel for a formal legal opinion on whether school book bans can be considered a form of prohibited discrimination.

The May 26 request has significant implications in Michigan, where parents have pushed several school districts and local libraries to consider banning LGBTQ+ books and other material they contend is too mature for kids.

The commission wants Nessel to decide “whether banning and censorship of content and materials, prohibition of paraphernalia, and prevention of affiliate groups and safe spaces in educational institutions constitutes a violation of the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act,” Lamont Satchel, general counsel for the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, wrote in the request.

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and the Democratic-led Legislature recently expanded that civil rights law by codifying court rulings that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

Nessel, a Democrat and the state’s first openly gay attorney general, is a defender of LGBTQ+ rights. The commission is asking for her legal opinion by its next public meeting on July 24.

If Nessel determines that book bans do constitute a form of discrimination, the opinion could empower the Michigan Department of Civil Rights to investigate alleged violations.

The eight-member civil rights commission, which is charged with investigating alleged discrimination, voted last month to request the opinion. The written request was published Monday by the subscription-based FOIA Services Michigan.

As Bridge Michigan has reported, schools and local governments across the state have debated books bans in recent years.

Dearborn Public Schools, for instance, last year banned two books from its high school library, “Red, White and Blue,” about a romance between the U.S. president’s bisexual son and a gay British royal, and “Push,” about a Black teen raped by her father.

Earlier this year, Lapeer County Prosecutor John Miller considered filing criminal charges against a local public library if an LGBTQ-themed graphic novel was not removed from the shelves.

— Jonathan Oosting

Why GOP lawmakers aren't supporting National Popular Vote plan for president

The Michigan House is considering adding Michigan to the states that will guarantee that whichever presidential candidate receives the most votes nationally actually wins the presidency.

It's called the National Popular Vote Compact. I've written about it before.

The plan is being promoted by National Popular Vote, a nonprofit bankrolled primarily by Democratic funder

John Koza of California, who created the scratch-off lottery card back in the day.

They've hired a bunch of Republicans, like former Michigan Republican Party Chair Saul Anuzis, to go around the country convincing states to throw their Electoral College votes behind the candidate who receives the highest national vote total.

It's working to some extent. They've got 16 states and the District of Columbia, which comprise 205 Electoral College votes. Since 270 electoral votes are needed to elect a president, they are 75% of the way there. Michigan would add 15.

For years, they've had Michigan in their sights, but they've never been able to get both chambers to agree to it. Now, though, Democrats control the Legislature and the Governor's Office.

Ann Arbor Democratic Rep. Carrie Rheingans is sponsoring the latest iteration of the bill, and this one has some momentum. Working the issue is former Rep. Rebekah Warren, whom National Popular Vote hired when she was still a Michigan legislator to promote the issue in a couple of other states.

She's working her magic in Michigan now.

Rheingans' bill moved out of committee last week with both Republican committee members voting no.

Asked how many Republican members he believes will vote for it on the floor, House Minority Leader Matt Hall told me, "Zero."

Asked how many GOP caucus members he believes would vote for it in the Senate, Minority Leader Aric Nesbitt said he suspects the same number: zero.

Even if both Hall and Nesbitt are off and there are five to seven votes in the House or a couple in the Senate, the dynamics don't change much.

Today's average Republican simply doesn't trust National Popular Vote plan. They think it's a Democratic sham. Good luck convincing them otherwise.



KYLE MELINN

Opinion

POLITICS

It doesn't matter that Republicans won more raw U.S. Senate votes across the country in the last election than Democrats.

It doesn't matter that Republicans won more raw U.S. House votes across the country or gubernatorial votes.

It doesn't even matter that they have Donald Trump on a recording saying he supported it.

To your average hard-headed, conspiracy-theory-buying, cynical Republican, this scheme is 100% to get Democrats to flood polling places in some major metropolitan area to get the Democratic nominee elected.

Period.

These MAGA and Ultra-MAGA activists barely trust their own local election process. They don't trust Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson. And they absolutely don't trust election officials in California or Chicago or New York, who they're convinced are rigging the system now.

Wait until these big-city scammers have the power to influence a presidential election!

To them, this is a big "no way."

Anuzis & Co. are trying like hell to present the National Popular Vote Compact as bipartisan. They're bringing back some quality brand names like former Lt. Gov. Dick Posthumus, former Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville and former House Speaker Chuck Perricone to make logical arguments in front of legislative committees.

But these guys don't represent today's Republican Party. Today's GOP consists of people like Matt DePerno and Kristina Karamo, who still won't say publicly that the 2020 election was on the up-and-up.

Azunis wrote a local argument in The Detroit News that the number of real battleground states next year will be about four. Michigan probably won't be one of them. It'll likely go Democratic, like it has every year but once since 1988.

If Michigan Republicans want their vote to count, the National Popular Vote plan is the way to go, he says.

In the past, National Popular Vote would bring these Republican lawmakers to seminars in Hawaii and other vacation resorts to make their case. For several, it worked.

Today's Republicans see such trips as junkets and likely political suicide.

They have so many other battles to fight. For so many of them, there's no reason to die on this philosophical hill.

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

EPA must move faster on carbon to protect jobs and the environment

(The writer represents the Second Ward on the Lansing City Council and is a plumber and the state political lead for the Michigan Pipes Trades Association.)

Climate change is a serious threat here in Mid-Michigan. We've seen the consequences of this phenomenon firsthand and are eager to find equitable solutions for everyone.

As a Lansing City Council member, I am deeply committed to addressing the issue of climate change and finding sustainable solutions that will benefit both our environment and our economy.

We are faced with a global crisis that requires bold action, and we cannot afford to wait any longer to take decisive steps toward reducing our carbon emissions. I applaud the Biden administration for their efforts in pushing toward a carbon-neutral future with a plethora of renewable energy solutions to keep our planet safe and healthy.

However, we must also recognize that many key industries in our state rely on the use of fossil fuels, such as the automobile industry. This means that, unfortunately, transitioning to a carbon-neutral or carbon-free future cannot happen overnight. That is why I am proud to support carbon capture and storage initiatives as a crucial step toward achieving our climate goals.

Carbon capture and storage technology allows us to capture carbon dioxide emissions before they are released into the atmosphere and store them in a safe and secure manner, usually in underground geological formations or in underground minerals minerals such as magnesium oxide or calcium oxide. This technology has already had success in states like Illinois, where the Illinois Basin-Decatur Project and the Illinois Carbon Capture and Storage Project successfully captured and stored more than 3.5 million tons of carbon dioxide from a local ethanol production plant.

Beyond the environmental benefits, carbon capture initiatives also have the

potential to preserve good, high-paying union jobs that will keep up economic progress in regions that rely on these industries. By easing these industries into carbon-neutral solutions, we can ensure that the transition to a carbon-free future is as smooth and equitable as possible.

Of course, carbon capture is not a silver bullet solution to climate change, but it is a critical piece of the puzzle.

We need to use every available solution to combat climate change, and that includes carbon capture and storage. This means supporting both capture and storage technology to make sure we keep the carbon byproduct out of

the atmosphere. Additionally, with the labor protections that organizations like mine have secured, we know that the workers on these jobs will receive fair wages and fair benefits.

Recently, President Biden showed his commitment to carbon capture and storage with an impressive \$2.5 billion commitment for two different programs. I commend him for this investment, but we cannot reap the full benefit of the programs unless the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency speeds up the regulatory system of approving carbon capture projects for federal permits. After waiting years, only two states have received primacy to oversee their own projects, and four other states are in limbo waiting for approval. Nearly 30 storage wells across the country are waiting on permit approval. I urge the EPA to accelerate their primacy and permit approval processes so we can start taking advantage of this exciting energy innovation.

The Biden Administration has invested in many crucial tools to fight climate change, like renewable energy sources, electric vehicles, energy efficiency, and carbon capture and storage. They have made it clear that carbon capture and storage must be part of our climate change solution. The EPA must allow us to build on this momentum and accelerate permit and primacy approval.



Opinion

Notice to Creditors. Ingham County Probate Court. Decedent's Estate. Case No. 23-649-DE. Estate of Carmen Mendez. The decedent, Carmen Mendez, died March 15, 2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Amelia Casanova, 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. 6/6/2023 Amanda Betush P78512 Doyle Law PC P.O. 3752 Grand Rapids, MI 49501-3752

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ARTS & CULTURE

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Juneteenth events honor local Black history and culture

By **NICOLE NOECHEL**

Juneteenth, a national holiday since 2021 and a state holiday in Michigan since 2020, honors the official end of slavery in the United States. On June 19, 1865, hundreds of thousands of African American slaves in Texas were granted their freedom, thanks to an order from Major General Gordon Granger. Texas was the last state in the Confederacy to free its enslaved population — the Civil War had ended two months earlier, and Abraham Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation two years earlier.

In recognition of this prominent day in American history, towns, cities and organizations throughout the country put on festivals, seminars and other events honoring Black history and culture. Locally, the longest-running event we have today is the Lansing Juneteenth Celebration, which was founded in 1993. After Juneteenth was declared a national holiday, other organizations and towns began to follow suit with annual celebrations, such as 517 Juneteenth Weekend in REO Town, Michigan State University's Juneteenth Celebration and the Meridian Freedom Fest, which all began in 2021.

These groups are offering a mix of events this year, from a 5K and film screenings to concerts, a parade and vendor and resource fairs, all celebrating and highlighting the Black community. To learn more and decide how to spend your weekend, read on.

Lansing Juneteenth Celebration June 15-17

The Lansing Juneteenth Celebration is commemorating its 30th anniversary with a lineup of big events and even bigger speakers and performers.

The first Lansing Juneteenth Celebrations were on the grounds of Mask Memorial CME Church. The organizers' goal was to ensure the food, sports, speakers and activities presented at the events were representative of the first Juneteenth celebrations in 1865. Gordon Haskins, the driving force behind the first event in 1993, was a longtime member of the church. He envisioned a celebration of Juneteenth in Lansing that would mirror festivities he had attended in



Courtesy of 517 Juneteenth

Attendees enjoy an evening of music and dancing at the 2022 517 Juneteenth Festival.

Douglasville, Texas, before moving to Michigan.

As the festival grew larger, the committee began hosting events at local parks — first at Adado Riverfront Park, then at Benjamin Davis Park, and then at St. Joseph Park, where it's still held today.

The festival also began hosting its annual Essay/Scholarship Program, which awards middle and high school students for researching and writing about the history of Juneteenth. This year, the winning students will be announced and recognized at the 2023 Capital City Kickoff Ceremony, taking place 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday (June 15) at Lansing Community College's Gannon Building. Michigan Supreme Court Justice Kyra Harris Bolden will deliver a keynote speech, and the ceremony will include other speakers and performers as well.

The Run/Walk/Roll 5K, kicking off 8:30 a.m. Saturday (June 16) at J.W. Sexton High School, allows community members to run, walk or roll wheelchairs and strollers throughout Lansing's westside neighborhood. Registration is \$35, and you can reserve your spot by following the link at lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org.

Saturday afternoon, the annual

African American Parade begins at Sexton High School and the job and health fairs begin at St. Joseph Park, both at 11. The Juneteenth Freedom Festival, featuring performances by jazz flutist and radio personality Alexander Zonjic, jazz keyboardist James Lloyd, gospel rapper Joe Brown and saxophonist Kasan Belgrave, kicks off at noon. There will also be merchants, food vendors, children's activities and more.

For a full schedule of events, check out the Lansing Juneteenth Celebration ad on page 3 or visit lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org.

517 Juneteenth Weekend June 15-18

Now in its third year, 517 Juneteenth Weekend gives mid-Michigan residents the opportunity to celebrate Black culture, expression and experiences with live music, mixers, seminars and more.

The weekend kicks off 6 p.m. Thursday (June 15) at the Cadillac Room with a seminar titled "Black History. Black Future. Leveraging Culture for Economic Growth." The event will explore the intersections between entrepreneurship, education, financial literacy and community investment.

Jaz Jackson, owner of JSCULPT Fitness, will give the keynote speech. She'll share how she leveraged her culture as a Black woman to create a multi-million-dollar fitness brand that focuses on Black and brown women.

A panel discussion on culture and economic growth will follow, featuring Tony Willis, chief equity development officer for the Lansing Economic Area Partnership; Dwayne Powell Jr., a vice president of community development at PNC Bank; and Rashida Harrison, an assistant professor of social relations and policy at Michigan State University.

A mixer with music, drinks and food will cap the evening at 8 p.m.

Enjoy a free ice cream social 4 to 6 p.m. Friday (June 16) at the corner of South Washington Avenue and South Street. The event is sponsored by Milk Means More, with cold treats courtesy of Sweet Encounter Bakery & Cafe, a local Black-owned business. All of the Above Hip-Hop Academy will DJ the event and lead breakdancing sessions. For children ages 0 to 5, PNC Bank's Mobile Learning Adventure will offer a craft area, a storytelling tree, giveaways, a "When I Grow Up" photo station and more. For elementary-school-aged children, Impression 5 Science Center will host hands-on experiments, and the Kidz Zone will offer inflatables and games.

Saturday (June 17) features the 517 Juneteenth Festival, 3:30 to 10 p.m. on South Washington Avenue between South Street and Elm Street in REO Town, which typically brings in thousands of guests. Nationally and internationally recognized Black artists of all genres will perform, including Grammy-nominated R&B singer-songwriter Kenyon Dixon, Grammy-winning musician and producer Gwen Bunn, jazz musician Brandon Rose and gospel group The Singletons.

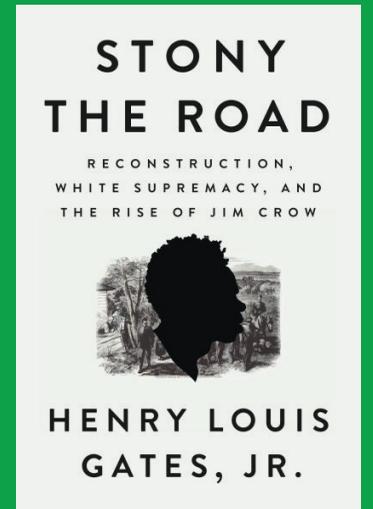
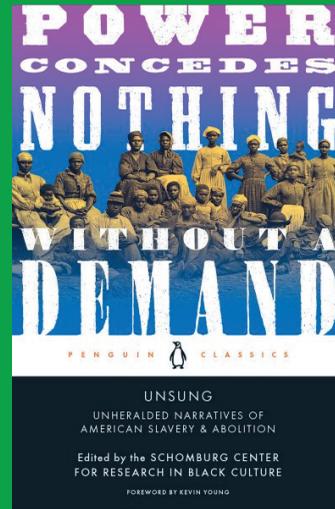
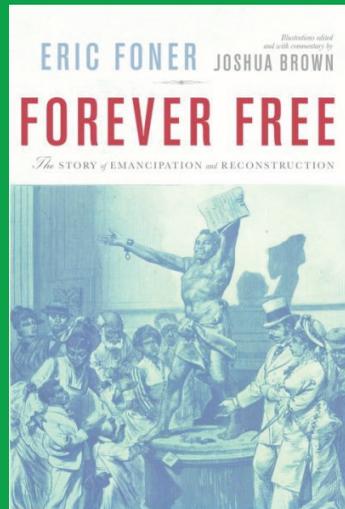
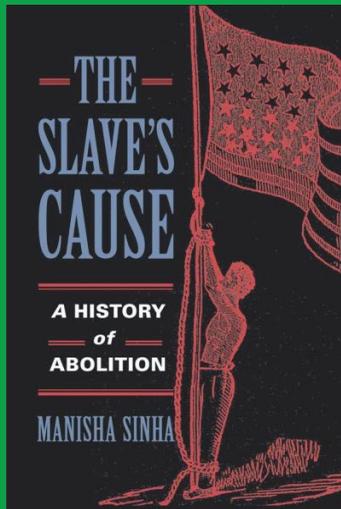
More than 60 Black-owned-business vendors will line the streets, a food court will offer meals from local Black-owned food trucks and restaurants, and the Kidz Zone and PNC

JUNETEENTH FREEDOM DAY

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Juneteenth

from page 10

Mobile Learning Adventure will allow children to take part in the fun as well.

Finally, the weekend wraps up with a Father's Day Brunch and Jazz event 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday (June 18) at the Cadillac Room. The brunch is catered by Bishop's Kitchen, featuring fried chicken and waffles, fried catfish, shrimp and grits, French toast, eggs, bacon, sausage, pastries, fruit and more. Attendees can sip mimosas while enjoying jazz music by Trilogy Band.

MSU Juneteenth Celebration June 15-16

According to the Smithsonian Institution, Afrofuturism "expresses notions of Black identity, agency and freedom through creative works and activism that envision liberated futures for Black life." For some examples of Afrofuturism at work, listen to the music of Janelle Monae or take a look at Marvel's "Black Panther" films.

Michigan State University English Professor Julian Chambliss discussed Afrofuturism with experts around the country, culminating in a new Public Broadcasting Service documentary, "Afrofantastic: The Transformative World of Afrofuturism." The school will host a screening of the film, along with a Q&A, 7 p.m. Thursday (June 15) at the College of Arts and Sciences, Room 145. Panelists include Chambliss; Teresa Goforth, director of exhibitions at the MSU Museum; Olivia Furman, a non-binary womanist, artist, educator and researcher; and Ytasha L. Womack, an author, filmmaker, dancer and independent scholar who is featured in the documentary.

"The world of 'Afrofantastic' is one where thinkers, artists and community members are coming together to create a compelling new vision of the future — one that embraces Black people and Black culture in a way that previously did not happen," Chambliss said.

The following day (June 16), MSU will host its 3rd annual Juneteenth Celebration from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Breslin Student Events Center. This year's theme is "158 Years Later: Celebrating Progress," focusing on the advancements and achievements the Black community has made throughout the country since 1865.

Past MSU Juneteenth Celebrations have been more formal and speaker-based, but this year will be performance-based and will also include a



Courtesy of the Lansing Juneteenth Celebration

Representatives from the Lansing branch of the NAACP march in the annual Lansing Juneteenth Celebration African American Parade in 2019.

Black Wall Street Vendor Fair, photos with Sparty, giveaways and a soul food dinner provided by MSU's Kellogg Catering and Sweet Encounter Bakery & Cafe.

The event will be hosted by violinist Rodney Page and will feature performances by vocalist GeDeane Graham, gospel singer Gregory D and Co. and the MSU Jazz Quintet. Attendees are encouraged to RSVP at inclusion.msu.edu.

Meridian Freedom Fest June 16-18

In 2021, Meridian Township held its first Juneteenth celebration, the Meridian Business Freedom Fest. Residents were invited to hunt for more than 30 gift cards to local businesses hidden around the township.

"The goal for Meridian Township's Juneteenth celebration was to come up with an age-friendly, inclusive community activity that sparks the conversation around Juneteenth, our nation's past and our pursuit to create space for everyone. The business community came out in huge support of this holiday, many of those businesses being Black business owners," said Amber Clark, the township's Neighborhoods and Economic Development director.

The success of the first event inspired the township to continue holding an annual Freedom Fest, though they have grown over the past two years into lengthier festivals

that feature a variety of community events.

This year, the festival kicked off with a free screening of "The Wiz" on June 9. It will host another free movie screening, "Queen of Katwe," a biographical drama about a young Ugandan girl who learns to play chess, 9 p.m. Friday (June 16) at the Meridian Historical Village. Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets to sit on.

The township will hold its inaugural Blues & Jazz Festival, featuring performances by Mixed Flavors, Deacon Earl, The Sound, Tony Thompson & Friends and more, 1 to 7 p.m. Saturday (June 17) at Lake Lansing Park South. The free event will also offer food and beverages for purchase, small-business vendors, yard games and more.

The Freedom Fest will end with a Spiritual Historical Review 2 p.m. Sunday (June 18) at the Meridian Historical Village Chapel. Pastor Marvin Williams of Trinity Church on Dunckel Road will discuss how spirituality has "led to the construction of modern Black excellence" as well as how spirituality has also been used to divide Black communities.

"In support of the traditional 'Sunday service' and recognizing the diverse faiths of the community, the intent of this historical review is to demonstrate how tradition can work to the advantage of a community," the website reads.

Attendees are invited to wear their "Sunday best," such as hats, gloves and other formal attire, as a nod of respect to traditional Black church services. Following the one-hour presentation, dinner and drinks will be served at the Marketplace on the Green pavilion.

Delta Township Juneteenth events June 15, 20, 27

Delta Township will celebrate Juneteenth with three separate events throughout the month.

The Black History 101 Mobile Museum will make a stop at the Delta Township District Library 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday (June 15). Founded by Khalid el-Hakim, an educator and activist, it contains more than 10,000 original pieces of Black memorabilia from the era of the trans-Atlantic slave trade to today.

Tuesday's (June 20) Music in the Park concert, 5 to 9 p.m. at Sharp Park, will feature music by Brotha Earth, a five-piece band that includes three former touring members of the legendary Motown band Rare Earth. Tony Thompson will open the show. There will also be family-friendly activities and games and food available for purchase from The Smoke N' Pig BBQ's food truck.

Finally, the June 27 Music in the Park concert, 7 to 9 p.m. at Sharp Park, will feature Mixed Flavors, a local blues/R&B/soul group. Singer-songwriter Kanin Wren will open the show.

We all grew up, only knowing what we were told. We believed and trusted what we were taught as true and accurate. We became invested in the culture of our society, that our place in the world was morally just, that we were the envy of the world. And in some cases, that may have been true. But as time drudges on, and if we look at how we've evolved, with honesty and truth as our beacon, we will see that we have failed to live up to our promises. We have been guilty of doing just enough over the years to pacify the population, and just enough to continue to tell the rest of the world how great we are, even when much of what we allowed we'd condemn if we witnessed a foreign government do. We have allowed our political process to muddy the waters of creating policy, so that the general public really doesn't know what our elected officials are voting for or against. We have turned a blind eye to families burying their sons and daughters who were shot because of no-knock raids. We've scorned and ostracized anyone who's had a platform to use their voice to bring awareness to systematic inequities. We've been programmed to either discriminate or have prejudice against segments of our population, contradicting how we wish to be perceived.

The snail's pace of progress has been the death of countless people. Our refusal to embrace our history has stunted our potential and fostered an environment that capitulates our claim as being the land of the free and the home of the brave. If we deny our children's right to be taught the truth in its entirety, they'll grow up making decisions and passing judgment based on limited, if not biased information.

I grew up believing that this country was perfect. The lessons given throughout my schooling often shed a considerably brighter light on the ending of slavery and rarely on the impact of slavery during and after. American history glossed over slavery, reconstruction, Jim Crow and Civil Rights. American educations do not receive African-American curriculums, at least not in grade school, and even in college, it is an elective class. We have failed our children. We tell them the version of America that makes them feel good, but we shy away from all that has brought so many families more grief than most of us can imagine.

Juneteenth is coming up. We cannot hijack another day with meaningless celebration. It's not for corporations to monetize and virtue signal. We will be closed on Juneteenth. We will be paying our staff for the day off. We value this day, we honor those who pay homage, we will observe and follow the lead of those who fought for this recognition.

The best version of America is the one that teaches the future generations about why many of our own citizens continue to be impoverished, and how even today there are lingering effects of the impact of enslaving people. When we do not acknowledge the full impact, we de facto absolve ourselves of the pain and discomfort that we may feel knowing that our government and our citizens bear some responsibility, not because we participated directly, but because we have had a benefit from it. Whether it's generational wealth or, rather, not being denied generational wealth. Whether it's from better schools, better healthcare, job opportunities, banking, housing or, most problematic, denied justice. All of these things should be considered simply because we are citizens of this country, and it is a debt that cannot be repaid — but could be repaired. Reparations were paid to those who owned people but had to free them. They were paid to free people. Can you even imagine? How did we consider that to be reasonable, and yet we reneged on the promise of 30 acres and a mule? The wound still festers and can only begin to heal through acknowledging the lasting impacts and compensation for lost lives, lost heritage, lost culture, lost dignity. We can't undo the past, but we can give the respect due that much of what was done is still impactful either in policy, or in people's ingrained thinking and biases. I would argue that even in my own life, I had implicit biases that I was so unaware of, until I started to seek them out, and upon understanding how to accept my flawed thinking, I was able to change attitudes and behaviors that contributed to stereotypes and prejudices. I'm just a middle-aged man at 52, and it was more than eight or nine years ago that I even became aware, and I never considered myself a racist. The point is that there are a lot of people who were/are just like me, and I was failed by my country, by my teachers, and by my communities. We cannot afford to let everyone age into their 30's and 40's believing that everything is fair and just. We cannot let the youthful years go by without a care for the systemic issues that are harming people every day.

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Decor tips for the literati ... or wannabes

By **BILL CASTANIER**

During the recent COVID-19-driven Zoom revolution, we often watched talking heads discuss serious issues from their homes. To emphasize their gravitas, many of them showcased book collections as backdrops.

There were the usual suspects, like “The Power Broker,” by Robert A. Caro, which could always be singled out due to its immense size. Some went as far as arranging their books by color: yellow, then red, then blue, like an American flag.

Using books as decorative ornaments is not a new phenomenon. Politicians and academics have been showcasing their book collections since the beginning of the printed word. Nothing says “I’m important and smart” like a collection of leather-bound tomes. You can easily find portraits of political leaders like Winston Churchill and major industrialists like J.P. Morgan with their libraries in the background.

There are numerous works, like “Decorating with Books,” by Marie Proeller Hueston, and “Bibliostyle: How We Live at Home with Books,” by Nina Freudenberger and Sadie Stein, that teach readers how and where to use books as props.

Etsy is a popular website to search for decorating tips and book collections. A recent ad listed a few dozen books for \$45.56. Vinyl stick-on wallpaper with books as the centerpiece, which can be purchased online for

less than \$10, has also become popular in recent years.

Favored among decorators are the handsome leather-bound books of Franklin Library and Easton Press.

Some book backdrops can be pure fun, like a collection of “Nancy Drew” or “The Hardy Boys” novels with the spines pointing out. Just don’t be like the United Kingdom politician who got caught a few years ago with a photoshopped image of books as a backdrop.

Recent articles in The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal reported on the timeless trend of using books as décor.

In the Wall Street Journal article “Houses Without Tomes Aren’t Homes,” Faith Bottum wrote, “I know we live differently without physical books. They define space with their repository of words. They catch the eye and beckon the imagination.”

Interior decorators have long known about books’ ability to catch the eye. Leaf through any of the major decorating magazines and you’ll find an array of coffee-table books displayed in modern living rooms. They speak volumes about the owner’s tastes and predilections.

Anna Kodé covered the trend of using fake books as décor in an April New York Times article. She included examples that are pretty over the top, like the 20,000 fake books used in the background of a Netflix production or wedding venues that contain



Courtesy of Valerie Marvin



Courtesy of Valerie Marvin

Whether you sort them by color, author, subject or completely at random, book collections make great décor pieces to brighten up boring corners of your home. Here are some examples from the home of Michigan Capitol historian and curator Valerie Marvin.

only fake books. Locally, the Graduate hotel in East Lansing has a lobby wall decorated with real books.

In her extensive article, Kodé expounded how film and television sets that display books as a backdrop inspire the use of fake books in homes.

Despite most legal research now being done online, you’ll occasionally still see television ads for lawyers featuring a library of law books displayed on a wall of bookcases. A few years ago, I helped someone dispose of 1,000 law books, which ended up at a community theater. No one else wanted them.

Book readers often become book decorators by default, displaying their collections of Hemingway, Faulkner or complete runs of James Lee Burke mysteries for guests to peruse. The meticulous ones arrange their books by date of publication or themes like architecture or art. Readers are also apt to stack books sideways on a shelf.

In her article, Kodé quoted an English professor who said the use of fake books can be traced to the Gilded

Age. Writer and designer Edith Wharton depicted “new money” as buying fake books and equated it with poor taste.

For those who want to decorate indiscriminately, a web search will turn up a wide range of sites selling books by the yard, by the foot, by themes or even by color.

Better yet, buy local by visiting estate sales. Lists of them, sorted by locale, can be found at estatesales.com. At these sales, you can purchase leather-bound volumes — both pristine and well-used — for very cheap, with the added bonus that you don’t have to pay shipping costs.

If you’d like to get started building your own eye-catching book collection, begin with a visit to the Library of Michigan’s Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room or the University of Michigan’s Bentley Historical Library and William L. Clements Library. These troves of beautifully displayed books are sure to inspire you to transform a corner of your home into a library you love.

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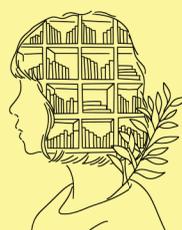
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Courtesy photo

MSU trombone professor Michael Dease took DownBeat's Critics' Poll Award in trombone two years in a row, in 2021 and 2022.



Courtesy photo

Dease urged his band to stretch creatively on their 2023 album, "The Other Shoe," dedicated to the music of Lansing jazz patron and composer Gregg Hill.

'I found the formula'

Trombonist Michael Dease strikes major chord of music, teaching, family

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

How hot is Michael Dease?

The MSU jazz trombone professor with the frictionless, ductile tone, rippling rhythmic drive and unquenchable zest for life is at the very top of his game.

"The Other Shoe," Dease's deep-diving 2023 album of twisty tunes by Lansing composer and jazz patron Gregg Hill, is garnering rave reviews and topping national jazz charts. His previous CD, "Best Next Thing," did the same.

Surpassing many of his own teachers, mentors and role models, Dease, who is only 40, earned the coveted DownBeat Critics' Poll award in trombone two years in a row, in 2021 and 2022.

In short, Dease is everywhere these days, and where he can't be, his students are. To put a cherry on a hot fudge sundae of a year, the Jazz Education Network named Dease Jazz Educator of the Year in 2023.

"I didn't predict this would happen," Dease modestly demurred. "I just try to keep my head down and play."

Dease will bring a youthful quartet to East Lansing's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival 7:30 p.m. June 24 to join a three-part celebration of Hill's music.

Guitarist Randy Napoleon will precede Dease at 4:30; bassist and MSU Jazz Studies director Rodney Whitaker will follow Dease at 9 p.m.

The festival three-fer will highlight the thwacking creative punch Lan-

ing and MSU have delivered to the national jazz scene in recent years. Napoleon, Dease and Whitaker have all scored big recently with albums of Hill's music. Dease is planning to record a second round of Hill's tunes this summer.

In the past few years, Hill has emerged from his behind-the-scenes role as jazz patron and supporter to serve as a fount of inspiration and local muse for Lansing's line-up of national jazz stars.

The national press has taken notice. Reviewer Jerome Wilson

of AllAboutJazz magazine deemed "The Other Shoe" one of the best albums of the year, and enthused over Hill's "fascinating writing, brought to life beautifully by Michael Dease's arrangements."

"He is really good at writing — I call them short stories," Dease said. "He's not just writing straight-ahead bebop, New Orleans groove or whatever."

The album ventures all over the map, from the spiritual simplicity of "The Classic" to the absorbing, multi-part "Scooter's Dream" to the 15-minute, electrified brew of the title track, "The Other Shoe."

Hill gave Dease free rein to arrange the music as he saw fit.

"I got to try every musical trick I wanted," Dease said. "I tried to color

inside the lines, but he let me use every medium — acrylics, water color, crayon, pastels. It's the first time I'd done that with somebody else's compositions."

A jazz lover from early youth, Hill is largely self-taught as a composer. He bounced around the country for 25 years as a truck driver, soaking up the jazz scenes in New York, California and Detroit, before settling in Lansing.

Rather than checking an academic or commercial box, Hill's tunes conjure specific moods and places and always pack harmonic, stylistic or rhythmic surprises.

In the studio, Dease leaned in to Hill's outsider perspective to keep the music fresh.

"I deliberately didn't over-rehearse," he said. "The band kept telling me, 'Can we see some music?' and I said 'No, I want the magic.'"

A year earlier, Whitaker did the same thing to Dease, when they recorded another album of Gregg Hill tunes, "Outrospection."

When Whitaker declined to share the music, Dease respectfully objected, explaining that he couldn't "get to 100 percent" without it.

Whitaker flatly refused, saying, "No, man, you're Mike Dease." The spare duet of Dease and pianist Xavi-

er Davis floated up like a fine, free balloon and made a perfect intro to the album.

"It was a hell of a vote of confidence," Dease said. "After that, I didn't feel like I had given enough respect to the moment."

Dease paid the compliment forward to the varied group of musicians he assembled on "The Other Shoe," including brilliant veteran pianist Geoffrey Keezer and lyrical young clarinetist Virginia MacDonald. The result is the first album in Dease's career that he's comfortable listening to on "repeat."

In the second half of Hill's multi-part "Scooter's Dream," Dease and MacDonald break into a sudden chase that surges with a breathless sense of play, one of many such moments on the album.

"When I listen to it I hear a lot of adrenaline," he said. "It's the exciting part of jazz we love. You get the best of both worlds. You get the hours of practice, the tone, the listening, and you also get the moment and the creativity."

Dease doesn't talk much about his own playing.

To trick him into it, you have to ask him to describe the tone of one of his trombone idols, Curtis Fuller.

"It's round and warm but there's passion and articulation and it's really swinging and the harmony is so

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Dig Dease CDs: Highlights from two decades of recordings

Here are a few Michael Dease gems from a mighty catalog of over 200 recordings, as leader and sideman, working back from 2023.



“The Other Shoe: The Music of Gregg Hill” (Origin Records, 2023)

A wide-ranging set of fresh tunes, with nary a standard in sight, highlighted by veteran Geoffrey Keezer’s inexhaustible piano wizardry and Dease’s lively interplay with young clarinetist Virginia MacDonald.

“Gregg Hill’s fascinating writing is brought to life beautifully by Michael Dease’s arranging, and the playing of an excellent band. The end result is one of the best albums of the year so far.” – Jerome Wilson, AllAboutJazz



“Best Next Thing” (Posi-Tone, 2022)

A tribute to five under-appreciated giants of jazz, featuring brilliant pianist Renee Rosnes and ferocious New York saxophonist Rudresh Mahanthappa, in a rare appearance as a sideman.

“Perfection can be a trap for a jazz musician, but Dease makes vast competence sound spontaneous.” – Thomas Conrad, JazzTimes



“Give it All You Got” (Posi-Tone, 2021)

A banquet of straight-ahead, funk, soul jazz and more, sauced up by Lansing’s own Jim Alfredson’s Hammond B-3 organ.



“All These Hands” (Posi-Tone, 2017)

Dease’s thoughtfully curated tour of America’s regional jazz scenes, from New Orleans and Memphis to Philadelphia, Detroit and Chicago, acknowledges both the sorrows and joys that flow into the river of music.

“Sobering and delightful” – Dan Bilawsky, AllAboutJazz



“Father Figure” (Posi-Tone, 2016)

Taking on the mantle of educator (and father), Dease assembled a crew of sizzling young musicians, including bassist Endea Owens and saxophonists Markus Howell

and Immanuel Wilkins, all of whom have gone on to make a major mark in music in the 2020s.

Dease’s “buttery tone monster chops, and impeccable sense of musicality lead the way” – Dan Bilawsky, AllAboutJazz



Christian McBride Big Band, “The Good Feeling” (Mack Avenue Records, 2011)

Dease is blasting away with fellow trombone masters Steve Davis, James Burton and Douglas Purviance (and MSU pianist non-pareil Xavier Davis) in a heady romp through 11 standards and originals that won the Grammy for Best Large Jazz Ensemble Album in 2012.

– LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Michael Dease

from page 15

clear and it feels so good,” he said.

Mission accomplished.

Now that Dease’s skills are universally acknowledged in the jazz world, he’s left youthful showboating behind to reach a new phase of confidence and insight, judging by his warm, spacious solo on “The Sleeper” and eloquent restraint on “Shorty’s Tune.”

“Trying to prove something is very, very low on my priority list these days,” he said.

His solo chorus on “Goodbye Blues” is imbued with a glow that recalls a well-aged wine.

“Twenty years ago, I would have thought of all these chord sequences I could have used, or how many different combinations of rhythms,” he said. “Now I’m thinking about, how does this moment feel? What colors are we dealing with? Blacks, browns, green, violet? It’s so freeing to play with just an emotional sensibility.”

It takes a tricky combination of concentration and calm to block out the multiple monitors constantly running in a musician’s head.

“Do all of my notes need to have the same articulation, consistency, clarity? Does this register need to have the same tone? It’s so nice to just turn all that shit off for a second.”

The trickiest thing in Dease’s life these days is balancing music, teaching and his precious family

life with his wife, MSU percussion Professor Gwendolyn Dease, and their two daughters, Brooklyn and Charly. (Dease has described his romance with Gwen “some other-worldly shit.”)

As soon as the academic year at MSU ended earlier month, Dease headed back to the Brevard Music

with it too.

It’s kicking my butt, but I’m working on it.”

His Holy Grail is to find moments where creativity, music and family come together.

He hit the jackpot when his 7-year-old daughter, Brooklyn, played “auxiliary percussion” with

of jazz greats, from trumpeters Roy Hargrove and Nicholas Payton to bassist Christian McBride, the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and the Dizzy Gillespie All-Star Big Band. He plays on the regular with saxophonist David Sanborn.

But he’s most passionate about opening doors for the younger generation of jazz musicians.

“When you open up the scene, share the bandstand and spread the love, man, it makes the music better,” he said.

Hot as he is, Dease goes supernova when he talks about promising young players like the quintet he brought to the Detroit Jazz Festival last fall.

“Man, that band was cooking,” Dease said. Other than Dease and pianist Keezer, it was everyone’s first time playing the festival.

Dease will do the same at the East Lansing Summer Solstice gig, featuring New York’s Gary Kerkezou, “a smoking, up and coming drummer, and she’s only 26.”

“We just played some of Gregg’s tunes in New York,” he said. “It was happening, man.”

Poly-stylistic young MSU student and “very colorful character” Rueben Stump will handle the bass. St. Louis-based Wyatt Forhan, who has studied trombone with Dease for 10 years, will

play on piano. “It’s a very crazy twist,” Dease said. “He’s an amazing trombonist, but equally amazing piano player.”

Forhan sat in at Dease’s recent gig at the Blue Llama Jazz Club in Ann Arbor.

Dease broke into a broad grin at the memory.

“He stole the show,” Dease said. “Everybody freaked out.”



Courtesy photo

“The Other Shoe” band, left to right: Pianist Geoffrey Keezer, bassists Liary Mateo and Rodney Whitaker, clarinetist Virginia MacDonald, Dease, composer Gregg Hill and drummer Colleen Clark.

Center in North Carolina, where he directs the Summer Jazz Institute.

“Balance is the thing right now,” he said. “I’ve been trying to streamline things as much as possible. When I teach, I get as much done as I can. When I play, it’s playing where I need to play, so I can be available for my family. Many of my musician friends and heroes struggle with that balance and I struggle

his sextet recently in Detroit, after another member of the sextet missed a flight.

“She got up on stage for both sets and played,” Dease said. “I was like, ‘Man, I think I found the formula here.’”

It’s clear where Dease’s priorities lie. He’s long since proven that he can inhabit any jazz room he wants to. By now, he’s played with a panoply

'It's a great time'

Bassist Jonathon Muir-Cotton revels in musical variety

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

East Lansing's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival is sprouting an early pepper this year, and it's a hot one.

Bassist Jonathon Muir-Cotton and his multi-talented Expressions band will sonically stimulate visitors to the East Lansing Farmers Market, 280 Valley Court Drive, from noon to 2 p.m. this Sunday (June 18).

The music will pop all over the map, from straight-up acoustic jazz standards to electrified fusion, Latin grooves, R&B and hip-hop.

Phenomenal young guitarist and MSU student Christopher Minami and his band will play the early slot at the market, from 10 a.m. to 11:45.

Muir-Cotton is a thoroughly 21st century, "all of the above" musician. He plays acoustic bass, electric "pork chop" and keyboard bass, and wields an arsenal of pedals that multiply and bend the grooves. His Expressions band mate, Detroit-based trumpeter Allen Denard, is a master of the pedals as well.

"I go for a diverse musical experience," Muir-Cotton said.

The quartet also includes drummer Caleb Robinson, currently a student at MSU, and MSU grad Jordan Anderson on piano.

Muir-Cotton has played all over the map, from Mezzrow Jazz Club and Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola in New York to Cliff Bell's in Detroit, from Disneyland Resort to Seattle's Langston Hughes Theatre, but he sounds genuinely excited to play the farmers market on Sunday. For one thing, the market is in Valley Court Park, just across the street from his apartment. During the COVID shutdown, Muir-Cotton played basketball many afternoons at Valley Court with his fellow MSU students.

And then there's the weather.

"I'm excited because now it's actually starting to stay warm in Michigan," he said.

He's equally comfortable in Carnegie Hall or a jazz club, but he doesn't mind laying grooves on garlic chives. About 10 years ago, one of his musical idols, the iconic jazz bassist Christian McBride, offered some practical advice to MSU students.

"Take every gig you can — every bar, every bar mitzvah, every wedding, every backyard barbecue," he told them.

Muir-Cotton, then in high school, caught up with McBride and the



Photo by Jeff Dunn Jazz Photography

Jonathon Muir-Cotton gets into the groove at the August 2021 Kimmie Horne Jazz Festival in Southfield. His Expressions quartet will liven up the East Lansing Farmers Market on Sunday.

MSU ensembles when they stopped at Schoolcraft College.

"I remember it very well," he said. "He's one of my favorite bass players."

Muir-Cotton grew up in Ann Arbor, where another iconic jazz bassist, Robert Hurst, is a professor. He considers himself "blessed" to have studied with the formidable triumvirate of Hurst, Detroit legend Marion Hayden and MSU's own Jazz Studies director and resident jazz icon, Rodney Whitaker.

"That's three of the worlds' greatest bassists, all in a 200-mile radius," he said. Add to the list Ralph Armstrong, master of the fusion fretless bass. Muir-Cotton's mentors and teachers span a dizzying range of styles and periods, but he isn't the least bit worried about filling all those big shoes.

"It doesn't discourage me at all," he said. "Professor Whitaker always encouraged me to be original, write music and have my own voice. He doesn't put pressure on you to sound a certain way."

Muir-Cotton has also learned a lot from Whitaker on how to lead a band and shape it to create the sound he's going for.

Muir-Cotton's eclectic musical tastes were shaped in large part by his mom, Julieanne Muir, a music-loving native of Montego Bay,

Jamaica. They go to all kinds of concerts together, from Jazz at Lincoln Center to Erykah Badu.

"She played all kinds of music around the house, Caribbean, funk, R&B, salsa, more than straight-ahead," he said. "That influences my writing as well. She helped me make sure I don't put myself in one box."

Cotton-Muir is living in New York this summer, but will return to MSU to finish his degree in the fall. At a music festival last weekend festival in New York, he added a new weapon to his arsenal — the key bass, an electric bass played on keyboards.

He reveled in the swirl of sound, toggling at will from key bass to stand-up acoustic to his electric bass with pedals.

In January, he played a 10-day gig at Carnegie Hall's Music Explorer series with a hip-hop group called Soul Science Lab.

"We're doing hip-hop, we're swinging, we're doing all these genres," he said. "Everything kind of blends now. It's a great time, especially now. A lot of people steered away from fusion a couple of years ago but they're doing more of it now."

The wide-open musical world of 2023 is a joy for him, but it demands more than just learning a myriad of styles.

"With all the technology, you have to be able to do everything, even recording your own stuff at home," he said. "But it's also the best time to do music, especially coming out of the pandemic, because people are starving to have live music. It's a great time to be an artist."

Summer Solstice Jazz Festival at the Farmers Market

280 Valley Court Drive, East Lansing
 Sunday, June 18
 10-11:45 a.m. Christopher Minami
 12:15-2 p.m. Jonathon Muir-Cotton
 Free
www.eljazzfest.com

Capital Area Transportation Authority Public Meeting Notice 2023 Summer and Fall Listening Bus Sessions

The Capital Area Transportation Authority announces its 2023 summer and fall Listening Bus sessions hosted on CATA's fixed-route buses. The program allows riders to conveniently share constructive feedback about their experiences with CATA's fixed-route service as they travel to and from their destinations. CATA representatives will be aboard buses to interact with customers and document their feedback.

Those unable to attend an onboard Listening Bus session, or customers utilizing any of CATA's paratransit services who would like to provide input about their trips can do so by submitting an online feedback form at cata.org/Feedback or by calling a Customer Experience Representative at 517-394-1000.

Responses obtained will be considered in new route planning, the enhancement of existing services and/or the elimination of services that no longer effectively serve riders.

The 2023 summer and fall Listening Bus dates, routes and times are indicated below. Schedules are subject to change. For the most up to date departure times and boarding locations, visit cata.org/ListeningBus.

Friday, July 14, 2023:

- Route 1 – 12:40 p.m. to 2:07 p.m.
- Route 20 – 1:40 p.m. to 2:40 p.m.
- Route 7 – 2:15 p.m. to 3:40 p.m.
- Route 18 – 3:12 p.m. to 4:42 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2023:

- Route 16 – 1:40 p.m. to 2:35 p.m.
- Route 25 – 1:40 p.m. to 2:34 p.m.
- Route 10 – 2:45 p.m. to 3:40 p.m.
- Route 26 – 2:55 p.m. to 3:35 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 7, 2023:

- Route 22 – 9:35 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.
- Route 12 – 9:40 a.m. to 10:35 a.m.
- Route 30 – 10:53 a.m. to 11:13 a.m.
- Route 8 – 11:40 a.m. to 1:06 p.m.
- Route 3 – 1:10 p.m. to 2:28 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2023:

- Route 13 – 9:40 a.m. to 10:35 a.m.
- Route 15 – 10:40 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.
- Route 14 – 11:50 a.m. to 12:35 p.m.
- Route 38 – 1 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Route 39 – 1:30 p.m. to 1:46 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 3, 2023:

- Route 2 – 10:40 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.
- Route 20 – 10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
- Route 9 – 11:40 a.m. to 1:05 p.m.
- *MSU/CTC Ramp 1 – 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 4, 2023:

- Route 5 – 1 p.m. to 1:55 p.m.
- Route 3 – 2:10 p.m. to 3:28 p.m.
- *MSU/CTC Ramp 1 – 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

*Some Listening Bus sessions on Michigan State University's campus will be held at the MSU/CTC located at Ramp 1 due to higher ridership on campus buses.



Public Notice
 The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting proposals to bid the construction of 4 single-family residential houses (located in Lansing, MI) in 2 separate Request for Proposals. Each Request for Proposal packet is available June 14, 2023 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org/contractors. Responses are due at the Land Bank office by noon on July 7, 2023 and will be opened at that time. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP#: Chestnut/Cesar E Chavez 06-2023 and Reo/Hillcrest 06-2023.



City Pulse needs a Delivery Driver.

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CityPULSE

Calyxium CEO works to make Michigan's cannabis market more inclusive

By LUCAS HENKEL

According to a report by MJBizDaily in 2021, of the 484 dispensary licenses in Michigan, 3.8% of those licenses are held by Black Michiganders. Only a handful of those licensed cannabis businesses in Michigan are owned by Black women.

Rebecca Colett and LaToya R. Rucker, co-owners of the Detroit-based cannabis brand Calyxium, are looking to be more than just another statistic. Colett's background in business and finance, combined with Rucker's experience as a master gardener and biologist, has made Calyxium's offerings some of the best in the state — but the journey has been far from easy.

In a recent interview with Dutchie, Colett described her experience attending business conferences early in her career.

"I started going to these conferences and realizing that there was really nobody that looked like me. And, being a consumer myself, I'm like, 'This is not the cannabis industry. This is not how it should look,'" she said. "So, I just became really passionate about becoming an operator and increasing diversity from that standpoint in the industry."

Colett is doing her best to make sure other aspiring Black cannabis entrepreneurs have access to the tools they need to be successful. In 2021, she created



Courtesy of Rebecca Colett

Detroit Cannabis Project students take part in one of six class sessions. In the classes, participants learn about creating a business strategy and making financial projections, community involvement, marketing and more.

the Detroit Cannabis Project, an all-inclusive business incubator program that offers a variety of programs to help native Detroiters create successful and sustainable businesses in the cannabis industry. The program is broken down into six sessions where entrepreneurs can speak to different professionals within the industry, such as regulation and licensing attorneys, finance profes-

sionals and operations experts. Lessons include creating a business strategy and financial projections, operating advice, community involvement, marketing and more. Once the six sessions are complete, graduating entrepreneurs have access to a one-on-one mentorship program and an online community full of other graduates and professionals.

"Over the last two years, we've had about four cohorts within the city of Detroit," Colett said in a recent phone interview. "I'm really excited about this year's graduating cohort because we can see them getting the results they want. They're buying real estate, they're getting licensed, they're achieving their goals."

To keep up with the ever-changing cannabis industry, Colett and other Detroit Cannabis Project organizers value the feedback of their graduates. New courses and offerings are being added to its programming to ensure future students are up-to-date and well-informed. Applications for the upcoming cohort open toward the end of August, and the program starts at the end of September. The program also offers job and community-resource fairs throughout Detroit and has plans to bring the job fair on the road to cities like Lansing in the near future, along with other programming like workforce development, back-to-school events and more.

In addition to making sure everyone has a seat at the table, Colett, along with the rest of the team at Calyxium, is providing organic and responsibly cultivated products like pre-packaged flower, concentrates, edibles, hash and CBD oil to its Michigan consumers.

"Our team is a very passionate group of long-time growers, so producing



Courtesy of Rebecca Colett

LaToya R. Rucker (front) and Rebecca Colett, COO and CEO of Detroit-based Cannabis brand Calyxium.

terpene-rich, high-quality flower is extremely important to us," Colett said. "Our Biscotti Cake is one of our most popular strains because it's dual-purpose: It creates a euphoric energy that's great for work or parties, but it can also help you relax at night."

Calyxium's Biscotti Cake is a sativa-dominant hybrid strain that's created by crossing Wedding Cake and Biscotti. The result is a gorgeous, dark bud with slivers of orange hairs. The cultivation team's commitment to terpenes is evident — the smell of Biscotti Cake is incredibly pungent, reminiscent of a sweet, citrusy cake, with hints of black pepper.

Colett was also excited to share the brand's upcoming release of its Pink Pussy strain. Named after the plant's pink hues, Pink Pussy is expected to create a delicious high while simultaneously reclaiming femininity. Keep an eye on Calyxium's social media for future updates: facebook.com/calyxium and instagram.com/calyxium_detroit.

Colett and the rest of her team have big plans for the future of Calyxium. To better serve Michigan consumers, the company is working toward expanding its growing and processing operations with the help of a public crowdfunding campaign through Mainvest, an investment platform that gives local investors an opportunity to invest in local businesses. So far, Calyxium has raised \$18,000 of its \$20,000 goal. Those interested in investing can do so before July 14 at mainvest.com/b/calyxium-detroit

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**, at the East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823:

A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Rick Milligan for the property located at 1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 from the following requirement of Chapter 50 – Zoning Code of the City of East Lansing: *Section 50-156 – Alternative Energy Systems*. The applicant intends to construct a 60' x 16' ground mounted photovoltaic array on the northeast portion of the property exceeding the permitted 15 kW system allowance and instead seeking a 20.5 kW system. The property is zoned RM-32, City Center Multiple-Family Residential District.

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

Materials related to the request are available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm or on the City's website located at www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to coelzba@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 Planning, Building, and Development Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6930 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at rurdial@cityofeastlansing.com.

This notice is posted in compliance with PA 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and published in compliance with the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, 2006 P.A. 110.

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#23-135

ALL LOCATIONS

WEEK OF 06.12.23 - 06.18.23



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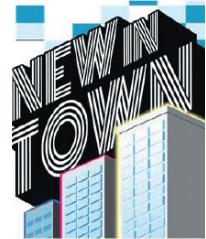


For use by individuals 21 years of age or older. Keep out of reach of children. It is illegal to drive a motor vehicle while under the influence of marijuana. Use by pregnant or breastfeeding women, or by women planning to become pregnant, may result in fetal injury, preterm birth, low birth weight, or developmental problems for the child. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222.

Need lawn care? Now there's an app for that

By LUCAS HENKEL

I don't know about you, but I hate mowing the lawn — especially during summer. Between the unforgiving heat and having to rotate between my lawnmower and wired weed whacker, I'm ready to call it quits mid-mow. If this sounds like you, the folks at GreenPal, which expanded service to Lansing last week, may have a solution.



GreenPal

Available on the Apple App Store and Google Play Store
yourgreenpal.com

GreenPal is an online freelancing platform that connects more than 45,000 professional landscapers to more than 1 million users throughout the continental United States. The company was established in Nashville, Tennessee, in 2012 after the founders, who previously worked in the landscaping industry, noticed a growing demand

for same-day lawn care. The company's business model is inspired by companies like Uber, Airbnb and Lyft.

"We knew that if you're going to summon a stranger to pick you up or you're going to stay in a complete stranger's house for a weekend, at some point down the road, you're going to summon lawn care via an app," co-founder Gene Caballero said in an interview with the Detroit Free Press when the company launched in the Detroit area in 2018.

Homeowners can download the GreenPal app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. After submitting information about their home and describing their lawn-care needs and expectations, lawn-care professionals in the area bid on the property based on Google Street View and aerial images in addition to the information provided by the homeowner. During the price-quote process, the landscapers consider details like grass length, whether the homeowner has outdoor pets and how frequently the lawn needs to be ser-

vised. The homeowner will receive up to five bids within 45 minutes of the request being submitted, and they can select whom to work with based on that individual's ratings, reviews and price quote.

Due to the volume of requests, many landscapers prefer a recurring service. However, for folks who are looking to try out GreenPal before committing to a recurring service, there are landscapers that offer one-time — and even next-day — services for around \$35 to \$45. Based on GreenPal's cost calculator, weekly lawn service costs between \$39 and \$59, and its popular bi-weekly service costs between \$49 and \$69. Folks that want their grass cut every 10 days can do so for between \$39 and \$69. According to GreenPal's June 2023 report on its lawn care service in Michigan, the average price to mow a lawn in Ingham County is \$46.45, based on an average yard size of 23,383 square feet.

When the service is complete, the customer will receive a time-stamped



Courtesy of GreenPal

Skip the hassle of mowing your lawn in the summer heat and hire a lawn-care professional from the GreenPal app to do it for you.

photo. From there, customers can pay for the service and choose to set up future appointments with that lawn care expert or a different one. After the first service, customers can also ask for additional services like shrub pruning, weed prevention, leaf removal, turf seeding and re-mulching for an extra fee.

Sing with us for our Holiday Concert!

Voice Part Placement/Audition: August 15 - 6:30-8 PM

First Rehearsal: Tuesday, August 22 - 7-9 PM

Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing



Not a singer? Don't despair. You, too, can join in the fun and support LanSINGout.

We need volunteers! — Can you create costumes? Can you build stage sets? Do you enjoy greeting people and helping them feel comfortable at a concert? These are just a few of the ways you can volunteer your time to help make LanSINGout's mission a success. If you are interested email: lansingoutcommunications@gmail.com.



LANSING PARKS & RECREATION

CONCERTS IN THE PARK 2023

JUNE 14TH	TEJANO SOUND - TEJANO	MOORES PARK
JUNE 21ST	THE KATHY FORD BAND - COUNTRY	DURANT PARK
JUNE 28TH	FROG AND THE BEEFTONES - BLUES	FULTON PARK
JULY 12TH	SEA CRUISERS - OLDIES	TURNER-DODGE HOUSE
JULY 19TH	MIXED FLAVORS - R&B/FUNK	BEN DAVIS PARK
JULY 26TH	SHELBY & JAKE - AMERICANA	BANCROFT PARK
AUGUST 2ND	GLOBAL VILLAGE - HITS	SYCAMORE PARK
AUGUST 9TH	ALDACO - TEJANO	FRANCES PARK

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3203 N East Street Lansing, MI 48906

About the Building:

- Flexible floor plan that can be used as 1 to 3 units
- Excellent signage and road visibility
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- 2 kitchens with 2.5 bathrooms
- Central air and heat
- Laundry services on-site
- Multiple upgrades:
 - Gabled roof
 - Glass block windows
 - Insulated glass windows
 - Insulated ceilings and sidewalls
 - Vinyl siding
 - Separate utilities

Planned Development:

- Demolition of Rotunda and Kristianna Trailer Parks
- Development of the vacant highway frontage owned by Granger Construction
- New gas station at Lake Lansing Road (Quality Dairy)

About the Area:

- High stop and go traffic location
- Four lane divided highway with a dedicated turn lane
- Multiple ingress and egress
- Multiple stop and go businesses
- Recently Updated/Renovated Businesses
 - McDonald's
 - Taco Bell
 - U-Haul
 - Strip Stores at Sheridan Road
 - Car Wash
 - C.W. Otto Middle School
- New Businesses:
 - North Pointe Barber
 - American Plumbing
 - McKearney Asphalt
 - Carter Lumber Truss Assembly
- Other Neighbors
 - ACE Hardware
 - Advanced AutoParts
 - Auto Zone
 - Carter Lumber
 - Classic Pub
 - Dollar Stores
 - Dominos
 - O'Reilly Auto Parts
 - Mexican Grocery
 - Mexico to Go
 - Nip & Sip
 - Quality Dairy
 - Renos North
 - Subway
 - Multiple Marijuana Dispensaries



Arts Council, poetry club launch 'My Secret Lansing' writing contest

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

There's a perfectly positioned tree stump near the Potter Park Zoo, equipped with an accidental backrest, where you can watch the river flow, the grass sway and deer quietly graze. There's a lady with a front-yard garden on Lansing's north side who will hand you a pair of shears and order you take some flowers if you walk by. There's a stately palisade of junberry trees, bursting with tasty berries, in plain sight downtown, if you don't mind gorging on them in public like a grizzly bear.

"My Secret Lansing," a writing contest launched last month by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing and the Lansing Poetry Club, promises to unroll a treasure map to a place you thought you knew.

The contest calls for contributors age

17 or older in Ingham, Clinton or Eaton counties to portray "one specific and real place, person or object" in the Lansing area with a poem of 50 lines or fewer or a prose piece of 100 to 400 words. There is a limit of three poems or two non-fiction prose pieces per entrant. Prizes range from \$25 to \$150.

The project is funded by the City of Lansing Arts Project Grant program and administered by the Arts Council. The winning entries will be performed live at Urban-Beat Sept. 24.

The contest judge is no less a literary luminary than Milford-based undertaker, poet, essayist and National Book Award finalist Thomas Lynch. Lynch is author

of "The Undertaking," the nationally acclaimed memoir of the "dismal trade" that inspired an Emmy-winning 2007 PBS documentary, along with several other award-winning essay collections.

Two of Lansing's hidden treasures, former Poet Laureate Laura Apol and poet Ruelaine Stokes, are among the

"My Secret Lansing" writing contest

Sponsored by the Lansing Poetry Club

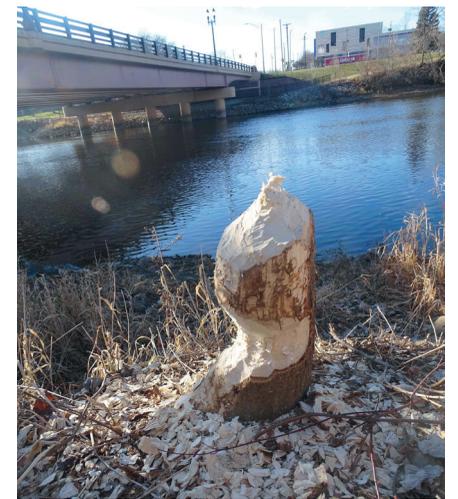
Submit entries by July 14

mysecretlansing94@gmail.com

For more info, go to facebook.com/mysecretlansing or contact Ruelaine Stokes at ruestokes@gmail.com



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Any interesting thing, place or person in Greater Lansing is fair game for celebration and reflection in the "My Secret Lansing" writing contest, from gorgeous Art Deco portable toilets near Mt. Hope cemetery to a jaw-dropping beaver chew on the Grand River downtown.

contest organizers.

"We have this image of Lansing being ordinary, unexciting, full of average people living our average, ordinary lives," Stokes said. "But there's so much below the surface, so much cultural vitality. There are urban gardens, community theater, folk music, so many things."

Stokes could have added the rich Lansing poetry scene she's helped nurture over the past few decades.

In that spirit, Stokes is organizing "My Secret Lansing" writing workshops all over town, with the goal of helping people "jump-start their thinking" and "draw on vivid memories about people or places in the area."

"The hardest thing about writing, for me, is starting, getting some ideas," Stokes said. "Once you've got something, you can work with it, get some feedback and move forward."

The early entries are already knocking her out. One essay, "Nip 'N Sip and the Summer of Love," describes the scene at a beloved local eatery where Detroit Tigers games blared from speakers to "rescue" the tense summer of 1967. The story highlights a special place where a local family with a member stationed overseas took respite from the dai-

ly dread of bad news. Another entrant wrote about going to the top of the parking ramp at Sparrow Hospital and admiring the city lights.

An Iraq War veteran described what it was like to return to his old neighborhood with a fresh appreciation of home after the horrors of war.

Similarly, Stokes hopes all of the entries, taken together, will help Lansing residents look at their home with fresh eyes. Many of them will be gathered into a book planned for release this fall.

The concept for the contest was seeded about a dozen years ago, when Stokes was hanging out with some "co-conspirators" to plan an event for the Old Town poetry series. Former Lansing Poet Laureate Dennis Hinrichsen told her he'd long thought about writing a book called "My Secret Lansing."

"He was thinking about different places he knew that were really unique or had a little-known history," Stokes said.

The magic three words put a hook into her. She thought immediately of making it a contest, to draw out the widest possible variety of places, stories and people. Hinrichsen told her to run with it.

"It's a chance to see what makes this region special through many people's eyes," she said.

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THE PULSIFIEDS

Staff Scientist

The Michigan State University Facility for Rare Isotope Beams seeks qualified candidates for the following full time position:

Staff Scientist (East Lansing, MI) Contribute to commissioning, development, operation of FRIB accelerator facility, design, prototype, develop, implement, maintain high power targetry systems including production target for rare isotope production and beam dumps. Qualified candidates will possess Ph.D. in Physics or closely related field + 2 years' exp as Physicist or any related position in accelerator physics research. Must have 2 years' exp in research, development in liquid metal technology and targetry systems. To apply for this posting, please go to www.careers.msu.edu and search for posting number 866386. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations from women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities. MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

Free "My Secret Lansing" workshops

Registration required

Wed., June 14

6-8 p.m.

Everybody Reads bookstore
2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Sat., June 17

10:30 a.m.-noon

Eastside Lansing Food Co-Op
1605 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing

Sun., June 18

11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Salus Center
408 S. Washington Square,
Lansing

Sun., June 18

3-4:30 p.m.

Okemos Library (CADL)
4321 Okemos Road, Okemos

June 22

6-7:30 p.m.

Haslett Library (CADL)
1590 Franklin St., Haslett

June 24

10:30 a.m.-noon

Eastside Lansing Food Co-Op
1605 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing

June 28

6-7:30 p.m.

Delta Township District Library
5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing

SUMMER SOLSTICE JAZZ FESTIVAL



June 23-24
Downtown
East Lansing
eljazzfest.com

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Can't Make Heads or Tails" -- no need to flip out.

by Matt Jones

© 2023 Matt Jones

ACROSS

1. Shoe store stats
7. Mess up
11. Adds to an email
14. Implant firmly
15. "___ Kleine Nachtmusik"
16. Stadium cheer
17. Really, really cold Newton fruit?
19. Root beer brand
20. "Wheel of Fortune" option
21. "Star Wars" actor Guinness
22. "Dancing Queen" band
23. Be noisy upstairs
25. Relaxation partner
27. Upscale hotel amenity
29. Tapioca pearls
31. Ludicrous comedies
35. Swiss Roll alternative
37. New York team
39. String quartet member
40. Getting the most out of the Russian fighter plane?
43. Slowly, musically
44. Unexciting
45. 2000 Radiohead album
46. Stella ___ (Belgian beer)
48. Maple syrup sources
50. Animation frame
51. Les Etats-___
53. "The White ___" (show with Jennifer Coolidge)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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55	56	57			58		59		60		61	
62				63				64				65
66				67				68				
69				70				71				

55. Bit of heckling
 58. Skirt style
 60. Terrier seen in "The Thin Man"
 62. WWW address
 63. One response to "Doctor, I think I'm an 18-wheeler"?
 66. Appropriate start?
 67. Vampire chronicler Rice
 68. New York city where Mark Twain lived
 69. Shepherd's pie bit
 70. Ornery
 71. Flowed slowly
- DOWN
1. "Asteroid City" director Anderson
 2. Road stops
 3. Gives subtle help
 4. Namely
 5. Mix
 6. "Come ___?" ("How are you?" in Italy)
 7. Plummeted
 8. Long-term inmate
 9. Charitable acronym
 10. Request fervently
 11. Rooster's crest
 12. Symbol on a card
 13. "Virtua Fighter" game company
 18. Safety restraint
 22. In danger
 24. ___ Lisa Vito ("My Cousin Vinny" role)
 26. File menu option
 27. Legendary Dolphins coach Don
 28. Baffling question
 30. Geographical reference
 32. "Get Fuzzy," e.g.
 33. Skip over, as a vowel
 34. "Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!" host Peter
 36. Giggling
 38. Mogadishu's country
 41. "Whole Lotta Shakin' ___ On"
 42. ___ baby (one who gets famous through family ties)
 47. Gymnast Biles
 49. Palomino's pad
 52. Steam room
 54. 1972 Bill Withers single
 55. Revive, as a battery
 56. Part of HOMES
 57. "Frozen" heroine
 59. Marvel superhero group
 61. Suffix after billion
 63. Orange tuber
 64. "All right"
 65. "Frozen" actor Josh

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

June 14-20, 2023

ARIES (March 21-April 19): When I was still an up-and-coming horoscope columnist, before I got widely syndicated, I supplemented my income with many other jobs. During one stretch, I wrote fortunes for a line of designer fortune cookies that were covered with gourmet chocolate and sold at the luxury department store Bloomingdale's. The salary I got paid was meager. Part of my compensation came in the form of hundreds of delicious but non-nutritious cookies. If you are offered a comparable deal in the coming weeks and months, Aries, my advice is to do what I didn't do but should have done: Ask for what's truly valuable to you instead of accepting a substitute of marginal worth.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): My mentor Ann Davies said that of all the signs of the zodiac, you Taurus are most likely to develop finely honed intuition. At least potentially, you can tune in to the inner teacher better than the rest of us. The still, small voice rises up out of the silence and speaks to you clearly and crisply. Here's even better news: I believe you are entering a phase when your relationship with this stellar faculty may ripen dramatically. Please take advantage of this subtly fabulous opportunity! Each day for the next 14 days, do a relaxing ritual in which you eagerly invite and welcome the guidance of your deepest inner source.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): New College in Oxford, England, has educated students since 1379. Among its old buildings is a dining hall that features beams made of thick oak trees. Unfortunately, most oak wood eventually attracts beetles that eat it and weaken it. Fortunately, the 14th-century founders of New College foresaw that problem. They planted an oak grove where trees were specifically meant to be used to replace the oak beams at New College. Which they are to this day. I would love you to derive inspiration from this story, Gemini. What practical long-term plans might you be wise to formulate in the coming months?

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In the Northern Hemisphere, the astrological month of Cancer begins with the sun in its greatest glory. Our home star is at its highest altitude, shining with maximum brightness. So, why is the sign of the Crab ruled by the moon? Why do the longest days of the year coincide with the ascendancy of the mistress of the night? Ahhh. These are esoteric mysteries beyond the scope of this horoscope. But here's a hint about what they signify for you personally. One of your assets can also be a liability: your innocent openness to the wonders of life. This quality is at the heart of your beauty but can also, on occasion, make you vulnerable to being overwhelmed. That's why it's so important that you master the art of setting boundaries, of honing your focus, of quaffing deeply from a few cups instead of sipping from many cups.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The coming weeks will be a delicate time for your spiritual unfoldment. You are primed to recover lost powers, rediscover key truths you have forgotten and reunite with parts of your soul you got cut off from. Will these good possibilities come to pass in their fullness? Maybe, maybe not. It depends on how brave you are in seeking your healing. You must ask for what's hard to ask for. You've got to find a way to feel deserving of the beauty and blessings that are available. PS: You ARE deserving. I will be cheering you on, dear Leo.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Whether or not you have been enrolled in a learning institution during the past 12 months, I suspect you have been getting a rigorous education. Among the courses you have almost completed are lessons in intimacy, cooperation, collaboration, symbiosis and togetherness. Have you mastered all the teachings? Probably not. There were too many of them, and they were too voluminous to grasp perfectly and completely. But that's OK. You have done well. Now you're ready to graduate, collect

your diploma and apply what you have learned.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): History has provided contradictory reports about Isabeau of Bavaria, who served as queen of France from 1385 to 1422. Was she a corrupt, greedy and indecisive fool who harmed France's fortunes? Or was she a talented diplomat with great skill in court politics and an effective leader during the many times her husband, King Charles VI, was incapacitated by illness? I bring these facts to your attention, Libra, hoping they will inspire you to refine, adjust and firm up your own reputation. You can't totally control how people perceive you, but you do have some power to shape their perceptions — especially these days.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The next four weeks will be an excellent time to create and celebrate your own holidays. I recommend you dream up at least four new festivals, jubilees, anniversaries and other excuses to party. Eight or more would be even better. They could be quirky and modest, like Do No Housework Day, Take Your Houseplants for a Walk Day or Write Bad Poetry Day. They could be more profound and impactful, like Forgive Your Parents for Everything Day, Walk on the Wild Side Day or Stay Home from Work Because You're Feeling So Good Day. In my astrological opinion, Scorpio, you should regard playful fun as a top priority.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In Greek mythology, Prometheus was a god who stole fire from his fellow gods and gave it to humans to help them build civilization. His divine colleagues were not pleased. Why? Maybe they feared that with the power of fire, people would become like gods themselves and have no further need for gods. Anyway, Sagittarius, I hope you're in a fire-stealing mood. It's a good time to raise your whole world up to a higher level — to track down and acquire prizes that will lead to major enhancements. And unlike what happened to Prometheus (the other gods punished him), I think you will get away with your gambits.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Let's discuss magical doorways. Each time you sleep, you slip through magical doorways called dreams. Whether or not you recall those adventures, they offer you interesting mysteries utterly unlike the events of your daily life. Here's another example: A magical doorway opens when an ally or loved one shares intimate knowledge of their inner realms. Becoming absorbed in books, movies or songs is also a way to glide through a magical doorway. Another is when you discover an aspect of yourself, a corner of your being, that you didn't know was there. I bring these thoughts to your attention, Capricorn, because I suspect the coming weeks will present an extra-inviting array of magical doorways.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Psychiatrist Myron Hofer specializes in the mother-infant relationship. Among his findings: The first emotion that a newborn experiences is anxiety. Struggling to get out of the womb can be taxing, and it's shocking to be separated from the warm, nourishing realm that has been home for months. The bad news is that most of us still carry the imprint of this original unease. The good news, Aquarius, is that the coming months will be one of the best times ever for you to heal. For optimal results, place a high priority on getting an abundance of love, support, comfort and physical touch.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Curious blends and intriguing juxtapositions are in the works — or at least they should be. Improbable alliances might be desirable because they're curative. Formulas with seemingly mismatched ingredients might fix a glitch, even if they never succeeded before and won't again. I encourage you to synergize work and play. Negotiate serious business in casual settings and make yourself at home in a wild frontier.

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

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Answers on page 28

SUDOKU

Advanced

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

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, June 14

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

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

"Blind Spot," "DIGEST," "Shouldn't You Be Working? 100 Years of Working from Home" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Bookend Art Gallery display by mixed-media artist Angela DeVries - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Broadway Jazz Dance - Bust a move with the signature style of artistic director and Broadway veteran Mark Ruhala! All skill levels welcome. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

"Fitness Over 50" Senior Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Food Frenzy - Try food from more than a dozen food trucks. Live music by Stringville and Bypass. 4-8 p.m. Holt Farmers Market, 2150 N. Cedar St., Holt. 517-930-2655. holtfoodfrenzy.com.

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

Improv Acting Class - Perform characters and learn how to make them funnier and more dramatic! Play theater games and learn why "yes, and" is the basic rule of improv. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

"Jesus Christ Superstar" - 7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

Karaoke at Mac's Bar - 9 p.m. 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-484-6795. macsbar.com.

Lansing Concerts in the Park - Tejano Sound - 7 p.m. Moores Park, 420 Moores River Drive, Lansing. 517-483-4000. lansingmi.gov/994/concerts-in-the-park.

"The LGBTQ+ Artist in Michigan" - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.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.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild's 16th Annual 12 x 12 show - Pieces by fine-art artists who enjoy working with many different mediums. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

The Other Buzzard Brother - 7-10 p.m. Williamston Roadhouse, 3700 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-388-6133. williamstonroadhouse.com.

St. Johns "Concert in the Park" Series featuring SEA CRUISERS - Bring a lawn chair or blanket. 7 p.m. St. Johns City Park, 801 W. Park St., St. Johns. clintoncountyarts.org/experience-the-arts/concert-in-the-park.

Weaving the Web: Elementals - Join us online or in person for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. weaversoftware.org.

Wednesday Night Free Concerts - Don Middlebrook (tropical rock) - 6-8:30 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-853-4000. meridian.mi.us/calendar.

Thursday, June 15

Acting Technique Class - Learn the fundamentals of acting: diction, projection, stage presence, stage directions, working off a partner, basic script work and improvisation. 7:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

"Alabaster" - 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

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

Birdhouses - Paint birdhouses that will make delightful decorations or great homes for flying friends. Grades K-3. Registration req. 10:30 a.m. Playground of Dreams Pavilion #2, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

"Blind Spot," "DIGEST," "Shouldn't You Be Working? 100 Years of Working from Home" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Bookend Art Gallery display by mixed-media artist Angela DeVries - Noon-6 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Bubble Play Date - Hands-on, immersive play ex-

Yankee Doodle Day

Saturday, June 17
8 a.m.-11 p.m.
Jaycee Park

525 E. River St., Grand Ledge
The Grand Ledge Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Yankee Doodle Day festivities Saturday (June 17) at Jaycee Park.

The day kicks off with the 15th annual Josh Spalsbury Memorial Comet Chase 5K, which starts at 8:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church in downtown Grand Ledge. There will also be a 1-mile run for children 13 and under at 8 a.m. and a 400-meter Kids Race at 8:15 a.m. All proceeds benefit the Grand Ledge Education Foundation, a nonprofit that provides extra funding for special projects at Grand Ledge Public Schools.

The Market on the Grand is open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., offering a host of vendors, an arts & crafts show, a beer tent and plenty of food trucks. The beer tent reopens at 5 p.m. and closes at 11 p.m.

The parade begins at 11 a.m. at the Sawdon Administration Building and travels along Bridge Street to the Fire Department. Prior to the parade, kids are invited to decorate their bikes at the Grand Ledge Area District Library.

Kids can enjoy activities such as balloon twisting, face painting, an obstacle course bounce house, putt-putt golf and pony rides from noon to 3 p.m. while Mudge's Follies variety show performs on the Rotary Club Stage.

The Xavier DeGroat Autism Foundation will present awards at 7 p.m., and Global Village will perform from 7:30 to 10 p.m., followed by a fireworks display to cap the evening.

For more information, visit grandledgechamber.com.



perience for adults and littles. Dress to get messy! Registration req. 6-6:30 p.m. Patriarche Park, 1100 Alton St., East Lansing. lansingarealittles.com.

Concerts at the Shell - Roadside Attraction - 7 p.m. McCormick Park, 300 N. Putnam St., Williamston. facebook.com/williamstonconcerts.

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

DIY Jewelry - Create beaded jewelry. 18+. Registration req. 5 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

Good Morning, Mason! - June Edition - Quick-paced agenda of local news and community updates. 7:15-8:15 a.m. Ingham County Fairgrounds Community Building, 700 E. Ash St., Mason. 517-676-1046. masonchamber.org.

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

"Jesus Christ Superstar" - 7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

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

"The LGBTQ+ Artist in Michigan" - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

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

Links & Drinks with Lakuna Links Permanent Jewelry - Sip a cocktail and leave with a new piece of jewelry! Choose from rings, bracelets, anklets and necklaces! 4-8 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild's 16th Annual 12 x 12 show - Pieces by fine-art artists who enjoy working with many different mediums. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Modern Dance Class - Push your body in a creative way while engaging artistically with emotional honesty. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Summer Concerts on the Square - Claim Jumpers - 6:30 p.m. Courthouse Square, 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. 517-543-0400. micharlotte.org.

Touch a Truck - Activities at Charlotte Community Library - Variety of lawn games and a raffle for a children's mechanic repair set! 5-7 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Trivia Night at High Caliber - Father Figures - Teams of up to 4 people. 7:30 p.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Suite 800, Okemos. 517-721-1790. highcaliberkarting.com.

Two Rivers Sounds of Summer - Chad Benson - Grab some takeout from one of our nearby restaurants and bring your chairs, blankets, family and friends. Free. 6:30 p.m. Two Rivers Park, Dixie Highway, Portland. miportland.org/events.

Live & Local CityPULSE

Red Cedar Spirits

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing

Sunday Jazz

Randy Napoleon (Guitar), Paul Keller (Bass) & David Alvarez III (Drums)

Sun., June 18, 4-6 p.m.



TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene

BY RICH TUPICA

STARFARM VOCALIST SPINS INTO OLD TOWN



Courtesy of Reese Wolney

DJ Whitney Who, aka Whitney Spotts of Starfarm, will spin dance tracks Friday evening (June 16) for a Pride event at UrbanBeat in Old Town.

DJ Whitney Who hosts Pride Dance Party

This weekend, a familiar face in Lansing's music scene will get loud behind the decks at UrbanBeat's Pride Dance Party, albeit under a fresh stage name: DJ Whitney Who. The "who" is better known locally as Whitney Spotts, the colorful and powerful vocalist of Starfarm, the always-busy '80s cover band.

Spotts will spin music Friday evening

(June 16) alongside Juan Trevino of the Lansing-based production duo Moon Disco. The event description welcomes all to "celebrate Pride, embrace your authentic self and dance alongside a community filled with love, acceptance and unity." City Pulse caught up with Spotts. Here's what she had to say.

How does DJing compare to singing in Starfarm?

Whitney Spotts: For me, it's a very different beast because I'm up there alone, whereas with the band, I have their energy to draw upon, and we all help get the crowd going. Behind a deck, I have to read the room and find the groove that keeps people dancing.

When and why did you start DJing?

I'd been wanting to DJ for years but found it really intimidating. Luckily, I have very talented and encouraging friends, so I finally got up the nerve last August to get started. Greg Smalley, who performs as M.O., has been an amazing mentor. The timing was funny. I was super jazzed from my first session with him, and then the very next day, I got laid off from my day job, so it just felt like serendipity. I put all my energy into this new world.

What kind of music do you spin?

I love the soul of house music in all its variations, but I also do open format, which is more Top 40 and club hits. To prep for a set, I start by putting together a playlist of songs that fit the occasion — for example, for Pride, I have a playlist of about 200 songs that are gay anthems or by queer artists — and then, in my practices, I play around to see what cool connections I can find or what songs go well together. A friend once told me, "Play like a little kid. Edit like a scientist." I love that approach.

You're spinning at the Pride event at UrbanBeat this weekend — what can you

tell us about that set?

Pride is such an important time for the LGBTQIA+ community, and I wanted to help fill the hole that was left in Old Town when Spiral closed. UrbanBeat is such a cool venue that it seemed the perfect partner. It was also a special mission because one of my first public shows was supposed to be a queer dance. Without going into too many details, essentially, the funding got pulled after homophobic pushback. It was deeply disappointing and fueled my fire to provide a safe space for my rainbow family. I will also be DJing and speaking at the Capitol for the Michigan Pride Rally on June 25.

What tip would you give someone who wants to learn the art of mixing?

Performing-wise, the most important thing I was told was that a crowd will forgive a bad transition if you drop the right track. It's true and helps quell the nerves. As far as mixing goes, the two most important things are: first, learn how to beat-match. Don't rely on sync

to carry you; you'll be lost when it fails you. Second, learn phrasing so that your transitions are smooth and intentional.

Is Starfarm keeping busy as well?

We are full steam ahead for the summer — lots of outdoor shows scheduled, including the 5:01 Best of Lansing event at Jackson Field on July 29. Our full schedule is on our website, starfarmband.com.

Pride Dance Party ft. DJ Whitney Who

Friday, June 16

8 p.m.

\$5 at door

UrbanBeat

1213 Turner St., Lansing

urbanbeatevents.com

Events

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Upbeat Thursdays with Anthony Taylor Trio plus Open Jam after the show - 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeat-events.com.

Zoo Nights #2 (21+) - Happy hour-style event featuring tastes from local restaurants and beverage companies. See the zoo after-hours, visit with the animals and enjoy yard games with friends. 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

Friday, June 16

"Alabaster" - 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

"Blind Spot," "DIGEST," "Shouldn't You Be Working? 100 Years of Working from Home" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Bookend Art Gallery display by mixed-media artist Angela DeVries - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Cruise to Holt - Bring your classic, modern or project cars and bikes — if it has wheels, bring it, or just come take a look! 5-8 p.m. Holt Farmers Market parking lot, 2150 Cedar St., Holt. 517-694-2135. delhitownshipmi.gov.

"Fitness Over 50" Senior Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos.

meridian50plus.com.

Friday Night Concert Series – Universe Band (variety dance) - Kids can enjoy big wheel tricycles at the tricycle track, a bounce house and a giant inflatable slide. 7 p.m. Lake Lansing Park South Bandshell, 1621 Pike St., Haslett. 517-676-2233. pk.ingham.org.

The Future of Comedy Show at Spare Time Entertainment Center - 7 p.m. 3101 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. 517-337-2695. sparetimelansing.com.

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

ICY/DICEY - 9 p.m. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

"Jesus Christ Superstar" - 8 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

Karaoke at High Caliber Karting - No drink minimum, no cover charge, all ages welcome. 7-11 p.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Suite 800, Okemos. 517-721-1790. highcaliberkarting.com.

"The LGBTQ+ Artist in Michigan" - 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Meridian Freedom Fest: "Queen of Katwe" Movie Screening - This biographical drama centers on Katwe, a young girl from Uganda who is granted the chance of a lifetime by learning how to play chess. Bring a chair or blanket. 9-11 p.m. Meridian Historical Village, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild's 16th Annual 12 x 12 show - Pieces by fine-art artists who enjoy working with many different mediums. 10 a.m.-7

p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Movie Night: March on Fort God - Movie followed by an open discussion. 6 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

"Small Town, Big Engines" - Annual Oldsmobile Car Show featuring classic cars, music, magic, face painting and food specials in downtown Dimondale. 6-8 p.m. 136 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. 517-449-0501. dimondale.org.

Summer Kickoff Teacher's Appreciation Happy Hour at LBC - Educators get \$2 off appetizers and beer and \$1 off cocktails. Variety of activities, including board games and self-care bingo. 3-6 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.com.

Sundown Safari Camping - Guided tour of the zoo, s'mores, outdoor movie, camping under the stars. Continental breakfast and zoo admission included the next day. Participants must bring their own gear. 6:30 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

Take-Home Crafts - Make Guatemalan worry dolls. Take-home kits come with supplies and instructions. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

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

Saturday, June 17

"Alabaster" - 3 and 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

"Blind Spot," "DIGEST," "Shouldn't You Be Working? 100 Years of Working from Home" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive,

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

Bookend Art Gallery display by mixed-media artist Angela DeVries - Noon-2 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Drone Day Class, Youth-Focused - Learn the basics of drone parts and functions, drone remote piloting, drone safety and navigating airspace. Ages 7-17. 10 a.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

ERADL Summer Reading Family Fun 5K & Walk - Bibs and chips will NOT be used, but the race will be timed. Proceeds benefit our Summer Reading Program and the Building Renovation Project. 9 a.m. Island Park, Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

Free Brush & Yard Waste Drop-Off - 8 a.m.-noon. Recycle Center, 1418 Grovenburg Road, Holt. 517-699-3874. delhitownshipmi.gov.

Game Night - All table games are welcome, so bring your campaigns, board games, card games — whatever you like. BYOB. 5-8 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

"Jesus Christ Superstar" - 2 and 8 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

Lansing Juneteenth Run/Walk/Roll 5K - Run, walk or roll strollers and wheelchairs. Registration req. 8:30 a.m. J.W. Sexton High School, 102 McPherson Ave., Lansing. lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org.

Lansing Pride Festival - Vendors, DJs, dancers, bands, drag performers, family area with all-ages activities and more. 1-10 p.m. 216 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave., Lansing. lansingpride.org.

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Events

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“The LGBTQ+ Artist in Michigan” - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

The Louderthans - 9 p.m. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

Lit Up - 7-11 p.m. Williamston Roadhouse, 3700 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-388-6133. williamstonroadhouse.com.

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

Meridian Freedom Fest: Blues & Jazz Festival - Live music with Mixed Flavors, Deacon Earl, The Sound, Tony Thompson & Friends and more. Food & beverages, yard games, small business vendors. 1-7 p.m. Lake Lansing Park South, 1621 Pike St., Haslett. meridian.mi.us.

Meridian Township Farmers' Market - Ready-to-eat foods, produce, meat, cheese, eggs, baked goods, bread, crafts and so much more! 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-712-2395. meridian.mi.us/farmers-market.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild's 16th Annual 12 x 12 show - Pieces by fine-art artists who enjoy working with many different mediums. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Summer Trailfest Ultra- and Half-Marathon - Grill-out following the race. Registration req. 7:30 a.m. Sleepy Hollow State Park, 7835 E. Price Road, Laingsburg. facebook.com/stfuraces.

Used Book Donation Drive - Gathering used books to sell in our Bookend bookstore, which funds services and supplies for the Haslett Library. If you have more than five boxes, please reach out to us ahead of time! 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Village Crafters Grand Ledge Summer Fun Days Craft Show - Shop for one-of-a-kind handcrafted items. Kids' craft area, free refreshments and trivia with prizes. Collecting non-perishable food items for the community food bank. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Grand Ledge First United Methodist Church, 411 Harrison St., Grand Ledge. 517-896-7281. facebook.com/villagecraftersgroup.

Yankee Doodle Bike Parade - We'll supply flags, pinwheels, garland and more for kids to "Yankee-Doodle" up their bike and ride with us in the parade! Registration req. 10 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Yankee Doodle Day - Parade at 11 a.m., Market on the Grand, kids' activities, food, drinks, live music, fireworks and more. 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Jaycee Park, 525 E. River St., Grand Ledge. grandledgechamber.com.

Sunday, June 18

“Alabaster” - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

“Blind Spot,” “DIGEST,” “Shouldn't You Be Working? 100 Years of Working from Home” - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

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

Eastern Ingham Farmers Market - Locally grown produce, baked goods, prepared food, handmade artisan goods, live music, kids' crafts and so much

more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. 517-618-1630. easterninghamfarmers-market.org.

Father's Day: All Dads Get Free Admission! - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

Father's Day Brunch at Lansing Brewing Co. - Steak frites with red chimichurri, baked chicken mac, loaded burritos and more. Choose from flagship beers or rotational specials. Reservations recommended. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.com.

Intro to Diamond Sutra with Oliver Zhang - One of the most popular sutras in the Mahayana Buddhist tradition. People are enlightened by studying, contemplating and practicing this sutra. 9:30 a.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

“Jesus Christ Superstar” - 1 and 6:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

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.

Meridian Freedom Fest: A Spiritual Historical Review - Pastor Marvin Williams of Trinity Church of Lansing will discuss how spirituality led to the construction of modern Black excellence and can also be a mechanism to divide the community. Food and drinks will be served after the presentation. 2 p.m. Meridian Historical Village Chapel, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild's 16th Annual 12 x 12 show - Pieces by fine-art artists who enjoy working with many different mediums. Noon-4 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Rites of Passage with Solinox Silverstar - We'll discuss how rites of passage have been done in other times and places, some of our own culture's mileposts for teens and adults and possibilities for recreating ancient rites of passage for ourselves and our children. 3 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifest-lansing.com.

Unity's Monthly Euchre and Games! - Self-organizing event. Potluck snacks. Bring your favorite board game. Invite a friend. Noon. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

Monday, June 19

Bookend Art Gallery display by mixed-media artist Angela DeVries - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Broadway Jazz Dance - Bust a move with the signature style of artistic director and Broadway veteran Mark Ruhala! All skill levels welcome. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Dinomania - Weeklong camp for ages 6-7. Dig for fossils, learn about dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures and make your own dinosaur costume. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

“Fitness Over 50” Senior Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Henna to Dye For: Mehndi Workshop for Teens & Tweens - Explore the culture and traditions of India while creating Mehndi (henna) art. Supplies included, for tweens and older. Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Higher Ground Enrichment Time - Kids can use

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

Improv Acting Class - Perform characters and learn how to make them funnier and more dramatic! Play theater games and learn why “yes, and” is the basic rule of improv. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Indonesian Batik Craft - Create a beautiful garden flag using washable glue and dye. Best for ages 7+. 2-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Jr. Spy - Weeklong camp for 5-year-olds. Explore the world of spies through hands-on discovery of secret messages and codes. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Jump Into Reading - Join Ms. Emma at the Play-ground of Dreams for stories, songs, activities and therapy dogs. If weather is unsuitable, storytime will be held at the Eaton Rapids Library. Intended for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. 11 a.m. 100 Howe Drive, Eaton

Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

Karaoke Kickback - 9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatvents.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild's 16th Annual 12 x 12 show - Pieces by fine-art artists who enjoy working with many different mediums. Noon-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Movie Magic - Weeklong camp for ages 8-9. Explore the movie-making process, from writing and storyboards to filming and editing. Learn the science of lighting, sound effects, camera technology and more. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Playwriting for Kids Camp - Learn how to write a good play with standout characters & plots! Bring water, a notebook, a pencil and loose, easy-to-wear attire. Ages 5-13. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

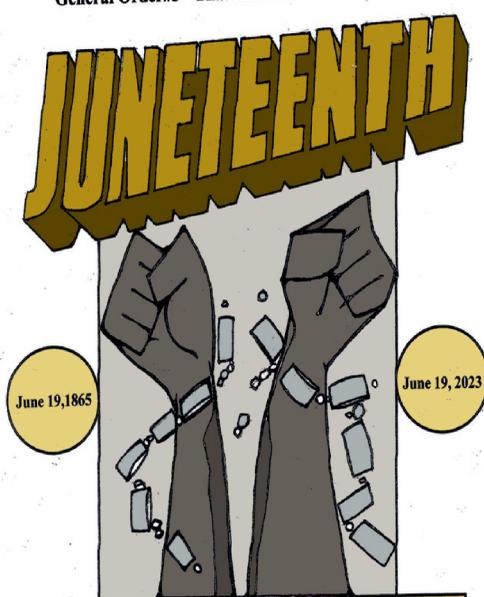
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General Order#3 “That All Slaves Shall Be Free”

JUNETEENTH

FREE EVENT



June 19, 1865 June 19, 2023

ALL AGES WELCOME

We Come To You
EVENT CENTER
Meridian Mall Okemos, MI

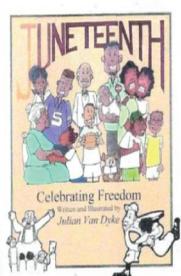
Essay Contest, Historical Movie Nite, Music and Art!

June 17th, 18th, and 19th 2023

Saturday June 17th @ 2 PM
Historical Presentation by **D. Burnside Movies**, African artifacts presentation

Sunday June 18th & Monday June 19th @ 2 PM
Book signing and live readings by local artist and author, **Julian Van Dyke**. Kid-friendly event. Books, art prints, and more will be available for purchase.

Monday June 19th @ 2 PM
Come and enjoy a presentation and discussion by former Deputy Superintendent of Michigan's Education Department, **Eugene Cain**, and professors from the Department of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences at MSU's College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences



Tennant Performance Shell Concerts in the Park

June 14-Aug. 30
7 p.m. Wednesdays
St. Johns City Park
801 W. Park St., St. Johns



The Clinton County Arts Council and the City of St. Johns are teaming up once again to offer a series of free outdoor concerts Wednesday evenings at St. Johns City Park.

The shows feature a mix of genres, from jazz and rock 'n' roll to Elvis Presley and Beatles tributes. Food is available courtesy of the St. Johns Lions Club, and the events will take place rain or shine.

- June 14: Sea Cruisers ('50s, '60s and '70s covers)
- June 21: Meridian Community Band (concert band)
- June 28: Lansing Concert Band Big Band (big-band jazz with vocals)
- July 5: Miranda & the M80s ('80s covers)
- July 12: Toppermost (Beatles tribute)
- July 19: Jeff Richards & Friends (variety)
- July 26: Dave Bennett Quartet (swing, jazz, rock and more)
- Aug. 2: C.A.R.Ma. Quartet (eclectic traditional and improvisational music)
- Aug. 9: The Detroit Retro Society (best of Detroit music)
- Aug. 16: Full Cord (bluegrass)
- Aug. 23: Kari Holmes Band (country)
- Aug. 30: Matt King (Elvis tribute)

Events

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Reiki for Kids & Teens - Fun, engaging, hands-on activities will teach students about Reiki energy and its history. 5 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Science of Star Wars - Weeklong camp for ages 10-12. Create droids, build lightsabers and wield The Force. Explore the swamps of Dagobah, the technology of Coruscant, the deserts of Tatooine and the frigid cold of Hoth. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Tuesday, June 20

Acting Technique Class - Learn the fundamentals of acting: diction, projection, stage presence, stage directions, working off a partner, basic script work and improvisation. 7:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Ballet Class - Each class includes full barre, center and/or choreography. Learn advanced

techniques such as beats, multiple pirouettes, greater turn-out, higher extension and longer variations. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Big Kid Bingo at High Caliber with WITL - Prizes include concert and baseball tickets, items from local businesses and more. 6-8 p.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Suite 800, Okemos. 517-721-1790. highcaliberkarting.com.

Bookend Art Gallery display by mixed-media artist Angela DeVries - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Delta Township Music in the Park - Brotha Earth with opener Tony Thompson - Food from The Smoke N' Pig BBQ food truck. 7 p.m. Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road, Lansing. deltami.gov.

Downtown Lansing Farmers Market - Fresh produce, baked goods, artisan crafts, activities, music and more. 3-7 p.m. Reutter Park, 400 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. downtownlansing.org/downtown-farmers-market.

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

517-894-1633.

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.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild's 16th Annual 12 x 12 show - Pieces by fine-art artists who enjoy working with many different mediums. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

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

Paddle On! Intro to Paddle Sports - Join Lansing Oar & Paddle Club for an intro to paddle sports in mid-Michigan! See different types of paddle craft and learn about boating safety. Registration req. 6-8 p.m. Jaycee Park Pavilion and Launch, 525 E. River St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Picnic Playdate: A Family Storytime - Follow the little red wagon to the Trinity Episcopal Church playground for a summery family storytime with songs, activities and a snack! 11 a.m.-noon. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Puppet Construction Series - Three-day workshop for ages 7-17. Children can express themselves creatively by building puppets and developing unique characters and storylines. 9 a.m.-noon. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Roller Derby Basic Skills Boot Camp - Eight-week boot camp consists of introductory, intermediate and advanced skill-level training. Proper mastery of technique is reinforced at twice-weekly practices. Bring a mouthguard and water bottle. 6-8 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. 517-802-7974. lansingrollerderby.com.

Soap-Making Party - We'll have a variety of molds, colors and scents to choose from. Grades 4-6. 3 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

Summer in the Park: All in This Together Story Time - If there's bad weather, the event will be held at the Charlotte Community Library. 11 a.m. Oak Park, 230 S. Clinton St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Wednesday, June 21

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

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

"Blind Spot," "DIGEST," "Shouldn't You Be Working? 100 Years of Working from Home" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Bookend Art Gallery display by mixed-media artist Angela DeVries - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Broadway Jazz Dance - Bust a move with the signature style of artistic director and Broadway veteran Mark Ruhala! All skill levels welcome. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Cars & Coney - Bring your classic car, grab a coney dog and enjoy the company of others who love cars. Drivers (plus one passenger) receive free admission for the evening. 5:30-8 p.m. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-372-0529. reoldsmuseum.org.

Lansing Concerts in the Park - Kathy Ford Band - 7 p.m. Durant Park, 719 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4000. lansingmi.gov/994/concerts-in-the-park.

"Fitness Over 50" Senior Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

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

Impression 5 Lab Visit - An exploration of plants, photosynthesis and the carbon and water cycles. Create your own self-contained biome! 3 and 3:30 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

Improv Acting Class - Perform characters and learn how to make them funnier and more dramatic! Play theater games and learn why "yes, and" is the basic rule of improv. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Karaoke at Mac's Bar - 9 p.m. 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-484-6795. macsbar.com.

Kid's Day at Sharp Park - Crazy Craig Juggling Variety Show at 1 p.m., yard games, bounce house, double-lane slide, balloon twisting, trackless train, children's crafts, dance performances, obstacle course, concessions and more! Everything (with the exception of concessions) is free. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. 1401 Elmwood Road, Lansing. grandledgechamber.com.

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Red Cedar spirits®

Great summer evenings ...
creative cocktails
high quality spirits
appetizer plates
music, tastings, specials

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing
4 - 11 p.m. Thu, Fri and Sat, 4 - 9 p.m. Tues Wed, Sun, closed Monday

CROSSWORD SOLUTION From Pg. 24

W	I	D	T	H	S	F	L	U	B	C	C	S		
E	N	R	O	O	T	E	I	N	E	O	L	E		
S	N	O	W	B	A	L	L	F	I	G	M	U	G	
S	P	I	N	A	L	E	C	A	B	B	A			
S	T	O	M	P	R	E	S	T						
S	P	A	B	O	B	A	F	A	R	C	E	S		
H	O	H	O	N	E	T	S	V	I	O	L	A		
U	S	I	N	G	A	L	L	O	N	E	S	M	I	G
L	E	N	T	O	T	A	M	E	K	I	D	A		
A	R	T	O	I	S	S	A	P	S	C	E	L		
J	E	E	R	M	A	X	I	A	S	T	A			
U	R	L	Y	O	U	M	A	Y	B	E	R	I	G	
M	I	S	A	N	N	E	L	M	I	R	A			
P	E	A	M	E	A	N	S	E	E	P	E	D		

SUDOKU SOLUTION From Pg. 24

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

FOOD & DRINK DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

The world is your oyster at Cask & Co.

By LIZY FERGUSON

I spend a fair amount of time on the clock conferring with my coworkers as to where I should get food. Cask & Co. has come up often — not only in these discussions but also in my Google searches for new places to get pho or pad Thai in Lansing. This is what has always given me apprehension about this establishment: Whether I'm craving Thai, Vietnamese or wings (or Indian ... or Japanese), Cask & Co.'s menu has me covered. Is it possible for one restaurant to do so many diverse options well? As there aren't that many restaurants I haven't tried yet, it was time to find out what Cask & Co. has to offer.

I intended to try one of the restaurant's international offerings to

really test my bias, but a craving for a cheeseburger reared its ugly and difficult-to-ignore head. From the extensive menu, I chose the bison burger, which comes with aged white cheddar, pickled onions and a dijon slaw. They had me at aged white cheddar.

Bison meat is known for being leaner and generally "better for you" than beef, so if you have guilty feelings about eating cheeseburgers, as I know many of us do, then a bison option is a welcome sighting on a menu when the burger urge has struck. This one was perfectly cooked to my medium-rare preference, and the cheddar was a sharp and creamy compliment to the peppery meat. The slaw, full of crunchy red cabbage and tangy mustard dressing, was an excellent topping, and I think it

should be added as a standard option across all menus.

The fries, though, deserve their own paragraph. There are many options for sides, but for me, a burger requires fries. Garlicky, fried to a toasty golden brown and covered in a generous sprinkling of parmesan, they were the best I've had in a while. The portion was generous, and I wish I'd asked for a side of barbeque sauce because that would have been the perfect way to round out the array of flavors represented in my meal.

Other intriguing menu options include Mediterranean chicken tacos, a smoked-elk sausage and pepper po'boy and a watermelon-and-peach salad. Is the menu all over the place? Absolutely. But if the quality of my first meal was any indica-

tion, I would give Cask & Co. a try next time you're eating with others and can't agree on where to go.



Bison Mountain Burger

\$18

Cask & Co.

3415 E. Saginaw St.,
Lansing

11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday

11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday

517-580-3720

caskandcompany.com



Lizy Ferguson/City Pulse

Bison meat is known for being leaner and generally "better for you" than beef, so if you have guilty feelings about eating cheeseburgers but can't fight off pesky cravings, the Bison Mountain Burger at Cask & Co. may be the perfect dish for you.

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 FISH FRIES

1. Eastside Fish Fry & Grill

Fried homestyle classics, fresh seafood and decadent desserts
2417 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing
517-993-5988
eastsidefishfry.com

11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday
11 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday

2. One North Kitchen & Bar

Scratch kitchen and diverse menu in a casual, entertainment-based environment
5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
517-901-5001

onenorthdining.com

11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday-Thursday
11 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday

3. Log Jam

Family-owned bar and grill with an eclectic menu of fried fish, burgers, pizza and more
110 W. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge
517-627-4300
logjamgl.com

3-10 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday

4. Fresh Fish & Fry – Crack Chicken

Takeout spot serving an array of fried and grilled fish, fried chicken, wings and sides
3140 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing
517-882-7007

10 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday
10 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday

5. Harry's Place

Century-old bar and restaurant offering beer-battered cod, burgers, sandwiches, pizza and more
404 N. Verlinden Ave., Lansing
517-484-9661
facebook.com/harrysplace Lansing

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

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Thank you for Voting Us the Best!



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Great scapes

By **ARI LEVAUX**

I once took a train from Beijing to Siberia. We left the station early in the morning, crawling slowly behind factories, past thousands of people outside doing synchronized tai chi before work. I decided to find a dining car and have some breakfast.

There was no menu. You sat down, and they handed you food. My plate contained chopped sections of plant stem, stir-fried with slabs of pork in a brown sauce. With rice, of course. As we rumbled through the outskirts of Beijing, more and more of the landscape was farmland. I figured some of that land was garlic, and I knew from my plate that the scapes were up in northern China.

Garlic is my favorite crop to grow. If you plant enough, you can eat it every day. And out in the field, there is never a dull moment. The plants are in the ground from fall until summer, leaving a short window between harvest and planting.

Now, with the solstice upon us, the gar-

lic harvest begins, in the form of bunches of green, glorious, curly scapes.

These whimsical flowering stalks can act as a spice, a vegetable, an edible skewer or a decorative centerpiece. Cooked whole, they resemble spears of coiled asparagus, a shape that is tricky to dunk into sauce and wrangle into your mouth with any dignity. So, rather than making scapes the star of a meal, I usually chop them into bite-sized pieces if I want the vegetable or mince them if I want the spice. As with all garlic, cooking will soften the flavor.

I still have a handful of bulbs left from last year's harvest. They are soft, with green shoots in the middle. I

may not get to them now that I have new scapes to work with.

Growers pick the scapes so the plant will divert all of its energy into the growing bulb. Like castrating a steer but with more chlorophyll. Unharvested, the scape will curl around twice like a cartoon pig's tail. And then, over a period of weeks, it



Stir-fried scapes with pork

This dish can be served vegetarian-style by simply skipping the pork.

Serves 4

1/2 pound pork, cut into slices no more than 1/2-inch thick. Don't trim the fat. You can use bacon.

1 bunch of scapes with the tips trimmed off and, if necessary, woody ends cut off the bases, chopped into sections of an inch or less.

Sauce ingredients:

1 tablespoon each soy sauce, oyster sauce, rice vinegar

1 teaspoon each fish sauce, hoisin

sauce, hot sauce, toasted sesame oil, brown sugar

1/4 teaspoon black pepper

1/4 onion, sliced and teased apart

2 cloves garlic, minced

1 cubic inch ginger, peeled and sliced

In a medium-sized bowl, combine the sauce ingredients.

Heat a pan on medium/high heat and brown the pork, stirring often. When it's well cooked and delicious-looking, add the scapes. Stir-fry for two to five minutes, then add the sauce. Stir it in and bring to a simmer. Serve with rice.



Courtesy of Rebecca Siegel/Flickr

Scapes, the green stalks that grow from garlic bulbs, can act as a spice, a vegetable, an edible skewer or a decorative centerpiece. You can stir-fry them, blend them into pesto or use them any other way you'd typically use garlic.

will uncurl, stand up tall and bloom into a purple flower that's shaped like an exploding firework. If you have some garlic in the ground, it's worth letting a few plants flower just for the beautiful spectacle.

But just a few. Harvest the rest, because big bulbs are where it's at. You can snap or snip them, but I prefer to harvest scapes the way you'd pull a blade of grass to chew. Tug with sustained, gentle pressure until you hear the stalk snap off somewhere in the plant. The deeper inside the plant it breaks, the more tender and juicy the end will be. Deeper breaks will emerge with a slurp, which is appropriate, as the deepest parts are as tender as sushi.

Farmers markets will be full of scapes in the coming weeks. When shopping, the most important thing to look at is the broken end of the scape. If harvested young, the end will be appropriately tender. But if the scape was allowed to curl around once or twice, the cut end may very well be woody and will have to be trimmed before it can be used, as with asparagus.

With scapes in hand, the possibilities are endless, as with garlic bulbs. They're spicy when raw but not as feisty as cloves, which allows you to munch on them along with something hearty like hard cheese or sausage — or smoked Copper River sockeye belly, if you have friends like I do. When cooked, scapes are sweet and mellow, without the bitterness a clove can deliver. Many a great meal has started with chopped scapes in a pan with oil, butter or bacon. It could be fried rice, fried eggs or a frittata. You can even use a blender to make scape pesto with olive oil, cheese and nuts.

Events

from page 28

"The LGBTQ+ Artist in Michigan" - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

"Love's Labour's Lost," by William Shakespeare - 7 p.m. Outdoor Amphitheater, 422 N. Washington Square, Lansing. 517-483-1122. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild's 16th Annual 12 x 12 show - Pieces by fine-art artists who enjoy working with many different mediums. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Punk Art Meetup - All ages, mediums (even digital!) and skill levels welcome. We bring basic craft supplies, but feel free to bring your own! No paints allowed. Kids allowed until 8 p.m. 6-11 p.m. The Avenue, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-999-7549. avenuecafelansing.com.

Puppet Construction Series - Three-day workshop for ages 7-17. Children can express themselves creatively by building puppets and developing unique characters and storylines. 9 a.m.-noon. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

STEAM: Building Together - Marble Machines - Work together and build a marble obstacle track! Ages 4 - 12. Registration req. 2 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

St. Johns "Concert in the Park" Series featuring MERIDIAN COMMUNITY BAND - Bring a lawn chair or blanket. 7 p.m. St. Johns City Park, 801 W. Park St., St. Johns. clintoncountyparks.org/experience-the-arts/concert-in-the-park.

Wednesday Night Free Concerts - Showdown (classic rock) - 6-8:30 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-853-4000. meridian.mi.us/calendar.

Wheel of the Year: Litha & Rites of Passage - Join us online or in person for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. weaversoftwareweb.org.

Thursday, June 22

Acting Technique Class - Learn the fundamentals of acting: diction, projection, stage presence, stage directions, working off a partner, basic script work and improvisation. 7:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

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

"Blind Spot," "DIGEST," "Shouldn't You Be Working? 100 Years of Working from Home" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Bookend Art Gallery display by mixed-media artist Angela DeVries - Noon-6 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Candy Bingo - Grades K-3. 10:30 a.m. Playground of Dreams Pavilion #2, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

Concerts at the Shell - Leaky Tikis (Jimmy Buffett tribute) - 7 p.m. McCormick Park, 300 N. Putnam St., Williamston. facebook.com/williamstonconcerts.

Cristo Rey Community Center's Golf Fore Giving - 18-hole scramble. Help ensure our neighbors have access to healthy food, quality healthcare, counseling and financial services. Registration at 8 a.m., tee-off at 9 a.m. Wheatfield Valley Golf Course, 1600 Linn Road, Williamston. cristoreycommunity.org.

Appetizers

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SO JOYFULLY.”

- DIANA ROSS



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