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July 12-13, 2023

CityPULSE

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BARRETT VS. HERTEL

The race for the 7th Congressional District is joined See Page 13



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dine & tap
East Lansing

It may be hard to see it some days, and I'm not ignorant of the fact that things are still bleak here in America for many, but people have continued to unite in the name of progress, however slow it may be. From John Brown, Frederick Douglass, William Lloyd Garrison, Harriet Tubman, Sarah and Angelina Grimké to more modern revolutionaries like Fred Hampton, Malcolm X, and Shirley Chisholm, we have persisted, and we have grown the movement in spite of the threat of violence. The election of Barack Obama awakened some relatively dormant sentiment, which was followed by Trump escalating and giving a voice and permission to dated American tropes. We've seen that they'll still try to silence those who dare to point out the hypocrisy; Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf and Colin Kaepernick are the most recent examples. Megan Rapinoe and Serena Williams voiced their support and received backlash from right-wing media. We see the hypocrisy of those who say "shut up and dribble" and "stick to sports", when athletes dare to speak out on issues of societal concern, but will praise athletes who publicly support their ideology.

The vestiges of hate and bigotry are still ripe. It should be less acceptable now — more than ever — to display that hate publicly, at least not without some resistance, or accountability. There are many who are quick to correct, or shut down public displays of racism and hate. At many times in our nation's past and present, it was commonplace for people who look like me to use hateful language without fear of retaliation. Unfortunately, the emboldened hate is still not being sufficiently challenged by those being elected who espouse and proudly display their views for all to witness. Regardless of those in the Supreme Court undoing major precedents and rulings to change history, we must stay united and insist that people deserve the same dignity as their neighbor, regardless of their place of birth, their individual identity, the color of their skin, or their financial position. We must remember that for marginalized people, being born in America has all too often meant to be invisible, or treated as less than.

While police brutality and abuse of authority remains, we have seen courts taking it more seriously, and qualified immunity is no longer the absolute shield of protection it used to be; that is progress because people are united against it.

While the LGBTQIA+ community is seeing legislation being introduced all over the country that encourages and enables dangerous sentiments among bigots that will absolutely lead to violence against them, I believe that harmful actions have also brought more compassionate people together to stand in solidarity with them and unite against that hate. They deserve to have the same exact protection that I do under the law. There is no justification for anything less.

While many places try to implement bans on certain information and reading materials, whether it be Critical Race Theory, Pride, or even basic science, the truth can never be erased. I cannot unknow what I've learned over the last 10 years — facts that I was previously oblivious to because of what was left out of my education. It is a disservice to everyone when we sugarcoat or deny history to its unthinkable and devastating impacts.

It is true that there is a faction of this country that is applauding recent actions. Just know: The progress they are undoing is not a victory, it is a condemnation. It is more important now for us to continue to stand up for those who are in harm's way. At the end of the day, the onus is on those of us with the protection of privilege to do anything we can to make America a safe and welcoming place for those who are the targets of hate. I accept my privilege as a

responsibility to challenge the narrative and help others to see that everything is not as it has been portrayed. The American dream is an illusion destined to create schisms because the American dream was for settlers with pale skin and a phallus. When those who were not originally supposed to benefit from the American Dream actually dare to try to achieve it, the resentment from certain privileged factions is apparent. Look at those who cry foul when laws are created to address rampant discrimination: They deny systemic issues at the foundation of this nation, and thus deny certain people free access to the American Dream. Countless people among the privileged have claimed merit — forget that years and years of exploitation and generational wealth have gotten them farther than affirmative action ever could.

The world I want to live in doesn't involve assimilating people into a culture where they can't be their entire selves, free from limitations, where they have the liberty to move about without discrimination, aggression, or oppression due to constructs that have historically kept them out of certain jobs, neighborhoods, or public places, so as to maintain some "pristine" image of America. Minorities have been on the receiving end of shaming by the majority. Yet with moral clarity, it is evident that the shame has been unclaimed by its creators for all of history. Those ideals we claim for America have not been realized, for our society has either denied or resisted truth for the sake of comfort. We will hopefully eventually comprehend how that reinforces those who have a stake in keeping things the way they are. As Frederick Douglass said, "Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did, and it never will." For the better part of the colonization of the so-called New World, those with power have had their vision of our society realized, and countless lives have been largely unfulfilled, and exterminated without a care, and much of the population has accepted it without pushback due to the societal norms we were indoctrinated to accept. That has always stifled progress.

I wish change could happen overnight, but we are dealing with generations of inherited sentiment and learned behavior. Yet with every generation, we see some children who escape that trap of passed-down hatred to open their minds to new experiences and thought. I'm not optimistic enough to think the scales are going to tip in my lifetime in order to see the type of society that would make me content, but maybe my kids will see it in theirs. Or maybe their kids. The planet is not ill: It is humankind that is sick. As liberals, we must be the antidote. We cannot just watch in silence while our values are attacked. I gladly take out these ads to encourage you to take care of your neighbors. We need each other. When things get bad, people get desperate, so the more we do to protect those under attack, the less desperate they'll be. Desperation leads to only negativity, and that, too, will be used against them. Lift them up any way you can, even if it's just a smile. A kind gesture is sometimes all it takes to change someone.

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THERE'S NO WAY I CAN POST TO ALL OF THESE WITHOUT SPENDING MY ENTIRE LIFE ON SOCIAL MEDIA.

I THINK THAT'S THE POINT.



SORENSEN



Jehovah's Witnesses resintate in-person conventions

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

OUR STORY SO FAR: AFTER REPUBLICANS ON THE SUPREME COURT ARE EXPOSED AS BRAIN-EATING SPACE ALIENS, THE RIGHT WING LEAPS TO THEIR DEFENSE.

WHAT A NOTHINGBURGER! THE BIASED LIBERAL MEDIA ARE ALWAYS TRYING TO INVENT SOME NEW CONSERVATIVE SCANDAL!

ISN'T DIVERSITY SUPPOSED TO BE A GOOD THING?

BRAIN-EATING ALIEN LIVES MATTER TOO!



THE JUSTICES RESIST ANY ATTEMPT AT OVERSIGHT.

WE SEE NO NEED TO SUBJECT OURSELVES TO A CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY INTO THIS NON-ISSUE!

NOTHING IN THE CONSTITUTION SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITS PARASITICAL ALIENS CONTROLLING THE HOST BODIES OF CONSERVATIVE JUSTICES FROM SERVING ON THE SUPREME COURT!



IN FACT, THEY GO ON THE OFFENSE AGAINST THEIR CRITICS!

HOW DARE THEY TRY TO UNDERMINE THE COURT'S LEGITIMACY!

HAVE THEY NO RESPECT FOR THE HALLOWED TRADITIONS OF THIS ARBITRARY LAND MASS? I MEAN, GREAT NATION?

SOMEONE SHOULD EAT THEIR BRAINS!



CALLS TO EXPAND THE COURT GAIN LITTLE TRACTION.

COME ON, MAN! EVEN IF WE HAD THE VOTES TO ADD MORE HUMAN JUSTICES, THE OTHER SIDE WOULD JUST ADD MORE BRAIN-EATERS FIRST CHANCE THEY GOT!

THE LAST THING WE WANT TO DO IS POLITICIZE THE COURT!



BEHIND THE SCENES, THINGS GO ON PRETTY MUCH AS USUAL.

THANKS FOR THE FREE LUXURY VACATION, HARLAN CROW! NOT TO MENTION ALL THE FRESH, TASTY BRAINS!

ANYTIME! I'M ALWAYS HAPPY TO HELP OUT A BRAIN-EATING FRIEND, WITH ABSOLUTELY NO EXPECTATION OF ANY FAVORS IN RETURN!



AND THE UNELECTED, UNACCOUNTABLE JUSTICES CONTINUE TO STEER THE COUNTRY TOWARD AN INCREASINGLY DYSTOPIAN FUTURE.

IN TWO YEARS, THEY'VE GUTTED ABORTION, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, LGBTQ RIGHTS--AND RULED 6-3 THAT BRAIN-EATING IS TOTALLY LEGAL!

HA HA! ISN'T IT GREAT? CRY MORE, LIBTARD!



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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Michigan Avenue corridor revamp starts in October

Major improvements planned from Pennsylvania Avenue east to the Frandor area

Brace for orange barrels on Michigan Avenue as the city and state not only “fix the damn roads,” but transform the main artery through the city into a more pedestrian- and bike and scooter-friendly road.

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said the construction will “change around Michigan Avenue to really be a very exciting corridor.”

It will also be dramatically different for drivers.

Instead of two driving lanes in either direction, motorized vehicles will have just one lane heading east from downtown starting at Pennsylvania Avenue. There will still be two lanes heading west, with left-turn lanes in both directions. Parking lanes will remain on both sides of the street for the most part.

On-street parking will remain, but the entire stretch from Pennsylvania Avenue to U.S. 127 will accommodate more bikes and other non-motorized transportation such as scooters.

The new lanes will be a bit narrower than currently, but they will still meet federal rules, Andy Kilpatrick, the city’s public service director, said. And there will be a few extra feet of sidewalk that businesses might be able to use for their services, but “the extra space honestly is in the area between the cycle track and the sidewalk in areas where there isn’t parking.”

Kilpatrick said road studies show that morning rush-hour traffic needs a “just a little bit more” than one westbound lane, but one lane can accommodate home-bound commuter traffic in the afternoon, when departure times are more spread out.

Initial utility work is expected to begin this October, Kilpatrick said, with the majority of the work to reform the corridor occurring in 2024, and potentially a bit of work in 2025.

The new configuration will also allow the city to add trees along the thoroughfare.

Some eastside residents, like Phil Damico, have advocated for the city to replace the ornamental trees along the avenue with fruit trees. He argues the fruit would be free and available to everyone, including the homeless, while also providing foliage and other positive impacts of having trees on the street.

Kilpatrick said the city is “not opposed” to planting fruit trees, but he expressed concerns.

Streets are “harsh environments,” he noted, citing the salt used in winter and lack of watering for trees on the corridor. He also noted that mature fruit would fall off trees, causing additional trash and potentially landing on cars. Reaching some of the fruit may also rely on using ladders.

“Definitely an interesting idea which could be vetted,” he said, “but it may turn out that planting fruit trees would be better in parks, or at least along neighborhood streets, as opposed to a busy street like Michigan.”

The project is the culmination of over a decade of studies and work from city officials and the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission. Hours of public input from the community were also solicited and integrated into the plan.

Schor said officials listened to many on how to “change around Michigan Avenue to really be a very, a more exciting corridor

“We heard from moms who wanted to be able to walk with their kids on the sidewalk,” Schor said, “and others who wanted to walk, and bike and scooter, but not worry about getting hit by cars.”

The project is expected to cost \$11.62 million, but a clear cost assessment won’t be available until the Michigan Department of Transportation receives bids. The costs will be covered by \$6.46 million in federal funds, \$1.61 million in state gas tax dollars and \$3.55 million from the Lansing Board of Water and Lights, said Kilpatrick.

BWL will be replacing some water service lines, and the city will be using the time to do sanitary sewer separation work as well. Some areas of the city were originally designed to allow overflow from rain to run into the sewer system containing human waste.

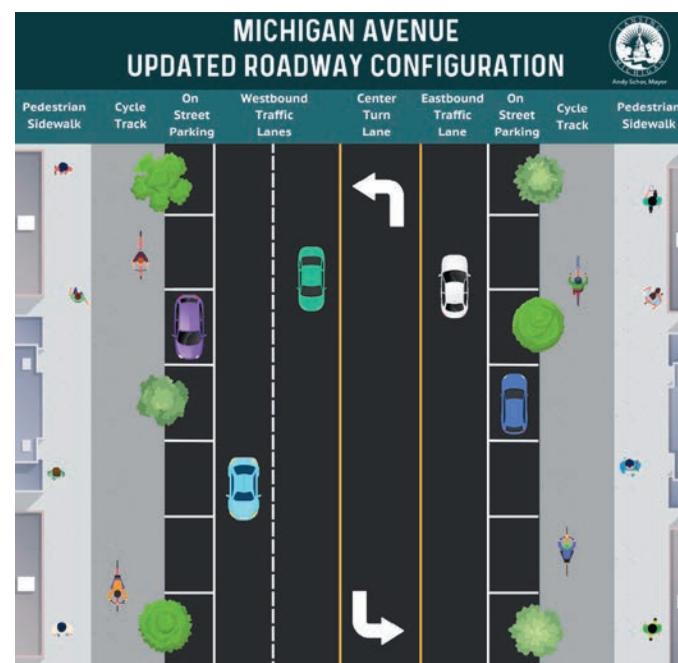
That combined wastewater was being discharged into local rivers, causing contamination. The separation project assures that sewer water goes to the wastewater treatment facility and doesn’t contaminate overflow for surface water during rain storms and snow melts.

“It is gonna be a pretty big change in how we view that from the street,” said City Council member Peter Spadafore, who also serves on the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission.

People have viewed Michigan Avenue as a way to get into and out of downtown Lansing, but it is much more than that, said Spadafore. It has a host of small businesses, including Strange Matters Coffee, The Avenue bar, the iconic Green Door, Everybody Reads and City Pulse.

Kilpatrick said the project will create a more inviting entry into the city from East Lansing. For decades, business owners in Lansing have spoken about the invisible wall between the two cities, represented physically by the U.S. 127 overpass just west of Frandor. Recent developments, including the Red Cedar project on the southern side of Michigan Avenue and apartments on the northern side of the street, have worked to begin to entice Michigan State University students to the eastside businesses. Schor said the city has witnessed seniors and grad students moving to the east side.

“They want to live in the city and they want to go to Strange Matter and do their work,” Schor said. “And we



City of Lansing

Expect a new look on Michigan Avenue by 2025 from Pennsylvania Avenue to Frandor that will reduce eastbound traffic to one lane and provide more trees and room for bikes and scooters. Work begins in October.

think that this is going to boost that.”

He said the redesign of the corridor is a “win-win” for pedestrians, non-motorized transportation and continued vehicle traffic.

But getting there could be a headache for current businesses that rely primarily on customers who drive to them, Kilpatrick and Schor said. With so much construction, access may be hampered.

“We’re going to be trying to have a robust outreach for businesses,” Kilpatrick said. “We realize that while construction is going on, there will be times when access to these businesses will be difficult. So that will be challenging for some of them if they rely on traffic.”

Schor said the city will do its best to “minimize any disruption” for businesses.

“When you say we’re fixing the roads, well, the first thing you have to have are the orange barrels before you can fix the roads,” Schor said. “But afterward, it’s going to be incredible.”

— TODD HEYWOOD

With misgivings, Gregg is quitting the East Lansing City Council

She worries 'reforms' she helped to make will disappear

When Jessy Gregg decided to run for the East Lansing City Council in 2019, she had no idea the tumultuous ride she was in for.

A global pandemic. A reckoning on racial equity and policing. A revolving door of Council members. A shakeup in city staff, starting with the dismissal of the city manager.

Combine all that with owning a small business that is expanding to Kalamazoo. After "some pretty heavy soul searching," Gregg has decided not to run for a second term.

The tumult of crises was not even on the horizon when Gregg, 46, won her seat four years ago.

Five months into office, the pandemic hit, causing a major upheaval for the city as downtown stores closed and downtown workers stayed home. Moreover, when restrictions were loosened, Michigan State University ignored guidelines. A COVID outbreak was traced to one downtown bar and restaurant.

Allegations of racially motivated policing in East Lansing followed

the murder of George Floyd in 2020, pushing East Lansing leaders, including Gregg, to create a citizens' Police Oversight Commission. The commission released its first assessment in June, which found significant inequities in who was involved in police interactions and violence.

"Of the 144 use of force incidents in 2022, approximately one-quarter involved officers interacting with people experiencing a mental health crisis," the executive summary reads. "There were significant racial disparities in use of force during 2022: of the 167 people involved in use of force incidents 56% were Black, 36% were White, 5% were identified as other racial categories, and 3% were of unknown race."

Gregg said she was not surprised by the findings.

"We know that we have policies that are out of date and need to be updated in terms of how our police are trained and how they interact with their community," she said. "So, it's also something that we've been working on outside of the recommendations of that report."

Another key responsibility of the commission is to hear and review civilian complaints against East Lansing Police Department officers. Gregg hopes that, as the chair and vice chair

of the commission have promised, the body will focus on identifying officers with a "troubling pattern of issues." Identifying those patterns will help prevent troubles or issues before they happen, she said.

"How do we change our underlying policies and training to prevent those from ever happening as opposed to cleaning up the mess after it has happened?" she said.

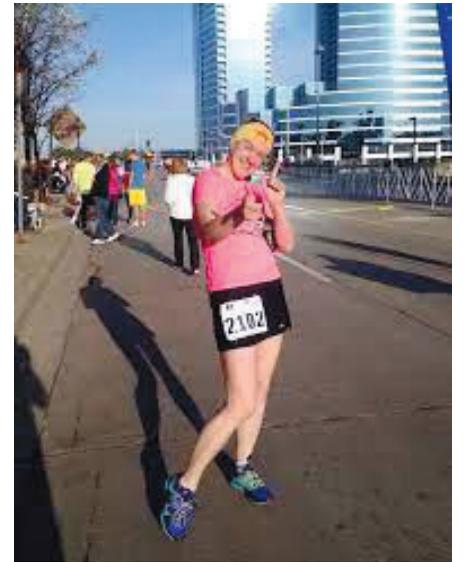
As the race for three Council seats shapes up, she said she is concerned about the future of the commission, which is "just beginning the process of rebuilding trust in the community."

"I know that there's a facet of our community that does not think that what the Police Oversight Commission is doing is having a positive impact, and losing that body when they're just getting started would be to me devastating," she said. "It's hard for me to decide to step away from all that. I'm actually getting emotional."

Indeed, even in the midst of the COVID crisis, she and her colleagues made a controversial move to dismiss the city's legal firm.

She said that she and former Council members Aaron Stephens and Lisa Babcock "felt very strongly that we needed a different direction for our legal counsel," she said. "We just had a general dissatisfaction with the advice that we were getting around the pandemic."

Thomas Yeadon had served the city through a contract since 1985. He provided legal advice to the Council and prosecution services for misdemeanors in the city's 54-B District Court. He was fired with a 3-2 vote on July 14, 2020. Just the year prior, Yeadon



Courtesy photo

A 2015 photo of Jessy Gregg, the founder of Warrior Goddess Training Academy, an online support group for women.

was awarded a 25 percent increase in his salary by a 3-2 vote. His dismissal led former mayors Mark Meadows and Ruth Beier to quit the Council.

Beier had served on the body since 2013, while Meadows was re-elected to the position in 2015, after serving in the state Legislature representing East Lansing. Meadows has filed to run this running again this year, but he declined an interview before the July 25 deadline.

"Mr. Meadows and then Mayor Beier left us mid-meeting, announcing their resignations and signed off, leaving us as a Council of three in the middle of a pandemic and the middle

See Gregg, Page 7



CITY OF GRAND LEDGE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Grand Ledge City Council will hold a public hearing during its regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. on 24 July 2023, to consider and receive public input on an Eaton County Parks Millage Grant Program application. The application is available for review on the City's website at www.cityofgrandledge.com and at the City Clerk's office, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, Michigan, between 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, as amended, and will also be livestreamed via Zoom for informational purposes only. The online stream can be accessed at <https://www.zoom.us> with the Meeting ID: 859 2700 3568, or by calling +1 646 876 9923 US (New York), +1 646 931 3860 US, +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC), +1 305 224 1968 US, +1 309 205 3325 US, +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago), +1 386 347 5053 US, +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose), +1 507 473 4847 US, +1 564 217 2000 US, +1 669 444 9171 US, +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose), +1 689 278 1000 US, +1 719 359 4580 US, +1 253 205 0468 US, +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma), +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston), +1 360 209 5623 US with Meeting ID: 859 2700 3568.

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

Gregory Newman, City Clerk

CP#23-159

State of Michigan. Ingham County Probate Court. Notice to Creditors. Decedent's Estate. Case No. 23-801-DE. Estate of Margo Beth Jaslove. The decedent, Margo Beth Jaslove, died 04/26/2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Rachel Asbury, 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. 06/29/2023. Rachel Asbury 805 Northlawn Ave. East Lansing, MI 48823 517.614.6707

CP#23-160



CITY OF GRAND LEDGE BOARD OF REVIEW

Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers and property owners of the City of Grand Ledge, Eaton County, Michigan:

The Board of Review will meet at 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, 18 July 2023, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, to correct mutual mistakes of fact, clerical errors, and hearing of some exemption petitions.

For more information, please contact the City Assessor at (517) 622-7932 or assessor@cityofgrandledge.com. Questions pertaining to valuation can also be answered prior to the meeting of the Board of Review by contacting the City Assessor.

Gregory L. Newman, City Clerk

CP#23-158

Gregg

from page 6

of a national police reform conversation — so, very tumultuous times,” she said.

Beside Meadows, three others have filed for the race already: incumbent Noel Garcia, Jr., Rebecca Kasen, who is the executive director of the Women’s Center of Greater Lansing, and Daniel Bollman, an architect who ran unsuccessfully in 2021. Garcia was appointed to the Council in January to take the seat vacated by Babcock when she was elected as a judge on the 54-B District Court.

Since being elected, Gregg has been balancing not only her elected duties but has been running a small business called Seams in downtown East Lansing. That business has expanded to a second location in Kalamazoo.

“It’s a sewing supply fabric store, sewing machine dealership, and we also teach classes,” she said.

She also has three children, including an 11-year-old and a 13-year-old. She said that her kids are “super artsy,” which means clubs and other social scheduling conflicts.

As a former journalist for the non-profit news website EastLansingInfo, she said she saw up close “throw-away

comments” from Council members demonstrating a lack of understanding of how hard it was to be a small business owner in East Lansing. She was just launching Seams and saw the vacancies throughout downtown.

“I wanted to be part of that conversation. I had some other strong feelings about how we could change some of our city policies, specifically our zoning to be a little bit more balanced in terms of the needed economic improvement that businesses bring, but also the stability for our residents and the climbing property costs,” she said of her decision to run in 2019.

The vacancies in downtown East Lansing’s commercial properties, she said, have declined.

“We’ve actually been gaining strong long-term tenants downtown,” she said. “It’s much more vital down here than it was before.”

While her decision not to run is set in stone, she is still queasy as she watches the forming race for three seats on the body shaping up.

“I’m not happy to be stepping away and leaving so much yet to be accomplished on the table,” she said. “I’m concerned frankly that me deciding to leave this position vacant is going to open the door for somebody who does not feel positive about the changes that we’ve made.”

— TODD HEYWOOD

State of Michigan. Ingham County Probate Court. Publication of Notice. File No. 18-000348-GA. In the matter of Sandra Henry. To All Interested Persons: Ruby Davis (sister of Sandra Henry) whose addresses are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: Take Notice*: Mid-Michigan Guardianship Services Inc. has been appointed the guardian of Sandra Henry. Mid-Michigan Guardianship Services Inc. intends to file one or more Annual Report of Guardian on Condition of Legally Incapacitated Individual with the Ingham County Probate Court located at 313 W. Kalamazoo St. Lansing, MI 48933. 7/10/2023 Mid-Michigan Guardianship Services, Inc. 600 W. Maple St. Suite C Lansing, MI 48906 517.372.9853. **CP#23-163**

INGHAM COUNTY NOTICE OF CLOSEOUT PUBLIC HEARING FOR MICHIGAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) FUNDING FOR INGHAM COUNTY SITE READINESS PLANNING GRANT

Ingham County will conduct a closeout public hearing on July 25, 2023, at 341 S. Jefferson, Mason, MI 48854, for the purpose of affording citizens an opportunity to submit comments and receive a final report on the completion of the Ingham County Site Readiness Planning CDBG grant.

The CDBG grant provided funding to assist in site readiness due diligence activities, such as environmental assessment, infrastructure analysis, traffic study, and more at sites located in Williamston, Mason, Vevay Township and Delhi Township. The CDBG project benefitted at least 51% low to moderate income persons; No persons were displaced as a result of the project.

Interested parties are invited to comment on the project in person at the public hearing or in writing addressed to Becky Bennett, Director of the Board of Commissioners Office.

Citizen views and comments on the CDBG project are welcome.

Ingham County
Dillon Rush
517.331.0069

CP#23-162

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING(S) EAST LANSING BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing(s) to be held by the East Lansing Building Board of Appeals on **Thursday, July 27, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, Conference Room A, Second Floor, East Lansing, Michigan 48823:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an appeal from TEG Timberlake’s, LLC (TEG), owner of *Timber Lake Apartments located at 1815 W. Shore Drive or parcel number 33-20-01-11-226-019*, East Lansing, requesting **reconsideration of a code official decision** regarding setting up a 7 year plan to meet all open exterior building violations for in which the practical difficulty presents financial hardship for the operation of the property.

2006 International Property Maintenance Code

Exterior Structure

304.2 Protective treatment. All exterior surfaces, including but not limited to, doors, door and window frames, cornices, porches and trim, balconies, decks and fences shall be maintained in good condition. Exterior wood surfaces, other than decay-resistant woods, shall be protected from the elements and decay by painting or other protective covering or treatment. Peeling, flaking and chipped paint shall be eliminated and surfaces repainted. All siding and masonry joints as well as those between the building envelope and the perimeter of windows, doors, and skylights shall be maintained weather-resistant and watertight. All metal surfaces subject to rust or corrosion and all surfaces with rust or corrosion shall be stabilized and coated to inhibit future rust and corrosion. Oxidation stains shall be removed from exterior surfaces when reasonably practical. Surfaces designed for stabilization by oxidation are exempt from this requirement. Repairs, maintenance and materials shall be consistent in appearance with and character with the rest of the structure.

2. A public hearing will be held to consider an appeal from TEG Timberlake’s, LLC (TEG), owner of *Timber Lake Apartments located at 1502 S. Shore Drive or parcel number 33-20-01-11-226-020*, East Lansing, requesting **reconsideration of a code official decision** regarding setting up a 7 year plan to meet all open exterior building violations for in which the practical difficulty presents financial hardship for the operation of the property.

2006 International Property Maintenance Code

Exterior Structure

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For more information on the request please contact Scott Weaver at (517) 319-6810 or sweaver@cityofeastlansing.com. 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. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Building Board of Appeals, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to bba@cityofeastlansing.com.

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

CP#23-161

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

BY NICOLE NOEHEL



Lorinzo Ervine Jr., 34, of Wayne County, was arrested in a sex sting when he allegedly met with a Lansing undercover officer posing as a 15-year-old girl, police said. In the man's car were a "large sex toy" as well as brass knuckles and handcuffs, according to police. The Lansing State Journal reported that he was charged with using a computer to commit a crime, accosting a child for immoral purposes, possession of a dangerous weapon and third-degree fleeing and eluding after he tried to escape in his car.



total homicides in Lansing. That number fell to 17 in 2022, the first time since 2018 that the total was lower than the previous year. At the mid-year mark in 2021, there had been 15 homicides, and in 2022, there had been eight, about half the yearly total for those years. However, in 2020, only five of 21 homicides had been recorded in the first half of the year, and in 2018, only two of nine homicides had been recorded in the first half of the year, so the mid-year total is not always a good predictor of the total number of yearly homicides.



The search for 2-year-old Wynter Cole-Smith ended when her body was found in an alley on Detroit's east side. Vigils were held in Detroit and at the Capitol. Rashad Trice, 26, the ex-boyfriend of Cole-Smith's mother, Symari Cole, allegedly kidnapped the child and took her to Detroit after sexually assaulting and stabbing her mother. He was arrested in St. Clair Shores and has been charged with 18 crimes across three jurisdictions, including federal charges

of kidnapping resulting in death and kidnapping a minor victim. He's being held in Ingham County jail without bond and faces a life sentence or death if convicted of kidnapping resulting in death.

Disgraced sports physician Larry Nassar was stabbed by another inmate at a federal prison in Florida.

Nassar was stabbed 10 times Sunday evening, CNN reported — twice in the neck, twice in the back and six times in the chest. He was taken to a local hospital and was in stable condition Monday. No other inmates or staff were injured. An internal investigation into the incident is being conducted. Nassar is serving time at United States Penitentiary Coleman in Florida for state and federal convictions of sexual assault and possessing child pornography. He was originally sent to a prison in Tucson, Arizona, but was attacked after being released into the general population and was transferred to Florida.



With the Lansing City Council primary less than a month away, Mayor Andy Schor has made his first endorsement: Missy Lilje, one of the eight candidates for two at-large seats. In a fundraising letter on her behalf, Schor called her a "passionate advocate for Lansing Schools." Lilje, a paraprofessional with the Ingham Intermediate School District and an adjunct professor at Michigan State University, is serving her second term as a Lansing School Board member.



Grewal Hall at 224 postponed its opening date to early August, the Lansing State Journal reported. The more than 6,000-square-foot venue on South Washington Square in downtown Lansing was originally scheduled to open Saturday (July 15) with a concert by the Verve Pipe, but that show was rescheduled to Dec. 9 due to construction delays. Now, the venue will open Aug. 10 with a concert by the Menzingers. Shows originally scheduled before Aug. 10 will be rescheduled, and purchased tickets will be valid for the new dates. The space, which has been under construction for a year and a half, plans to accommodate concerts, weddings, corporate and charity events, trade shows and more. It has a standing capacity of 900 and seating space for 225 in a banquet arrangement or 400 in a theater arrangement.

Lansing's mid-year homicide total is the city's lowest in five years, the Lansing State Journal reported. There had been four fatal shootings and one fatal stabbing this year as of June 30. These include the Feb. 5 shooting death of Makhi Williams, 18; the April 7 shooting death of Camrun Thornton, 23; the May 7 shooting death of Lewis Hill, 48; the June 20 stabbing death of Jeffrey Medina, 41; and the June 25 shooting death of Willie Allen, 58. The April 7 shooting is under review and could be ruled as self-defense, bringing the total to four homicides. In 2021, there were 26



Eyesore of the week
642 S. Francis St., Lansing

This 1954 single-floor house has seen better days. Now, it serves as an unofficial refuge for the homeless. The building has pieces of the roof missing, a hole directly in the front of the house at the roof's peak and an overgrown lawn and bushes. The basement in this property, located in the 100-year flood plain, regularly floods, a neighbor reported.

It has been boarded up since 2019 and has numerous citations for weeds and trash, according to city property records.

Ingham County Treasurer Alan Fox agrees the property is on its last legs. The property was taken in a tax foreclosure in 2021 and transferred to the Land Bank Fast Track Authority. The organization has been waiting for funding to demolish the building.

The good news for neighbors? Fox said the federal government is delivering funds to tear this eyesore down this summer. The money is coming through the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"Eyesore of the Week" is our weekly look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eye Candy of the Week and Eye for Design. Have a suggestion? Email eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call in a nomination to (517) 999-6704.



ARTS & CULTURE

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Working, watching, waiting

Jehovah's Witnesses exercise patience

By **CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS**

During the opening session of a regional 2023 Convention of Jehovah's Witnesses in Holt, which ran from June 30 through July 2, patience was defined as being different from simply putting up with something. Speakers remarked that we live in an impatient world, rife with instant gratification, and described patience as both "deliberate restraint" and "calm endurance." It's waiting with a purpose.

The convention, as a whole, includes more than 700 three-day events across the United States from May through September, all with the theme "Exercise Patience." I found the program to be a meditative exploration of this important virtue.

You won't find Jehovah's Witnesses with big signs at Pride events or abortion clinics. You won't find them using language like "saving souls." During this convention, ministry was introduced as an activity that encourages patience — something to do while you're waiting around for the end of the world.

Chris Eberhard is a member of one of seven Jehovah's Witness congregations in Lansing. He volunteers as a public information officer for the organization on top of working a full-time job. When asked what prompted him to join the organization, he said, in part, "The Bible talks about a time that it refers to as the last days and what that would bring. So, by studying Bible prophecy — looking into it for myself — I became convinced that it was referencing the time that we're living in now."

According to a 2022 Pew Research Center poll, 39% of all United States Christians believe we're living in the end times. Jehovah's Witnesses are no different, believing that Jesus will return and, according to Song 143, they should, "Keep on working and watching and waiting, joyfully anticipating life as God meant it to be."

According to Pew, Jehovah's Witnesses make up less than 1% of the U.S. population and are "highly religious" compared to other Christian denominations. Although they live and work



Chelsea Lake Roberts for City Pulse

A young woman being baptized during the convention.

alongside mainstream society, sharing in the joys and pains of modern life, they hold beliefs that are uncommon in the secular world. For example, they subscribe to biblical interpretations of gender roles, refuse blood for medical purposes and shun members who deviate from the group's norms.

On its website, the organization defines a cult as a new or unorthodox religion or a dangerous religious sect with a human leader. Because Jehovah's Witnesses pattern their worship after traditional Christians and do not have a charismatic leader, the website states, "No, Jehovah's Witnesses are not a cult."

Some religious scholars and ex-Jehovah's Witnesses use the term "high control" to describe the dynamics of the group and contextualize its practices, which, these scholars say, encourage high levels of social control such as working long hours volunteering for activities that empower the group rather than the individual.

While listening to the program, I heard leaders offer advice that refuted these popular criticisms of the religion's practices. Leaders cautioned that it's important not to make decisions for other members of the group and that it's important to build conviction slowly, as opposed to broadly applying doctrine. I watched three teens being baptized, all older than I was when I was confirmed at 13.



Chelsea Lake Roberts for City Pulse

Beth Eberhard (left) and Taelor Reese outside the 2023 Convention of Jehovah's Witnesses in Holt.

But the group's stricter ideologies were also represented. No women addressed the group, and all the women wore dresses or skirts. During one sermon, a leader seemed to encourage members to reduce their work hours in order to spend more time volunteering. The leader said that even if you're uncertain of how you will pay your bills, you shouldn't become overwhelmed by fear, and you should pursue your spiritual goals with confidence.

Taelor Reese grew up in Lansing and works as an X-ray technician. She told me she likes to play the piano and go shopping, "Just like every other 20-year-old girl."

About her profession, she said, "It doesn't keep me too busy, so I can still do both." Reese was baptized about seven years ago after studying the Bible, and consulting her parents helped her see that, "There's a hope for the future, and if I want to be a part of that hope, then these are the steps that I need to take to show my love for Jehovah and the organization."

Beth Eberhard has been baptized for 32 years. Her parents were also Jehovah's Witnesses. About a woman's role in the church, she stated, "My role within my family — within the congregation — is based on scriptural standards as a whole. Just like a role for a man, a parent, a child. My role is very clear. It's very dignified. It's very valuable. And I am confident that it adds to

the harmony and peace of a worldwide brother and sisterhood."

This year's events are the organization's first in-person conventions since 2019. Jehovah's Witnesses adapted to phone banking and letter-writing during COVID-19 lockdowns and resumed their trademark door-to-door canvassing last fall.

Approximately 1,200 people attended the first day of the Holt convention, organizers reported. Conventions running Friday (July 14) through Sunday (July 16) and July 21 through 23 in Holt will offer the exact same program in Spanish. No collections are taken, and the event is free and open to the public.

When I asked Eberhard about the sameness of the program throughout the country, he responded, "When Jesus was asked, 'What will identify your followers?' he said, 'It's the love they'll have amongst themselves.' And so, unity promotes love."

News of the conventions is being published alongside headlines from a Pennsylvania grand jury, which has now charged a total of fourteen men in its probe into child sexual abuse within the Jehovah's Witnesses. This comes after a 2018 report that experts say has some parallels to the Catholic Church sexual abuse scandal of the early 2000s.

The website silentlambs.org has chronicled child sexual abuse within the Jehovah's Witnesses since 2001 and maintains a registry of towns where offenses are alleged to have occurred. The ten Michigan cities listed include Detroit, Grand Rapids and Flint. Lansing is not listed.

Church spokesman Jarrod Lopes told the Associated Press, "Anyone who has been victimized has the full support of the congregation to report the matter to the authorities."

Local faith groups looking for advice on child sexual abuse prevention policies should contact Small Talk Children's Advocacy Center, a nonprofit that responds to child sexual abuse in mid-Michigan.

Baseball, soda-shop dates and the Red Scare

Michigan author tells a fictional story of coming of age during the 1950s

By **BILL CASTANIER**

In her new novel, “The All American,” Susie Finkbeiner tells a wonderful tall tale of women’s baseball, apple pie, soda-shop dates and Sen. Joseph McCarthy’s Red Scare of the 1950s. The author has hit it out of the park with her fictional account of a confusing era in American history.

The book revolves around the four members of the Harding family, who appear to be living the American Dream. Bertha dreams of playing for the Sweet Peas, a professional women’s baseball team. Her sister, Flossie, is an avid reader with a bright future. Their dad is a famous writer, and their mother holds down the home front.

Spoiler alert: Bertha lives out her dream, and Flossie is on the cusp of becoming an actress, but it all comes crashing down around them when their father is accused of being a communist and the family is forced to leave their hometown.

The author, who grew up in Lansing and attended Lansing Christian School and Great Lakes Christian Col-

lege, points to the Michigan Notable Book Award she received in 2020 for her book “All Manner of Things” as the inspiration for her new publication.

“When I won the award, I wanted to read all the books by my fellow award winners,” she said.

One of them was David Maraniss’ “A Good American Family: The Red Scare and My Father,” a memoir about Maraniss’ father being named a communist in the 1950s.

“I was blown away by it. I had no idea the McCarthy hearings had roots in Michigan,” Finkbeiner said. “I then read ‘The Incredible Women of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League,’ and the two seemed to tie everything together.”

As she wrote in the book’s epilogue, “What’s more American than baseball?

What’s less American than communism? What would happen if I put them together in a story?”

The author did what she always does when writing historical fiction: She began researching. She discovered the two subjects overlapped.

The book’s depiction of people’s views of communism in the era is accurate. Bertha’s development as a baseball player is countered by the teasing she endures from both the boys and

girls at her school. When their father shows up on the Red Scare lists and is blacklisted, both Bertha and Flossie face relentless hate at school.

Their fellow classmates play “catch the commie” at lunch hour and chant, “Catch, catch, catch the commie, and hang her from the tree. That is how we get our daily glee.”

“The hardest part of writing the book was knowing how hopeless the situation was for a lot of people. It was horrifying to me,” Finkbeiner said.

The author also works her own love of reading into the novel through the voracious reading habits of Flossie, who’s a regular librarygoer. The book opens with Flossie reading “The Catcher in the Rye,” by J.D. Salinger, which Bertha bought because she thought it was about baseball.

“I chose some of my favorite books to put into the novel — both books to love and hate,” Finkbeiner said.

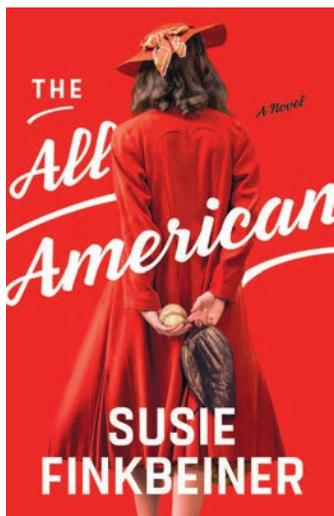
In one scene, Flossie overhears a librarian being chided for having books on the shelf that should be banned, including some by her father. The librarian stands up to the criticism.

“A real event like that happened here in the Grand Rapids area after I wrote the scene,” Finkbeiner said.

The author and her son were carrying a stack of books from the local library when someone stopped them.

“She said some of the books were questionable. I was very unhappy and told her she was barking up the wrong tree,” Finkbeiner said.

She also related how a group of parents riled against “The Giver,” by Lois Lowry.



Courtesy of Susie Finkbeiner

In her new novel, “The All American,” author Susie Finkbeiner tells the story of the Harding family, who are all living the American Dream until the father is accused of being a communist and the family is forced to leave their hometown.

“It’s a foundational book, and it shows the power of books. People get so afraid, and they haven’t even read the book,” she said.

Finkbeiner is well into writing her next book, which will be a fictional account of the folk era in the 1960s and ‘70s, following three young women in search of fame.

“I like folk music for its simplicity, and I will be building up my callouses so I can sharpen my guitar skills,” she said.

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ProGro back with another collab

By LUCAS HENKEL

Things are about to get a whole lot skunkier. Two weeks ago, the Michigan-based cannabis companies Skunk House Genetics and ProGro launched a new line of products that includes two flower strains and multiple 1-gram live resin cartridges.

Skunkmasterflex, Skunk House Genetics' founder, first started growing medical-use cannabis in Michigan back in 2005. A fan of classic cannabis strains like OG Kush and Larry OG, he realized these original, funky strains weren't often available in seed form in Michigan's market. In 2016, he asked a longtime friend, Respect of California Seed Bank, to join him on his journey of creating potent, high-yielding cannabis strains with unique terpene profiles under the name Skunk House. Since then, the company's spicy and savory Burger strains have become staples in the stash jars of many stoners in the Mitten state and beyond.

Lansing-area stoners can head over to any Pure Options location and try out the new line of products for themselves. Folks outside Lansing can check out Weedmaps to find other retailers carrying this collaboration.

Modified Banana | 31.4% THC | \$40/3.5g (live resin disposable vape \$40/g) at Pure Options

Modified Banana is an indica-dominant hybrid that's created by crossing

Banana OG and GMO, which stands for Garlic, Mushroom and Onion, the main flavor profiles found in the strain. Modified Banana is sweet and fruity with a hint of pepper. If you're searching for a strain that will put you in a deep couch lock, look no further.

TKO | 29.16% THC | \$40/3.5g (live resin disposable vape \$40/g) at Pure Options

A combination of GMO and Triangle Kush, Skunk House and ProGro's TKO has the ability to calm the consumer and ease pain and tension. Although it's labeled as a hybrid, TKO will definitely knock you out — a great option for folks looking for restful sleep despite the sound of post-Fourth of July fireworks.

Han Solo Burger live resin disposable vape | 85.56% THC | 5.45% terpenes | \$40/g at Pure Options

Han Solo Burger is one of Skunk House's most iconic strains — and for good reason. After one puff, I felt a wave of calm wash over my body, starting at my head and finishing at my toes.

This is an indica-dominant strain that's created by crossing GMO Cookies and Larry OG. The result is a sweet, earthy resin that will make you as stoned as the carbonite the original Han Solo got trapped in.

The vapes themselves look like they came out of a "Star Wars" movie, too. In lieu of the typical cylindrical body, these disposables feature an ergonomic design that fits the curvature of the user's hand. Each 1-gram tank contains a ceramic coil that helps create an evenly distributed, tasty hit. The battery is also rechargeable, which is great for stoners who are traversing through the galaxy.

Cherry Burger live resin disposable vape | 83.67% THC | 6.5% terpenes | \$40/g at Pure Options

A cross between Cherry Burst and Han Solo Burger, Cherry Burger is a hybrid strain that tastes like cherry pie with a hint of diesel. Its sweet taste is



Lucas Henkel/City Pulse

Skunk House Genetics and ProGro recently collaborated on a new line of products that includes two flower strains: Modified Banana, an indica-dominant hybrid, and TKO, a pure hybrid.



mellowed out by the earthy, peppery flavors of its Han Solo Burger parent. Myrcene is the most dominant terpene found in Cherry Burger, which may explain why this strain is so effective in reducing stress and anxiety levels.

Lucas Henkel (he/him) is a columnist and advertising assistant for City Pulse. He is a cannabis enthusiast and advocate that has worked in the cannabis industry since 2019. When he's not reviewing weed from across the state of Michigan (and beyond), he lives in Lansing with his wife and three cats. Have a suggestion for a cannabis product or brand to review? Want to shout out your favorite bud-tender? Email lucas@lansingcitypulse.com.



Lucas Henkel/City Pulse

The product drop includes four live resin disposable vapes, which feature an ergonomic design that fits the curvature of the user's hand.

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New gallery celebrates sculpture and beyond

By LUCAS HENKEL

With the opening of Struk Studio sculpture and art gallery, Lansing's art scene is about to reach new heights. This addition to the city's cultural landscape is brought to you by multimedia artist David A. Such, the founder of the annual ScrapFest eco-art festival in Old Town.

Once the home of Advanced Pool & Spa Inc., the 3,000-square-foot building has been vacant since 2017. Such bought the building last fall in the hopes of creating a space that welcomes all artists, especially those specializing in sculpture.

"There aren't many galleries in Lansing that feature sculpture to this extent," Such said during a walkthrough of the building. "We have so much open

space, indoors and outdoors, to exhibit sculptures and canvases of various sizes. We have space to do a lot of really cool things — the possibilities are endless."

In addition to providing a space for art, Such hopes to utilize the studio's open floor plan and abundance of natural light to host a slew of live events like poetry readings, music performances and art workshops.

Struk Studio sits on an acre of land that Such envisions transforming into an outdoor sculpture garden and patio space with a gazebo once the proper permits and paperwork from the city are approved. The green space provides plenty of shade and foliage — a great spot for future outdoor events.

Struk Studio grand-opening celebration

July 20
4-7 p.m.
2916 Turner Road,
Lansing

Struk Studio currently features a lineup of noteworthy artists from across the Lansing area, including Robert Welton, Sharon Glasgow, Clifford Bohm, Alice Gouw, Chance Liscomb, Robert Shelburg,

Alan Hooper and Such himself. From abstract paintings and massive steel



Lucas Henkel/City Pulse

David A. Such, the founder of the annual ScrapFest eco-art festival in Old Town, opened Struk Studio in the hopes of creating a space that welcomes all artists, especially those specializing in sculpture.

sculptures of flowers to repurposed vintage items and "artistic curiosities," the gallery offers dozens of pieces that are sure to entice the residents of Lansing and beyond.

"Art is for everybody. It creates a conversation between the artist and the person viewing the art," Such said. "My hope is that we can inspire generations of new, emerging artists and give them a plat-

form to showcase their work."

The gallery will host a grand-opening celebration July 20 from 4 to 7 p.m. The artists currently featured will be there to talk to the public and answer any questions about their pieces. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served during the event as well.

Such expressed that he wouldn't have been able to open Struk Studio if it weren't for the help and generosity of Lansing's art community. He said that without the guidance of folks at the Nelson Gallery, an art gallery on Washington Square, and Render Studios, a videography company in Old Town, he wouldn't be able to navigate the stress of opening a new business. He's also thankful for the organic relationships that have blossomed between him and other sculpture artists during his years running ScrapFest.

Those interested in displaying their art at Struk Studio can contact Such via the contact form on the studio's website, struk.studio, or by email at strukstudio-lansing@gmail.com. Artists of all mediums, backgrounds and experience levels are encouraged to reach out.

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Hertel, Barrett face-off set in 7th



Roxanne Frith for City Pulse

Tom Barrett wants to complete “unfinished business” if he is elected to Congress.



Roxanne Frith for City Pulse

Curtis Hertel Jr. hopes to continue his uninterrupted winning streak next year.

Is twice the charm? Charlotte’s Tom Barrett hopes so

By KYLE MELINN

As this story begins, Tom Barrett is kicking off a game of Clue with his wife, Ashley, and three of their four kiddos.

It’s a hot summer afternoon, and pool time at the Barrett household is right around the corner. For now, the kids are hoping Dad doesn’t win (again). The 22-year U.S. Army veteran is Col. Mustard, of course. Barrett was a warrant officer in the service, not a colonel, but close enough.

When we last checked in on the 42-year-old former state senator, he was enveloped in the nation’s most expensive congressional race. The 2022 7th Congressional District bid was his first electoral loss, but he came away with his head held high.

Sure, he lost by five points (51.73% to 46.32%), but he and his side were dramatically outspent.

On Nov. 15, 2021, the day he announced his campaign, his opponent, Elissa Slotkin, had \$4 million banked, more than the \$2.7 million Barrett raised the entire 12 months of his campaign.

Barrett outperformed the rest of the Republican ticket in this new mid-Michigan-based district. Considering the bath Michigan Republicans took in 2022, Barrett didn’t do all that badly.

If the abortion-legalization ballot proposal hadn’t been on the ballot to draw out scores of new young-women voters to the polls, who knows? Maybe Barrett could be talking about reelection.

Instead, Barrett retreated to his rural Charlotte home off a dirt road after his 20,185-vote loss. He declined some full-time job offers and stuck with various consulting gigs. The law degree his spouse earned after the two first wed helped keep things afloat financially. Neither he nor her is independently wealthy.

In his heart, he kind of knew this day would come. President Joe Biden taking the country on the wrong track, in his view. Heavy inflation. A crisis at the southern border. A nation hopelessly in debt. He didn’t have faith Democrats would take security issues seriously.

As he sees it, his fears have all come to pass.

On top of that, China is more aggressively postured. It’s taking up more Michigan farmland outside of places like Mt. Pleasant and Marshall.

Michigan needs another member of Congress to stand steadfast against it all, he said.

“Frankly, I feel like I have a bit

See Barrett, Page 14

The Hertel family legacy takes its next step into public service

By KYLE MELINN

Curtis Hertel Jr. has boxed up his Capitol office and is heading home.

The keys are turned in. His awards are off the wall.

The obligatory Facebook photo with his now-former staff is posted. A smiling Gov. Gretchen Whitmer is smack-dab in the middle, of course.

Leaving as Whitmer’s chief legislative liaison after only six months wasn’t easy, but duty calls him to eye a different job at a different Capitol.

As the dominos fell, U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow opted to hang it up after 50 years in public office. U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin is emerging as her heir apparent. Now, Slotkin nudged the former state senator to take her place in the mid-Michigan 7th Congressional District.

Why?

Hertel had a dream job pushing state policy and cutting legislative deals for a governor who is constantly nagged about running for president. His commute is less than 15 minutes unless there’s traffic on Saginaw Street around Frandor.

“I believe in public service, and I believe the government can still do good things for people,” Hertel said. “I think politics has become something of a nasty business a lot of times.

“I built my career on making the arguments strong but try to make Michiganders’ lives a little better. I think Congress needs a little bit of that.”

It sounds like canned politician speak.

Except the people around him insist what Hertel says is true.

“It’s Hertel’s steadfastness and ability to deliver real results that’s most significant, particularly since he spent his entire state Senate career in the minority party,” said Kate Kelly of Truscott Rossman.

His career is all listed on LinkedIn. Legislative staffer. Ingham County commissioner. Michigan Department of Community Health liaison. Ingham County register of deeds. State senator.

The list of job titles isn’t what’s impressive. It’s what he’s done in those jobs.

The usual paper-pushing Register of Deeds Office went to war with banks illegally foreclosing on families during his tenure.

During the 2022 budget negotiations, a Republican budget staffer was caught off guard when he entered the negotiating room to find Hertel at the table. The Republicans

See Hertel, Page 14

Barrett

from page 13

of unfinished business to do,” Barrett said.

A thin Republican bench, particularly in mid-Michigan, makes the former Apache helicopter pilot the most logical choice to win the nomination in MI-7. With his online, long-expected formal announcement on Monday (July 10), he entered the race as the sole candidate for the nomination in the August 2024 primary election.

It's hard to see anyone coming in with Barrett's name ID, connections to local and D.C. money or fire in the gut.

His family is “unanimously in” for another run. His kids are so used to politics at this point that none of them know what it's like to watch a parade from the street. They've only walked in parades ... and lots of them.

“I try to involve my kids in this with my wife,” he said. “I want them to know this is important, we're doing it for a reason and that it matters.

“A lot of people think running for office is a glamour thing, and there are certainly elements of that, but really it is a sacrifice from the standpoint of time away from your family.”

He jokes that he doesn't want his kids to forget what he looks like. The kids know work and the military take Dad away, at times.

Most recently, it was for a tour along the Mexican border, 100 feet from the Rio Grande. The guy who runs the water pumping facility there says the drug cartels routinely threat-

en his workers.

The border wall inexplicably doesn't connect at this Texas location, apparently. One administration stopped building one piece of the wall before connecting it with another section of wall built under a previous administration.

In short, the walls don't connect, and everybody knows it. At night, if water pumps aren't working, his workers won't go out without security.

A border agent told him there's talk about putting more security cameras and sensors, but Barrett says the country doesn't need more Ring doorbells. It needs more security agents.

“The Biden administration has been terrible derelict in this,” Barrett said. “I feel strongly about the issue.”

That's not the only one. He earned the most conservative state senator moniker from MIRS News in 2021 because he takes strong, principled stances, arguably to a fault.

His reasoning against state-issued corporate subsidies for the General Motors plant less than a half hour from his house doesn't fit nicely on a billboard.

The Democrats' screams on Barrett's no vote certainly did. One could argue it cost Barrett votes.

Still, Barrett didn't apologize for it today and won't tomorrow.

Taxpayers didn't get a good return on their money when “corporate welfare” went to what amounts to \$160,000 a job, as was the case with the Delta Township Assembly Plant.

They certainly aren't getting a good “return on investment” at the planned



Photo by Roxanne Frith

Tom Barrett with three of his four children (from left): Eleanora, 8; Gwendolyn, 6; and Patrick, 10.

Thomas More Barrett, 42, resident of Charlotte

Republican

Born in Southfield, Michigan

Married to Ashley Barrett, attorney
Four children: Patrick, 10; Eleanora, 8;
Gwendolyn, 6; Louis, 2;

B.A., Western Michigan University

Career: U.S. Army, 21 years. Michigan
Army National Guard, retired in 2022

Michigan House of Representatives,
2015–2018

Michigan state Senate, 2019–2022

Republican candidate for U.S.
House of Representatives, 7th
Congressional District, 2022. Lost to
Elissa Slotkin

Ford electric battery plant outside of Marshall, either, he said. The Mackinac Center is estimating each job costing \$680,000. And they're not necessarily union jobs, either, he said.

“Those jobs are going to cost taxpayers four times more than the salary that job will pay,” he said.

Barrett rattled off the numbers like he was ready to rattle off more.

As if he's been reciting them in his head since he announced his ill-fated 2022 congressional candidacy back in 2021.

Get ready to hear them a few more times until Nov. 5, 2024.

Hertel

from page 13

were the majority. How did this Democratic legislator get in the room?

Hertel wasn't only there, he helped craft a state budget that passed with nearly unanimous support. It's a feat rarely seen before and likely to not be repeated any time soon.

A two-time Democratic Legislator of the Year by the Capitol newsletter MIRS, Hertel was nearly voted Senator of the Year in 2019, an unprecedented accomplishment for a legislator serving in the minority.

Online gaming expansion and a legalized sportsbook in Michigan probably wouldn't have happened without Hertel. A permanent funding stream for firefighters was created because he insisted on it.

The budget wins he scored for mid-Michigan didn't happen by pounding his fist on a podium and making a good speech. (He's known for doing that, too, though.)

“You can live in a bubble of your own making,” Hertel said. “You can follow the people you want to hear from on Twitter, be friends with them on Facebook, live in a community that is largely people who think like you and turn on a television news show that will curate news to what your ideas and agenda are.

“It's very easy, at that point, to see the other side as evil.”

Sure, evil people exist, he said. In reality, though, few serve in elected politics. Folks on “the other side” are just people who hold a different world view.

Hertel makes it his mission to soften

their edge. He starts with honest, person-to-person conversation.

What do they have in common? Kids? Hertel has four. A favorite sports team? Hertel loves Michigan State, the Detroit teams and his fantasy sports team. The latest Netflix show? Exercise routines?

Whatever it is, Hertel finds it. He makes personal connections that evolve into professional ones.

As Republican pundit Bill Ballenger pointed out, “Hertel has the ‘gene’ of a natural political family.” Combined, his family has 50 years of elected public service.

His late father, Curtis Hertel, was a former Michigan speaker of the House. Two of his uncles served in elected office: Dennis as a congressman and John as a state senator. His younger brother, Kevin Hertel, was elected last year to the state Senate.

While not an elected official, his wife, Elizabeth Hertel, serves as the state's Department of Health and Human Services director.

Her boss is Curtis' old boss ... the one he hated to leave after six months. The governor.

As it turns out, Hertel was the right person at the right time.

Whitmer finally had a one-vote Democratic majority in the state Senate and a one-vote Democratic majority in the state House. The previous Republican Legislature inexplicably left office with \$10 billion on the balance sheet.

The laundry list of John Engler/Rick Snyder-driven public acts that Whitmer and her supporters wanted repealed stretched higher than the new scaffolding inside the Capitol dome.

The governor needed an experienced



Photo by Roxanne Frith

Curtis Hertel Jr. and Elizabeth Hertel

Curtis Alan Hertel Jr., 45, East Lansing resident

Democrat

Born and raised in Detroit

Married to Elizabeth Hertel, director
of the Michigan Health and Human
Services Department

Four children: CJ, 18; Nathan, 17; Lee,
16; Jack, 12

B.A., Michigan State University James
Madison College, Class of 2000

Career:

Ingham County commissioner, 2001–
2008

Legislative liaison for Community
Health Department, 2005–2008

Ingham County register of deeds,
2009–2014

Michigan State senator, 2015–2022

Director of legislative affairs for Gov.
Gretchen Whitmer, 2023

hand to get as much through the Legislature as quickly as possible. In this town, one-vote majorities can evaporate quickly. Illnesses, unexpected departures, new opportunities, whatever.

Things needed to be passed. Now.

Hertel got it done. Whether in the majority or minority, he said he plans on doing the same in Congress. This run won't be easy, and he knows it.

MI-7 may be, again, the country's most expensive race. He's going to miss his wife. He'll miss some of his kids' events. The nation's Capitol is a lot further away than the state's Capitol. He'll be working with 534 other lawmakers instead of 147. The stage will be much bigger.

“It's a big ask,” Hertel said. “It's giving your life, but I'm ready to do that.”

Candidates' history adds intrigue to likely competitive matchup



Photo by Roxanne Frith

A family day: (from left) Elizabeth Hertel, wife of Curtis Hertel Jr.; Hertel; his brother, state Sen. Kevin Hertel; and his mother, Vickie, after Hertel's announcement at the UA Local 333 Plumbers & Pipefitters union hall on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard on Monday.

By KYLE MELINN

The day last month that Curtis Hertel Jr. stepped down as Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's legislative liaison — soon after steering an enormous \$81 billion budget through the Legislature — Tom Barrett told the Capitol news service MIRS, "If I was responsible for that budget, I would have resigned, too."

It sounds like a cheap shot, and maybe it was. Hertel was obviously clearing the decks for a 7th Congressional District run. Barrett, his likely Republican opponent, landed a punch.

But these types of zingers are how the two former state Senate colleagues communicate.

Last year, Barrett sponsored a resolution asking federal officials to end mask mandates in commercial airplanes. Hertel responded to this largely toothless proclamation with, "Sorry, I was doing real work today ... unlike Tom Barrett."

The year prior, Barrett sponsored a bill requiring the governor to let legislative leaders know when she was out of state. The Constitution dictates that when the governor isn't in Michigan, the lieutenant governor is acting governor. Whitmer still doesn't do a good job giving folks a heads up on all her travels.

Still, Barrett seemed to be obsessing over it, leading Hertel to quip, "If you are wondering where the governor lives, it's in a space rent-free between the sponsor's head."

This is what mid-Michigan gets to look forward to these next 16 months.

Other Republicans and Democrats may announce for Congress. They will not suck up the political oxygen Hertel and Barrett will. Barring the catastrophic, these two will be the nominees.

"This should be about as good a congressional race as you'll find any-

where in the country next year," said pundit Bill Ballenger.

These two former mid-Michigan legislators have been cordial and respectful when they've crossed paths, but "it's not like we were hanging out at our kids' birthday parties together," Barrett pointed out.

Hertel's schmoozing charm hits a red light at strident conservatives whose deep principled beliefs make them nearly impossible to negotiate with.

For Barrett, the Hertel legacy is synonymous with a Democratic Party. Unlike the person he's seeking to replace, U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin, Hertel "doesn't have the veneer of even pretending to be a moderate."

When Hertel's wife, Elizabeth Hertel, was appointed Department of Health and Human Services director, she vowed to stick with the governor's COVID-19 response plan. This drove Barrett to lead the eventually unsuccessful opposition in the Senate to block her nomination.

Barrett gave Curtis Hertel a heads up about his plans before going public, professional courtesy and all.

"I'm not going to kneecap the guy, but at the same time, we're going to have our differences," he said.

When asked how he would describe his time in the Senate with Barrett, Hertel said:

"Many times, Tom did me a favor because when his side couldn't work with him, they had to come over and talk to us. So, that gave me the ability to get some things done for people ... I certainly have to thank Tom for that."

With this type of personal history, it's easy to see why political observers are expecting the same type of high-energy

race as Slotkin-Barrett 2022.

The way the pundits see it, the candidates should be more evenly matched. Neither is starting with \$4 million in the bank as Slotkin did in

dia market open it up to a lot of out-of-state money.

"This will continue to be priority seat across the nation, and the dynamics of the top of the ticket will be critical," said Jenell Leonard of the Marketing Resource Group, whose husband, Tom, had Barrett as a groomsman in their wedding. "The candidate who focuses on kitchen-table issues is likely to win."

Adrian Hemond from Grassroots Midwest, a political consulting firm, sees the race coming down to four factors:

1. Can Barrett win in Eaton County, where he served as a state representative and a state senator? He failed to do so against Slotkin in 2022.

2. Can Hertel energize Democrats in areas he previously represented? Slotkin won his seat repeatedly partly by "losing by less in the strongest Republican areas." Hertel will need to do the same.

3. Can Barrett raise sufficient funds? His candidacy in 2022 relied on the spending of outside groups for survival because Barrett was a poor fundraiser.

4. Top of the ticket impact? The president is old and unpopular. His likely general election opponent, the former president, is also old and unpopular.

"Teasing out the down-ballot impacts of a rematch between those two doddering old geezers is beyond even this wizened political consultant," Hemond said.

The impact on the 7th District race is uncertain, but what's clear is Barrett and Hertel will give us all a healthy serving of one-liners from now until Nov. 5, 2024.



Photo by Roxanne Frith

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor and Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum, who both considered running for the 7th Congressional District nomination, look on as Hertel announces his candidacy.

2022. Neither is an incumbent. Both are white males around the same age. Both are married, Barrett with five kids and Hertel with four.

Their differences will be pointed out again and again. Curtis Hertel Jr. helped orchestrate the Democratic majority in the state Senate. Barrett flew helicopters in the U.S. Army and now has more district-wide name ID because of his 2022 race.

"I expect Curtis to follow a centrist message like Slotkin did and paint Barrett as too extreme," said Josh Hovey of Martin Waymire public relations.

The 50/50 nature of the 7th District and relatively cheap Lansing me-

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THE BURGERS AND BARBECUE ISSUE



Smoking out the competition

Local restaurants discuss the keys to running a top-notch barbecue business

By **NICOLE NOECHEL**

Whether you're looking for ribs, brisket, pulled pork, wings or soul-food sides such as mac and cheese, baked beans, coleslaw and cornbread, Greater Lansing offers plenty of restaurants to satiate your barbecue cravings.

But what makes the best restaurants stand out from the pack? Staff from four local barbecue joints discussed their ideas with City Pulse, touching on everything from employees and ambiance to flavor and cook style.

Sean Johnson, owner of Meat Southern BBQ & Carnivore Cuisine in Old Town, said good barbecue food "is basically just a matter of patience, time and using good-quality ingredients."

"There are certain things that are harder to do than others. I think briskets are probably the hardest thing

you can do as far as getting the texture, temperature, flavor and presentation correct," he said. "But you have to have really good-quality ingredients to start with, and you've just gotta have a lot of patience to be able to sit there and play around with recipes until you've got something you think people will enjoy."

Brad Broughman, kitchen manager at Smokey Bones Bar & Fire Grill in Eastwood Towne Center, agreed that a restaurant's brisket is typically a good indicator of its overall quality.

"Generally speaking, brisket is usually where I start. You can go pretty simple with brisket — salt and pepper is usually a good way to start. I'm looking for the quality of the smoke and then, obviously, the tenderness," he said.

The quality of the smoke depends on the type of smoker the restaurant uses.

"I've had enough barbecue that I can kind of tell what kind of smoke they're getting on their barbecue," Broughman said. "The more airflow you get into it, the better fire you'll get, and it'll burn off all the impurities."

The staff are also an important piece of the puzzle, according to Steve Fountain, a co-owner and chef at the Smoke N' Pig BBQ near the Lansing Mall.

"You need good people who help. If you don't have a good team, there's no way it's gonna work," he said.

Bryan Torok, another Smoke N' Pig co-owner, agrees.

"I know the things that really help us as a barbecue restaurant are the food and the people that serve it. All

See Barbecue, Page 18



Courtesy of the Smoke N' Pig BBQ

"I know the things that really help us as a barbecue restaurant are the food and the people that serve it. All our employees are longtime employees," said Bryan Torok, co-owner of the Smoke N' Pig BBQ. "They don't leave — we don't have much of a turnover."



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THE BURGERS AND BARBECUE ISSUE



Barbecue

from page 17

our employees are longtime employees,” he said. “They don’t leave — we don’t have much turnover. It’s kind of like a family-owned business, and we’ve been doing it the same way since May 2016.”

That family-owned aspect shines through in the restaurant’s food — pitmaster Gabriel Jones, Torok’s son, utilizes a mix of family recipes and his

own recipes to create the Smoke N’ Pig’s signature dishes.

“All the things Gabe makes — all his rubs, all the sauces, all the au jus, any of the things that go into that product to finish it — are all homemade. Every side we make is homemade,” Torok said.

The ability to create inventive, homemade food is key to the Smoke N’ Pig’s success, according to Fountain.

“I think just having the courage to get up and try something new and not be afraid to mess up is important,” he said. “You know, just perfecting your

craft or whatever. It’s your craft. There are a million ways to do barbecue. If you believe in that way, then that’s your way, and you’ve got the love for it. Don’t be afraid to make mistakes.”

“We have a food truck, too, which is kind of nice as well,” Torok added. “We have an opportunity to take our food out to places that other restaurants can’t. We visit a lot of local festivals, and we do a lot of corporate events and private events for folks, too. It’s a good way to get people to try our products that maybe don’t make it to the restaurant.”



Courtesy of Meat Southern BBQ & Carnivore Cuisine

Briskets are one of the hardest barbecue dishes a restaurant can make, according to Sean Johnson, owner of Meat Southern BBQ & Carnivore Cuisine in Old Town. You have to get the texture, temperature, flavor and presentation just right.

Matthew Gillett, co-owner of Saddleback BBQ, heaped praise on his competitors.

“We have a ton of great restaurants here in Lansing that set the bill for what I would look for in good barbecue, and if I was coming from out of town, or I was someone who hasn’t explored barbecue in the local area, I think we’re fortunate to have a bunch of nice places,” he said.

The first things he looks for in any restaurant are good food and good service.

“I think those are kind of the core ingredients to a good dining experience,” he said. “A secondary thing that’s always important is a nice ambience to kind of make you feel like you’re immersed in that world. Whatever the dining experience, that’s always an important factor.”

As for barbecue, he said there are certain factors that make the best options stand out.

“A little bit of smoke, some char, some bark — bigger and bolder flavors are always keys to things that I seek out when enjoying barbecue elsewhere.”



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THE BURGERS AND BARBECUE ISSUE



Under the bun

Lansing-area restaurants weigh in on what they think makes a great burger

By VIDALIA WENZLICK

Lansing may not be the home of the hamburger, but it sure isn't a stranger to them, either. Whether you're looking for a quick bite to eat

or an evening to entertain an elevated palette, Lansing's burger joints won't disappoint. And don't worry if you aren't a meat eater — there are still plenty of options for you, too.

One of Greater Lansing's staple

burger restaurants is the Peanut Barrel in East Lansing. Owner and general manager Michael Krueger, who also owns and manages Crunchy's, another East Lansing burger joint, described the eatery as "an old-school



Courtesy of Cask and Co.

Cask and Co. offers an array of elevated burgers, such as its Spartan Burger, which is topped with pastrami, bacon, a fried egg, an onion ring and pepper jack cheese.

restaurant."

There are many ways to make a burger, but according to Krueger, simplicity is key. When it comes down to it, the cook and the style really count.

"There are a lot of ways you can dress up a burger. With toppings, sauces or whatever," said Tim Sorenson, the Peanut Barrel's kitchen manager. "But the things that you really can't cover up are how it's cooked and a fresh bun."

The Peanut Barrel has been in business for more than 40 years, staying consistent in its fresh, made-to-order ethos.

"We use hand-pattied Angus beef, and we cook it on a flat top," Krueger said. "We use a company called Pizza Crust Co. for our bread. We offer wheat, rye and white bun options to customize your burger as well."

Pizza Crust Co. may sound familiar. It's a wholesale bakery based in Old Town, so you can ensure your bun is fresh when you eat at the Pea-

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THE BURGERS AND BARBECUE ISSUE



Burgers

from page 20

nut Barrel.

If you're more in the mood for fine dining, Cask and Co., near the Frandor Shopping Center, has a table for you.

"Elevated food for every mood is our slogan," said Kurt Weaver, the restaurant's director of operations.

On the menu, guests will find signature cocktails, sushi and shrimp tacos, but the burgers shine above all the rest.

"We use an 80-to-20 certified Angus blend for our burgers," Weaver said. "Having the right thickness is important. You don't want it so thick that it feels like you're eating meatloaf, but you don't want it so thin that all the juices run out."

Weaver said Cask and Co.'s burgers are properly seasoned with the right amount of salt, pepper and garlic powder. He also discussed the importance of the grilling surface, but most important, he boasted the eatery's buns.

"We use a brioche bun, which is made with a lot more butter than most buns, so it has a creamier, soft and squishy feel to it."

In addition to Angus burgers, Cask and Co. offers a bison burger with a "super slaw."

"It has a cucumber-wasabi mayonnaise mixed in with the coleslaw," Weaver said.

Finally, if you're looking for a trendier, all-vegan burger spot, VEG-N is your Lansing-area go-to.

Although meat is the main focus at most burger restaurants, VEG-N has a different perspective.

"Seasoning and love — and not dead animals," said co-founder Christabelle Dozeman.

Dozeman described VEG-N's menu as "plant-based, fast-casual American classics to try to get people comfortable with eating more plants in their day-to-day lives."

The restaurant started out as a food truck in 2019 and then moved to a more permanent location on Cesar E. Chavez Avenue in early 2021. It opened up a drive-through, which helped it get through the COVID-19 pandemic, and it also offers dine-in

and takeout.

If you're wondering what kinds of burgers a vegan place serves, Dozeman has the answer.

"All of our burgers are kind of styled after what you would want to get at a regular restaurant, but we make it plant-based so you can experience the same flavors and still have a quality meal," she said.

There are many benefits to choosing non-meat options, and VEG-N has you covered if you want to test it out.

"We don't skimp on flavor, and there are none of the poor-health aspects for humans, the climate and animals that regular burgers have," Dozeman said. "Try them out — you'd be surprised."

When asked if she had any recommendations for people trying vegan food for the first time, Dozeman said, "If people are open-minded, there is really not any advice. If you're just willing to come in and try something to begin with, that's a good start."

"If they like barbecue stuff, the BBQ Good-All Burger is awesome," she added. The sandwich includes vegan brisket, mayo and cheese, plus



Courtesy of VEG-N

VEG-N's BBQ Good-All Burger includes vegan brisket, mayo and cheese, plus onions, pickles and barbecue sauce on a toasted brioche bun.

onions, pickles and barbecue sauce on a toasted brioche bun.

The next time you're searching for a bite to eat around the Lansing area, don't forget you can refine your palette at Cask and Co., stop in for a classic at the Peanut Barrel or try something new and beneficial for both your health and the health of the environment at VEG-N.

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1800 N Grand River Ave Lansing, MI

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Both Sides Now"--one side precedes, the other side follows.

by Matt Jones
© 2023 Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1. Go halvesies on
- 6. Host Convy or Parks
- 10. College grad
- 14. Novelist Ferrante
- 15. St. George's setting
- 16. Facility
- 17. University with a focus on adventurous journeys?
- 19. Actor Reynolds
- 20. Turmoil
- 21. Longest river within Spain
- 23. "___ Along" (Pet Shop Boys song)
- 24. Roswell visitors(?), for short
- 27. Abate
- 31. First name in TV "neighborinos"
- 32. "The King of Queens" actress Remini
- 33. Start of a Steinbeck title
- 34. Potential brand name for a cleaning polish for reflective surfaces?
- 36. Philosopher with a "razor"
- 39. "I ___ you one!"
- 40. One of the Three Musketeers
- 41. Planned undertaking to visit the coast?
- 44. Large moon of Jupiter
- 45. "___ that special?"
- 46. "Exit full-screen mode" key
- 49. Unleash, as a tirade



- 50. Serene type of garden
- 51. Muppet who hosted the "Not-Too-Late Show"
- 52. Sunset direction
- 54. Turmoil
- 56. Nil
- 59. Nuts about a particular disco dance?
- 62. Love, in a telenovela title
- 63. Voting against
- 64. Part of a "Supermarket Sweep" route
- 65. Hockey projectile
- 66. Routes
- 67. Fold and press
- 7. Airport stat
- 8. Cost per minute, say
- 9. Amorphous movie villain
- 10. "Dream On" rock group
- 11. Put down, as tile or carpet
- 12. Olympics chant that's often parodied
- 13. "The ___ Who Stare at Goats" (2009 movie)
- 18. Take the helm
- 22. Bend with a prism
- 25. Deck with wands
- 26. Entertainment realm
- 28. "OK, whatever" sound in response, maybe?
- 29. "OK, whatever" sound in response, maybe?
- 30. Shrimpboat gear
- 32. Key dessert
- 34. "La Mer" for Debussy, for example
- 35. Joaquin's "Walk the Line" costar
- 36. European GM affiliate
- 37. Motley ___ (Tommy Lee's former band)
- 38. Actor Bud of "Harold and Maude"
- 42. Kate who married Spielberg
- 43. Cancel out
- 46. Plaza Hotel girl
- 47. It's almost always used to spell "and"
- 48. Like old phones, retronymically
- 51. Rommel of WWII history
- 53. Subway option
- 55. Mountain range feature
- 56. Bolt from the blue
- 57. Adelaide biggie
- 58. "1001 Nights" creature
- 60. Porcine home
- 61. 1999 Frank McCourt book

DOWN

- 1. Costume sparkler
- 2. Deep dive
- 3. Looked rudely
- 4. Map adjunct
- 5. Body art
- 6. "Close ___ no cigar"

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Answers on page 27

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

July 12-18, 2023

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your deep psyche will soon well up with extra creativity and fertility. I hope you will eagerly tap into these gifts. You should assume that you will be more imaginative and ingenious than usual. You will have an enhanced ability to solve problems with vigor and flair. In which areas of your life would you love to gently erupt with a burst of reinvention? Which of your habits might benefit from being cheerfully disrupted? Give yourself permission to change whatever bores you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): My teacher Paul Foster Case said the color yellow is midway between warm, exciting red and cool, calming blue. "Yellow has an equilibrating influence," he wrote. "It stimulates the finer functions of the brain, it's of assistance in developing alertness and discrimination, and it helps to establish emotional balance." According to my astrological analysis, Taurus, you should emphasize this hue in the coming days. If you call on yellow to help strengthen the qualities Case describes, you will place yourself in sweet alignment with cosmic rhythms.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Because I enjoy joking with you, I am slightly tempted to give you one of the following nicknames: Fidgety, Twitch, Jittery, Quivers or Shakes. But I will take a more serious tack. Let's instead see if we can influence you to slow down, stabilize your rhythm, get really steady and secure and stand strong in your foundational power spot. Would you consider adopting any of the following nicknames? Anchor, Unshakeable, Sturdy, Rock Solid, Staunch, Steadfast, Resolute.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The sometimes overly clever author Oscar Wilde said, "When the gods wish to punish us, they answer our prayers." I reject that warped view of reality and assure you it will have no bearing on your life in the coming weeks. If you formulate your prayers with care and discernment, they will lead you to rewards, not problems. Maybe not the exact rewards you imagined, but still close to your hopes and helpful in the next chapter of your life story. (PS: No sloppy, lazy, careless prayers, please. Be precise and clear.)

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Leo theologian Bernard McGinn defines mysticism as "the consciousness of the immediate presence of God." In other words, people having a mystic experience are filled with a visceral sensation of divine intelligence. It's not just an idea or concept; it's a deeply felt communion infused with intimate tenderness. You Leos will be more likely than usual to have such contact in the coming weeks — if you want it. If you don't want it, don't believe it's real or don't think it's possible, then you can, of course, resist it. But why not give it a whirl? There's nothing to lose, and it could be fun.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Here's a parable for you. Once upon a time, there was a woman who could read the future in the night sky. She regarded the planets and stars as her divine informants. On one moonless evening, she took a walk down a dirt road near her home. It was so dark she could barely see 2 feet ahead of her. Oops! She should have brought a flashlight. Lost in wonder, she gazed up at the heavenly bodies, watching and listening for revelations they might have for her. Then one of the lights, the planet Saturn, whispered, "Stop and look down, friend." The woman turned her eyes from the sky to the ground just in time to find she was two strides away from stepping into a deep, muddy hole. What's the moral of the tale? Here are some possibilities. 1. Sometimes the heights provide useful information about the depths. 2. Soaring visions may help you tune in to practical details. 3. To become aware of important facts you've overlooked in your daily rhythm, consult your higher mind.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A Libran writer I know received many rejection notices when he launched

his career. I was amazed at how undaunted he was. In fact, he was the opposite of undaunted. He taped copies of his rejection notices to his bedroom wall. Seeing the evidence of his failures motivated him. It drove him to improve his writing and churn out even more articles. It fueled his search for a wider array of publications that might host his work. During the fourth year of this approach, luck and fate turned in his favor. Within the next eight months, 12 of his pieces appeared in print. My muses tell me, Libra, that you need to hear this story right now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The cartoon character Bart Simpson is one of the stars of "The Simpsons" animated TV show. According to him, "Life is a paradox. You're damned if you do and damned if you don't." While that principle may sometimes be true, I believe you will be exempt from it in the coming weeks. In fact, I suspect you will be as free as possible from grueling contradictions, frustrating oppositions, clashing truths and paralyzing contraries. There's a good chance you will also outwit and avoid annoying incongruities and silly arguments. Congratulations in advance, Scorpio! Take full advantage of this phase of simple clarity.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The dragon has appeared in the myths and legends of many cultures. Europe, China and Mesoamerica are just a few places where the fire-breathing, flying reptiles have fascinated the human imagination. In some traditions, they are dangerous and predatory. In China, though, they have been harbingers of good fortune and symbols of great power. Emperors claimed the dragon as their special emblem. In assigning the dragon to be your soul creature, Sagittarius, I am drawing from Chinese lore. What would you like to accomplish that would benefit from you having access to fierce, dynamic, indomitable energy? Call on the dragon for help and power.

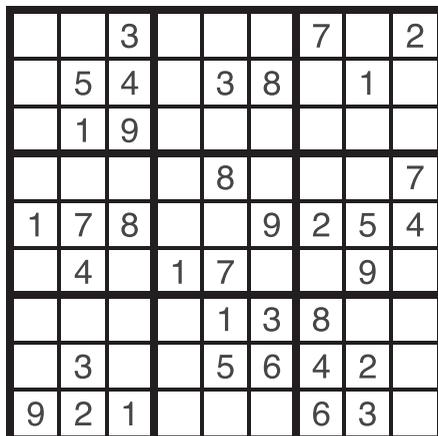
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "There is a world of people who will love you for who you are," writes author Cheryl Strayed. "A whole, vibrant, fucked-up, happy, conflicted, joyous and depressed mass of people." In the coming months, one of your prime tasks is to specialize in communing with these folks. Make it your intention to surround yourself more and more with interesting, imperfect, ever-changing life-lovers who appreciate you for exactly who you are — and who inspire you to grow more and more into the full idiosyncratic glory of your authentic self.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): What psychic or prophet is most popular with A-list celebrities? I can assure you it's not me. Few of my millions of readers are world-famous. What about the planet's most scientifically accurate astrologer? Whom might that be? It ain't me. I don't regard astrology as a science, and I mistrust those who say it is. In my view, astrology is a mythopoetic language and psychospiritual system that nurtures our souls and helps liberate us from our conditioning. We shouldn't try to get "scientifically accurate" information from it. Now I encourage you to do what I just did, Aquarius. Have fun telling people who you are not, what you don't believe in and which goals you aren't interested in pursuing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): To come up with your astrological reports, I study the positions of the sun, moon and planets in relation to your sign. That's the technical part of the work, the framework within which I unleash my intuition and imagination. To augment this work, I meditate and pray, asking higher powers to guide me in providing useful information for you. I often consult books written by my favorite astrology writers. (Currently reading Steven Forrest's "Elements" series.) I also ask my deep mind to slip me info that might not be accounted for by traditional factors. How about you, Pisces? How do you do the work that you love and care about? Now is a good time to take inventory and make necessary adjustments.

SUDOKU

Beginner



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, July 12

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

"Blind Spot," "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.

Book Group - This month, our Adult Book Group is reading "Dinners with Ruth," by Nina Totenberg. 11 a.m. BlackDog Coffee, 120 W. Hamlin St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

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.

Find Your Voice: Helping Women Period - Lysne Tait, executive director and co-founder of the nonprofit Helping Women Period, shares her experience as a leader in the period poverty space. Registration req. 6:30 p.m. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. 517-669-3156. dewittlibrary.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.

Food Frenzy - Try food from more than a dozen food trucks. Live music by Mark Grinnell and The New Rule. 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. 7:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

It's Elementary: Mapping Mosquito Habitats - Discover science in the world around you with experiments, crafts, activities and more. Grades 3-6. Registration req. 3 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Jessey Adams - 7-10 p.m. Williamston Roadhouse, 3700 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-388-6133. williamstonroadhouse.com.

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

Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle - Sing your favorite tunes or bring a group and listen while enjoying drinks and food. 7-10 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

Lansing Concerts in the Park - Sea Cruisers - 7 p.m. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E. North St., Lansing. 517-483-4000. lansingmi.gov/994-concerts-in-the-park.

"LET THE PAINTINGS TALK" - ART/5 is a group of five local artists. They enjoy rendering the beauty of Michigan as well as flowers, birds and still life. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

MSU Muelder Summer Carillon Concert Series: Mathieu Daniel Polak - Composer and carillonist at Erasmus University Rotterdam. 6 p.m. Beaumont Tower, 375 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

North of Five at Cleats Bar & Grille - 6:30 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. cleatsbarandgrille.com.

Open Swim - Celebrate summer at the Eaton Rapids Community Pool! No entry fee to attend, all ages welcome. 3 p.m. 815 Greyhound Drive, Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

St. Johns "Concert in the Park" series featuring Toppermost (Beatles tribute) - 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: Energy - 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 - The Black Barn Band - 6-8:30 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-853-4000. meridian.mi.us/calendar.

Zoo Days 2023 - Enjoy admission into Potter Park Zoo for only \$2! Giveaways and take-home activities. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

Thursday, July 13

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

ScrapFest 13

5-9 p.m. Friday, July 14
11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, July 15
Turner Street, Old Town

ScrapFest, now in its 13th year, is a free eco-art festival that showcases "the incredible potential of recycled materials while fostering community growth and creative exploration." This year's event, running Friday (July 14) and Saturday (July 15) on Turner Street in Old Town, offers a sculpture competition, silent auction, fashion show, 8K run/walk, family activities, live music, art and food vendors and more.

Teams of local artists have created scrap-metal sculptures that will be displayed throughout the two-day event. The pieces are being sold in a silent auction on the festival's website, scrapfest.com/scrapfest-13-pieces. Bidding is open until the festival concludes Saturday evening, with 70% of the proceeds directly supporting the artists, 20% supporting ScrapFest and 10% going to the Mikey 23 Foundation, which aims to improve young people's lives through education and training in skilled trades.

The Refashion Show, 7 p.m. Friday, will showcase sustainable and repurposed clothing made from locally donated fabric scraps.

The Great Scrap Run, 8:30 a.m. Saturday, allows guests to walk or run along the Lansing River Trail. There's also a Preuss Pets Kids' Fun Run beginning at 8 a.m. Proceeds benefit the Davies Project, which provides transportation to essential healthcare for seriously ill children and pregnant women.

The festival also offers booths from a variety of eco-art vendors; food from Picnic Food Truck; art-making opportunities with REACH Studio Art Center; chances to view robots created by Waverly Robotics students; DJ sets by Ozay Moore and DJ Y'z Friday evening; and live music by Dylan Tolbert, Deacon Earl, the Keynote Sisters, Darin Lamer Jr. and Mark Lavengood on Saturday.

To learn more about the festival, sign up for the 8K race and bid on sculptures, visit scrapfest.com.



Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St., Bath. 517-641-6728. shopbfm.org.

"Be Here Now" - A comedic look at what we're willing to do for love, happiness and to create meaning in our lives. 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

"Blind Spot," "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.

Concerts at the Shell - Kingfish - 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.

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.

Hubbardston Irish Dance Troupe Performs - Kids will learn about the Irish in America, see Irish dancing shoes up close and maybe try a few steps as the troupe performs! Registration req. 2 p.m. Island Park, 206 W. River St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Laingsburg Farmers Market - 5-8 p.m. First Congregational Church of Laingsburg, 401 E. Grand River Road, Laingsburg. 517-295-8128. laingsburgbusiness.org/farmers-market-1.

LBCA's FREE Summer Concert Series - Mixed Flavors - 7 p.m. McClintock Park Amphitheater, 255 McClintock St., Laingsburg. laingsburgbusiness.org/music-in-the-park.

"LET THE PAINTINGS TALK" - ART/5 is a group of five local artists. They enjoy rendering the beauty of Michigan as well as flowers, birds and still life. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Live & Local

CityPULSE
Red Cedar Spirits
2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing

Friday Night Jams
Sunny Wilkinson, Ron Newman, Ed Fedewa
Fri., July 14, 7-10 p.m.

Sunday Jazz
Michelle Lordi, Matthew Parrish, Randy Napoleon
Sun., July 16, 6-9 p.m.

Mason Ink: A Block Party

Saturday, July 15
Noon-4 p.m.
Bestsellers Books and
Coffee Co.
360 S. Jefferson St.,
Mason



Saturday (July 15), a group of Mason-area artists known as the Lino Ladies is hosting a free block party, featuring four hours of live artmaking. Members of the group have designed 3-foot square carvings that will be inked up, placed on a frame and run over by a multi-ton asphalt roller to imprint the images onto paper and cloth.

Once dry, the pieces will be on display at Bestsellers Books and Coffee Co. They will be available for purchase through July 22, with all proceeds being used to fund art scholarships for Mason Public Schools students. The prints will also be available for purchase on notecards, and for \$5, attendees can have one of the images printed on a t-shirt they bring.

Guests can also try their hand at simple printmaking throughout the day.

"Big cities like San Francisco and Chicago have hosted similar events, but it's never happened in small-town Mason and the surrounding area," said Laura DeLind, an artist and event organizer. "The Lino Ladies want this event to expose people to the joy and excitement of making art."

Events

from page 23

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.

Music in the Garden – Tony Thompson & Friends - 7 p.m. Veterans Memorial Gardens Amphitheater, 2074 N. Aurelius Road, Holt. 517-694-2135. delhitownshipmi.gov.

Music in the Park – The Frog King (Neil Diamond tribute), opener Taylor Taylor - Bring friends and a lawn chair or blanket. Food concessions available onsite. 7 p.m. Jaycee Park, 525 E. River St., Grand Ledge. grandledgechamber.com/music_in_the_park.php.

North of Five at Old Bag of Nails - 7 p.m. 210 Cascade Blvd., Lansing. 517-826-6266. oldbagofnails.com.

R.J. Erskine Author Visit - The author will speak about his suspense-fiction trilogy series, Coigreach. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Slime Party - Doctor Slime is mad about science and loves sharing his exciting demonstrations with children (and adults!) of all ages. 10:30 a.m. Play-

ground of Dreams Pavilion #2, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

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

Thursday Night Live Courthouse Concert – Tim Hunt's Dueling Pianos - Bring lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy live family entertainment. 6:30-8 p.m. Ingham County Courthouse lawn, 315 S. Jefferson St., Mason. 517-676-1046. masonchamber.org.

Two Rivers Sounds of Summer – Kickback - Grab 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.

Wacousta Picnic Playdate Family Storytime - Stories, songs, activities and a snack. Event will be canceled if it rains or storms. 11 a.m. Wacousta Community United Methodist Church, 9180 Herbi-son Road, Eagle. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Friday, July 14

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

"Be Here Now" - A comedic look at what we're willing to do for love, happiness and to create meaning in our lives. 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469.

williamstontheatre.org.

"Blind Spot," "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.

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.

Divination Roundtable - Learn a new divination method, get a reading and compare notes with others in your field. All readings free, all systems of divination welcome. 5 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

East Lansing Summer Concert Series – Taylor Taylor - Bring a lawn chair or blanket. 6-8 p.m. Ann Street Plaza, corner of Albert and M.A.C. avenues, East Lansing. 517-319-6888. cityofeastlansing.com/455/summer-concert-series.

"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 – Sea Cruisers - 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.

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.

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.

Lansing Common FC vs. West Michigan Bearings - Drinks from Strange Matter Coffee and food from Stacks BBQ and La India Mexicana Cocina food trucks, plus regular concessions. 7:30 p.m. Eastern Stadium, 400 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. lansingcommonfc.com.

"LET THE PAINTINGS TALK" - ART/5 is a group of five local artists. They enjoy rendering the beauty of Michigan as well as flowers, birds and still life. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Live Music on the patio with Lucid Vibe - 8-11 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

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

Matthew Shannon at Harrison Roadhouse - 6 p.m. 720 E. Michigan Ave., East Lansing. 517-337-0200. harrisonroadhouse.com.

Minecraft Creeper Party - Play Minecraft on the library's private server. Laptops provided. Grades 3 and up. Registration req. 4 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

ScrapFest - Art festival focusing on upcycled and repurposed artwork. Scrap metal sculpture competition, silent auction, eco-art vendors, family activities, live music, food, Re-fashion Show. 5-9 p.m. Turner Street, Old Town. 517-485-4283. scrapfest.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.

Saturday, July 15

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

"Be Here Now" - A comedic look at what we're willing to do for love, happiness and to create meaning in our lives. 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

"Blind Spot," "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.

Campfire: All About Bats - Roast marshmallows and learn about Michigan bats and their adaptations, plus enjoy a guided walk along the nature trails. 7 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

CPR/AED Training at Charlotte Community Library - Participants will receive a certification for completion. Registration req. 10 a.m. 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Free Library Saturday - Our free library boasts an incredible collection of diverse titles for all ages. You can take as many books as you'd like for free! 10 a.m.-noon. The Reading People, 1028 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. 517-485-4949. thereadingpeople.org.

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.

"LET THE PAINTINGS TALK" - ART/5 is a group of five local artists. They enjoy rendering the beauty of Michigan as well as flowers, birds and still life. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. CADL - Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Live music on the patio with Taylor Taylor - 8-11 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

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/farmersmarket.

ScrapFest - Art festival focusing on upcycled and repurposed artwork. Scrap metal sculpture competition, silent auction, eco-art vendors, family activities, live music, food. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Turner Street, Old Town. 517-485-4283. scrapfest.com.

Sunday, July 16

"Be Here Now" - A comedic look at what we're willing to do for love, happiness and to create meaning in our lives. 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

"Blind Spot," "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.

Capital Pro Wrestling - 3 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing. 517-894-4589. americanluchalibre.com

East Lansing Farmers Market - Solo performances by Dan Dan of The Swift Brothers. 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. easterninghamfarmersmarket.org.

Red Cedar spirits®

July specials for . . .

Red, White & Blue Bourbon

2023 award winning bourbon



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



FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Mi Sushi & Noodles: East Lansing's hidden gem

By **LIZY FERGUSON**

Mi Sushi & Noodles was on my “to eat” list in my Notes app for months, but I kept opting for other choices, mainly due to its somewhat out-of-the-way location. Nestled between a Little Caesars and a dog-grooming salon, the restaurant sits on a stretch of Lake Lansing Road way east of my regular Meijer that I probably haven’t driven down in at least five years. Fortuitously, my friend and I decided to brave the hordes of children at the East Lansing Family Aquatic Center on a hot Friday afternoon and were therefore in the perfect place at the perfect time of day to make an impromptu inaugural visit for dinner.

The dining room is small but extremely clean and attractive, with a large TV that was playing inexpli-

cable and endless footage of various kinds of sausage being prepared. The menu is extensive, containing a variety of sushi rolls and other Japanese standards such as teriyaki, ramen and udon as well as poke and sushi burritos. In the mood for something simple and comforting, I chose the Chicken Katsu Donburi Rice.

Donburi is a general term that refers to any Japanese rice-bowl dish, no matter the toppings. The ingredients are often cooked in donburi sauce, which is typically a combination of mirin, soy sauce, sugar and dashi, or Japanese soup stock. In this instance, the toppings consisted of green and white onion and eggs that were cooked to a scrambled consistency, plus the



Chicken Katsu Donburi Rice

\$12.95

Mi Sushi & Noodles
3340 E. Lake Lansing Road,
East Lansing

11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday

4-9 p.m. Saturday

517-816-8666

misushinoodles.com



Lizy Ferguson/City Pulse

Donburi is a general term that refers to any Japanese rice-bowl dish, no matter the toppings. Mi Sushi & Noodles’ Chicken Katsu Donburi Rice includes green and white onion, scrambled eggs and perfectly golden-brown breaded chicken.

chicken katsu, a hammered-out chicken breast coated in panko bread crumbs and fried to golden-brown perfection.

The flavors were delicate but sublime, with a sweetness from the mirin that perfectly balanced the salty soy sauce and savory dashi. The strands of pale yellow egg absorbed the sauce to especially great effect, as did the breading on the succulent chicken breast. My favorite complementary elements were the slivers of pickled ginger and daikon radish, which added a sour contrast and crunch. It was the best thing I’ve eaten in some

time, and I intermittently brought up how tasty it was for the remainder of the evening.

My companion got two of the restaurant’s specialty rolls, and since we always eat off each other’s plates, I can confirm the sushi was equally excellent, featuring glistening fish and rice that was cooked and seasoned with care, as opposed to the gluey, homogenous mess I find so disappointing at other places. I can’t recommend Mi Sushi & Noodles enough – I have already made a return visit since, and I look forward to many more.

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 ICE CREAM

1. MSU Dairy Store

Cozy outpost with homemade cheese and ice cream, plus soups and sandwiches
474 S. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
517-355-8466
msudairystore.com
Noon-9 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday

2. Lick-ity Split

Drive-up ice cream shop with smoothies, sundaes, flurries and malts
103 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge
517-896-6380

Noon-9:30 p.m. Sunday-Thursday
Noon-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday

3. Babe’s Corner

Ice cream and hoagie shop with unique soft-serve flavors and vegan options
800 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
517-939-9598
facebook.com/babescornerlansing
4-8 p.m. Tuesday
Noon-8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

4. Dairy Dan

Locally owned ice cream shop offering a variety of frozen treats
7035 S. Cedar St., Lansing
517-699-7002
facebook.com/dairydanlansing
Noon-10 p.m. daily

5. Arctic Corner

Ice cream stand serving different flavors of soft serve, plus hot dogs, pretzels and nachos
314 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave., Lansing
517-303-7001
facebook.com/arcticcornericecream

Coming Sept. 13: Top of the Town 2023

Among the fungi

By ARI LEVAUX

Morel hunting and elk hunting have a lot in common. Both pursuits take place in the mountains, often in places that are inconvenient to access. Both require enormous effort and can take a toll on our bodies, clothing, relationships and anything else of value. But we do it anyway.

We do it because both morel and meat hunting offer edible rewards of the highest quality if you succeed, but success depends on reading the landscape. It helps to not become lost, run out of water or get trampled by a moose. Even if you don't succeed in bagging your prey, all you have to do is survive in order to experience some amazing moments and walk away stronger.

Whatever your prey, you find it by locating its habitat. Elk tend to prefer being as far away as possible from where humans might be. Meanwhile, the best morel habitat is a burnt-out forest the year after the fire.

We don't know how or why morels appear after a fire. Wilderness-related industries don't attract much research



Courtesy of Ari LeVaux

Though they're rare and often expensive, morels have a rich, meaty flavor and are easy to prepare and store, making them the wild mushroom of choice for many.

money. Much of the knowledge of morel ecology is held by the pickers themselves, who are not always inclined to share what they know.

When two pickers bump into each other in the woods, it can be an awkward, mutually disappointing encounter. They both have the right to be there, but each nonetheless feels protective of their spot. Violence is not unheard of.

Unlike elk or deer, morels have stubbornly refused all efforts of domestication. This means every single morel you've ever eaten was hunted and harvested by hand in the wild.

I've gone after these freaky, fungal fruits, plodding up and down the burned mountainsides of Montana, Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and Alaska. Morel habitats are treacherous. Dead tree limbs called widowmakers lie in wait, needing very little provocation to fall on your head, while the charred stumps of burnt saplings can poke

through your boots.

On a recent picking trip, one novel danger was the bark on downed lodgepole pines. It looked grippy, and I often wanted to step on it, either to get over an obstacle or to walk along the downed tree like a boardwalk. But weeks of rain had turned that bark into a banana peel, ready to slide out from under me as soon as I put weight on it.

That particular day was more of a guided hunt. A friend had been scouting the burn site for a few weeks, waiting for the right combination of soil moisture and temperature to converge. My buddy even drove and didn't make me wear a blindfold. But a guided hunt is still hunting. You still have to find your prey.

I wasn't doing particularly well. I had maybe a quart of mushrooms when I ran into some pickers who were on the way out, loaded with fungus. They were friendly but wary when I asked where they were from. It turns out they were Mexican and didn't want any trouble. They were also tired, hungry and thirsty.



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I had put my backpack down a few hundred yards below us, and I was just carrying my bucket and bear spray. I told them where my pack was and invited them to help themselves to food and water. When I got back to my pack, an elk sandwich was gone. But my pail had an extra two gallons of morels.

I took the mushrooms home and cooked them in a sherry-cream sauce. I served them alongside some whitetail steak and washed it all down with red wine. It was the kind of meal only a hunter gets to enjoy.

Morels in sherry-cream sauce

If you don't have — or can't afford — a lot of morels, one trick is to add button mushrooms to the recipe. They will stretch out the morels without diluting the flavor. If you're using dried morels, cover a cup of them with 1/2 cup of hot chicken broth and let them sit for an hour, covered, to rehydrate.

2 cups fresh morels or 1 cup dried
2 tablespoons butter
1/2 medium yellow onion, minced
1/2 cup dry sherry
Zest and juice of 1/4 lemon
Heavy pinch of nutmeg
1/4 to 1/2 cup heavy cream
Salt and pepper to taste

Melt the butter in a heavy-bottom pan. Add the onion and mushrooms. Cook together until the onions are translucent and the morels give up their moisture, about 10 minutes.

Add the sherry and let it cook off. Add the nutmeg, lemon zest and juice. Stir the mixture around and let it cook for a moment, then add the cream. Cook for five more minutes, season with salt and pepper and serve.

Events

from page 24

Family Fun Day at LBC - Games, obstacle course challenges and excellent food. 2-5 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.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.

Laingsburg Outdoor Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Roosevelt Row, Laingsburg. 517-295-8128. laingsburgbusiness.org/farmers-market-1.

Lansing Common FC vs. 1927 SC - Drinks from Strange Matter Coffee and food from Stacks BBQ and La India Mexicana Cocina food trucks, plus regular concessions. 4 p.m. Eastern Stadium, 400 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. lansingcommonfc.com.

“Incarnation” with Kathryn Kris - Find out the difference between incarnation and reincarnation. 9:30 a.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

Just Chillin’ with the Animals: Enrichment Event - We’ll have special themed enrichments for the animals. Join us and see what the animals do with them! Regular admission prices apply. 1-3 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

“LET THE PAINTINGS TALK” - ART/5 is a group of five local artists. They enjoy rendering the beauty of Michigan as well as flowers, birds and still life. Noon-6 p.m. CADL - Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Live music on the patio with Lydia Jackson - Noon-3 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

Roller Derby Basic Skills Boot Camp - Eight-week boot camp consists of introductory, intermediate and advanced skill-level training. 5-7 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. 517-802-7974. lansingrollerderby.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, July 17

2023 Michigan Dairy Expo and Michigan 4-H Youth Dairy Days - Cattle move-in 1-5 p.m., youth pizza social 7 p.m. Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. 517-432-5566. canr.msu.edu/events/2023-michigan-4-h-youth-dairy-days.

Art Adventure - Weeklong camp for ages 6-7. Use chemistry to mix colors, physics to create unique splatters and biology to inspire natural works of art! 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

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.

Doc McStuffs - Weeklong camp for 5-year-olds. Step into the role of doctor, veterinarian and mechanic to solve problems, conduct fun experiments and more! 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.

Forensics - Weeklong camp for ages 10-12. Explore fingerprinting, DNA and deductive thinking to unravel clues in our mini forensic lab. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.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 Camp - Playing games that teach us communication, observation and teamwork! 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.

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. 7:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Inked Up! - Weeklong camp for ages 13-14. Practice stamp-making and embossing, make temporary tattoos, use screen-printing techniques to make a shirt or bag and more. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Jump Into Reading - 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. Playground of Dreams, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

Kids’ Graphic Novel Book Club - Hang out with friends, chat about the book, have a snack and do a book-related activity or craft. Grades 3 and up. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

“LET THE PAINTINGS TALK” - ART/5 is a group of five local artists. They enjoy rendering the beauty of Michigan as well as flowers, birds and still life. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Reiki for Kids & Teens - Fun, engaging, hands-on activities 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.

Space Cadets - Weeklong camp for ages 8-9. Create your own telescope to explore the constellations, learn about the sun and find out what it takes to explore space! 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

The Storytellers: African Music & Traditions - Musical selections, captivating stories and hands-on fun with musical instruments from African cultures. 2 p.m. Island Park, 206 W. River St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Tuesday, July 18

2023 Michigan Dairy Expo and Michigan 4-H Youth Dairy Days - 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. 517-432-5566. canr.msu.edu/events/2023-michigan-4-h-youth-dairy-days.

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 - 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.

Delta Township Music in the Park – Sea Cruisers, opener Jen Sygit - Food from Jay’s Dogs food truck. 7 p.m. Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road, Lansing. deltami.gov.

First Responders Appreciation Day - Firefighters, police, EMTs, emergency dispatch and nurses are invited to play for free with an All Access Pass. Valid work ID req. Noon-10 p.m. High Caliber Karting and Entertainment, 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Suite 800, Okemos. 517-721-1790. highcaliberkarting.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.

Hunt A Killer: Death at the Dive Bar - Channel your inner detective to unravel a twisted tale of foul play and catch a killer. 5:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

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.

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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.

Roller Derby Basic Skills Boot Camp - Eight-week boot camp consists of introductory, intermediate and advanced skill-level training. 6-8 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. 517-802-7974. lansingrollerderby.com.

Self-Care Celebration - Join us as we take some time to reset. Activities include homemade sugar scrubs, affirmation jars, letter writing and snacks. Intended for teenagers. 3 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

Summer in the Park: Wild Tales with Potter Park - Three stories about lions, tigers and bears; fun facts about these animals; and pelts and artifacts related to the theme. 11 a.m. Oak Park, corner of Clinton and Seminary streets, Charlotte. 517-543-

8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Trivia at Lansing Shuffleboard & Social Club with DJ Trivia - 7:30-9 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

Wednesday, July 19

2023 Michigan Dairy Expo and Michigan 4-H Youth Dairy Days - 7:45 a.m.-7 p.m. Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. 517-432-5566. canr.msu.edu/events/2023-michigan-4-h-youth-dairy-days.

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

Blake & Jessy James - 7-10 p.m. Williamston Roadhouse, 3700 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. 517-388-6133. williamstonroadhouse.com.

“Blind Spot,” “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.

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 & Cones - 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.

Emergency Services - 6 p.m. LSW Emergency Services, 7425 Woodbury Road, Laingsburg. laingsburg.us.

“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.

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. 7:30 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.

Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle - Sing your favorite tunes or bring a group and listen while enjoying drinks and food. 7-10 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 22

S	P	L	I	T	B	E	R	T	A	L	U	M
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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 22

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

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