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# CityPULSE

May 15 - 21, 2024  
Locally Owned

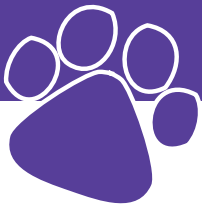
## BIG WEEKEND

Art, Rock & More Kick Off Summer Events See Page 15



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# INGHAM COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

TO ADOPT ONE OF THESE PETS, VISIT ICAS AT 600 BUHL ST., MASON, CALL (517) 676-8370 TO MAKE AN APPT. OR GO TO AC.INGHAM.ORG

**Thanks to pet adoption advertisers, City Pulse donated \$306 to the Ingham County Animal Shelter in 2023 and many thousands more over the last 23 years. Ads are just \$35, and \$6 of that is donated. Please help City Pulse help the animals find homes. Ads appear in the third issue of each month. The next deadline is June 14th.**



**Please call Berl Schwartz at (517) 999-5061 or email him at**

**[publisher@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:publisher@lansingcitypulse.com)**



**In memory of Mew**

## Life

is a beautiful brown tabby who came to us from another shelter with several other cats. She's an older girl but has plenty of spunk left in her. She is often found snoozing in her box but will happily come out if you stop by and offer her some ear scratches. Life is NOT a fan of other cats and would prefer to be the only cat in her new home!



**Sponsored by Anne and Dale Schrader**

## Cadon

came to the shelter with his older brother Cian when their owner could no longer care for them. His brother has been adopted, and Cadon is hoping it will be his turn soon! He is a bouncy, fun-loving guy who doesn't let life get in his way! He's doing very well learning to be polite during his stay here. Our volunteers say that he's very gentle, loves stuffies and sitting in laps! He also LOVES getting belly rubs while laying out in the sun. Overall, he is a super sweet guy who would love to meet you and your family!



**Sponsored by "The Fonz"**

## Finn

is a sweet pibble who came to the shelter with his friend Chirpa because their owner had too many animals. Finn is about a year old and has sadly lived outside his whole life. In spite of that, he's a friendly, outgoing guy who loves people and other dogs. His owner says he's good with kids and is a good boy. He will need a family who's willing to put in just a little work helping him learn what it is to be a member of a family.



**In memory of Rodica's cats**

## Life

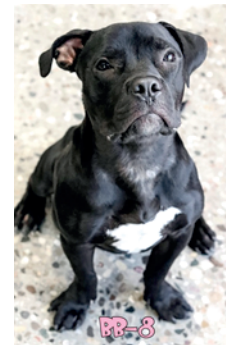
is a beautiful brown tabby who came to us from another shelter with several other cats. She's an older girl but has plenty of spunk left in her. She is often found snoozing in her box but will happily come out if you stop by and offer her some ear scratches. Life is NOT a fan of other cats and would prefer to be the only cat in her new home!



**Sponsored by Kato & Mouse**

## Jar Jar

s a big goofy husky puppy who came to the shelter when his owner moved and couldn't take him. He loves dogs and would enjoy a big back yard and a playful friend to chase. He's about 8 months old and still has some growing to do so he's going to be on the bigger side. He has gorgeous eyes and a great temperament and is going to make some husky loving family very happy!



**Sponsored by anonymous**

## BB-8

is a sweet little low rider who came to us from another shelter. He was in rough shape when he arrived there but he's ready to find his new home. They didn't know much about him other than the fact that he's adorable! He tried really hard when he was introduced to another dog, but he was too stressed by all the changes and just wasn't ready to play. We suspect that once he's settled in, we'll see the loose wiggly guy he was at the other shelter. Mostly he'd like someone to come take him home!



**Sponsored by Schuler Books**

## Jaina

is a sweet bouncy girl who came to us from another shelter. They tell us she's friendly and outgoing and has had some training (she knows sit, stay, and come) but needs to work on her leash manners and loves to play fetch. She is working on remembering to keep her feet on the ground (sometimes a girl just has to jump up to give you kisses!) but she loves everyone she meets. She also loves dogs and wouldn't mind a playful friend in her new home. If you are looking for a friendly, social butterfly to add to your home, Jaina is ready to meet you!



# The Ingham County FAIR



**July 29-August 3, 2024**



# CityPULSE

**VOL. 23  
ISSUE 40**

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



Meridian Garden Club sale emphasizes native plants

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Lansing Shuffle fulfills its promise of shuffleboard courts

**PAGE  
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From brunch to dinner, Toscana's dishes delight

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Cover illustration by Nevin Speerbrecker

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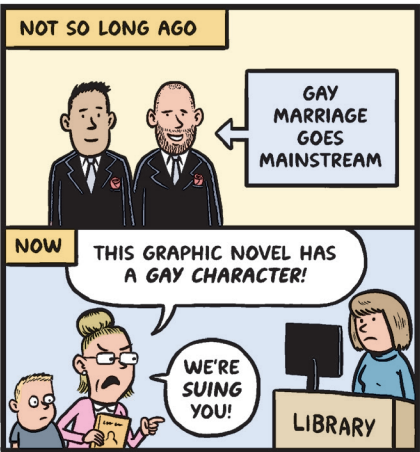
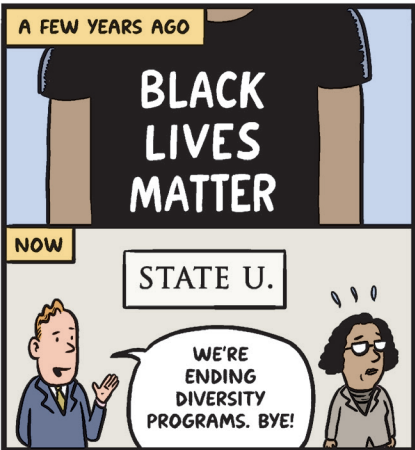
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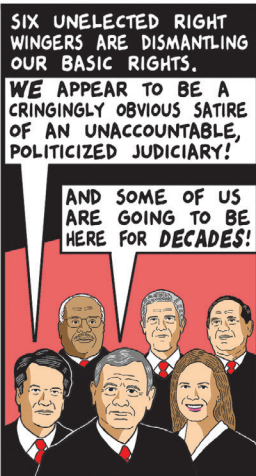
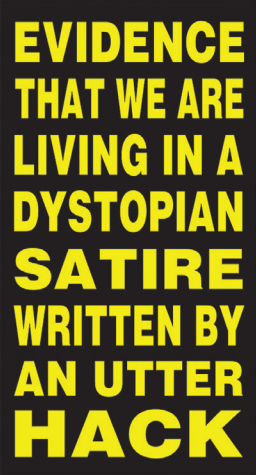
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## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW




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## PULSE

## NEWS &amp; OPINION

# At long last: A city hall plan that may actually stick

The road to a new Lansing city hall has been about as smooth as most roads in Lansing and elsewhere in Michigan: full of potholes.

Preceded by decades of neglect of the current building, the Bernero administration announced in 2017 that it wanted to move City Hall to the old Lansing State Journal building at the corner of Grand Avenue and Lenawee Street on the south side of downtown. Mayor Virg Bernero picked a Chicago developer, J. Paul Beitler, to convert the 1951 newspaper building into the city's new home and turn the current City Hall into a hotel. The latter was a victory for preservationists because of City Hall's importance as an example of mid-century modern architecture in mid-Michigan.

That sounded great to mayoral candidate Andy Schor — until he got into office in 2018. Then he grappled with the reality that no good solution was in sight for a problem his predecessor left behind: what to do with police and courts, which the Journal building couldn't accommodate. Schor hit the pause button.

One pandemic later, a solution emerged. The public supported Schor's grand plan for a public safety building, under construction on Washington Avenue in south Lansing. Schor picked the Boji Group to develop a new, smaller city hall with a \$40 million state grant, sans police and courts. And Schor designated the old Masonic Temple, which the Boji Group owns, as where it should go. It was a double win for preservation: The empty, century-old Masonic Temple would become a stately new city hall. And Beitler still wanted to renovate the current City Hall into an upscale hotel.

Then the City Council intervened. On March 11, as the Council met in a Committee of the Whole session, Schor's plan appeared headed to a 7-1 victory. By the end of the night, the Council rejected it on a tie vote, led by the defection of At-Large member Jeffrey Brown.

What happened? And how did the proposed new city hall end up caty-corner from where Bernero pro-



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Ryan Kost (left), the First Ward Councilmember who opposed moving City Hall to the Masonic Temple, joins Mayor Andy Schor at a press conference announcing the plan to build the new city hall at the corner of Grand Avenue and Lenawee Street.

posed city hall go seven years ago?

In an exclusive interview with City Pulse, Schor shed some light on those issues last Thursday, a few hours after his press conference announcing the new, new, new location.

"Let's start with we can do it immediately," Schor said when asked about the upsides of his new plan. That's because he doesn't need the Council's support to buy property, and he still has the \$40 million state grant for construction. Moreover, the city attorney has told him that the Boji Group can still be the developer, which Schor confirmed it will be.

It's understandable why he'd prioritize not needing the Council. Despite his overwhelming election to a second term in 2021, Schor has been unable to count on Council backing, whether it was over last year's budget, when the Council overrode his veto, or when

it kept him waiting a month before it approved his choice of a new city attorney this spring.

But the city hall fight was particularly frustrating because all but Ryan Kost, who represents the First Ward, were supposedly on board with the administration for once. "I think I've got a very good relationship with all eight," Schor insisted. "We can respectfully disagree on things as long as we're upfront with each other."

And that may be, in the sense that they can talk to each other. (In contrast, Bernero and his longtime nemesis former Council member Carol Wood wouldn't even converse in the City Hall elevator.)

But given that the Council turned against him on the Masonic Temple plan with no notice, how upfront does Schor think Council members are with him?

"Those folks caught a lot of folks off guard," Schor replied. "That wasn't just me. That was members of the community, that was other Council members. I can't explain it."

He singled out Kost as being upfront with him throughout the process. "We disagreed, but I understood." As for the other three, "I'm not sure what they heard between votes." He cut some slack for two of them for being new, Tamera Carter and Trini Pehlivanoglu, both just elected in November. Referring to conversations after the vote, "They told me was that they weren't comfortable and they didn't feel it was transparent and they were getting conflicting information," he said.

But when asked if he trusted Brown, whose change of heart turned the tide against the Temple plan, Schor was not as generous.

"I'm not going to answer that on the record," he said.

"It was a good try, though," he commented on the question.

## 'Infills' and other positives

As for other pluses to the new city hall plan, Schor cited that it's an "urban infill," meaning Schor will win a battle against surface parking lots, a personal peeve of his. The city property has sat empty over a decade after the Council for the Arts pulled the plug on the old Center for the Arts and the Bernero administration demolished it. "We have more surface parking lots than any other city in the country," many state owned, Schor said. With fewer people using them since the pandemic, loss of parking revenue is insignificant, he added.

The new city hall will bring hundreds of people close to historic Cherry Hill. "It will be good for that neighborhood to have more folks there," Schor said. Another plus is its proximity to the Ovation, the city's new performance center, property for which has been cleared on nearby Washington Square. "It can help increase the flow and walkability in the southern downtown and really beef

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# City Hall

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up Grand Avenue, which has recently been made two ways. With more people comes more retail and shops on Grand, and it's only a block away from Washington."

"We'll have a new building," Schor said as he continued down his list of pluses, unlike the 6-decade-old current City Hall or the 10-decade-old Masonic Temple. "And we're able to get out of the old building and get that started to be repurposed, which has been on hold while we've been trying to figure out the new city hall building."

Another positive is the opportunity to partner with the Capital Area Transportation Authority. CATA wanted to build a new headquarters at the same location and has asked the state for \$15 million to do so. Now it can build on top of the new city hall, which is across the street from CATA's transit hub. Then it can relocate from its remote Tranter Street offices in south Lansing. Schor predicted

perhaps \$10 million in construction savings, plus the city and CATA could share some facilities, like conference rooms, and services, such as IT.

A political intangible that may be a plus for Schor is that he and Kost had some sort of breakthrough. Kost has been a thorn in Schor's side since the young Councilmember's 56-vote victory in 2022. While Kost didn't budge from his original opposition to the Masonic Temple plan, he was the sole opponent to publicly acknowledge that the Schor administration had conducted a transparent process in selecting the Boji Group.

Kost told me the other day that the Schor had proved him wrong on the transparency issue in the weeks since the Council had rejected the Masonic Temple proposal. At the heart of the issue was whether the Granger Group, the only other developer to bid on a new city hall, had been treated fairly. Both Gary Granger and his son Jason insisted the administration had not given them equal treatment with the Boji Group, going as far as claiming in writing that the mayor had broken the law. But Kost said that the administration documented that the Granger

Group had been accorded equal treatment and had failed to respond to the administration.

That was insufficient to win Kost's vote, though. He still opposed the Masonic Temple choice on other grounds: too big, too old, too expensive. But it caused him to drop his demand for a new request-for-proposal process. Last Thursday, Kost was the only one of the four Council opponents to show up and stand beside Schor at his press conference.

## Downsides

While Schor led his list of pluses with "we can do it immediately," he led his list of downsides with, "It's going to take more time" to move in, "probably two years instead of one to one a half, because we have to restart the programming." That's government talk for there are no floor plans yet. "We don't have to start from scratch, but it'll probably take a little more time." So, while there won't be a repeat of the protracted fight to buy property, the city will lose time overall.

The greater distance from the Capitol is another negative, meaning fewer



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Brad Funkhouser (left), CEO of the Capital Area Transportation Authority, at the press conference. CATA could benefit by sharing space for a new headquarters at the new city hall across the street from CATA's downtown transit hub.

er interactions with the legislators, whose generosity this budget year to Lansing and a mayor who came from the House of Representatives was substantial.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.**, at the East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Green Shield Deck Builders on behalf of property owners Brian and Leigh Small at 528 Aquila Drive. The requested dimensional variance is to exceed the maximum allowed ground coverage in the R1 Cluster Development zone district as required by Section 50-323 in order to allow the construction of a deck in the rear yard of the property.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Pavel Stolarczyk and Madison Melton, property owners at 1014 Rosewood Ave. The requested dimensional variances are to encroach on the minimum setbacks in the R-1 zone district as required by Section 50-301 in order to allow the construction of a new single-family home.

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

Materials related to the request are available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm or on the City's website located at [www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications). Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to [coelzba@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:coelzba@cityofeastlansing.com).

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services must contact the Planning, Building, and Development Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6930 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at [gwhitney@cityofeastlansing.com](mailto:gwhitney@cityofeastlansing.com)

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

Marie E. Wicks  
City Clerk

CP#24-514

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT, INGHAM COUNTY, NOTICE TO CREDITORS, Decedent's Estate, Case No. 21-001380-DE-P33. Estate of Cora Lee Crump – Date of Birth: 07-25-1944. NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Cora Lee Crump, died 09-15-2021. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Sharon R. Crump, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 West Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933, 517-483-6300, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 05/15/2024. Personal representative: Sharon R. Crump, 216 N. Francis Ave., Lansing, MI 48912, 517-894-7722.

CP#24-515

## CITY OF GRAND LEDGE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Grand Ledge Planning Commission will hold a public hearing during its regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., on Thursday, 06 June 2024, to consider and receive public input on a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to allow for and regulate planned unit developments (PUD) within the City of Grand Ledge. The purpose of the ordinance amendment is to provide development options in all zoning districts, where flexibility in design and use, including accommodating a mix of land uses and residential density levels on the same site, is appropriate based upon lot size, location, and surrounding land uses. The proposed ordinance amendment is available for review on the City's website at [www.cityofgrandledge.com](http://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: 895 9419 8382, or by calling +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC), +1 305 224 1968 US, +1 309 205 3325 US, +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago), +1 646 876 9923 US (New York), +1 646 931 3860 US, +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, +1 386 347 5053 US, +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose), with Meeting ID: 895 9419 8382.

The Planning Commission 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](mailto: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](mailto:cityhall@cityofgrandledge.com) for further information or to request accommodations for disabilities.

Gregory Newman, City Clerk

CP#24-510



# City Hall

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Another negative Schor said, was that the Lansing School District has lost an opportunity to occupy the Masonic Temple's top two floors, which the city didn't need. The district was apparently interested in solving its own problem with decrepit facilities by considering such a move.

A downside Schor didn't raise was losing the opportunity to preserve the Masonic Temple. But when asked about it, he was quick to express his disappointment.

"City Hall would have been a great use. It looks like a City Hall. But I couldn't get five people to agree. And there's only so long we could wait before we had to move forward. I'm not interested in the Legislature trying to take the money back because they don't think we're using it."

He expressed confidence that the Boji Group will find another buyer or use for the Masonic Temple, which has been empty since 2008, when Cooley Law School moved out. The city considered it a possible home for a performing arts center, especially since an auditorium occupies the top two floors. But that presented too many challenges, including the lack of an elevator to those floors. Since buying it three years ago, the Boji Group has mentioned residential use. But sources have told City Pulse that the Boji Group was eager to turn it into City Hall because of the challenge of repurposing. So, its fate remains uncertain.

One result of the city hall fight is the Granger Group, which lost out to Boji,



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

The old Masonic Temple, 217 N. Capitol Ave., where Schor had hoped the new city hall would go. The fate of the 100-year-old building is uncertain.

dug itself into a deep hole with the Schor administration.

Schor blamed the Granger Group for influencing Brown, Carter and Pehlivanoglu into undoing the Masonic Temple plan. "The criticism came realistically from a bidder who lost," Schor said, without identifying it by name. "It wasn't transparent' was a complaint from the losing bidder from his allegation that he wasn't able to update his bid, which is completely false because he was offered the opportunity to update his bid and didn't."

The Grangers' goal was to solve a decades-old problem by selling its downtown property at Grand and Allegan Street to the city for the new city hall. That's where the remains of the Wal-



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

The current City Hall. After a seven-year wait, the Schor administration hopes Chicago developer J. Paul Beitler will still pursue its plan to turn it into a hotel, thus preserving an important example of mid-century modern architecture.

ter Neller Building sit, easily the city's biggest eyesore. The Grangers let it slide into ruin to the point that a tree is growing inside of it and a window fell out of the second floor last year, narrowly missing a pedestrian. After years of efforts to get the Grangers to clean up their mess, the city finally put the Neller Building on the make-safe-or-



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Gary Granger, whose family company Granger Group, failed to convince the Schor administration to award it the bid for a new city hall after the Council defeated the Masonic Temple plan.

demolish list last year.

That process still needs to play out, but one thing is clear: The Grangers made no friends in the administration while it does.

— BERL SCHWARTZ

**WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP**  
**Board Meeting May 8, 2024**  
**Synopsis**

The Williamstown Township Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, May 8, 2024 at 7:00 PM with Supervisor Bloomquist, Clerk Cleveland, Treasurer Cutshaw, Trustee Creagh, and Trustee Eyster present. The Board approved the following:

- Consent Agenda
- Revisions to Zoning Ordinance allowing Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)
- Budget Amendments
- Harvest Festival budget of \$4,000 for 2024
- Cemetery Green Burial fee schedule, purchase of grave cover not to exceed \$3,800, & landscaping materials not to exceed \$6,000
- Bid from Stevens Excavating for replacement of drain line to septic tank at the Township hall not to exceed \$2,000
- Donation of \$7,000 from Prime Housing Group to be used for the Township Park

The next regular Board meeting will be at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 in the Community Room of the Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Rd., Williamston. Visit [williamstownmi.gov](http://williamstownmi.gov) for the latest agenda, documents, and updates. Phone (517) 655-3193. Robin A. Cleveland, Township Clerk

CP#24-513

**STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT, INGHAM COUNTY, NOTICE TO CREDITORS,**  
**Decedent's Estate, Case 24-000508-DE-P33 - Estate of Larry Bermudez – Date of Birth:**  
**06/26/1968. NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The decedent, Larry Bermudez, died April 18, 2024. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Salina Bermudez, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 West Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933, 517-483-6300, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 05/15/2024. Personal representative: Salina Bermudez, 13401 Nelson Rd., Bath, MI 48808, 517-375-4002.

CP#24-509

**In the matter of Cynthia M. Richards, deceased: TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:** and creditors (known and unknown) whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: **TAKE NOTICE:\*** The Settlor, Cynthia M. Richards (dob 04-02-1954) who lived at 7230 Creekside Dr., Lansing MI, 48917, died March 22, 2024. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom letters of administration have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against The Cynthia M. Richards Revocable Living Trust, dated July 13, 2021, as amended, will be forever banned unless presented to Patrick Pollack, Trustee, of 11908 Upton Rd., Grand Ledge, MI 48837 within four months after the date of publication, 5/15/2024. Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it. Attorney: Benjamin L. Cwayna, #P70266, 11973 Sweetwater Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, 517-622-1900. Petitioner: Patrick Pollack, 11908 Upton Rd., Grand Ledge, MI

CP#24-512

**STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT, EATON COUNTY, NOTICE TO CREDITORS,**  
**Decedent's Estate, Case No. 24-59572-DE. Estate of Norma B. Peston, deceased – Date of Birth:**  
**09/07/1923. TO ALL CREDITORS:\*\* Known and Unknown. NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS:** The decedent, Norma B. Peston, died 07/11/2011. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Howard Peston, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1045 Independence Blvd., Charlotte, MI, 48813, 517-543-7500, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 05/15/2024. Attorney: Benjamin L. Cwayna, #P70266, 11973 Sweetwater Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, 517-622-1900. Personal representative: Howard Peston, 10012 Hart Hwy., Dimondale, MI 48821, 517-331-5393.

CP#24-511

**Eagle Township, Clinton County**  
**Special Board Meeting Synopsis**

May 6, 2024, at 6:30 pm - Present: Supervisor Stroud, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Trustee Strahle, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Trustee M. Hoppes and 3 citizens.

Board Actions:

- 1) Approved engagement of Foster Swift as the Eagle Township attorney.
- 2) Approved to have the new attorney take over all in process legal issues.

A complete copy of the minutes is available by contacting Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Clerk. Next regular meeting of the Eagle Township Board is May 16, 2024, at 6 pm at Eagle Township Hall, 14318 Michigan St, Eagle, MI. See [www.eagletownship.org](http://www.eagletownship.org) for latest updates.

Prepared by: Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Eagle Township Clerk  
Approved by: Troy Stroud, Eagle Township Supervisor

CP#24-508



# REWIND

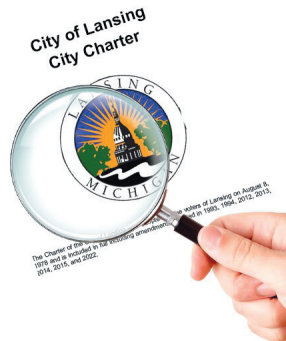
## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES

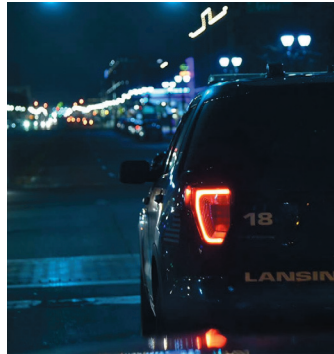


### Voters elected nine members to the first-ever Lansing Charter Revision Commission out of 36 candidates.

Former state Rep. Joan Bauer led the field, followed by former City Council President Brian Jeffries and Lansing School Board member Guillermo Lopez. The others were Elizabeth Boyd, a former press secretary for Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm; DEI consultant Lori Adams Simon; UAW Local 4911 President Muhammad Qawwee II; former City Council member Jody Washington; Jazmin Anderson, equitable economic development director at LEAP; and Ben Dowd, associate director of the Community Economic Development Association of Michigan. Voter turnout was just 12.46%, with 11,176 ballots. The commission begins meeting May 21.



the turbines have frequently broken and required tens of millions of dollars in repairs due to compressor defects and failures. A Siemens spokesperson denied the allegations and said the company has been working with BWL to address its concerns.

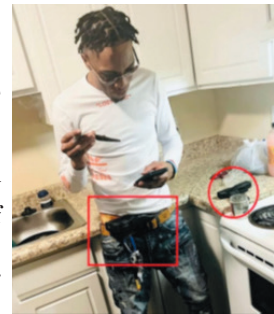


### Multiple suspects are in custody after a Lansing man was killed Sunday in the 2100 block of Georgetown Boulevard in south Lansing.

The unidentified 25-year-old man may have been taken from his home before he was killed, said Lansing police, who reported a "serious physical altercation between a victim and multiple suspects"

and called it a homicide but have not reported the cause of death or the number of suspects and arrests. It was Lansing's sixth homicide this year, all since April 10.

**Tyrone Lekese Hooper, 25, of Lansing, was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison on two weapons convictions that were tied to incidents where children shot themselves with guns found in his apartment.** He pled guilty to being a felon in possession of firearms and ammunition in January after they were found in his car and home in 2022. Both children survived the shootings.



### An unidentified 24-year-old man sustained non-life-threatening injuries in a shooting Sunday in the 200 block of West Barnes Avenue in Lansing.

Police found multiple vehicles struck by bullets, and WLNS News 6 obtained a video that showed two men firing at least 29 gunshots over 12 seconds. No suspects had been reported identified as of Tuesday.

### Public Safety

A trailer full of Special Olympics equipment was reported stolen. The trailer was last seen at the Beekman Center in south Lansing and its contents were needed by athletes for a competition last weekend. ... A 33-year-old Lansing woman was



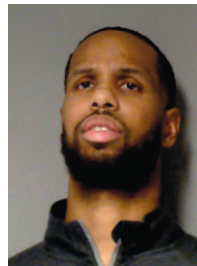
in critical condition Thursday after a two-car crash that shut down part of Oakland Avenue. The driver of the other vehicle, a 45-year-old man accused of speeding, suffered minor injuries. ... A house fire Sunday in the 4800 block of Hughes Road in south Lansing displaced four residents. No injuries were reported.



**A Title IX lawsuit in Grand Rapids will continue against the Mason Public Schools after a U.S. district judge dismissed complaints against Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum and her husband, a Sheriff's Office detective.** The suit challenges the district's reinstatement of Byrum's son after he had been expelled for allegedly sexually assaulting a female student. Judge Robert Jonker also dismissed complaints against Mason High School Principal Lance Delbridge and Assistant Principal Nicholas Toodzio. Jonker also denied a motion by the boy's parents to award them attorney fees. Brandon Wolff, the attorney representing the girl and her family, said he intends to sue Byrum and husband Brad Delaney in state court. Byrum told the Lansing State Journal the lawsuit was "frivolous, false and utterly irresponsible." It marked the first time she has been identified as a defendant in media other than City Pulse.

### Holt High School basketball coach Muhammad El-Amin, 36, was fired after being placed on administrative leave following his arrest in a child sex trafficking sting.

El-Amin was arraigned in 54-A District Court on felony counts of child sexually abusive activity, computers-internet-communicating with another to commit a crime and accosting children for immoral purposes. He will face a probable cause hearing Friday and a preliminary hearing May 24. The 2005 Holt graduate, who helped the school win a state championship in 2005, was hired to coach the team in 2023.



**The Lansing Board of Water & Light sued Siemens Energy for three faulty natural gas turbines it purchased for \$50 million two years ago.** The turbines are part of BWL's \$500 million, natural gas-fired Delta Energy Park, which went online in 2022. BWL's complaint said



### 2315 N. High St., Lansing

Built in 1918, this 1,032-square-foot, four-bedroom home in north Lansing was initially red-tagged for safety issues in July 2018. The city boarded it up three times between then and January 2019, when its former owners, Brian and Ethel Morton, sold it back to First National Realty Acceptance Co., the East Lansing-based firm that sold it to them in 2008. Within two months, First National Realty turned around and sold it to Northtown Equity LLC, a Grand Rapids-based firm, for \$29,900. Northtown Equity held on to it until October last year, when the Incredibles Factory LLC purchased it for \$255,000. The Lansing Assessor's Office values the home at just \$34,400. Over the course of eight months, the new Detroit-based owner has accumulated \$1,410 in red tag monitoring penalties, for which the city issues a monthly \$150 charge plus fees. Efforts to contact The Incredibles Factory LLC were unsuccessful.

— TYLER SCHNEIDER

"Eyesore of the Week" is our weekly look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Public Art, by Bill Castanier. Have a suggestion? Email [eye@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:eye@lansingcitypulse.com) or call in a nomination at 517-999-5061.



At long last, the journey to a new home for Lansing's municipal government appears to be in the home stretch. After a divided City Council rejected Mayor Andy Schor's proposal to transform downtown's historic Masonic Temple into the new city hall, Schor regrouped and last week rolled out his plan to build a structure on the city-owned parking lot directly across from CATA's downtown transit center on Grand Avenue. Having already secured a \$40 million state grant for the project, Schor has set the stage for a celebratory groundbreaking that hopefully will mark the final chapter in a long-running civic drama.

Of the four City Council members who voted against the Masonic Temple plan, First Ward representative Ryan Kost led the charge by challenging the transparency of Schor's RFP process and arguing that the Masonic Temple is too big, too expensive and too old to serve as the new city hall. When the mayor's proposal came up for a Council vote, Kost was unexpectedly joined by Council members Jeffrey Brown, Tamera Carter and Trini Pehlivanoglu.

After the vote, the anti-Masonic group called for a new Request for Proposals, which the mayor quickly and wisely rejected on the grounds that a redo would undermine the integrity of the city's RFP process. Instead, Schor doubled down, sending a stern letter to the four wayward Council members that defended the city's RFP process and rejected their claims that it lacked transparency.

To his credit, Councilmember Kost accepted the mayor's proof that the process was fair and transparent and even stood up with him last week when he announced his new plan. With Kost on board, it appears more likely that Schor will get the five votes he needs to make the project happen.

That said, we remain perplexed by the motives of the other three Council members who continued to oppose the Masonic Temple plan, even though they indicated they supported it right up to their votes. Although we disagree with the reasons Kost

voted against the Masonic Temple plan, he has been clear and transparent about his opposition.

The same cannot be said for Brown, Carter and Pehlivanoglu, whose collective intransigence and unexpected flip-flop upended a perfectly sensible plan. We hope their opposition was not driven by pressure or undue influence by a competing devel-

oper who wanted to snag the city hall project after losing out in the RFP process. We also hope they will get on board with Schor's new plan.

After all, there's much to like about Schor's new proposal. While we are enthusiastic proponents of adaptive reuse that breathes new life into historically significant buildings, there is also something to be said for a fresh build that includes all the modern conveniences and efficiencies one expects from a public facility that's built to last. We encourage the mayor and his development team to make sure the new structure is designed with all due consideration for green building principles, perhaps even aiming for a LEED certification. City leaders should also explore federal funding opportunities available through President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act to power the new building with renewable energy.

One of the most thrilling upshots of the deal is the possibility that Chicago-based real estate developer J. Paul Beitler will move forward with his visionary proposal to transform the current City Hall into a much-needed downtown hotel. Beitler's wildly compelling plan would rescue and repurpose the old City Hall — a historically significant example of mid-century modern architecture — and bring new vitality to a pivotal downtown

location in the shadow of the Capitol.

We're also excited by the notion of co-locating city services alongside CATA's administrative and customer service teams. The public transit provider hopes to occupy several floors of the new building and has asked the state Legislature for funding to facilitate the move. CATA's current headquarters on Tranter Street on the city's southeast side is inconvenient for the public and largely inaccessible to the agency's riders. Moving downtown, directly across from its transit hub on Grand Avenue, is a smart move that will pay dividends for years to come.

Mayor Schor's administration seems to be hitting its second-term stride. Space has been

cleared for the Ovation, a long-needed downtown performance space. Demolition is underway at the former Washington Street Armory, where the new home of 54-A District Court, the Lansing Police Department and the city lockup will soon take shape. Adding a new city hall to the mix ensures that Lansing's municipal government will operate from modern facilities that should last for the next 50 years. And with more attention to maintenance than has been paid to the current City Hall, hopefully much longer.

# The rocky road to a new City Hall

## The CP Edit

### Opinion

**Have something to say about a local issue or an item that appeared in our pages?**

**Now you have two ways to sound off:**

**Write a letter to the editor:**

- 1 • E-mail: [letters@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:letters@lansingcitypulse.com)
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
- At [lansingcitypulse.com](https://lansingcitypulse.com)

**Write a guest column:**

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

# Michigan no-fault insurance reform still needed

It was refreshing to read Kyle Melinn acknowledge the crisis in care that requires legislative action ("Passing auto insurance reform now can avoid needless complications later," May 8). Unfortunately, this was glossed over to address secondary issues. Anyone outside of the insurance industry, and their partners in Lansing, recognize the no-fault reform law as a failure. More work is necessary, which continues to be recognized by the governor and leadership. However, the priority must be to ensure

consumers have access to care; then policymakers can get back to the drawing board to figure out ways to reduce insurance premiums, including eliminating non-driving rating factors and ensuring there is actual transparency, oversight, and regulation of the insurance industry practices.

Tragically, thousands of people have lost care and at least 15 people have died since the implementation of the draconian reimbursement system in 2021. Sadly, this is the fate of those three people catastrophically

injured every day.

This is not just about the devastation people and families face when they don't have adequate care; it is also about the fact that consumers are not being protected by our state. Most drivers continue to purchase the promises of lifetime coverage and contract with their insurance company for those benefits. Without legislative action, those policies cannot deliver the promises paid for.

Injured people are suffering. Consumers are being ripped off. Fixing this must be the priority for law-

makers; only then is it appropriate to move on to other issues to further protect consumers from the predatory and underregulated practices that lead to our escalating insurance rates.

**Tom Judd**  
**Executive Director**  
**Michigan Brain Injury Provider Council**

(Have a letter to the editor? Send it to [letters@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:letters@lansingcitypulse.com). Letters may be up to 250 words. Need more space? Email [published@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:published@lansingcitypulse.com) with your proposed guest column topic.)

**LETTER  
TO THE  
EDITOR**



# PRESTON ART & MUSIC



Coloring Books @ Odd Nodd Art Supply  
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 Art Prints & Stickers @ Capital Hippie  
 CDs & Art Prints @ The Record Lounge  
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T-shirts, mugs & more @ [teepublic.com/t-shirts/preston11](https://teepublic.com/t-shirts/preston11)  
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See more art in the Albums on The Preston (Like my stuff?) Page on Facebook

## Forget to vote? Time to join the early voting movement

I'm almost ashamed to admit this, but I forgot to vote last week. It completely slipped my mind.

How is this possible? I write about elections for a living. I've spent the last two weeks working around the clock editing an election guide for MIRS on state-level political candidates.

It's my job to tell people an election is taking place, so how could I, of all people, forget to vote? I wanted to vote for some specific people for the Lansing Charter Revision Commission, too.

Darn it.

We're all human. We all have lives, families, responsibilities.

People with clearer heads than mine are clearly way ahead of me on this. They're already on the permanent absentee ballot list. Lansing Clerk Chris Swope sent me a card about this in the mail.

I recycled it. I've liked waiting until Election Day to take off my reporter hat and put on my voter hat. It's cleaner that way.

As it turns out, I'm the exception. If I'd shown up May 7, it would have been me and a few bored retirees at the Letts Community Center.

Everybody is voting absentee these days.

In Ingham County, 88% of voters cast their ballots by mail or used an early ballot drop-off site for last week's election.

That's nearly nine out of every 10 Ingham County voters. In May 2016, only eight years ago, just 2.5% of Ingham County residents voted absentee.

Ingham County wasn't an outlier on this. Some Wayne County districts reported the same thing. In the South Redford School District, 93.7% of voters chose absentee voting. In Lincoln Park, it was 93.2%; Trenton, 72.8%.

Elsewhere, the numbers weren't as high, but the trend is there. In the Plainwell School District (Kalamazoo County), 70.3% voted early. In Napoleon Township (Jackson County), it was 68%. In Charlevoix and Emmet counties, 52% voted before May 7.

As a society in a post-COVID world, we've become used to having stuff delivered to us. Groceries.

Our Amazon packages. Why not our ballots?

The state pays the postage. It's easy. It saves time. You can fill it out as you're researching the candidates at 10 p.m. over a beer, or at 5 a.m. over coffee.

The dramatic collective change in voter habits has little to do with the nine mandatory days of early voting, either.

Only 0.3% of Ingham County voters took advantage of the nine days of early voting during the presidential primary. For the May election, 0.4% used it. That comes out to fewer than 100 voters going to the early polling sites.

It makes sense in today's world, I suppose. Why bother showing up somewhere to cast a ballot when you can stick in your mailbox?

This is a massive change. I'm not talking about those election site workers and poll challengers doing more work on their crossword puzzles.

Campaigns will need to adjust to the new voting habits. Those who do will win.

Traditionally, the big push has been the week before an election. We've gotten used to get-out-the-vote drives in late July for the primary or late October.

We've seen WILX or WLNS air nothing but political advertising right around Halloween.

In today's world, if a campaign waits that long to reach voters, it's too late. Clerks are required to get those absentee ballots out 45 days before an election. Ballots are landing in mailboxes in mid-June for the primary and mid-September for the general election.

The video messaging starts in earnest for the primary as school is letting out. For the general election, there's no August lull anymore. It starts the moment candidates find out they primary winners.

Sophisticated campaigns already know who is on the permanent ballot list. Now, they need to mail everyone. Voters can be added to the permanent ballot list at any time.

Given how I dropped the ball last week, that could very well be me, too.

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



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS



## ARTS &amp; CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

## Roses and hostas and elephant ears, oh my!

Annual Meridian Garden Club sale highlights homegrown perennials

By CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS

Barb Sears, president of the Meridian Garden Club, hates to throw out a plant, “But to tend your garden properly, you need to thin them and give them room to grow,” she said.

The club’s annual plant sale, running 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday (May 18) at Meridian Township’s Central Park Pavilion, offers area gardeners the opportunity to do just that while putting beneficial native plants into the hands of other eager gardeners.

All the perennial plants at the sale come from club members’ home gardens. These healthy specimens come in many varieties, from small succulents to elephant ears and species that thrive in shade to full sun. Some house plants will also be available, as well as native plant seedlings and other “garden goodies.”

“Some shoppers come with a list; others like to browse and choose plants based on what’s at the sale. We get all kinds of people, from those who love native plants to those who are just getting started with gardening,” Sears said.

Proceeds benefit the nonprofit, all-volunteer club’s expenses for maintaining the gardens around the Meridian Historical Village and the township’s public buildings, like its post office and fire station. Recent improvement projects have included new benches for the gardens, educational signage and raised garden beds for children’s classes and demonstrations.

“If we have to pay a contractor, for example, that comes out of our club funds,” Sears said.

Last year’s sale offered 1,000 plants and drew approximately 250 people, with one family traveling all the way from Brighton. This year’s sale will include a broad selection of perennials such as Lenten roses and a wide variety of hostas.

Emma Campbell, Meridian Township’s land stewardship coordinator, will give a talk about the importance



Chelsea Roberts for City Pulse

The Meridian Historical Village’s Barnes House is surrounded by native plants, courtesy of the Meridian Garden Club.

of native plants at 11 a.m. in the Butterfly Garden, which is near the playground, across from the township’s Municipal Building.

Club member LaNita Campbell said many resources will be available at the sale for gardeners who are looking to get started with or dive deeper into native perennials. One resource is Lynn O’Shaughnessy, a gardener from Howell who will provide more than 200 plants from her 100-foot circle garden, which has been featured in the Detroit News and the Midland Daily News.

Campbell said she’s been gardening for 40 years and originally drew inspiration from edible landscaping.

“If I’m going to put all this work into gardening, I want to get some benefit out of it, too,” she said. “I started with blueberry bushes and asparagus, and then I got into herbs. That has proven to be my real passion, and they’re a big hit as Christmas gifts.”

Colleen Hyslop, the club’s vice president, joined 10 years ago when she retired in order to “meet a lot of people I could learn from.”

“We have such a wide variety of activities, including photography, quilting, pressed flowers and flower shows. There are so many different directions you can go in, and I think that’s why the club is so successful,” she said.

Sears said that getting involved with the club in 2019 “helped fulfill a desire to do some community service using my own skills and interests.” She added that the group receives “a lot of positive feedback.”

The club hosts presentations on a variety of topics throughout the year, including container planting, green burials and landscaping in an urban environment. It has 105 members and an average attendance of 50 to 60 people at each meeting.

Hyslop still remembers her first garden club experience.

“I didn’t know anybody there. We’ve all walked into a room like that, but as soon as I got in there, one of the long-term members looked at



Chelsea Roberts for City Pulse

The Meridian Garden Club’s Plant it Pink garden at the Meridian Historical Village, created to foster breast cancer awareness.

me with a huge smile on her face and said, ‘Would you like to join us?’ It was the warmest welcome I’ve ever received, and I think that’s very characteristic of our club,” she said.

One of Hyslop’s favorite parts of the club is volunteering with school children.

“We teach them about gardening and growing vegetables, the Native peoples of Michigan and three sisters gardening,” she said. Three sisters gardening is a Native tradition of planting corn, bean and squash crops together to help each crop thrive.

Sears said she joined the club to keep learning.

“I have so much gardening at home that I wouldn’t have thought of joining an organization to do more gardening for others, but when I meet up with friends, plants and gardens are a major topic of conversation,” she said. “I felt like I could learn a lot from the group.”

After half a decade with the club, she said, “It seems like I’ve found my people.”

Meridian Garden Club  
annual plant sale

Saturday, May 18  
9 a.m.–2 p.m.  
Central Park Pavilion  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos  
[meridiangardenclub.weebly.com](http://meridiangardenclub.weebly.com)



# Flora: high-end look and feel with accessible options

By CHRIS SILVA

Flora, a provisioning center nestled away in East Lansing on Old M-78, is in a beautifully designed and apportioned building that strikes a good balance between a high-end showroom and a traditional bud bar for old-school pot consumers.

This location, which also offers a drive-thru, puts an incredible amount of attention on consumers, their experiences and genuine ways to educate them. One way it caters to consumers is by grouping its products based on desired effect. For example, “Relax” and “Energize.”

In the past, I have been turned off by this type of approach. I felt it left



Courtesy photo

Flora strikes a good balance between a high-end showroom and a traditional bud bar for old-school pot consumers.



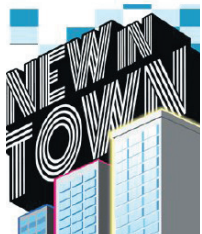
much wiggle room for dubious operators to mislead consumers. But these folks knock it out of the park. The different types of effects give the staff a starting point to educate the consumer about the reality of terpenes and the true hybrid nature of cannabis.

Flora is working hard to get rid of the pure indica/sativa shift as the primary way of organizing cannabis. “Flora showcases Michigan growers who are intentional about their process,” retail manager Ahvi

See Flora, Page 13

# Lansing Shuffle set to open its namesake shuffleboard courts Friday

By TYLER SCHNEIDER



## Lansing Shuffle shuffleboard courts

325 Riverfront Drive,  
Lansing  
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Tuesday,  
Thursday, Sunday  
11 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday  
11 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday  
\$20-\$40  
(517) 940-4365  
lansingshuffle.com/  
shuffleboard

Lansing Shuffle, a multi-restaurant food hall and gathering space perched on the Grand River in downtown Lansing, has become a popular destination for locals and visitors alike since it opened in January 2023.

However, until this month, one major element was missing at the seven-restaurant, 15,000-square-foot facility: the namesake shuffleboard courts.

Starting May

17, groups can rent one of five new shuffleboard courts by the hour.

Jonathan Hartzell, a founding partner at Detroit Rising, the Livonia-based real estate development firm behind Lansing Shuffle, said the boards were installed at the beginning of the month. The opening date was planned to coincide with 517 Day, a two-day festival that will begin at Lansing Shuffle on Friday (May 17).

Lansing Shuffle is Detroit Rising's second food hall concept. The firm also created Detroit Shipping Co.,



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Starting Friday (May 17), Lansing Shuffle will offer five shuffleboard courts, which will be available to rent by the hour.

a similar venture that opened in 2018. The main difference between the two? Only one of them features shuffleboards.

Hartzell said he got the idea a few years ago while attending a conference in Florida, where he and a few colleagues visited a “pool house” for a quick drink.

“They had some shuffleboards there. We intended to stay there for an hour to grab a quick cocktail, but we ended up spending six

hours playing shuffleboard,” he said. “What really stuck out was that it was a game that was approachable to all ages. It was instantly accessible, entertaining and fun. You’re rotating through and having conversations, which makes for a great outdoor experience.”

He noted that the online reservation system is the quickest way to reserve a court. The boards are closed on Mondays, but they can be rented for \$20 an hour from 11 a.m. to 4

p.m. and \$40 an hour from 4 p.m. to close Tuesday through Thursday. The weekend rate is \$40 an hour.

“You’re not going to want to walk over and order food while you’re playing, so I recommend showing up around a half an hour before your reservation,” Hartzell said. “You’ll want to get your drinks and get acquainted with the game first. Then, you can check in 15 minutes before you start.”

There are also plans to establish a shuffleboard league this summer, for which Hartzell said registration could begin in June.

He hopes the new addition can expand on what Lansing Shuffle has already brought to the riverfront.

“When we opened Detroit Shipping Co. in 2018, there were probably around 100 food halls across the country. Now, there’s more than 1,000,” he said. “The concept was gaining steam before COVID hit, but it’s really taken off since. People enjoy being able to come with a group to try different kinds of food and drinks in a walkable, social setting.”

Additionally, he said more live music and other entertainment can be expected in the coming months.

“Our next phase is to start competing with Grand Rapids and Detroit. Instead of our community driving there, our goal is to have people from those communities start coming to us,” he said.



# Flora

from page 12

Aungst said. “Cannabinoids and the curing environment create the effects we highlight. Flora values healthy lifestyles. Everyone wants flower for energy, to relax, for clarity or to find balance. Our Florists enhance your next adventure by understanding you. We create a simple cannabis experience for complex people.”

Terple Gang, a widely known and highly regarded cultivation operation in Lansing, is the consumer brand offered by Flora’s ownership group. The brand is known for high-quality flower that’s grown with great attention. Its price point is accessible but not absolutely rock bottom. Good weed ain’t cheap, and cheap weed ain’t good. This top-shelf brand is priced reasonably without tanking the market. Terple Gang shows consumers how the extra couple of bucks on a bag of weed makes a huge difference in taste and effect.

Flora also offers some really good

hash options and generally has something for everyone. One thing missing here is a lot of the bargain price schemes seen in some of the Lansing market. The location prides itself on quality, and that’s not always the cheapest option. Still, the retailer keeps a few popular options at most price points, ensuring something for everyone is on the shelves. There are definitely amazing deals going on at the store, and oftentimes, they’re on truly top-shelf house flower.

bery Guava infused pre-roll. I enjoyed this pre-roll, even though I don’t necessarily love the Superboof strain. The joint itself smoked well and didn’t have a problem staying lit, like many infused joints do. The taste of the Superboof’s gassy citrus terps blended well with the guava’s sweetness. The high was great as well, and with the price, it would be hard to pass these up.

**Terple Gang 3.5g Cadillac Rainbows pre-pack flower \$25**

This is probably my favorite strain from this cultivator. I really enjoy the sweet notes and funkiness. When I mentioned that on my tour of the facility, the folks at

Flora made sure a bag of it made its way home with me. My bag broke down very well and was a joy to roll into joints. Being able to snag all the Terple Gang flower at this price point is a great upside to shopping at Flora.

There isn’t much you could be looking for that Flora won’t have. The big draw here is to come out and support some great folks who take pride in good cannabis and the culture that goes along with it. They do a great job at uplifting their consumers and showcasing great products in a down-to-earth way. Try this shop next time you want some nice flower in EL.

**The products:**  
**Terple Gang 1.5g hash-infused pre-roll \$15**  
I was given a Superboof x Straw-

DOES LIFE FEEL OUT OF CONTROL?



THERAPY MAY HELP.  
COME SEE US!  
CALL 517-394-3560 TO  
SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT.\*



\*Services available to LGBTQIA2S+ individuals, couples, & families, & to those who are HIV+ & their loved ones.

# JACKSON

# GRAND OPENING SPECIALS

MSUFCU has opened a new branch at **1800 N. Wisner St.** in Jackson and we’re celebrating with specials just for you! Take advantage of our limited-time offers, available only until May 31, 2024.

Don’t miss the chance to win big while experiencing the exceptional service and support you expect from MSUFCU.



Scan to learn how much you could win or visit [msufcu.org/jacksonspecials](https://msufcu.org/jacksonspecials).



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# Of sidekicks and locales in classic mysteries and thrillers

By **BILL CASTANIER**

I love sidekicks in mysteries and thrillers — like Tonto — who not only cleans up the Masked Man's messes but gives sage advice. Tonto was my go-to.

Well, fans of David Robicheaux, the fictional New Orleans and Iberia Parish police detective, will soon be standing in line to buy James Lee Burke's new novel, which follows the detective's sidekick, Clete Purcell, on an adventure to sweep up the drug scum of the Crescent City.

Burke's dedicated readers will tell you flat out that he is the best writer of any kind of literary fiction. His writing sings.

In his new book, Purcell is front and center. The story is told from Purcell's point of view as he pursues a vengeful recalibration of justice against unwholesome fentanyl dealers. So, when some drug thugs savage his beloved Cadillac cruiser, Purcell, with Robicheaux's assistance, is on the move.

What many readers love about the Robicheaux series is it drips with the romance and grittiness of New Orleans. That got me thinking about some of the most famous and common locales for setting a good old-fashioned mystery. So, let's look at a few.

The first that comes to my mind is Raymond Chandler's Los Angeles, where the rambling escapades of his detective Phillip Marlowe occur. Any mystery reader worth their salt has read "The Big Sleep," "The Long Goodbye" and "Farewell, My Lovely."

Nearer home, Elmore Leonard took us deep into the belly of Detroit and the suburbs, but he also moved around

a bit with his mysteries, like "LaBrava," which was set in South Beach, Florida, and "Glitz," set against the backdrop of Atlantic City and the early days of gambling.

Leonard often employed a helper, Grege Sutter, a sort of ersatz location scout, to bring realism to his novels. Sutter would actually move to the setting of a Leonard book and provide the little things that make a book seem real that you could only know by being there, like the rally of Nazis and Klansmen that opened up the book "Rum Punch." I recently learned that Sutter worked on the line at Oldsmobile before moving to the Detroit area.

Many of today's finest mystery writers point to John D. MacDonald as early inspiration. In the 1960s and '70s, his paperbacks featuring detective Travis McGee could be had in any drugstore for 60 cents or less. McDonald owned the literary mystery genre in that era, and his hedonistic houseboat lifestyle of McGee drew avid readers. He published more than 20 Travis McGee novels set in South Florida.

Steve Hamilton, born and educated in Michigan, managed to create a detective series primarily set in the unusual locale of Michigan's northern tundra of Sault Ste Marie. His books, which are filled with local color, garnered him three Edgar Awards.

If you travel this summer or visit a local beach, take along a mystery or thriller with local color of some exotic place featuring the mean streets of



Wikimedia Commons

Though not a literary figure, Tonto, the Lone Ranger's sidekick, has links to those who are.

Paris, New York City, Harlemmor Toronto. Often, mysteries are one of the best ways to learn about a city.

Although I'm not much of a world traveler, on a recent trip to Dublin I couldn't help think what a wonderful place to set a mystery. It's quaintness melding with its high-tech presence has something for all readers. The pubs, castles and cobblestone streets are just waiting for more writers to scribble notes on napkins about the sights and sounds of the city.

To my surprise, what did I find when I returned home (or at least I noticed them) were a plethora of books set in and around Dublin like the mysteries of John Banville (writing as Benjamin Black), which capture the feel of

1950s Dublin (which is still very much present despite Google and Microsoft) through the eyes of forensic pathologist Quirke.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the one and only Sara Paretsky, who with her detective VI Warshawski helped put Chicago on the literary mystery map. Paretsky's books read like love letters to the Windy City and still serve as a pleasant guidebook.

The same can be said about Colson Whitehead's "Harlem Shuffle" and the more recent "Crook Manifesto."

One line from "Shuffle" still resonates with me: "Everyone had secret corners and alleys that no one else saw ... ." Whitehead's protagonist and amateur detective, Ray Carney, is one of the most interesting creations in recent times. And his colorful descriptions of Harlem from 1959 to '64 along 125th Street are mesmerizing. In his most recent book, Ray is pulled back into the underworld in search of Jackson Five tickets for his daughter.

And don't forget to go on a post-World War II tour of L.A. with Walter Mosely in his Easy Rawlins series. His best-known books are "Devil in the Blue Dress" and "White Butterfly."

Finally, Spencer, Robert B. Parker's classic hard-boiled detective, is still one of the best tour guides you can find for Beantown. Since Parker's death, his series has been continued by mystery writer Ace Atkins without missing a beat. Plus, Spencer has one of the best sidekicks going with the sophisticated tough guy Hawk periodically saving the detective's backside.

Have a German heritage?



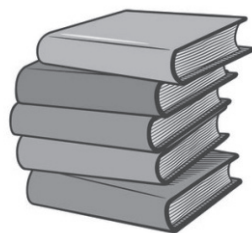
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# 2024 Summer Guide

## Your guide to what's happening in Greater Lansing this summer



# Summer events season starts early in Greater Lansing

By TYLER SCHNEIDER

It's not officially summertime yet, but for Greater Lansing residents, this weekend kicks off a packed schedule of summer events. From art to music to general merriment, the following three festivals offer a little something for everyone.

### East Lansing Art Festival

East Lansing Art Festival director Heather Majano said she'd been attending the festival as a patron since 2006 before taking the reins in 2020. "I went to MSU for undergrad, so the festival was kind of ingrained in me. I think it's the same for a lot of the community," she said.

The 61st annual East Lansing Art Festival runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday (May 18) and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday (May 19). The festivities will encompass a stretch of Albert Avenue in downtown East Lansing bordered by Grove and Bailey streets. A strip of M.A.C. Avenue, running south from Albert Avenue to Grand Avenue, will provide what Majano described as a "connecting arm" to Michigan State University's spring arts and crafts show that's happening at the same time.

This year's roster features 175 artists — 30 more than last year, according to Majano. Their work spans 18 categories, including ceramics, drawings, digital media, sculptures, photography and jewelry.

"There are lots of different types of art to see and a lot of things to choose from," Majano said.

Each day will also include five live performances. The East Lansing High School Jazz Band, Migiziikwe Eagle Spirit Dancer, flow arts group Flames 'N Dames, cover band Mixed Flavors and world music trio Whorled will take the stage on Saturday, while magician Eugene Clark, the Greater Lansing Ballet Co., the Habibi Dancers, progressive rock band Forge the Sun and folk group the Wild Honey Collective are booked for Sunday.

"We have dancers, we have singers, we have magic — a little bit of everything," Majano said.

There will also be a handful of art



Credit: Courtesy photo

The East Lansing Art Festival has been a staple of Greater Lansing's creative scene for six decades. This year's event, running 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday (May 18) and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday (May 19), features 175 artists spanning 18 categories of mediums.

demonstrations at Fountain Square, including indigo dying with Seams Fabric on Saturday.

"If you have a piece of clothing, a tablecloth or anything else that's super faded or stained that you were going to throw out, you can put it in the dye vat, and you'll have a whole new outfit

to wear," Majano said.

Seams will also offer the opportunity to contribute to a community quilt. "They'll give you a quick tutorial on how to use a sewing machine, and then you can add some of your own fabric to the quilt," Majano said. "Then, on Sunday, Delphi Glass is going to do

a glass mosaic with the community. You'll make your own little piece, and they'll add it to a bigger piece of work."

### 517 Day

Now in its eighth year, the two-day 517 Day celebration continues its goal of highlighting everything that's great about Greater Lansing — from the food to the art, music, culture and everything in between.

The first day of festivities will run from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday (May 17) at Lansing Shuffle. Attendees can expect dozens of regional vendors, plus performances by East Lansing's School of Rock House Band, dance studio Dancing with the Nordés, post-2000s cover band JP & the Energy and DJ Metro Melik, or Melik Brown, who's also the event organizer.

Brown said the inaugural 517 Day celebration took place at the former Lansing City Market, now Lansing Shuffle. The multi-vendor food and entertainment hall, which opened in January 2023, also hosted last year's event.

"That partnership means a lot to me. Having it back at the same space where 517 Day started, especially because of the rejuvenation of that space, is absolutely fantastic," Brown said. "I consider that patio the best sunset view in Lansing."

Saturday (May 18) will feature the second annual Best of Lansing Festival, presented by Lansing 5:01 and City Pulse. The free, family-friendly event will run from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the Capitol lawn, where organizers will set up inflatables, obstacle courses and booths for more than 100 vendors, including a number of City Pulse's Top of the Town winners.

The festival will also include performances by classic-rock cover group Black Barn Band, '80s cover band Starfarm, All of the Above Hip Hop Academy, hip-hop artist Sean Mic and Everett Dance.

Brown encourages attendees to check out the shops along South Washington Square, many of which plan to offer promotions and activities



Courtesy photo



Courtesy photo

Nu-metal bands Taproot (left) and Nonpoint will co-headline the inaugural Rock Lansing music festival on Saturday (May 18) at Adado Riverfront Park



# 2024 East Lansing Art

May 18 & 19, 2024 | Sat 10-6 p.m. & Sun 10-5 p.m. | Downtown East Lansing

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## Grant Support

The festival is presented by the City of East Lansing with grant support from:



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...and the many City employees and community volunteers who go the extra mile to make the festival a success!

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**East Lansing Marriot @ University Place**

## Artist Awards

**MSU Federal Credit Union**  
Diamond Excellence Award  
**City of East Lansing, Arts Commission & DDA**  
People's Choice Award  
**Graduate Hotel**  
Go Green Award  
**Woven Art Yarn & Seams**  
Excellence in Fiber

This two-day celebration of arts and culture kicks off the fine art and fine craft which includes two days of performances.

## Jackson Main Street

### Saturday, May 18

10 a.m.	EL High School Jazz Band
11:45 a.m.	Flames and Dames
1:15 p.m.	Mixed Flavors
2:45 p.m.	Migiziikwe Eagle Spirit Dance
4:15 p.m.	Whorled

## Artists Demonstrations

### Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Community Dark Room, <i>photography</i>
Hannah Community Ceramics, <i>pottery</i>
East Lansing Public Library, <i>children's activity</i>
Seams, <i>indigo dying &amp; community quilt</i>
Steve Baibak, MSU RCAH Specialist, <i>painting</i>

## Exhibitors

Booth Number

2.....  
30.....  
36.....  
49.....  
54.....  
57.....  
58.....  
59.....  
63.....  
77.....  
88.....  
100.....  
105.....  
166.....  
170.....  
174.....

10.....  
23.....  
60.....  
61.....  
87.....

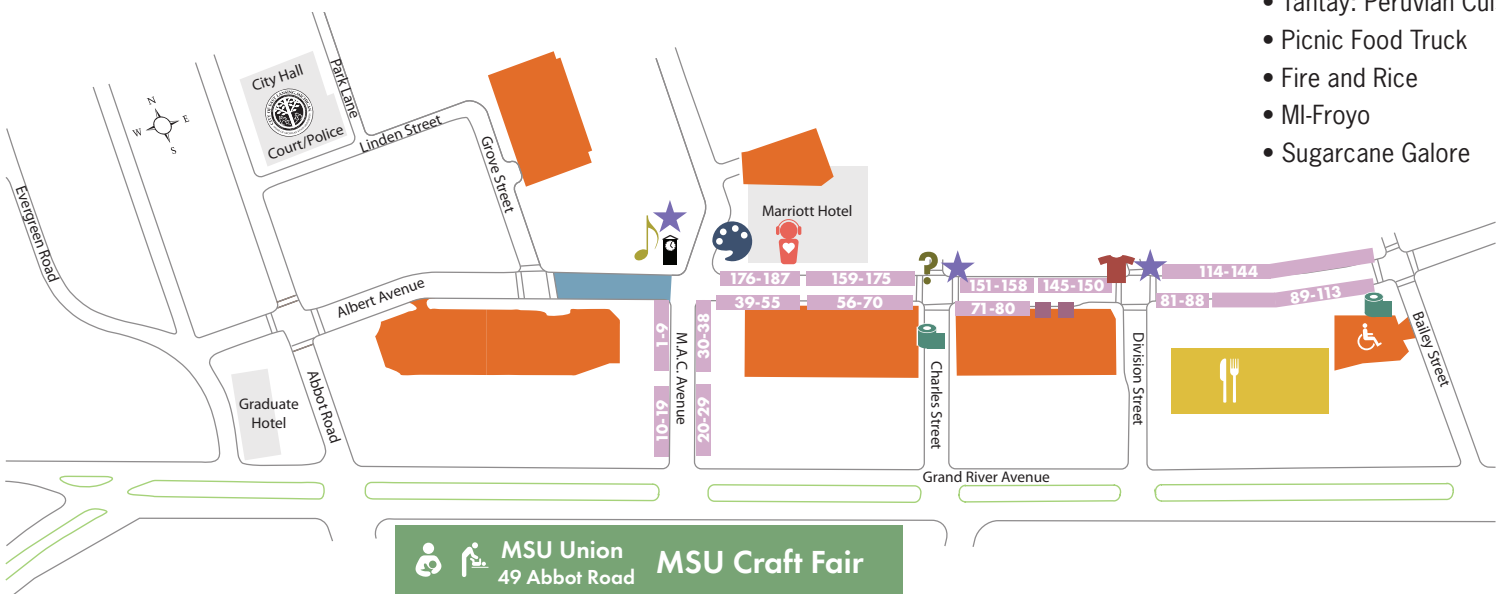
7.....  
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141.....

CE.....  
38.....  
80.....  
172.....



## Food Vendors - Bailey Parking Lot

- Melted Cheese Grill
- Taquaria Monarca
- The Smoke N Pig BBQ
- Melting Moments
- Tantay: Peruvian Cuisine
- Picnic Food Truck
- Fire and Rice
- MI-Froyo
- Sugarcane Galore



Artist Booths	CATA Food Court	EL Fresco Closure	Ann St Plaza Performances	Accessible Parking
Parking	Artist Demo Area	Merch Tent	DDA Parklets	Changing Station
Info Booth	On-site Sponsor	Bathrooms	Nursing Station	Sensory Friendly Space



Festival

Lansing | elartfest.com | Free

The local festival season. The East Lansing Art Festival is an outdoor celebration of performances, hands-on art activities, artist demonstration area and a food court.

Stage - Ann Street Plaza (with ASL interpretation)

Sunday, May 19		
	10 a.m.	Eugene Clark
	11:30 a.m.	Greater Lansing Ballet Company
	1 p.m.	Habibi Dancers
Dancers	2:30 p.m.	Forge the Sun
	4 p.m.	The Wild Honey Collective

Artisan Demonstration Area - Fountain Square

Sunday, May 19, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.	
	Greater Lansing Pottery Guild, pottery
	East Lansing Public Library, children's activity
	Woven Art, fiber arts
	Teresa Petersen, collage
	Delphi Creative Center, community glass mosaic

Emerging Artists

Artist Name	DIGITAL
<b>2-D MIXED MEDIA</b>	
Christine Beals	40.....Cheryl Baker
Kandy Myny	64.....Amy Ferguson
Karla Forrest-Hewitt	96.....Mari Pruks
Espacia Fotiu	160.....Eric Lee
Carolyn Garay	
Alexa K.	
Mary Litwiller	25.....Miranda Heward
Michelle Smigelski	26.....Marissa Tawney Thaler
Steph Joy Hogan	53.....Marie Rust
Victor & Megan Huston-Field	97.....Bo Inthivong
Esther Nariyoshi	145.....Tai Taoalii
Naomi Hart	175.....Craig Linderman
Inty Muenala	
Victoria Hankins	
Angela Bond	
Candra Boggs	
	<b>DRAWING</b>
	3.....Jerry Yang
	11.....Karen Taber
	18.....Carol Caron
	27.....Asia Sikkila
	32.....Beth H.
	33.....Marzena Weber
	79.....Kristin Gereau
	83.....Annie Mohaupt
	89.....Rowan Grey
	98.....Ann McCann
	115.....Megan Roach
	124.....Mike Barnes
	129.....Dominique Hopf
	164.....Jeri Vitello
	<b>FIBERS • FUNCTIONAL</b>
	45.....Milie Funk
	51.....Laura Rangos
	134.....Don Tran
	154.....Leah Dziewit
	<b>FIBERS • NON-FUNCTIONAL</b>
	44.....Mark Wagar
	99.....Erin O'Connor
	104.....Paul Willsea
	110.....John Boyett
	176.....Kathryn Woodruff
	123.....George Bochnig
	<b>GLASS</b>
	5.....Larisa and Igor Zimin
	20.....Ryan Oconnor
	34.....Apryl Miller
	46.....Jenelle Lynch
	50.....Kimberly Ghindea
	103.....Debra Flook
	126.....Nancy Cooper
	136.....Angela Welti
	153.....Shawn Bungo
	<b>JEWELRY • NON-PRECIOUS</b>
	5.....Larisa and Igor Zimin
	20.....Ryan Oconnor
	34.....Apryl Miller
	46.....Jenelle Lynch
	50.....Kimberly Ghindea
	103.....Debra Flook
	126.....Nancy Cooper
	136.....Angela Welti
	153.....Shawn Bungo
	<b>JEWELRY • PRECIOUS</b>
	1.....Scott Macklin
	8.....Karen Agopian
	24.....Damen Mroczek
	43.....Chip Arnold
	92.....Hanna de Volska
	93.....Molly Strader
	108.....Jessica Wacker
	111.....Benjamin Ripley
	117.....Jana Margeson
	120.....Renee Batt
	127.....Iwona Luna Kisielewski
	128.....John Gulyas & Maryann Posch
	147.....Chesa Yerian
	155.....Beth Galang
	178.....Melody Litwiller-Knopek
	<b>PAINTING</b>
	6.....Michael Miller
	31.....Anita Brett
	35.....Megan Litts
	37.....Betsy ONeill
	42.....Anthony Brass
	56.....Wanda Zuchowski-Schick
	70.....Andy Van Schyndle
	74.....Rosa Chavez
	75.....Leon Ruiz
	81.....Eva Antebi-Lerman
	94.....Thomas LeGault
	107.....Katie Krive
	109.....Isiaka Lawal
	112.....Randi Ford
	113.....Peter Walters
	114.....Conrad Kaufman
	118.....Gavin Otteson
	132.....Michelle Detering
	139.....Todd Marsee
	140.....Sean Panich
	148.....Lora Garcelon
	156.....Linda Chamberlain
	157.....Shinichi Sato
	158.....Melvin McGee
	162.....James Williams
	171.....Kelly Ingleright-Telgenhoff
	177.....Marella Morris
	179.....Theressa Levett
	<b>PHOTOGRAPHY</b>
	28.....Scott Sternberg
	39.....Paul James
	47.....Sean McLain
	71.....Stone Peng
	86.....Darren Plante
	133.....John Keuvelaar
	142.....Nels Johnson
	149.....Rob Gilmore
	151.....Josh Merrill
	<b>PRINTS</b>
	9.....Betsy Stecker
	13.....Lindsey Potoff
	14.....Leah Storrs-Fisher
	52.....Lauren Cummings
	66.....Jesse Richard
	121.....Stacey Malasky
	150.....Alynn Guerra
	163.....Ernest Fackler
	165.....Christina Jacobs
	167.....Hank Mattson
	<b>SCULPTURE</b>
	17.....Charlie Lenzmeier
	90.....Chad Anderson
	<b>WOOD</b>
	4.....Brandon Johnson
	15.....Steven Klein
	16.....Mark Wagner
	21.....Paul Miller
	48.....Nadia Ogle
	72.....David Lewis
	84.....Karen Mesko
	101.....Robert Myrvall
	<b>METAL</b>
	116.....Todd Richter
	143.....Scott Lacosse
	Booths 180-187
	Emily Mathis
	Susan Andrews
	Aeri Lavendusky
	Kyra Baldwin
	Jessie Gott
	Maileen Bugnaski
	Kate Ciolek
	Jennifer Taggart Wilson

<b>CERAMICS • FUNCTIONAL</b>
Rue Dimanche
Adam Egenolf
Jason Parsley
Erin A. Hoekzema
Emily LoPresto
Emily Horst
Emily Jenkins
Christopher Kamykowski
Leslie Krist
Natalie Liu
Andrew Wender
Sara Rio
Jiaqi Lin
Genevieve Van Zandt
Brad Patterson
Caroline Bouwense
Rachael Van de Roovaart
Jennifer Meeker
Jennifer Cooper

<b>CERAMICS NON-FUNCTIONAL</b>
Corey Bechler
David McAlpine
Linda Lindner



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**CityPULSE**

# Locals bike around the city for fun, glory in monthly alley cat

By **CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS**

Last month, a new era began at the Lansing Bike Co-op's monthly alley cat scavenger hunt when reigning champion Mike Dombrowski was unseated by newcomer Jacob Robson, a student at Michigan State University.

Aside from the one event he organized, Dombrowski had won every competition since they began last October. Before the start of the event, he said, "There's a lot of pressure, but it's the alley cat, so it's all in good fun," adding, "I'm running out of room for cards."

The spokes of Dombrowski's bicycle wheels are filled with the laminated spoke cards given to the winner of each scavenger hunt. Spoke cards originated as a method to identify competitors in bike messenger races, a history alley cat organizer and co-op volunteer Trevor Benoit is very familiar with.

"Alley cats go back to bicycle messengers in New York, San Francisco and other major cities. That's where they started, although I'm not exactly sure when. They were prevalent in the 1990s bike messenger scene and were a test of how well the messengers knew their city, a skill they would pride themselves on."

The scavenger hunts aren't about racing, although timing can play a role in the final point tally. At April's event, Benoit was trying out a new format: Participants were instructed to look for "categories of things, as opposed to specific locations."

"It's a specific time limit of an hour, and it's points-based. You're looking for self-fix-it stations for bikes, bike shops and bike lockers. You have to find as many as you can, and you'll get so many points per place," he said. "It's about managing your time and the distance and deciding if it's better to

get fewer points but come in first or more points and come in second or third."

Participant Michael Osier was working out his route with a manifest, a list of rules provided to participants when they arrive at the co-op. When asked about his chances for success that day, he said he was looking forward to another opportunity to beat Dombrowski.

"Last time, I missed him by 30 seconds," he said.

Bob Peña had participated in the co-op's annual Bike and Seek event, but he came out to try his first alley cat that day.

"It seemed like a fun thing to do," he said, noting that he feels bicycling is good for both physical and mental health.

Benoit said that while some bike-related groups in Michigan focus on infrastructure and safety or group rides, the Lansing Bike Co-op is more focused on community and helping people with their bikes. He started the alley cat series "as a way of promoting the co-op and building a cycling culture that may be a little different than what other groups are doing," he said. "The reason I like alley cats is because it's not about who goes the fastest; it's about navigating the city. I like to promote cycling as transportation. Recreation is fine, of course, but my focus is on cycling as transportation."

Participants take selfies to prove they visited each location. Benoit said that in the past, the events have sometimes had themes, such as boating.



Chelsea Roberts for City Pulse

Participant Mike Dombrowski (left) and Lansing Bike Co-op executive director Aaron Fields pose in front of the shop before its monthly alley cat scavenger hunt on April 20.

"Get a picture of a dam, a boat for sale. People liked the flexibility of deciding how to interpret the theme," he said.

The events typically draw about 10 people, but Benoit has seen as many as 20. He said the hardest part of organizing the competitions has been thinking of ways to keep the routes fresh.

"I didn't realize how hard it would be to come up with different, interesting locations. There are only so many pleasant places to bike here. You're sort of limited to the east side, downtown, REO Town and the River Trail," he said.

Aaron Fields, executive director of



Chelsea Roberts for City Pulse

A custom spoke card is given to the winner of each alley cat competition.

the co-op, was out riding for fun at April's event.

"I'm not in it to win it," he said with a smile as he posed for a picture with Dombrowski outside the shop.

Fields incorporated the co-op as a nonprofit 10 years ago alongside a dedicated group of volunteers. This year, his goal is to grow volunteerism.

"It's time for some new faces. We're going to have our building paid off pretty soon, and that's a huge accomplishment. We're open five days a week and, with more volunteers, we have plenty of room to grow."

Both participants and volunteers are welcome at the next alley cat on May 25. Details are available via the Lansing Bike Co-op's Facebook group ([facebook.com/groups/LansingBikeCoop](https://facebook.com/groups/LansingBikeCoop)). There's no charge to participate in the event, but Benoit encourages donations to the co-op.

## Weekend events

from page 15

in coordination with the festival.

Brown said Lansing 5:01 predicts a turnout of about 3,500 people on Saturday.

"We'll have fun stuff for the kids to do on the Capitol lawn. So, we get to hang out, and the kids get to play. It's a safe space, and adults can drink a beer and listen to great music," he said. "With all the great vendors, activities and the variety of acts we have, what else could you want for nothing?"

### Rock Lansing music festival

Organized by Paul Starr and Alex Nieninger, the inaugural Rock

Lansing music festival runs from 2 to 11 p.m. Saturday (May 18) at Adado Riverfront Park. The 11 performances will be split across two stages.

On the main stage, the day starts with Flint-based roots-rock band Five 'N' Dime Poets, followed by Nashville-based blues-rock trio Patty PerShayla & the Mayhops, Maryland-based hard-rock act Any Given Sin and Detroit-based alt-metal band Eva Under Fire.

"Eva Under Fire are from Detroit, but they're kind of breaking now," Starr said. "I reached out to Any Given Sin because I heard them on Spotify, and I was like, 'Holy crap, this guy's voice is powerful.'"

The main stage co-headliners are Nonpoint, a nu-metal band from

Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Taproot, an Ann Arbor-based band of the same genre.

"Booking Taproot just made a lot of sense to us. They came out with an album last year, and they're from Ann Arbor, so they fit well," Starr said. "It also made sense to get Nonpoint to do a co-headliner spot along with Taproot."

The second stage lineup features three Lansing-based groups, JP & The Energy, alternative metal band Heartsick and metalcore band Of Virtue, as well as Grand Rapids-based blues-rock duo Jesse Ray and the Carolina Catfish and Port Huron-based Americana-rock band Gasoline Gypsies.

Starr said it was "a big deal to get Of Virtue."

"They're from Lansing, and they put out an album last year, which, from start to finish, was great. I think people are going to be blown away by them," he said.

The festival will also offer food and drinks from Maria's Taco Truck, Big Cheezy Grill, J&C Concessions, Sweet and Sticky BBQ, Bell's Brewery, New Belgium and Long Drink.

While the artists are collectively classified under the rock genre, Starr noted that attendees can expect a variety of musical chops.

"We're pretty much a hard-rock festival. I would say that we go from rockabilly to metal. The only thing we're never going to do is death metal because I just can't stand those vocals," he said.



# SAVOR YOUR SUMMER

## Seasonal fun for the whole family with 30+ events around Greater Lansing

By NICOLE NOECHEL

Some say there's nothing to do in Lansing, but this year's schedule of summer events begs to differ. As the school year wraps up and the weather continues to warm up, the area will begin offering a range of festivals, fairs and concerts to ensure no day goes to waste. Read on to discover all that's happening between now and the end of August so you can plan your travels accordingly and enjoy your summer to the fullest.

### 517 Day

11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday, May 17  
Lansing Shuffle  
325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing  
11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, May 18  
Capitol lawn  
100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing  
517day.com

This year's 517 Day is a free, two-day event celebrating all the Lansing area has to offer. The festivities begin Friday

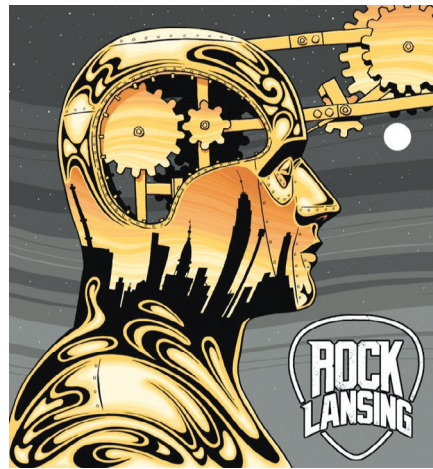
(May 17) at Lansing Shuffle with dozens of art and food vendors and performances by JP & the Energy, dance studio Dancing with the Nordés, School of Rock East Lansing's House Band and DJ Metro Melik.

Head to the Capitol the following day (May 18) for the Best of Lansing Festival, featuring more than 100 local vendors, food trucks and restaurants, plus inflatables, games and performances by Starfarm, the Black Barn Band, DJ Metro Melik, All of the Above Hip Hop Academy, Sean Mic and Everett Dance.

### Rock Lansing music festival

2-11 p.m. Saturday, May 18  
Adado Riverfront Park  
201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing  
rocklansing.live

The inaugural Rock Lansing music festival will offer two stages of national and regional rock acts, including Taproot, Nonpoint, Of Virtue, Eva Under



Art by Dennis Preston

Fire, Any Given Sin and more, plus a variety of food trucks. General admission tickets are \$55, and VIP tickets, which include early entry at 1 p.m., access to VIP areas and complimentary water bottles, are \$100.

### World Goth Day Film FestEvil

11 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday, May 18  
REO Town, Lansing  
monsterdragbrunch.com/events

The second annual World Goth Day Film FestEvil in REO Town will feature screenings of "Nosferatu the Vampyre" and "Suck"; a lecture by author Dacre Stoker, a descendant of "Dracula" author

Bram Stoker; a performance by the Super Secret Cult Band; drag shows; and drag bingo. The drag events and music will be at Sleepwalker Spirits and Ale, and the film screenings and lecture will be at the Robin Theatre. Tickets are \$25.

Additionally, the REO Town Marketplace will hold a spooky bazaar from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and an afterparty for the film festival beginning at 8 p.m., featuring even more drag performances and a gothic dance party. General admission tickets for the afterparty are \$25, and VIP tickets are \$55 each or four for \$200 and include access to a buffet, exclusive beverages, front-row seating, a meet and greet with the performers and a commemorative photo.

### East Lansing Art Festival

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, May 18  
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, May 19  
Albert Avenue, East Lansing  
elartfest.com

The 61st East Lansing Art Festival, on Albert Avenue between Bailey and Grove streets in East Lansing, will showcase artists from across the United States, who will exhibit and sell their work. The festival also includes two days of live performances by Mixed Flavors,

See Summer events, Page 20

# Join the Summer Reading Program!

Program kick-off:  
Monday, June 3, from 5-7pm  
Featuring performances by  
Cirque Amongus!



Kids and teens can track their reading through the summer to earn cool completion prizes, and be entered into our grand prize drawings!

We also have fun free events for kids, teens, and adults!



- Magician Cameron Zvara (kids)
- Bubbleman Ron (kids)
- Stories in the Garden & Read to a Dog (kids & families)
- BookWorm Mini-Game Convention (kids & families)
- Teen Pride Extravaganza! (teens)
- Adventure Finale Party (teens)
- Visit with MSU Herbarium (adults)
- Edible Plants workshop (adults)
- MSU Abrams Inflation Planetarium (all ages)
- Shark Day! (all ages)
- And more!

ADVENTURE  
— BEGINS AT —  
YOUR LIBRARY™

Participation is free of cost and open to the public! You don't even need a library card!

 East Lansing Public Library

Learn more at [elpl.org](http://elpl.org).



# Summer events

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the Wild Honey Collective, the Greater Lansing Ballet Co., the Habibi Dancers and more as well as interactive artist demonstrations and an outdoor food court.

Michigan State University's biannual arts and crafts show, featuring more than 300 vendors, will run concurrently to the East Lansing Art Festival at the MSU Union.

## Delta Township Music in the Park

May 21, June 18, July 16

7 p.m.

Sharp Park

1401 Elmwood Road, Lansing

FREE

[deltami.gov/residents/events/music\\_in\\_the\\_park.php](http://deltami.gov/residents/events/music_in_the_park.php)

*May 21: Sea Cruisers ('50s-'70s hits), opener Wild Honey Trio*

*June 18: Caleb Robinson & Reaching (jazz)*

*July 16: Global Village (rock/funk/R&B), opener School of Rock East Lansing House Band*



Courtesy photo

## Williamston Concerts at the Shell

May 23, June 13–Aug. 15

7 p.m. Thursdays

McCormick Park

300 N. Putnam St., Williamston

[facebook.com/williamstonconcerts](https://facebook.com/williamstonconcerts)

*May 23: Williamston High School and Middle School jazz bands*

*June 13: Roadside Attraction (variety)*

*June 20: Carry On (Crosby, Stills & Nash tribute)*

*June 27: Chelsea House Orchestra (Celtic)*

*July 4: Meridian Community Band*

*July 11: The Black Barn Band (classic rock)*

*July 18: Vesela Kapela Polka Band*

*July 25: Local Talent All-Stars (Williamston-area talent showcase)*

*Aug. 1: Lansing Concert Band Big Band (jazz)*

*Aug. 8: Oxymerons (variety)*

*Aug. 15: Tony Thompson & Friends (R&B)*

## Cristo Rey Fiesta

4–11 p.m. May 24

11 a.m.–11 p.m. May 25

10 a.m.–7 p.m. May 26

Cristo Rey Church

201 W. Miller Road, Lansing

(517) 394-4639

[cristoreyfiesta.org](http://cristoreyfiesta.org)

The annual Cristo Rey Fiesta, the largest Latino festival in mid-Michigan, will include authentic Mexican cuisine, traditional music and dance performances and a Latin American marketplace across its three-day schedule. There will also be a mass at 11 a.m., a ceremony to honor members of the military at 1:30 p.m. and a raffle drawing at 6 p.m. on May 26. The event is mostly free, but there will be a \$5 entrance fee after 5 p.m. on May 24 and 25. Proceeds support the church's building fund, infrastructure and community-directed services.

## ArtPath 7

May 27–Sept. 2

Lansing River Trail

(517) 574-4521

[lansingartgallery.org/artpath/2024](http://lansingartgallery.org/artpath/2024)

The Lansing Art Gallery will celebrate the opening of its annual ArtPath display with a free ribbon-cutting ceremony and kickoff event at 5:30 p.m. May 30 at the Turner-Dodge House, featuring lawn games, chalk activities, ArtPath merch and more. Additionally, the gallery will host a free run/walk along the River Trail with Lansing Mayor Andy Schor beginning at 9 a.m. May 30 at Potter Park and ending at the Turner-Dodge House. Artists will be stationed at their display sites to meet and chat with participants along the way. Participants must register by May 31.

This year's ArtPath will feature 22 Michigan artists, selected by a panel of jurors, who will bring 20 new murals, sculptures and installations to a 2.5-mile stretch of the River Trail from the Turner-Dodge House to the area just south of Elm Park. The artwork will be on display from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

## Pumpstock Festival of American Roots Music

2–8 p.m. June 1

Bailey Park

300 Bailey St., East Lansing

(517) 927-2100

[facebook.com/Pumpstock](https://facebook.com/Pumpstock)

This outdoor festival will offer two stages of live music, a selection of barbecue bites from Krystal's Kitchen food truck and children's activities, including a hands-on instrument petting zoo, glitter tattoos and crafts.

On the main stage, hosted by DJ and musician Jim Hall, will be Flagship Romance, Ray Bonneville, Adrian + Mere-

dith, Kashimana Ahua, and Deacon Earl and the Congregation. On the local stage will be Jack Schueler, Dan Shangraw, Mars McCartney, and Brandon McCoy.

Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs or blankets to sit on. There's no admission fee, but donations can be made ahead of time via the Kickstarter link on the Facebook event page.



Courtesy photo

## Magical Realm Fantasy Faire

10 a.m.–6 p.m. June 1–2

Eaton County Fairgrounds

1025 Cochran Ave., Charlotte

[themagicalrealm.com](http://themagicalrealm.com)

Magical Realm's annual Fantasy Faire will feature live jousting, sword fighting, musical and dance performances, historical displays and demonstrations, a petting zoo, a pirate encampment, a stunt show, a variety of vendors and much more. Attendees are encouraged to dress up in costumes. Admission is \$10, and children 6 and under can enter for free.

## Meridian Township Summer Concert Series

June 5–Sept. 25

6 p.m. Wednesdays

Marketplace on the Green

1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos

FREE

[meridian.mi.us/about-us/calendar/summer-concert-series](http://meridian.mi.us/about-us/calendar/summer-concert-series)

*June 5: Sea Cruisers ('50s-'70s hits)*

*June 12: The Black Barn Band (classic rock)*

*June 19: Rear View Mirror (pop/classic rock)*

*June 26: Shellouts (classic rock/country)*

*July 3: Meridian Community Band*

*July 10: Street Angels (Stevie Nicks tribute)*

*July 17: Oxymerons (variety)*

*July 24: Mama Tryd Band (classic rock/new country)*

*July 31: Slick Jimmy ('80s rock)*

*Aug. 7: Garage Sale Band (pop/rock)*

*Aug. 14: Global Village (rock/funk/R&B)*

*Aug. 21: Frog & the Beeftones (blues rock)*

*Aug. 28: Don Middlebrook (trop rock)*

*Sept. 4: Steve Spees (variety)*

*Sept. 11: Joe Wright (country)*

*Sept. 18: Life Support (variety)*

*Sept. 25: Justin Holcomb (singer-songwriter)*

## Charlotte Summer Concert Series

June 6–Aug. 22

6:30 p.m. Thursdays

1885 Eaton County Courthouse lawn

100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte

FREE

(517) 543-0400

[facebook.com/charlottechamberofcommerce](https://facebook.com/charlottechamberofcommerce)

*June 6: Sea Cruisers ('50s-'70s hits)*

*June 13: Charlotte Community Band*

*June 20: DeWayne Spaw (country)*

*June 27: Acoustic Liberty (folk)*

*July 4: Jimmy & the Mortals ('60s and '70s rock)*

*July 11: Homespun (country)*

*July 18: The Outsiders (classic rock/blues)*

*July 25: Mixed Flavors (variety)*

*Aug. 1: Kathleen and the Bridge Street Band (blues)*

*Aug. 8: Detroit Social Club (blues)*

*Aug. 15: Charlotte Acoustic Project (folk)*

*Aug. 22: Blind Ambition (classic rock/country)*

## Sounds of Summer

June 7–Aug. 30

7 p.m. Fridays

Lake Lansing Park South Bandshell

1621 Pike St., Haslett

FREE

[pk.ingham.org/parks/friday\\_night\\_concert\\_series.php](http://pk.ingham.org/parks/friday_night_concert_series.php)

*June 7: Atomic Annie (rock/pop)*

*June 14: Oxymerons (variety)*

*June 21: Last One Out (variety)*

*June 28: Meridian Community Band*

*July 5: Lansing Concert Band Big Band (jazz)*

*July 12: Glen Erin Pipe Band/Leprecons (Irish)*

*July 19: Roadside Attraction (variety)*

*July 26: Stone Street Revival ('70s hits)*

*Aug. 2: Mixed Flavors (variety)*

*Aug. 9: Shakedown (Bob Seger tribute)*

*Aug. 16: Black Barn Band (classic rock)*

*Aug. 23: Global Village (rock/funk/R&B)*

*Aug. 30: Showdown (classic rock)*

## Lansing Fiesta

4 p.m.–midnight June 7

Noon–midnight June 8

Adado Riverfront Park

201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing

[lansingfiesta.com](http://lansingfiesta.com)

The inaugural Lansing Fiesta will be a celebration of Hispanic culture and community, featuring live music by the Corzo Effect, La Corporacion and Teja-no Sound, plus DJs, food vendors, a taco

See Summer events, Page 21



## Summer events

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eating contest, a beer tent, games like cornhole and more.



Photo by Kendall D. Lartigue

### Lansing Beer Fest

4-8 p.m. June 8

Washington Avenue, REO Town  
lansingbeerfest.com

The 10th annual Lansing Beer Fest, on Washington Avenue between South and Elm streets in REO Town, will feature more than 100 craft beers and ciders from more than 30 Michigan breweries, plus food trucks, live music, vendors and games like giant checkers and cornhole.

General admission tickets are \$35 until June 1 or \$40 the week of the event and include a logo souvenir glass, a commemorative keychain and 10 sampling tickets. VIP tickets are \$45 until June 1 or \$50 the week of the event and include early entry at 3 p.m., a dated souvenir glass, a commemorative keychain and 15 sampling tickets. Non-drinking tickets are available for \$10, but attendees must be 21 or older. Proceeds benefit the REO Town Commercial Association.

Each sampling ticket will be redeemable for a 3-ounce pour of beer or cider. Additional sampling tickets will be available at the festival for \$1 each.

### Lansing Juneteenth Celebration

June 8, 13-15

lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org

This year's Lansing Juneteenth Celebration will kick off with the annual community softball game in honor of old Negro baseball leagues from 2 to 4 p.m. June 8 at Gier Park. Attendees can also shop from a variety of Juneteenth vendors.

The awards ceremony for the festival's annual essay contest and scholarship program will run from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 13 at Lansing Community College's Gannon Building.

Events on June 15 will begin with a 5K run/walk/roll at 8:30 a.m., followed by the annual African American Parade at 11 a.m., both beginning at Sexton High School. Visit [lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org/parade](https://lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org/parade) to view the full parade route.

Finally, the annual Freedom Festival, running from 4 to 8 p.m. June 14 and noon to dusk June 15 at St. Joseph Park, will feature live music, a DJ, dance performances, line dancing, vendors, food and games like chess and checkers. A job and community resource fair, hosted in partnership with the NAACP's Lansing branch, will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 15 at the park.

The majority of the events are free, but registration for the 5K is \$35 until June 5, \$40 from June 6 through 14 and \$45 on race day.

### Lansing Concerts in the Park

June 12-Aug. 7

7 p.m. Wednesdays

Lansing parks

FREE

[lansingmi.gov/994/Concerts-in-the-Park](https://lansingmi.gov/994/Concerts-in-the-Park)

*June 12: Root Doctor (blues) - Moores Park*

*June 19: Black Rock 101 - Fenner Nature Center*

*June 26: Blue Avenue Delegates (blues) - Bancroft Park*

*July 10: Frog & the Beestones (blues rock) - Fulton Park*

*July 17: Sea Cruisers ('50s-'70s hits) - Turner-Dodge House*

*July 24: Kathy Ford Band (variety) - Durant Park*

*July 31: Global Village (rock/funk/R&B) - Riverfront Salt Shed*

*Aug. 7: Tejano Sound - Frances Park*

### St. Johns Concerts in the Park

June 12-Aug. 28

7 p.m. Wednesdays

St. Johns City Park

801 W. Park St., St. Johns

FREE

[facebook.com/StJohnsCityParkPerformanceShell](https://facebook.com/StJohnsCityParkPerformanceShell)

*June 12: Jack Clarkson Band (variety)*

*June 19: Saline Fiddlers Philharmonic (youth fiddle band)*

*June 26: Detroit Retro Society (sounds of Detroit)*

*July 3: Full Cord (bluegrass)*

*July 10: Capitol City Chordsmen (barbershop chorus)*

*July 17: Fly2K ('90s-2000s hits)*

*July 24: Toppermost (Beatles tribute)*

*July 31: Dave Bennett Quartet (variety)*

*Aug. 7: The Schrock Bros (Americana/blues)*

*Aug. 14: SurfZup ('60s surf rock)*

*Aug. 21: The Blueflowers (Americana/indie rock)*

*Aug. 28: Denise Davis and the Motor City Sensations (variety)*

### 517 Juneteenth Weekend

June 13-16

[517juneteenth.com](https://517juneteenth.com)

Ourspace (517) will kick off its fourth



Courtesy photo

Juneteenth celebration in REO Town with the annual Black History. Black Future. seminar from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. June 13 at the Cadillac Room. The seminar's theme is "Empowering Black Wellness," and it will be followed by a mixer with complimentary refreshments and DJ sets by Ozay Moore. Tickets are donation-based, with all proceeds going toward 517 Juneteenth Weekend programming.

A free ice cream social will run from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. June 14 at River-view Church's REO Town branch, offering frozen treats from RJ's Metropolitan Ice Cream Co., inflatables, break dancing, music by All of the Above Hip Hop Academy, youth vendors, kids' activities hosted by Impression 5 Science Center and the PNC Mobile Learning Adventure and more.

The free 517 Juneteenth Festival will run from 3:30 to 10 p.m. June 15 on South Washington Avenue between Elm and South Streets, featuring performances by Kevin Ross, MikeyyAustin, Tasha Page-Lockheart, and Caleb Robinson & Reaching as well as DJ sets, vendors, a food court and a Kidz Zone.

The weekend will end with a Father's Day jazz concert from 6:30 to 8 p.m. June 16 at the Cadillac Room, featuring performances by Rockelle Whitaker and Michael Reed & the Revelation, plus DJ sets by DJ Dolo. Tickets are donation-based.

### Grand Ledge Music in the Park

June 20-Aug. 15

7-9 p.m. Thursdays

Jaycee Park

525 E. River St., Grand Ledge

FREE

[grandledgechamber.com/music\\_in\\_the\\_park.php](https://grandledgechamber.com/music_in_the_park.php)

*June 20: Three Men and a Tenor (a cappella pop), opener Shelby & Jake*

*June 27: Kanin Wren's Taylor Swift Experience, opener the Westrins*

*July 11: Mixed Flavors (variety), opener Brian Bristol*

*July 18: The Insiders (Tom Petty tribute), opener Ricky & Nikki*

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The wild is  
closer than  
you think!

POTTER PARK

ZOO

[potterparkzoo.org](https://potterparkzoo.org)



# Summer events

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*July 25: Sea Cruisers ('50s-'70s hits), opener Jen Sygit*

*Aug. 1: Cooper Johnson (country), opener Wild Honey Trio*

*Aug. 8: Global Village (rock/funk/R&B), opener School of Rock East Lansing House Band*

*Aug. 15: Starfarm ('80s), opener Big L*

## Charlotte Bluegrass Festival

June 20-22

Eaton County Fairgrounds  
1025 S. Cochran Road, Charlotte  
(269) 832-5519  
charlottebluegrassfestival.com

The Charlotte Bluegrass Festival returns June 20 through 22 at the Eaton County Fairgrounds, offering workshops, group jam sessions and three days of live music by Dale Ann Bradley, the Grascals, Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper, Joe Mullins & the Radio Ramblers, Williamson Branch, Henhouse Prowlers, Forked Run, the David Mayfield Parade and more.

Thursday tickets are \$30, Friday and Saturday tickets are \$35 each, and three-day tickets are \$95. Campsites will be available for \$21 per night.

## Fledge Fest

5-11 p.m. June 21

Noon-11 p.m. June 22

The Fledge

1300 Eureka St., Lansing

This year's Fledge Fest, free and open to all ages, will feature performances by a host of local musicians and performers, including Abuse Repression, Crawl Spaces, J.Plantana, Jeremy Hurt, Rot Knot, Suburban Ants and more, plus local vendors and family-friendly activities such as yoga, a bubble station and arts and crafts.

## Summer Solstice Jazz Festival

5:30 p.m.-midnight June 21

2:30 p.m.-midnight June 22

10:30 a.m.-2 p.m. June 23

eljazzfest.com

Jazz music will fill the streets of downtown East Lansing during the annual Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, which will offer two stages with a host of to-be-announced jazz performers from 5:30 to 10 p.m. June 21 and 2:30 to 10 p.m. June 22 on Albert Avenue between M.A.C. Avenue and Abbot Road, as well as afterglow performances from 10 p.m. to midnight both days at the Graduate Hotel's Rock Bar and a Juneteenth concert on June 23 at the East Lansing Farmers Market at Valley Court Park. All events are free and open to the public.



Courtesy photo

## Lansing Pride Festival

1-10 p.m. June 22

Turner Street, Old Town  
lansingpride.org

The annual Lansing Pride Festival is free and welcomes LGBTQ+ people and allies of all ages. This year's event will feature live entertainment, including performances by "RuPaul's Drag Race" alum Loosey LaDuca and '80s cover band Starfarm; almost 200 vendors; food trucks; a beer tent; and a children's area with a variety of activities, including a drag queen story time.

## Eaton County Fair

July 8-13

Gates open at 9 a.m. daily

Eaton County Fairgrounds

1025 S. Cochran Road, Charlotte  
(517) 543-4510

eatoncountyfair.com

The Eaton County fair will offer seven days of family-friendly fun, including carnival rides, food, animal sales, agricultural exhibits and Grandstand events like tractor and horse pulls, horse racing, motocross, a rodeo, a demolition derby and more. General admission tickets are \$7 per day or \$30 for a week pass. Children 5 and under receive free admission. Tickets for Grandstand events range from \$5 to \$25, and carnival tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 to \$25 at the gate and \$54 for a three-day pass.

## Music in the Garden

July 11-Aug. 8

7 p.m. Thursdays

Veterans Memorial Gardens

2074 Aurelius Road, Holt

FREE

delhitownshipmi.gov/402/Community-Events

*July 11: Sea Cruisers ('50s-'70s hits); Picnic food truck*

*July 18: Atomic Annie (rock/pop); Heaven on a Roll food truck*

*July 25: Global Village (rock/funk/R&B); Two Guys Nomadic Grill food truck*

*Aug. 1: Motor City Soul (Motown/R&B); Gravity Smokehouse food truck*

*Aug. 8: Stone Street Revival ('70s hits); Hard Knocks food truck*

## ScrapFest

5-9 p.m. July 12

11 a.m.-7 p.m. July 13

Turner Street, Old Town

scrapfest.com

ScrapFest, a free art festival in Old Town focusing on upcycled and repurposed artwork, will include a scrap-metal sculpture competition, eco-art vendors, food vendors, live music and family activities, as well as a Refashion Show at 7 p.m. July 12, a kids' fun run at 9:30 a.m. July 13 and an 8K run/walk at 10 a.m. July 13. To sign up for the fashion show and running events, visit the festival's website. Registration for the 8K is \$30 until June 30 and \$35 from June 1 through July 12.

## Lansing Taco and Tequila Fest

4-8 p.m. July 13

Adado Riverfront Park

201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing

lansingtacoandtequilafest.com

The second annual Lansing Taco and Tequila Fest will offer the chance to sample more than 100 tequilas, plus beer, sangria and margaritas. There will also be food trucks, live music, vendors and more.

General admission tickets are \$30 until June 22, \$35 until June 6 and \$40 the week of the event and include a souvenir tasting glass and 10 sampling tickets. Those under 21 receive free admission with a ticket holder. VIP Tickets are \$45 until June 22, \$50 until June 6 and \$55 the week of the event and include early entry at 3 p.m., access to a VIP area, a dated souvenir glass and 15 sampling tickets.

Most drink samples will cost one tasting ticket, but more expensive liquors will cost multiple tickets. Additional tasting tickets will be available at the festival for \$2. Proceeds benefit Friends of the River, a nonprofit that works to improve the quality of and access to Michigan rivers.

## Dam Jam Music Festival

6-11 p.m. July 19

11 a.m.-11 p.m. July 20

Brenke Fish Ladder

216 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing

(517) 490-2138

facebook.com/DamJamFest

Lansing 5:01's annual Dam Jam Music Festival returns July 19 and 20 at the Brenke Fish Ladder in Old Town, featuring a robust lineup of to-be-announced Michigan-based acts, according to the event's Facebook page. The free festival will also include an assortment of vendors and food options.

## Ingham County Fair

July 29-Aug. 3

Ingham County Fairgrounds

700 E. Ash St., Mason

fair.ingham.org

Whether you enjoy monster trucks,

demolition derbies, motocross, live music, rides, games or animals, the Ingham County Fair has something for everyone. Advance tickets are \$8, with a \$2 discount for kids ages 3 to 12 and seniors 62 and older. Ticket prices will increase by \$2 at the gate. Tickets for Grandstand events range from \$15 to \$25.

## JazzFest Michigan

July 31-Aug. 3

Turner Street, Old Town

(517) 371-4600

micharts.org/jazzfest-about

The Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art's 30th annual JazzFest will offer more than 30 performances on four stages, and each artist or group will premiere a new song, composition or arrangement during their set. Follow facebook.com/MiJazzFest for updates on the lineup and ticket info.

## Eastside Summer Fest

Noon-6 p.m. Aug. 24

Michigan Avenue

517eastside.org/summer-fest

The fourth annual Eastside Summer Fest will offer vendors, food trucks, kids' activities and live music on Michigan Avenue between Hayford and Francis avenues. The event is free and open to all ages.

## Michigan Chicken Wing Festival

2-9 p.m. Aug. 31-Sept. 1

Adado Riverfront Park

201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing

(517) 303-1817

michiganchickenwingfestival.com

Attendees can sample a variety of wings at the Michigan Chicken Wing Festival, which will also include wing eating contests, food trucks with non-wing offerings, live entertainment, open mics, a kids' zone with inflatables, non-food vendors, community resource tables, a peoples' choice wing vendor contest and more.

Admission is \$5 before 4 p.m. and \$15 after 4 p.m. at the gate. Kids 14 and under can enter for free with a paying adult. Cancer survivors, military members and seniors ages 65 and older can also enter for free. Tokens for eight wing samples are \$10.

VIP tickets are \$45 and include tokens for 12 wing samples, two drink tokens for alcoholic beverages, five drink tokens for nonalcoholic beverages, early entry, a raffle ticket and access to the VIP Tent and the VIP area near the stage. VIP beer and wine tickets are \$55 and include, on top of the other VIP perks, eight drink tokens for alcoholic beverages and access to premium beverages. VIP tickets must be purchased online prior to the event.



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Please call each business for detour routes and directions.



**Quality Dairy**  
(517) 371-8925  
Hours: M-F 6am-11pm  
Sat-Sun 7am-11pm  
2400 E Michigan Ave



**Cricket Wireless**  
(517) 401-1268  
Hours: M-Sat 10am - 7pm  
Sun 12pm-6pm  
2402 E Michigan Ave



**Stop 1 Insurance Agency**  
(517) 574-4090  
Hours: M-F 9am-6pm  
Sat 10am-2pm  
2404 E Michigan Ave



**Tattoo Shop of Lansing**  
(517) 574-5163  
Hours: M-Sat 12pm-8pm  
2401 E Michigan Ave

**Seahouse Fish & Chicken**  
(517) 580-8831  
Hours: M-Sat 11am - 10pm  
2418 E Michigan Ave

**Lam's Sweeper Shop**  
(517) 372-2650  
Hours: M-F 8:30am - 5:30 pm  
Sat 8:30 am - 4pm  
2511 E Michigan Ave



**Lake Life Farms Lansing**  
(517) 318-6221  
Hours: M-Sat 10am - 9pm  
Sun 11am - 7pm  
2617 E Michigan Ave



**Feldman Chevrolet of Lansing**  
(517) 374-0900  
Hours: M & Thu 8:30am - 9pm,  
T-W & F 8:30am - 6pm,  
Sat 8:30am - 4pm  
2801 E Michigan Ave



**The People's Kitchen**  
(517) 507-5730  
Hours: T-Thu 9am-9pm,  
F-Sat 9am-10pm,  
Sun 9am-3pm & 5pm-8pm  
2722 E Michigan Ave

This space is courtesy of:

**CityPULSE**



Andy Schor, Mayor

For more information on the  
Michigan Avenue Rehabilitation  
Project, please visit:  
[lansingmi.gov/MichiganAve](http://lansingmi.gov/MichiganAve)



# Titanic tutti tornado

## High drama roils Lansing Symphony season finale

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Some people avoid drama like the plague. Those people wouldn't have had much fun at Friday's (May 10) Lansing Symphony Orchestra season finale.

The night was drenched in drama, from the keen, heart-felt piano artistry of guest soloist Harmony Zhu to a sonic blow-out by LSO composer-in-residence Jared Miller to massifs of melody penned by arch-romantic Sergei Rachmaninoff.

The drama was sometimes hushed, but no less compelling. Despite her relative youth, Zhu has already enjoyed a fabulous career and is beyond the point where she needs to prove anything. She played with a light touch and an acute intellectual and emotional sensitivity that made you want to lean in and listen as closely as possible.

The orchestra followed suit and accompanied Zhu with great sensitivity in Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 23, producing a watercolor wash that

perfectly set off her finely etched piano lines.

Zhu's pauses were just as expressive as the surrounding notes. When she jumped an octave, it seemed as if she was starting from a dream. In the slow movement, she reached beyond the music's superficial beauty to express a placid fatalism beyond the reach of pain. There were moments when each note carried a shocking emotional weight, like the ominous tones of a life support monitor.

As she navigated the highs and lows of Mozart's moods, her hands seemed to be working out a complex relationship with one another, like characters in a 19th-century novel. Her moody left hand, dressed in a black cloak, stalked the edge of the sea-swept cliffs, reveling in each near-fatal plunge into the lower register. Her airy right hand, clad in a billowing nightdress, stood on the nearby heath and called out, sweetly as a nightingale, "Come back, my dearest! You have so much to live for!"

Whoa — that's a lot of drama. But the most dramatic outburst of the evening occurred in the middle of the concert's opener, "Luster," a bravura 2018 thrill ride by Miller.

Followers of postmodern orchestral music are familiar with this weather pattern by now. Mysterious wisps of woodwinds spiraled hither and yon. A storm front of ominous brass and pounding timpani, egged on by a sliding trombone, generated a titanic tutti tornado, clearing the air for a major-key, gentle, garden-after-the-storm idyll.

What's not to love? Sonically spectacular stuff like this, played with admirable precision and spirit, makes for a more interesting curtain raiser than your average bombastic overture. Nevertheless, the 21st century is getting on, and these postmodern, cosmic thrill rides are starting to blur together. Although Miller is only halfway through his stint as composer in residence, it's beginning to feel like his sensibility is not far removed from that of his predecessor, Patrick Harlin.

Nobody ever called Rachmaninoff's Third Symphony, the main meat on Friday's program, a quickie, although it squeezes the usual four movements into three.



Photo by Olivia Beebe, courtesy of Lansing Symphony Orchestra

Pianist Harmony Zhu showed total commitment to the music of Mozart at Friday's (May 10) Lansing Symphony Orchestra season closer.

Despite the symphony's lush, wall-to-wall romanticism, it has a slightly off-kilter quality that music director Timothy Muffitt and the orchestra exploited to the utmost degree. Its tentative, mysterious beginning is just a diversionary tactic, meant to make you lean forward and hearken closer, only to get blasted by a sudden call to attention. The maestro made sure it got our attention.

From that moment on, Rachmaninoff's famous melodies poured forth from all sections of the orchestra, burnished with a sepia-toned, Hollywood-esque aura of glamor, excitement and a touch of good old Russian fatalism.

The principal melody, full of longing and hope, morphed into myriad forms along the way. At one glorious moment, it rolled out like a bulbous 1940s automobile on a runway, gleaming with chrome and brio.

A maximum-sized string section outdid itself in the hushed, velvety reverie that opened the middle movement. Gently stirring its stage-spanning wings of sound, the section stirred to life with the delicacy, power and strangeness of a majestic phoenix. A lot happens in this movement as it accelerates from downy dreamland to booming field artillery and back again.

Guiding an audience through an expansive, sometimes overwhelming musical landscape is Muffitt's forte (and, sometimes, his triple forte). His unwavering instinct is never to rush or apologize for the length of a piece but rather to settle in, let the music make its own powerful argument and trust the listener to stick with it. The trick is not to let the energy diffuse, and on Friday night, the thread never slackened for a second.



**Submit your films, poetry, short stories, photos, and theatrical skits to be showcased in Unity Spiritual Center's Passion of the Creative Mind Festival!**

**Deadline for submissions is May 27th**

**TO ACCESS SUBMISSION FORMS, CLICK OR SCAN QR CODES OR GO TO [UNITYLANSING.ORG/PASSION-CREATIVE-MIND-CELEBRATE-SHARE-ENJOY](https://unitylansing.org/passion-creative-mind-celebrate-share-enjoy)**

**TO SUBMIT IN PERSON, SPEAK WITH DAN MAYNARD 517-719-0003 TO GET A PAPER SUBMISSION FORM**

	<p><b>Film Festival</b>  <b>June 20th at 7:30 pm</b>  <a href="https://form.jotform.com/240896721410152">https://form.jotform.com/240896721410152</a></p>	
	<p><b>Poetry &amp; Short Story Reading</b>  <b>June 21st at 8:00 pm</b>  <a href="https://form.jotform.com/240927519632158">https://form.jotform.com/240927519632158</a></p>	
	<p><b>Theatrical Skit Showcase</b>  <b>June 22nd at 3:00 pm</b>  <a href="https://form.jotform.com/240938010967157">https://form.jotform.com/240938010967157</a></p>	
	<p><b>Art &amp; Photography Gallery</b>  <b>Runs May 31st through June 29th</b>  <a href="https://form.jotform.com/240928366171157">https://form.jotform.com/240928366171157</a></p>	



2395 Washington Rd  
Lansing, MI 48911  
[unitylansing.org](https://unitylansing.org)

For questions or support, contact Dan Maynard



**(517) 719-0003**

[dan@dmaynard.net](mailto:dan@dmaynard.net)



Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Outposts”-- sent to the edges.  
by Matt Jones  
© 2024 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
1. It's a long story  
5. Pal in Pamplona  
10. High school class  
13. Hokkaido sashes  
14. Repeat performances?  
16. Wish undone  
17. 1982 horror flick  
19. “\_\_\_bide my time”  
20. North African condiment  
21. Belief held by Thomas Jefferson and Mark Twain  
23. Pressing needs?  
24. Sunday dinner slow-cooker option  
27. Dreyer's, east of the Rockies  
28. Paid athlete  
30. M&M color introduced in 1995  
31. Shift neighbor  
33. Commander's commander  
34. Faddish mental health proponent  
39. It's all wrong  
40. Thompson who's still on “SNL”  
41. Verifiable  
42. Use a needle and thread  
43. Drier than dry  
47. Most courteous  
51. At a good clip  
52. “Love \_\_\_ you need”  
53. Scanned black-and-white patterns  
55. “The Brady Bunch” daughter  
57. Georges Seurat,

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12
13					14					15		16	
17					18						19		
20								21			22		
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27											30		
					31				32		33		
34	35	36	37							38			
39							40						
41								42			43	44	45
47					48	49	50				51		
										53	54		
55	56				57			58					
59					60						61		
62						63					64		

- for one  
59. Estadio Diego Armando Maradona cheer  
60. “The Woman In Me” autobiographer  
61. Fox's home  
62. “\_\_\_ the season to be jolly”  
63. Young's partner in accounting  
64. \_\_\_ occasion (never)
- DOWN
1. Singer-songwriter Ellis-Bextor  
2. “All \_\_\_!”  
3. California's “Garlic Capital of the World”  
4. Actors John and Sean, for two  
5. Airport postings, briefly  
6. Prefix used by some state lotteries  
7. Anger  
8. Musical notation

- pioneer  
9. Beginning  
10. Monaco's royal house  
11. Actor Brynner  
12. Nickname for two Spice Girls  
15. Make a slight move  
18. Squiggly letter  
22. 1924 Pulitzer Prize-winning Edna Ferber novel  
24. Swanky to the max  
25. Makes an appeal  
26. Pitched shelter  
28. TP layer  
29. Rooftop accessory  
31. Georgia, formerly, e.g.  
32. Fine-tune  
33. “\_\_\_ voyage!”  
34. Arrested suspect, informally  
35. Three-layered cookie  
36. Nutty confections  
37. Suffix for cities  
38. Scientific principle
43. NASA lunar program  
44. Angular measure, in math  
45. Isolates due to extreme weather, maybe  
46. G.I. Joe villain whose name is one letter short of a synonym for “obliterate”  
48. Bar lineup  
49. Get married secretly  
50. Crafter  
51. Knee injury site, briefly  
53. Fiscal yr. divisions  
54. Robbie who played Cousin Oliver  
55. Scribble (down)  
56. Oscar-nominated role for Smith  
58. Photographer Goldin

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SUDOKU

Advanced

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

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!

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

May 15-21, 2024

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Polish-born author Joseph Conrad (1857-1924) didn't begin to speak English until he was 21 years old. At 25, his writing in that language was still stiff and stilted. Yet during the next 40+ years, he employed his adopted tongue to write 19 novels, numerous short stories and several other books. Today, he is regarded as one of the greatest writers in the English language. You may not embark on an equally spectacular growth period in the coming months, Aries. But you do have extra power to begin mastering a skill or subject that could ultimately be crucial to your life story. Be inspired by Conrad's magnificent accomplishments.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Hypothetically, you could learn to give a stirring rendering of Beethoven's Symphony No. 5 on a slide whistle. Or you could perform the “to be or not to be” soliloquy from Shakespeare's “Hamlet” for an audience of pigeons that aren't even paying attention. Theoretically, you could pour out your adoration to an unattainable celebrity, give a big tip to a waiter who provided mediocre service or do your finest singing at a karaoke bar with two people in the audience. But I hope you will offer your skills and gifts with more discernment and panache, Taurus — especially these days. Don't offer yourself carelessly. Give your blessings only to people who deeply appreciate them.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** When I lived in San Francisco in 1995, thieves stole my Chevy Malibu. It was during the celebratory mayhem that swept the city following the local football team's Super Bowl victory. Cops miraculously recovered my car, but it had been irrevocably damaged in one specific way: It could no longer drive in reverse. Since I couldn't afford a new vehicle, I kept it for the next two years, carefully avoiding situations when I would need to go backward. It was a perfect metaphor for my life in those days. Now I'm suggesting you consider adopting it for yours. From what I can discern, there will be no turning around anytime soon. Don't look back. Onward to the future!

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Cancerian basketball coach Tara VanDerveer is in the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. She won more games than anyone else in the sport. Here's one aspect of her approach to coaching. She says that the greatest players “have a screw loose” — and she regards that as a very good thing. I take her to mean that the superstars are eccentric, zealous, unruly and daring. They don't conform to normal theories about how to succeed. They have a wild originality and a fanatical drive for excellence. If you might ever be interested in exploring the possible advantages of having a screw loose for the sake of your ambitions, the coming months will be one of the best times ever.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Am I one of your father figures, uncle figures or brother figures? I hope so! I have worked hard to purge the toxic aspects of masculinity that I inherited from my culture. And I have diligently and gleefully cultivated the most beautiful aspects of masculinity. Plus, my feminist principles have been ripening and growing stronger for many years. With that as our background, I encourage you to spend the coming weeks upgrading your own relationship to the masculine archetype, no matter which of the 77 genders you might be. I see this as an excellent time for you to take practical measures to get the very best male influences in your life.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Now that your mind, your heart and your world have opened wider than you imagined possible, try to anticipate how they might close down if you're not always as bold and brave as you have been in recent months. Then sign a contract with yourself, promising that you will not permit your mind, your heart and your world to shrink or narrow. If you proactively heal your fears before they break out, maybe they won't break out. (PS: I will acknowledge that there may eventually be a bit of contraction you should allow

to fully integrate the changes — but only a bit.)

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** I would love you to cultivate connections with characters who can give you shimmery secrets and scintillating stories you need to hear. In my astrological opinion, you are in a phase when you require more fascination, amazement and intrigue than usual. If love and sex are included in the exchange, so much the better — but they are not mandatory elements in your assignment. The main thing is this: For the sake of your mental, physical and spiritual health, you must get your limitations dissolved, your understanding of reality enriched and your vision of the future expanded.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Scorpio writer Andrew Solomon made a very Scorpionic comment when he wrote, “We all have our darkness, and the trick is making something exalted of it.” Of all the signs of the zodiac, you have the greatest potential to accomplish this heroic transmutation — and to do it with panache, artistry and even tenderness. I trust you are ready for another few rounds of your mysterious specialty. The people in your life would benefit from it almost as much as you.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Have you been nursing the hope that someday you will retrain your loved ones? That you will change them in ways that make them act more sensibly? That you will convince them to shed qualities you don't like and keep just the good parts? If so, the coming weeks will be an excellent time to drop this fantasy. In its place, I advise you to go through whatever mental gymnastics are necessary as you come to accept and love them exactly as they are. If you can manage that, there will be a bonus development: You will be more inclined to accept and love yourself exactly as you are.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** I brazenly predict that in the next 11 months, you will get closer than ever before to doing your dream job. Because of your clear intentions, your diligent pragmatism and the Fates' grace, life will present you with good opportunities to earn money by doing what you love and providing an excellent service to your fellow creatures. But I'm not necessarily saying everything will unfold with perfection. And I am a bit afraid that you will fail to capitalize on your chances by being too insistent on perfection. Please assuage my doubts, Capricorn! Welcome imperfect but interesting progress.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** In his book “Ambivalent Zen,” Lawrence Shainberg mourns that even while meditating, his mind is always fleeing from the present moment, forever “lurching toward the future or clinging to the past.” I don't agree that this is a terrible thing. In fact, it's a consummately human characteristic. Why demonize and deride it? But I can also see the value of spending quality time in the here and now — enjoying each new unpredictable moment without compulsively referencing it to other times and places. I bring this up, Aquarius, because I believe that in the coming weeks, you can enjoy far more free time in the rich and resonant present than is normally possible for you. Make “BE HERE NOW” your gentle, relaxing battle cry.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Two-thirds of us claim to have had a paranormal encounter. One-fourth say they can telepathically sense other people's emotions. One-fifth have had conversations with the spirits of the dead. As you might guess, the percentage of Pisceans in each category is higher than all the rest of the zodiac signs. And I suspect that number will be even more elevated than usual in the coming weeks. I hope you love spooky fun and uncanny mysteries and semi-miraculous epiphanies! Here they come.

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



# OUT on the TOWN

## Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](https://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, May 15

**2024 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial exhibition** - An inclusive survey of work produced by MSU faculty. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. [broad-museum.msu.edu](https://broad-museum.msu.edu).

**"A Course of Love" Discussion, facilitated by Lucille Olson & Bill Dietrich** - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. [unitylansing.org](https://unitylansing.org).

**Acting & Glee Music Class for Kids** - Ages 5-12. 4:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](https://ruhalacenter.com).

**Allen Farmers Market and Seed Festival** - Receive free seeds and seed bombs to start a home garden! At 4:30 p.m., enjoy live music by folk singer-songwriter Scott Thacher. 3-7 p.m. 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911. [allenneighborhoodcenter.org/market](https://allenneighborhoodcenter.org/market).

**Art Education Lab: Flowers!** - Create a floral painting in the style of Georgia O'Keeffe. Use paper, fabric and other materials to create 3D bouquets. Ages 5+, children under 7 must attend with an adult. 12:30 p.m. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. [reachstudioart.org](https://reachstudioart.org).

**Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer** - Self-taught artist whose watercolor and acrylic paintings reflect the peace she experienced growing up in the country. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. [cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett](https://cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett).

**Beginning Salsa Group Dance Class** - Easy-to-learn Latin dance. Seven-week class. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. 517-364-8888. [sparrow.org/our-hospitals-services/michigan-athletic-club](https://sparrow.org/our-hospitals-services/michigan-athletic-club).

**"Bright Half Life"** - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. [williamstontheatre.org](https://williamstontheatre.org).

**Cars & Cones Cruise-In** - All makes and years welcome! Drivers (and a passenger) receive a coney dog and free museum admission. 5-8 p.m. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-372-0529. [reoldsmuseum.org](https://reoldsmuseum.org).

**Clothespin Dragonflies** - Turn clothespins into dragonfly décor. Intended for adults. Registration req. 5 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. [eradl.org](https://eradl.org).

**Consecrate Your Tools Ritual** - Bring your own tools and learn how to consecrate them for magical use. 6 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. [weaversoftheweb.org](https://weaversoftheweb.org).

**The Dangling Particles Duo at the Graduate Rock Bar** - 8 p.m. 133 Evergreen Ave., East Lansing. 517-348-0900. [facebook.com/graduaterockbar](https://facebook.com/graduaterockbar).

**Emergency Services** - 6 p.m. LSW Emergency Services, 7425 Woodbury Road, Laingsburg. [laingsburg.us](https://laingsburg.us).

**"We Are Stardust: The Interconnection of All Things" Film Screenings** - Documentary short film by Lansing filmmaker Barb Barton. Screenings followed by Q&As with Barton. 6:30 and 8 p.m. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. [therobintheatre.com](https://therobintheatre.com).

**Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group** - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall Food Court. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [meridian50plus.com](https://meridian50plus.com).

**Greater Lansing Ride of Silence** - Solemn bike procession to honor cyclists killed or injured on public roadways. Short memorial ceremony on Capitol steps to follow. Registration 5:15-6:15 p.m., ride starts at 6:30 p.m. Wells Hall Plaza, 619 Red Cedar Road, East Lansing. [biketcba.org](https://biketcba.org).

**Hunt a Killer Mystery** - Julia Adler found the mummified corpse of missing actress Viola Vane in the attic of her family-owned theater. We'll work to determine who orchestrated Vane's vanishing. 5:30 p.m. 1845 Courthouse, 1305 Cochran Ave., Charlotte. [charlottelibrary.org](https://charlottelibrary.org).

**Improv Acting Class** - 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](https://ruhalacenter.com).

**It's Elementary: Deep Sea Dive** - Perform experiments, create art, play rescue the shark Battleship and test your knowledge with an ocean survival simulation! Grades 3-6. Registration req. 2:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. [charlottelibrary.org](https://charlottelibrary.org).

**Jazz Dance Class** - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](https://ruhalacenter.com).

**Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle** - 8 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. [lansingshuffle.com](https://lansingshuffle.com).

**Lansing Junior Roller Derby Basic Skills Boot Camp** - Ten-week program. Ages 12-17. 6-8 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. [lansingrollerderby.com](https://lansingrollerderby.com).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild "Artistic Visions" Art Exhibit** - Open by appointment. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-999-3643. [midmichiganartguild.org](https://midmichiganartguild.org).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show** - Featuring an array of mediums. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Male St., Lansing. 517-332-4663. [midmichiganartguild.org](https://midmichiganartguild.org).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Volunteer Show** - A special exhibit by guild volunteers. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. [midmichiganartguild.org](https://midmichiganartguild.org).

**Mindfulness Meditation in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition** - All are welcome to join our weekly practice! 7-9 p.m. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. MLK Jr. Blvd., Lansing. [lamc.info](https://lamc.info).

**Open Mic, Hosted by Rick Hansel** - Family-friendly, welcomes singers and musicians. No cover, all ages welcome. 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. [urbanbeatevents.com](https://urbanbeatevents.com).

**"Painterly Dialogues"** - ART/5, a group of five artists who paint together year-round, showcase recent works from their studios and plein air sessions. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framersedge.net](https://framersedge.net).

**"SIX"** - The six wives of Henry VIII take the microphone to remix 500 years of historical heartbreak into a musical celebration of 21st-century girl power. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. [whartoncenter.com](https://whartoncenter.com).

**Tap II Class** - 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](https://ruhalacenter.com).

### Thursday, May 16

**2024 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial exhibition** - An inclusive survey of work pro-

### Delta Community Choir spring concert

Sunday, May 19

3 p.m.

Our Savior Lutheran Church  
7910 E. St. Joseph Hwy.,  
Lansing



For more than a decade, the Delta Community Choir has adhered to its mission of "building community through song" by highlighting one local nonprofit organization at each of its biannual concerts.

As per tradition, this year's spring concert, beginning 3 p.m. Sunday (May 19) at Our Savior Lutheran Church, is free to attend, but the choir will collect voluntary donations for the House of Promise, an organization that "provides survivors of sexual abuse and sex trafficking unconditional love, acceptance and a place to heal and rebuild their lives," according to its website.

The theme of the concert is "Spring to Life: Songs of Strength, Hope and Joy." The setlist "reflects the journey from the pain and struggle of marginalized people to the hope, light and joy that can be found when people support and uplift one another," featuring songs from a variety of genres, including folk, gospel, pop and show tunes.

The concert will be the first under the musical leadership of Zach Everly, who succeeded founding musical and artistic director Ellen McKenzie in January. Everly is the director of vocal music for Charlotte Public Schools, where he leads the 7th- through 12th-grade choirs. He serves on the Michigan School Vocal Music Association's board of directors and is a member of the Capital City Music Collective's Riverbend Voices and the Central United Methodist Church Choir.

For more information about the concert, visit [deltacc.org](https://deltacc.org) or call (517) 896-0760.

duced by MSU faculty. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](https://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**"A Course in Miracles" Group, Facilitated by Lisa Schmidt** - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. [unitylansing.org](https://unitylansing.org).

**Acting 101 Class** - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](https://ruhalacenter.com).

**Acting Ensemble Class** - 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](https://ruhalacenter.com).

**Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer** - Self-taught artist whose watercolor and acrylic paintings reflect the peace she experienced growing up in the country. Noon-6 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. [cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett](https://cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett).

**Bridge Street Merchants Night Owl Shopping** - A variety of stores will be open until 9 p.m. with sales, specials and snacks! Bridge Street, downtown Grand Ledge. [grandledgechamber.com](https://grandledgechamber.com).

**"Bright Half Life"** - 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. [williamstontheatre.org](https://williamstontheatre.org).

**Citizens for Prison Reform Legislative Education Day** - Meet with your legislators and hear three keynote speeches. Lunch provided. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Anderson House Office Building, 124 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. RSVP at [micpr.org](https://micpr.org).

**Crafty Vibes** - Bring your knitting, crochet or any other portable craft project and immerse yourself in an evening of creativity, conversation and community. 5 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St.,

Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. [weaversoftheweb.org](https://weaversoftheweb.org).

**Excellence in Insect Science Symposium** - Learn from scientists and experts, network with fellow entomologists and develop new collaborations to address global challenges. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Kellogg Conference Center, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. [canr.msu.edu/ent](https://canr.msu.edu/ent).

**Game Night and Live Music** - Enjoy a variety of activities and games from 5-9 p.m., including giant Connect 4, cornhole, giant Jenga, ping pong, giant chess and more! Live music at 6 p.m. Albert El Fresco, corner of M.A.C. Avenue and Albert Street, East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](https://cityofeastlansing.com).

**"James and the Giant Peach"** - Family musical based on the book by Roald Dahl. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](https://riverwalktheatre.com).

**Jazz/Hip Hop II class** - Ages 9-13. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](https://ruhalacenter.com).

**Karaoke Thursday** - 8 p.m.-midnight. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. [greendoorlive.com](https://greendoorlive.com).

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

**Mark Collins at Cleats Bar & Grille** - 6 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. [cleatsbarandgrille.com](https://cleatsbarandgrille.com).



## Events

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**“Mascots in Motion: Images and Stories of Automotive Aesthetics”** - Writer, photographer and historian Steve Purdy shares tales and photographs from his new book. 7 p.m. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-372-0529. reoldsmuseum.org.

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild “Artistic Visions” Art Exhibit** - Open by appointment. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-999-3643. midmichiganartguild.org.

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show** - Featuring an array of mediums. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Male St., Lansing. 517-332-4663. midmichiganartguild.org.

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Volunteer Show** - A special exhibit by guild volunteers. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

**“Painterly Dialogues”** - ART/5, a group of five artists who paint together year-round, showcase recent works from their studios and plein air sessions. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framer’s Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

**Rock-Steady Boxing for Parkinson’s** - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson’s and their caregivers. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8888. lapsg.org.

**Ruhala Broadway Ensemble** - Learn to excel equally in singing, acting and dance. 5:30 p.m. 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalaensemble.com.

**“SIX”** - The six wives of Henry VIII take the microphone to remix 500 years of historical heartbreak into a musical celebration of 21st-century girl power. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

**Take Off Pounds Sensibly** - Weight-loss support group. Weigh-in 5:30 p.m., meeting 6-7 p.m. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St., Haslett. 800-932-8677. facebook.com/HaslettTops.

**Paint and Sip Class** - Sip your favorite beverage and create a Lake Michigan sunset on an 18-inch wood cutout of Michigan. 21+. 6 p.m. Looking Glass Brewing Co., 115 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. wineandcanvas.com.

### Friday, May 17

**2024 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial exhibition** - An inclusive survey of work produced by MSU faculty. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**7th Annual 517 Day** - Celebrate the art, food and music of the 517. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517day.com.

**“A Course in Christ” Book Study and Potluck** - 10:30 a.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

See Events, Page 28

### ‘Hurt Like a Mother’ poetry reading Sunday, May 19 4 p.m.

University United  
Methodist Church  
1120 S. Harrison Road,  
East Lansing



Poets Alise Alousi and Sarah Carson will visit East Lansing 4 p.m. Sunday (May 19) to present “Hurt Like a Mother,” a reading exploring “the complexities of motherhood or being mothered: the joy, the grief, the rage, the embarrassment, the love,” according to the Lansing Poetry Club.

The event is free to attend, though the poetry club will accept donations. Carson and Alousi’s reading will be followed by an open mic, where attendees are invited to share a poem of up to five minutes in length.

Alousi, an Iraqi American poet based in Detroit, was a 2019 Kresge Literary Arts Fellow and has worked for Detroit’s InsideOut Literary Arts program for more than two decades. Her poetry collection, “What to Count,” is a finalist for the 2023 Foreword INDIES Book of the Year Award in poetry. Elsewhere, her writing has been published in Verse Daily, the Mom Egg Review and in the anthology “We Call to the Eye & the Night: Love Poems by Writers of Arab Heritage.”

Carson, a Michigan native who now lives in Chicago, has had poems, essays and short stories published in Brevity: A Journal of Concise Literary Nonfiction, the Colorado Review, the Columbia Poetry Review, DIAGRAM, Guernica, the Nashville Review and beyond. Her most recent poetry collection, “How to Baptize a Child in Flint, Michigan,” was the winner of Persea Books’ 2021 Lexi Rudnitsky Editor’s Choice Award.

For more information about the event, visit [lansingpoetryclub.com](http://lansingpoetryclub.com) or call Lansing Poetry Club President Ruelaine Stokes at (517) 881-7562.

## Ixion wraps up season with a humorous and engaging collection of shorts

BY MARK GMAZEL

Ixion Ensemble Theatre concludes another strong season of new, original and challenging works with “Let’s Fight,” an energetic, kinesthetic and humorous collection of nine 10-minute plays that revolve around conflict. Directed by Rose Jangmi Cooper, with assistance from Ny’Kieria Blocker and very competent stage management by Molly Woods, this show is fun, entertaining and, every once in a while, might make you think.

I must admit I was a bit leery of a production featuring unfamiliar playwrights, and after a tough week, I had to drag myself in. I also must say that if a piece of work is 10 minutes long, it should be called a sketch, not a play. I don’t think I’ve ever seen anything 10 minutes long that I could call a play, even if it was written by Samuel Beckett.

Imagine how pleasantly surprised I was, then, to view this funny, engaging, well-selected and paced collection of shorts. The scenes were organized logically, increasing in complexity as each vignette led to the next. The cast was cohesive and well-rehearsed, and the scene changes were dispatched speedily.

Each “play” was bookended by sharp and eye-catching graphics, designed by Michelle Harvey Hill, that were projected onto four TV screens. Since Ixion almost always has a videographer in the cast or crew, I would like to see those TVs used even more in the future, perhaps to augment the rather sparse sets at Stage One. I’ve often sat in that space and wondered why no one wants to use those TV sets, so kudos to Ixion for grasping the opportunity.



Review

### “Let’s Fight”

May 17-18  
8 p.m.  
Stage One at Sycamore  
Creek Eastwood  
2200 Lake Lansing Road,  
Lansing  
[onthestage.tickets/show/ixion-ensemble](http://onthestage.tickets/show/ixion-ensemble)

I’m always resistant to giving away secrets, tricks and surprises in a show, and I rarely write anything other than a very bare plot synopsis when I’m reviewing a single play, but to adequately discuss nine separate and unique presentations would take more space than I’m afforded here. With the space I have left, I’d like to discuss some of the outstanding performances I saw. I won’t be able to mention each actor involved, but rest assured I was quite satisfied with the efforts of every cast member. Their voices were clear and easy to understand, and their acting choices were bold and interesting.

Let’s begin with the final scene, “Not Part of the Choreography,” by Heath



Photo by Michelle Harvey Hill

Quinn Kelly (left) and Rich Kopitsch rehearse an argument for “Kortal Mombat,” by Adam Carlson, one of nine short plays featured in Ixion Ensemble Theatre’s “Let’s Fight.”

Sartorius. It featured very strong work by Rich Kopitsch and Ann Carlson, who were quite excellent in a technically, physically and emotionally demanding scene that was also very funny.

“Kortal Mombat,” by Adam Carlson, started off light but got darker and darker as it progressed. It featured the previously mentioned televisions in an excit-

ing and interesting way, along with a very humorous video game controller conceit.

The most outstanding of all the scenes was “Fighting Mr. Right,” by Barbara Lindsay. Funny, warm and engaging, the honest performances by Maureen Sawdon and Dillon Smith were outstanding. Smith truly impressed with his comic timing and unhurried, natural delivery.



# Events

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**“Bright Half Life”** - 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. [williamstontheatre.org](http://williamstontheatre.org).

**Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer** - Self-taught artist whose watercolor and acrylic paintings reflect the peace she experienced growing up in the country. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. [cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett](http://cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett).

**The Coffeehouse at All Saints** - Monthly showcase of Michigan-based musical and spoken-word talent. Bring your own snacks/drinks. Free admission. 7:30 p.m. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-7160. [allsaints-el.org](http://allsaints-el.org).

**The Collective Presents Motown** - Band of experienced Lansing musicians who share a love of the Motown sound and R&B. 7:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. [urbanbeat-events.com](http://urbanbeat-events.com).

**Excellence in Insect Science Symposium** - Learn from scientists and experts, network with fellow entomologists and develop new collaborations to address global challenges. 8 a.m.-1:45 p.m. Kellogg Conference Center, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. [canr.msu.edu/ent](http://canr.msu.edu/ent).

**Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group** - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall Food Court. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [meridian50plus.com](http://meridian50plus.com).

**“Let’s Fight”** - Collection of nine short plays themed around conflict. 8 p.m. Stage One at Sycamore Creek Eastwood, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. [onthestage.tickets/show/ixion-ensemble](http://onthestage.tickets/show/ixion-ensemble).

**Geech at Mash Bar** - 10 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. [mashbar.net](http://mashbar.net).

**Grand River Connection** - Monthly networking event for young professionals. 5:01 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. [lansing501.com](http://lansing501.com).

**Homemade Bug Repellent** - This craft is available for adults. Registration req. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. [charlottelibrary.org](http://charlottelibrary.org).

**“James and the Giant Peach”** - Family musical based on the book by Roald Dahl. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

**Live Music with Great Scott!** - Grand Rapids party band playing the best of the ‘50s to the new millennium. 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. [lansingbrewingcompany.com](http://lansingbrewingcompany.com).

**Midday Sun at the Peanut Barrel** - 8 p.m. 521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-351-0608. [peanutbarrel.com](http://peanutbarrel.com).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild “Artistic Visions” Art Exhibit** - Open by appointment. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-999-3643. [midmichiganartguild.org](http://midmichiganartguild.org).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show** - Featuring an array of mediums. 9 am.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Male St., Lansing. 517-332-4663. [midmichiganartguild.org](http://midmichiganartguild.org).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Volunteer Show** - A special exhibit by guild volunteers. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. [midmichiganartguild.org](http://midmichiganartguild.org).

**Movement with Vitality for Parkinson’s** - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson’s and their caregivers. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8888. [lapsg.org](http://lapsg.org).

**“Painterly Dialogues”** - ART/5, a group of five artists who paint together year-round, showcase recent works from their studios and plein air sessions. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers’s Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framersedge.net](http://framersedge.net).

**Parkour at ALIVE** - You and your little one will learn how to safely maneuver everyday obstacles using the whole body. Ages 2-6. 10 a.m. ALIVE, 800 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. 517-541-5800. [myalive.com](http://myalive.com).

**“Refuge Recovery,” A Buddhist Path to Recovering from Addiction** - Peer-led group meeting with a 20-minute meditation and a reading from the book “Refuge Recovery.” 6:30 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. [unitylansing.org](http://unitylansing.org).

**“SIX”** - The six wives of Henry VIII take the microphone to remix 500 years of historical heartbreak into a musical celebration of 21st-century girl power. 8 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. [whartoncenter.com](http://whartoncenter.com).

**Something with James at Mash Bar** - 7 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. [mashbar.net](http://mashbar.net).

**Songwriters Showcase** - Acoustic open mic at 6 p.m., main acts (Jessey Adams, Jenna Kay, Ryan Scott) begin at 7 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-853-4600. [meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us).

**Start Your Engines** - Children ages 2-4 and their caregivers explore science through hands-on, inquisitive learning in a responsive, playful, exploratory environment. 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Taylor Taylor at Harrison Roadhouse** - 6 p.m. 720 E. Michigan Ave., East Lansing. 517-337-0200. [harrisonroadhouse.com](http://harrisonroadhouse.com).

**Therapeutic Expression Sessions, Hosted by Ryan Holmes** - Create art pieces or crafts and network with other artists. Mocktails and soda provided. 6:30-8 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. [lansingshuffle.com](http://lansingshuffle.com).

## Saturday, May 18

**2024 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial exhibition** - An inclusive survey of work produced by MSU faculty. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**7th Annual 517 Day** - Appreciate the unique culture of Lansing through music, art, vendors and fun. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. State Capitol, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. [517day.com](http://517day.com).

**Annual Used Book and Jewelry Sale** - Used books, jewelry, watches, purses, table linens, yarn, quilts, puzzles, fine art, frames and much more. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. [thepeopleschurch.com](http://thepeopleschurch.com).

**Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer** - Self-taught artist whose watercolor and acrylic paintings reflect the peace she experienced growing up in the country. Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. [cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett](http://cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett).

**“Bright Half Life”** - 2 and 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. [williamstontheatre.org](http://williamstontheatre.org).

**Contra & Square Dance** - All dances taught. No partner needed. Come at 6:30 for a quick workshop on easy contra dance moves. 7 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. 517-614-5858. [tenpoundfiddle.org](http://tenpoundfiddle.org).

**“Corazón por La Justicia,” A Social Justice Exhibit** - In the tradition of Chicano, Mexican and Latin American artists, we celebrate the work of Mexican artists exploring issues that impact us today. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado, 204 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. [facebook.com/casaderosado](http://facebook.com/casaderosado).

**Dine-in or carryout sauerkraut dinner and dance** - German dinner 5-6:30 p.m., live music and dancing to follow. \$15 adults, \$7 children 10 and under. Lansing Liederkranz, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-882-6330. [facebook.com/lansingliederkranzclub](http://facebook.com/lansingliederkranzclub).

**Diversity Day** - Local food establishments and service organizations showcase the best of what

they have to offer. After grabbing a delicious dish, explore the zoo grounds. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. [potterparkzoo.org](http://potterparkzoo.org).

**Donuts & Storytime** - Stories, activities and donuts! Intended for kids ages 0-5 and their caregivers. 11 a.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. [eradl.org](http://eradl.org).

**East Lansing Art Festival** - Artist booths, live performances, art demonstrations, food court and more. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Ann Street Plaza, corner of Albert and M.A.C. avenues, East Lansing. [elartfest.com](http://elartfest.com).

**Eastside Tea Making** - Familiarize yourself with the edible plants growing in your neighborhood while making your own herbal tea to take home. 10 a.m. Hunter Park GardenHouse, 500 Clifford St., Lansing. [allenneighborhoodcenter.org/gardenhouse](http://allenneighborhoodcenter.org/gardenhouse).

**For Sh’ts & Giggles Comedy Special** - A night of nonstop laughter, featuring Tmo Redikulus, Simply Shanel, Comedian Juicee and Stan Banks. Music by DJ E-Nyce. 21+. 9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. [urbanbeatevents.com](http://urbanbeatevents.com).

**Free Brush Drop-Off** - 8 a.m.-noon. Delhi Publicly Owned Treatment Works, 5961 McCue Road, Holt. 517-699-3874. [delhitownshipmi.gov](http://delhitownshipmi.gov).

**Game Night** - Bring your favorite game to share, whether it’s a tabletop RPG, a card game, a board game or something else. You’re also welcome to bring food and beverages. 5-8 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. [manifestlansing.com](http://manifestlansing.com).

**Heavy Music featuring Ben Hall** - Performing Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band’s “Live Bullet” LP in its entirety, plus some other favorites. 9 p.m. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-482-6376. [greendoorlive.com](http://greendoorlive.com).

**Intermediate Ballet class** - 11 a.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Inventing Climate Futures** - We’ll lay the foundations for addressing climate change and its consequences in our cities, beginning with East Lansing. All are welcome to lend their thoughts. 3 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [greaterlansingdsa.org](http://greaterlansingdsa.org).

**“James and the Giant Peach”** - Family musical based on the book by Roald Dahl. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

**JP & the Energy at Mash Bar** - 9 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. [mashbar.net](http://mashbar.net).

**“Let’s Fight”** - Collection of nine short plays themed around conflict. 8 p.m. Stage One at Sycamore Creek Eastwood, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. [onthestage.tickets/show/ixion-ensemble](http://onthestage.tickets/show/ixion-ensemble).

**Lids For Kids** - Free bike helmets, raffles, opportunities to meet local law officials and firefighters, fire engine tours, activities and games. 10 a.m.-noon. Marshall Street Fire Station, 815 Marshall St., Lansing. [lidsforkidsmi.org](http://lidsforkidsmi.org).

**Meridian Garden Club Spring Plant Sale** - In addition to perennials, some native plants, small trees and house plants will be available for purchase. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. [meridiangardenclub.weebly.com](http://meridiangardenclub.weebly.com).

**Meridian Township Farmers Market** - Shop local and support area vendors. 8 am.-2 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-712-2395. [meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket](http://meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Volunteer Show** - A special exhibit by guild volunteers. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. [midmichiganartguild.org](http://midmichiganartguild.org).

**Ms. Laura’s Art Gallery Grand Opening** - Enjoy a selfie station, a drag queen story hour, freebies, Sweets & Treats by Tangle, and hot dogs and chips (while supplies last). Noon-4 p.m. REO Town Marketplace, 1023 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. [facebook.com/mslaurasart](http://facebook.com/mslaurasart).

**MSU Horticulture Gardens Annual Spring Plant Sale** - 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Plant & Soil Sciences Building, 1066

Bogue St., East Lansing. 517-353-0443. [canr.msu.edu/hrt/our\\_gardens/](http://canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens/).

**New York City Jazz Dance Class, with Thomas Ruhala** - 3 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**New York City Tap Dance Class, with Thomas Ruhala** - 2 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Over the Edge** - Those who have met their fundraising goal for the Women’s Center of Greater Lansing will rappel down Boji Tower. Enjoy 517 Day events, vendors and entertainment. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. 124 W. Allegan St., Lansing. [lansingwomen.org/ote2024](http://lansingwomen.org/ote2024).

**“Painterly Dialogues”** - ART/5, a group of five artists who paint together year-round, showcase recent works from their studios and plein air sessions. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers’s Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framersedge.net](http://framersedge.net).

**Pinhole Photography** - Build a pinhole camera and use it to expose an image on direct positive paper, then develop the image in a darkroom! Ages 10-13. 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**River Trail Cleanup** - In preparation for ArtPath, we’ll clean up the River Trail from the historic Turner-Dodge House to the Beech Street Bridge. 10 a.m. Rotary Park, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-574-4521. [lansingartgallery.org](http://lansingartgallery.org).

**“SIX”** - The six wives of Henry VIII take the microphone to remix 500 years of historical heartbreak into a musical celebration of 21st-century girl power. 2 and 8 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. [whartoncenter.com](http://whartoncenter.com).

**Start Your Engines** - Children ages 2-4 and their caregivers explore science through hands-on, inquisitive learning in a responsive, playful, exploratory environment. 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Tawas Beginning Birder Tour** - Join Michigan Audubon on a beginning birder tour in Iosco County. This adventure will travel by caravan around the Tawas area. Register at [michiganaudubon.org/upcoming-trips-workshops](http://michiganaudubon.org/upcoming-trips-workshops).

**Tiger and Dragon Kenpo Martial Arts Training** - Based on a variety of martial arts systems, Tiger and Dragon Kenpo is designed to develop self-confidence in the warrior. 1 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. [weaversoftheweb.org](http://weaversoftheweb.org).

**Toastmaster Meeting Open House** - Club helps members grow in speaking, presentation and leadership skills. All are welcome to attend this open house. Theme will be soaring to new heights. 9:45 a.m. MSUFCU, 104 S. Washington Square, Lansing. [cdas.toastmost.org](http://cdas.toastmost.org).

**Village Crafters Spring Fling Craft Show** - Crafters, artists, bakers and makers sell their wares. Bring donations of school supplies for the Eaton Rapids School District to be entered into a raffle. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Union Street School, 501 Union St., Eaton Rapids. [villagecrafters.net](http://villagecrafters.net).

## Sunday, May 19

**2024 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial exhibition** - An inclusive survey of work produced by MSU faculty. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**Annual Used Book and Jewelry Sale** - Used books, jewelry, watches, purses, table linens, yarn, quilts, puzzles, fine art, frames and much more. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. [thepeoplechurch.com](http://thepeoplechurch.com).



# Events

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**“Becoming Nobody” screening** - This inspiring documentary offers a comprehensive portrait of spiritual leader, psychologist and guru Ram Dass’ life. Pizza provided. Noon. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

**“Bright Half Life”** - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

**Bringing Literature to Life** - Hear “The Tale of Peter Rabbit” and enjoy a short ballet performance of the story. Afterward, nibble on thematic snacks and participate in activities and crafts. Ages 5+. Registration req. 2 and 3:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

**The Brothers Ralph at Mash Bar** - Noon. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

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

**Community Music Night: Bob Dylan Tribute** - Local artists pay tribute to Bob Dylan with an evening of incredible music. Free, all ages welcome. Doors 5 p.m., show 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

**“Corazón por La Justicia,” A Social Justice Exhibit** - In the tradition of Chicano, Mexican and Latin American artists, we celebrate the work of Michigan artists exploring issues that impact us today. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado, 204 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/casaderosado.

**Deer & Elk at Mash Bar** - 3 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

**Delta Community Choir Spring Benefit Concert** - Donations benefit the House of Promise, a nonprofit providing survivors of sexual abuse and sex trafficking a place to heal and rebuild their lives. 3 p.m. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 7910 E. St. Joe Hwy., Lansing. deltacc.org.

**Drum Circle at Lake Lansing Park South** - All ages and experience levels welcome. Bring percussion instruments if you have them, as well as chairs. 2-4 p.m. 1621 Pike St., Haslett. 517-803-2392. facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

**East Lansing Art Festival** - Artist booths, live performances, art demonstrations, food court and more. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Ann Street Plaza, corner of Albert and M.A.C. avenues, East Lansing. elartfest.com.

**Eastern Ingham Farmers Market** - Locally grown produce, baked goods, prepared food, handmade artisan goods, live music, kids’ crafts and much more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. easterninghamfarmersmarket.org.

**Euchre** - 6 p.m. Esquire Bar, 1250 Turner St., Lansing. 517-487-5338.

**Green Man Work Day** - We’ll take care of some projects that need doing, either at the church building or on our property. We’ll finish with a shared feast and relaxation time. Noon-5 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. weaversoftheweb.org.

**Introduction to Photography, Passion of the Creative Mind Series** - 9:30 a.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

**“James and the Giant Peach”** - Family musical based on the book by Roald Dahl. 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com.

**Joshua Generation Cornerstone Church 11th Anniversary** - This year’s theme is “When Will We Learn?” Guest psalmist Troy Robertson of the Bread House, guest speaker Pastor Derek Evans of City of God Church. 5 p.m. 2000 Forest Ave., Lansing. 517-515-5342.

**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.

**Lansing Junior Roller Derby Basic Skills Boot Camp** - Ten-week program. Ages 12-17. 6-8 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. lansingrollerderby.com.

**Magickal Mindset Series with LeAnn Crouch** - Deep dive into the magickal intersection of intention, mindset, intuition and manifestation, specifically tailored for entrepreneurs. 4:30 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Volunteer Show** - A special exhibit by guild volunteers. Noon-6 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

**New York City Jazz Dance Class, with Thomas Ruhala** - 3 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

**New York City Tap Dance Class, with Thomas Ruhala** - 2 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhala-center.com.

**“Painterly Dialogues”** - ART/5, a group of five artists who paint together year-round, showcase recent works from their studios and plein air sessions. Framers’ Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

**Red Cedar Quaker Friends Worship** - 10:30 a.m. 1400 Turner St., Lansing. redcedarfriends.org/join-us-for-worship/.

**“SIX”** - The six wives of Henry VIII take the microphone to remix 500 years of historical heartbreak into a musical celebration of 21st-century girl power. 1 and 6:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. wharton-center.com.

**Victorian Tea in the Village** - Selection of teas, sweet treats and finger sandwiches! Registration req. 2-4 p.m. Meridian Historical Village, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. 517-347-7300. meridianhistoricalvillage.org.

## Monday, May 20

**Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer** - Self-taught artist whose watercolor and acrylic paintings reflect the peace she experienced growing up in the country. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 25

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**Mid-Michigan Art Guild “Artistic Visions” Art Exhibit** - Open by appointment. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-999-3643. midmichiganartguild.org.

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show** - Featuring an array of mediums. 9 am.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Male St., Lansing. 517-332-4663. midmichiganartguild.org.

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Volunteer Show** - A special exhibit by guild volunteers. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

**“Painterly Dialogues”** - ART/5, a group of five artists who paint together year-round, showcase recent works from their studios and plein air sessions. Noon-5:30 p.m. Framers’ Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

**“The Quest: A Journey of Spiritual Rediscovery” Book Study with Jeff Benoit** - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

**Rest with Music: Taylor Taylor** - Take a break from your day, relax and enjoy a free concert under the ‘night sky’ of the planetarium. Noon. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. health4u.msu.edu/courses/rest-with-music.

**Unity Book Study: “The Power of Now,” by Eckhart Tolle** - Facilitated by Lucille Olson. 1:30 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

**Yoga for Parkinson’s** - Free yoga class for people with Parkinson’s and their caregivers. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8888. lapsg.org.

## Tuesday, May 21

**Balance, Conditioning and Strength for Parkinson’s** - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson’s and their caregivers. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8888. lapsg.org.

**Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer** - Self-taught artist whose watercolor and acrylic paintings reflect the peace she experienced growing up in the country. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

**Carl Pawluk at Cleats Bar & Grille** - 6 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. cleatsbarandgrille.com.

**LAGE Game Night East** - 6:30-11 p.m. The Junction, 410 S. Clippert St., Lansing. meetup.com/lansing/events.

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

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show** - Featuring an array of mediums. 9 am.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Male St., Lansing. 517-332-4663. midmichiganartguild.org.

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Volunteer Show** - A special exhibit by guild volunteers. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos

Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. midmichiganartguild.org.

**Music in the Park** - Free performances by the Sea Cruisers (oldies) and the Wild Honey Trio. Food available from Jay’s Dogs food truck. 7 p.m. Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road, Lansing. deltami.gov.

**“Painterly Dialogues”** - ART/5, a group of five artists who paint together year-round, showcase recent works from their studios and plein air sessions. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers’ Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

**“The Quest: A Journey of Spiritual Rediscovery” Book Study with Rev. Sharon Ketchum** - 1:30 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

**StressBusters: Positive Mental Health for Kids** - 3 p.m. session for ages 3-6 and caregivers, 4 p.m. sessions for ages 7-10 and 11-14. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-346-8094. gladl.org.

**Trivia at Lansing Shuffle with DJ Trivia** - 7:30-9 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

## Wednesday, May 22

**2024 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial exhibition** - An inclusive survey of work produced by MSU faculty. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**“A Course of Love” Discussion, facilitated by Lucille Olson & Bill Dietrich** - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

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


**Beginning Salsa Group Dance Class** - Easy-to-learn Latin dance. Seven-week class. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. 517-364-8888. sparrow.org/our-hospitals-services/michigan-athletic-club.

**Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer** - Self-taught artist whose watercolor and acrylic paintings reflect the peace she experienced growing up in the country. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

**CharLit Adult Book Club** - A monthly adult book club. 6:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.


See Events, Page 31

CRIMINAL DEFENSE



Drunk Driving  
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# FOOD & DRINK

## DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING



Lawrence

By **GABRIELLE LAWRENCE**

I've heard it said that people in Lansing don't want to have nice things. While I believe that as it relates to many current City Council members, I don't think it's true when it comes to the general public. I'm happy to pay top dollar for top service. I'll pay to park. I'll vote yes on an affordable housing millage. I'll fork it over for a meal — the only thing I ask is that it blows me away.

When Toscana opened last year, excitement was high. I know many Michigan State University professors who looked forward to taking campus visitors out and friends who were excited to celebrate anniversaries and other occasions. However, I found that the feeling quickly dissipated. While certain people were exuberant about their Toscana experiences, most reported that the food was just OK.

A few months after its opening, I met a girlfriend for dinner. I had made meatballs at home a few days before and decided to try the Toscana version to compare the two. I'd like to place on the record that I have no qualifications to be making good meatballs and simply followed a recipe, but I was stunned to find that my meatballs were markedly better tasting.

A while later, Mr. She Ate and I attended a dinner honoring United States Sen. Debbie Stabenow at the AC Hotel, where Toscana is located. The room was packed with people, and I expected the typical dried-out banquet chicken. Lo and behold, we were served vegetarian lasagna, and it was the best banquet food I've ever had.

So, I didn't know what to expect when Mr. She Ate and I recently celebrated our anniversary with a 5 p.m. weekday dinner out. Our server recommended the capesante pasta (\$35) to me, and while it hadn't been on my radar, I heeded her advice. I received capellini pasta tossed with goat cheese, wilted spinach and a creamy red pepper sauce and topped with five juicy scallops. The scallops had a wonderful char on the outside and were tender inside, and I shared one of them with my beloved as I twined my fork into the noodles. The sauce, while flavorful, was so rich that I put my fork down after a few bites to take the rest of it home. I knew I couldn't finish the dish and that if I did, I'd be uncomfortable. While I loved the scallops, I'd prefer to see them offered with a lighter carb, like a spring risotto with fresh herbs or pesto.

Mr. She Ate chose the chicken Parmesan (\$30), a perpetual favorite of his since we honeymooned in Australia and learned that it's an incredibly popular bar food Down Under. After a few bites, he stopped eating and said the chicken was strangely crunchy and gristly. We reviewed the dessert options and opted to go somewhere else.

We returned a few weeks later with the 4- and 6-year-olds for Sunday brunch. To say this made us nervous is an understatement. Our daughter insisted on wearing her pirate dress, a full-on Halloween costume. Our son brought a stuffed giraffe, which he perched right on the table. But in the end, they were totally fine. Service was quick and attentive. We had fretted about the possibility that there wouldn't be much on the menu that the kids would eat, but she dove right into her waffle (\$15) and dunked each bite in the ra-

## The best of both worlds: Toscana's food is as appealing as its atmosphere



### Toscana

3170 E. Michigan Ave.,  
Lansing  
4-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday  
4-10 p.m. Friday  
10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 4-10 p.m. Saturday  
10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 4-9 p.m. Sunday  
(517) 246-4980  
toscanalansing.com



Bryan Beverly for City Pulse

The Toscana Stack, offered during brunch on Saturdays and Sundays, is both an eyeful and a mouthful.

By **BRYAN BEVERLY**

I'm not someone who gets hung up on visual aesthetics. Some restaurants would rather wow you with bold color schemes or thematic imagery than focus on quality food and dining experiences. I've got a special



Beverly

place in my heart for the hole-in-the-wall bar that nails a special burger, food courts and food trucks that offer an array of flavors and the occasional gas station that moonlights as a sandwich shop. These establishments (read lightly) know what they are and what they aren't but care enough about their customers to go the extra mile on taste and friendliness.

That's not to say I haven't indulged in some fine dining across the globe — Michelin-starred and otherwise. Yet, even in those instances where the luxury has extended to décor and ambiance, food has been the focus. That's not always the case, and typically, I don't really care. But for special occasions, I want a multi-sensory experience that's as appealing to the eye as it is to the palate. My visits to Toscana were exactly this and more.

Opened in late summer last year, Toscana has a sleek, contemporary interior that's softened by warm earth tones and lots of natural wood and light. The wine market inside sells everything you might need to host a dinner party or wine tasting at home. The variety of seating options offers something for every scenario, be it large groups, solo diners from the adjoining hotel, intimate spaces for date night or al fresco patio placement, and each offers ideal comfort with a refined touch.

The staff was pleasant and smiling, with a subtle but steady presence, ready to attend to my every need. The bartenders were knowledgeable, accommodating and also suitably apologetic as they worked through some technology issues with their electronic ordering and payment systems.

### What's impressive

The prima course I enjoyed for an early dinner ahead of an evening meeting was brilliant. Both the calamari (\$16) and the pear and gorgonzola salad (\$9/half) offered elevated taste profiles. The calamari were lightly battered and flash-fried, accompanied by cherry peppers, giardiniera and a delightfully tangy anchovy salsa verde. The lengthwise cut of the squid was a welcome departure from the typical rings, and the plating was artistic and generously sauced.

Similarly, the salad was wonderfully dressed in a fig-balsamic vinaigrette. The peppery arugula paired well with the gorgonzola and maple-roasted pecans. My only complaint was the miserly portion of the prosecco-roasted pears: Two thin slices are not substantial enough for you as a reader, let alone this writer gripping his fork in anticipation.

### What's surprising

My lovely bride joined me for a brunch date to celebrate 14 years of wedded bliss. She noshed on a Caprese salad (\$18). Although a buffalo mozzarella first-timer, she's now an avid fan. The yellow heirloom tomatoes, when partnered with the basil pesto and balsamic reduction, were delightful.

The crab omelet (\$18), stuffed with lump crab meat, basil and goat cheese, was outstanding. The perfectly cooked



## Events

from page 29

**Creating Community Ritual** - Full moon ritual centered on the theme of community. 6 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. [weaversoftheweb.org](http://weaversoftheweb.org).

**Disney-Themed Trivia** - Call us at 517-371-2600 to make a reservation for you and your team. 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. [lansingbrewingcompany.com](http://lansingbrewingcompany.com).

**Drew Behringer at the Graduate Rock Bar** - 8 p.m. 133 Evergreen Ave., East Lansing. 517-348-0900. [facebook.com/graduaterockbar](https://facebook.com/graduaterockbar).

**Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group** - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall Food Court. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [meridian50plus.com](http://meridian50plus.com).

**Hunt a Killer Mystery** - Julia Adler found the mummified corpse of missing actress Viola Vane in the attic of her family-owned theater. We'll work to determine who orchestrated Vane's vanishing. 5:30 p.m. 1845 Courthouse, 1305 Cochran Ave., Charlotte. [charlottelibrary.org](http://charlottelibrary.org).

**Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle** - 8 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. [lansingshuffle.com](http://lansingshuffle.com).

**Lansing Junior Roller Derby Basic Skills Boot Camp** - Ten-week program. Ages 12-17. 6-8 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing. [lansingrollerderby.com](http://lansingrollerderby.com).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show** - Featuring an array of mediums. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Male St., Lansing. 517-332-4663. [midmichiganartguild.org](http://midmichiganartguild.org).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Volunteer Show** - A special exhibit by guild volunteers. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. [midmichiganartguild.org](http://midmichiganartguild.org).

**Mindfulness Meditation in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition** - All are welcome to join our weekly practice! 7-9 p.m. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. MLK Jr. Blvd., Lansing. [lamc.info](http://lamc.info).

**Open Mic, Hosted by Rick Hansel** - Family-friendly, welcomes singers and musicians. No cover, all ages welcome. 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. [urbanbeatevents.com](http://urbanbeatevents.com).

**"Painterly Dialogues"** - ART/5, a group of five artists who paint together year-round, showcase recent works from their studios and plein air sessions. 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framedge.net](http://framedge.net).

## Thursday, May 23

**2024 Art, Art History, and Design Faculty Triennial exhibition** - An inclusive survey of work produced by MSU faculty. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**"A Course in Miracles" Group, Facilitated by Lisa Schmidt** - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. [unitylansing.org](http://unitylansing.org).

**Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer** - Self-taught artist whose watercolor and acrylic paintings reflect the peace she experienced growing up in the country. Noon-6 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. [cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett](http://cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett).

**Concerts at the Shell Spring Preview** - Free performances by the Williamston High School and Middle School jazz bands. 7-9 p.m. McCormick Park, 300 N. Putnam St., Williamston. [facebook.com/williamstonconcerts](https://facebook.com/williamstonconcerts).

**Crafty Vibes** - Bring your knitting, crochet or any other portable craft project and immerse yourself in an evening of creativity, conversation and community. 5 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. [weaversoftheweb.org](http://weaversoftheweb.org).

**Darin Larner Jr. at Cleats Bar & Grille** - 6 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. [cleatsbarandgrille.com](http://cleatsbarandgrille.com).



**Device Advice** - Our technology coordinator will be available from 5-6:30 p.m. to help with projects you're working on or answer general questions. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. [eradl.org](http://eradl.org).

**Game Night and Live Music** - Enjoy a variety of activities and games from 5-9 p.m., including giant Connect 4, cornhole, giant Jenga, ping pong, giant chess and more! Live music at 6 p.m. Albert El Fresco, corner of M.A.C. Avenue and Albert Street, East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](http://cityofeastlansing.com).

**"James and the Giant Peach"** - Family musical based on the book by Roald Dahl. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

**Karaoke Thursday** - 8 p.m.-midnight. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. [greendoorlive.com](http://greendoorlive.com).

### THE PULSIFIEDS

Executive Driver Needed- Part Time. To perform professional driver duties and delivery in a timely and professional manner. We have multiple part-time and full-time shifts available and hours are flexible. Previous delivery experience is not required. The ideal candidate is described as an individual who takes pride in their driving and is dedicated to providing superior customer service. Contact (Alessiacruz45@gmail.com )

### TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

#### TOP 5 LASAGNA

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2023 Top of the Town contest. Bon appétit!

##### 1. Carrabba's Italian Grill

Chain eatery and bar serving a diverse menu of classic Italian fare in a family-friendly setting  
6540 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing  
517-323-8055  
[carrabbas.com](http://carrabbas.com)  
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday  
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday  
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday

##### 2. Cugino's

Italian restaurant with bar and patio seating for pizza, pasta, sub sandwiches and other staples  
306 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge  
517-627-4048  
[cuginosmenu.com](http://cuginosmenu.com)

4-8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday  
4-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday

#### 3. Falsetta's Casa Nova

Family-run eatery offering classic Italian and American dishes  
138 S. Waverly Road, Lansing  
517-323-9181  
[falsettascnlansing.com](http://falsettascnlansing.com)  
11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Monday-Tuesday  
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Wednesday-Friday  
Noon-10 p.m. Saturday

#### 4. Spagnuolo's Restaurant

Cozy, casual restaurant serving homemade Italian comfort food  
662 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos  
517-349-9605  
[spagsinfo.com/spagnuolos](http://spagsinfo.com/spagnuolos)  
3-8 p.m. Monday-Tuesday  
3-9 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday  
Noon-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday

#### 5. Tony M's Restaurant & Banquet Center

Eatery and event space offering Italian fare, from pizza to lasagna, plus breakfast  
3420 S. Creyts Road, Lansing  
517-322-2069  
[tonyms.com](http://tonyms.com)  
10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday  
Noon-9 p.m. Saturday  
Noon-7 p.m. Sunday

## She Ate

from page 30

mekin of maple syrup. He went for the French toast (\$16), which came to the table piled with whipped cream that he promptly devoured. He took a bite of the French toast, which was a win, but he couldn't get on board with the texture. No matter — we took it home, and I ate it over the course of the week.

I had the mushroom and asparagus omelet (\$16), which purports to be made with truffled pecorino. It was fine, although I detected not a hint of truffle, and the asparagus should have been trimmed a bit more

because the ends of the spears were woody. Mr. She Ate chose the Toscana Stack (\$15), and the large lemon-ricotta pancakes won the table. They were light and sweet and didn't need the added whipped cream or maple syrup, unless, of course, you're a 4- or 6-year-old child.

We had an incredible brunch experience. Mr. She Ate enjoyed a generously poured mimosa. There were many menu items we would try in the future, our order came out quickly, and the macerated berry compote that came with all the sweet dishes was delicious. We rarely go out to dinner and would make a different choice for that meal next time, but brunch with the kids has a new player in town.

## He Ate

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three-egg omelet was a wonderful platform for the tart and creamy seafood mixture. Thinly sliced Lyonnaise potatoes flanked the omelet and were somehow simultaneously translucent to the eye and thick to the bite.

We split the Toscana Stack (\$15), which was both an eyeful and a mouthful. The faintly yellow pancakes were fluffy, with a hint of sweetness from the vanilla cream and a tiny punch of citrus from the lemon zest. The generous blanket of berries was a hybrid of fresh, whole fruit pieces and mashed compote. Michigan-made maple syrup brought

this dish from the garden back into grandma's kitchen — griddled cakes at their best.

**Best bite**

The chicken marsala (\$32) was top-flight. I recall my mom having perfected a version of this dish in my youth. Toscana's version rivaled hers, but if any of you tell her, I'll deny ever writing this. The two thick cuts of chicken, bathed in a rich and creamy mushroom and wine sauce, were succulent and divine. They were served over a mound of Parmesan mashed potatoes and accompanied by fresh asparagus and crispy pancetta. This was high-level Italian cooking using fresh ingredients without trying to reinvent the meal. Flavor is my favorite aesthetic.





# 517 DAY BUNDLE

**MAY 14<sup>th</sup> – MAY 18<sup>th</sup>  
LANSING ONLY**

**5 Pro Gro  
Pre-Rolls**

**1 Pro Gro  
Live Resin  
Disposable**

**7g Pro Gro  
Flower**

**\$51.70**

**\$115 value  
use code: 517**



**DISCLAIMER:** For use by individuals 21 years of age or older or registered qualifying patients only. Keep out of reach of children. It is illegal to drive a motor vehicle while under the influence of marihuana. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222

**WARNING: USE BY PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING WOMEN, OR BY WOMEN PLANNING TO BECOME PREGNANT, MAY RESULT IN FETAL INJURY, PRETERM BIRTH, LOW BIRTH WEIGHT, OR DEVELOPMENTAL PROBLEMS FOR THE CHILD.**