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We've been privileged at City Pulse to have creative, experienced and invigorating writers that carry on our editorial traditions or start new ones. Whether it's "Lansterdam," "Politics," or "The Dish," we have voices that provide insight, information and inspiration. **It's through your support that we've been able to do this**, week in and week out, for more than two decades.



Chris Silva, contributor: "Writing the Lansterdam column has been a rewarding and fulfilling experience. As someone who was working in Lansing pot shops during the emergence of this new industry, I am honored to continue the tradition of independent journalism that gave a voice to my movement and community all those years ago, and has seen it grow into the culture and industry it is today."



**Lizy Ferguson, contributor:** "As a food writer for City Pulse, I've loved exploring Lansing, looking both for hidden gems and institutions that have earned their

reputation. It's given me a whole new appreciation for my beloved hometown!"





**Kyle Melinn, contributor:** "Since Berl Schwarz founded City Pulse more than 20 years ago, I've been pleased to contribute political/government news/commentary to a non-corporate, locally owned weekly publication. In the Lansing area, City Pulse is truly one of a kind."

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Yours truly,
The City Pulse team

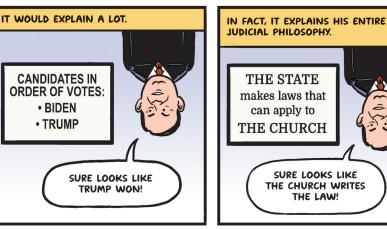
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2024 Jen Sorensen -

SORENSEN

# AN INVERTED AMERICAN FLAG FLEW AT SUPREME COURT JUSTICE SAMUEL ALITO'S HOUSE SHORTLY AFTER THE JANUARY 6 ATTACK. SO-CALLED "STOP THE STEAL" SYMBOL

# MAYBE ALITO ISN'T SYMPATHETIC TOWARDS INSURRECTIONISTS— HE'S JUST UPSIDE-DOWN. LOOKS ALLRIGHT TO ME!



### CityPULSE

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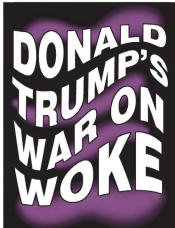
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#### this modern world



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AT LAST! AMERICA IS A COUNTY AND THE ENTIRE COUNTRY LOVES TRUMP!



#### by TOM TOMORROW





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## PULSE TANAL NEWS & OPINION

#### As rental prices rise, so does tenant activism

Shawn Brock was rendered homeless recently when he could not afford his rent due to expenses from a medical condition.

Last week, Brock was one of 100 people who gathered outside the Lansing Center to picket for tenants' rights.

"In this town, you need to make a decision on if you're going to work yourself to death to pay rent or take care of your health," he told the crowd. "We're not second-class citizens. We're trying to work just like anybody else in this town. We need to stand together and rise up, because they can't ignore us forever."

"Not right," several protesters replied.

Michigan's Rent Is Too Damn High coalition organized the protest on the first day of the Building Michigan Communities Conference, a major housing convention hosted by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority inside the Lansing Center.

Picketers were responding to a growing nationwide affordable housing crisis. According to the state's housing portal, Ingham County's median monthly rent increased by 37% — from \$748 to \$1,027 — between 2012 and 2022.

Income rose more during that period in Ingham County, but not necessarily for people who rent.

"This is not an affluent community," said state Rep. Emily Dievendorf, D-Lansing, who is championing measures to help renters.

"In Lansing, we have about half of our population that rents, and the majority of our population cannot afford to build a new house at an average of over \$400,000, or even buy one when the average cost of a house that doesn't need extensive renovation to make it safe is over \$300,000. It just isn't tenable for somebody who is also struggling for basic needs."

Nearly half of the state's renters now qualify as "cost-burdened" — meaning more than 30% of their monthly income is spent on rent.

The Rent Is Too Damn High coalition formed last year in coordination

with a Sept. 5 rally at the Capitol that drew 400 protesters. Today, the coalition comprises membership by 54 organizations, including tenant unions and policy activism groups from cities throughout the state.

Rent Is Too Damn High's statewide coordinator, William Lawrence, a 33-year-old East Lansing native, said last week's outing was a second step for the movement. Some allies attended the conference.

"If you hear about housing policy, it's always about the interest of homeowners, developers and lenders. Very rarely is it discussed from the perspective of housing being a human right," Lawrence said. "The message we're looking to send here is that renters' interests are not being represented in these conversations."

Their members are calling on state legislators to establish rent control policies, fund social housing projects and pass bills providing legal protections for renters before the legislative session ends in December.

The coalition is advocating for a legislative package known as the Michigan Renter's Bill of Rights. Introduced last year, the package features 16 bills that are all still in committees.

It includes legislation that would protect renters' right to unionize, establish a court-guided legal counsel system for qualifying tenants, require landlords to accept qualified applications on a first-come, first-served basis and provide fair warning before raising rent prices, among other things.

Dievendorf co-sponsored each of the 16 bills.

"In housing, just like any other realm, the people who are experiencing the most risks should be able to speak on and negotiate on their own behalf. Right now, tenants just don't have that power," Dievendorf said. "They have to be able to weigh in on what their health and safety standards are, on what needs to be done with their structures and on policies and procedures related to landlord's stipulations in a lease."

Of all the bills, House Bill 4947 could have the largest impact. It



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Protesters seeking housing-rental reform picket the Lansing Center last week during the Building Michigan Communities Conference sponsored by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority.

would repeal a 1988 law that limits local government's ability to implement rent control policies.

"As far I'm concerned, we should be leaving this up to municipalities, because what's affordable in Ann Arbor is different than it is in Detroit or Lansing," Dievendorf said. "It's also important to note that the position from national economists on this issue has shifted over time. Just last year, economists put out a public letter saying that they were wrong about rent stabilization negatively impacting the economy, and that it could actually be a useful tool."

Doug Benson, a local landlord who serves as president of the Rental Property Owners Association of Mid-Michigan, wasn't overly concerned about these potential restrictions. "My group has about 150 members and caters probably to the smaller landlords. The vast majority of us can't put together a new 500-unit building project, but one benefit of being smaller is that you can make accommodations more easily," he said.

Benson, who owns 95 units in Greater Lansing, echoed Dievendorf in noting a discrepancy between the higher-end, new-build housing complexes that are increasingly being funded through state incentives and the older, existing housing stock that the majority of the state's renters can realistically afford.

"In some of them, they're asking for \$1,700 for a one-bedroom. For mine, they're \$800. Do we have a shortage of housing for the wealthy? I don't believe that we do," Benson said.

A landlord for 22 years, Benson sympathized with tenants' "recognizable pain," though he noted that costs for materials, labor, insurance and property taxes have also risen considerably.

"I don't want to act like we're eating dog food over here, but for the life of me, I just don't really see how people can start out in this business right now," he said.

Benson's perspective would draw little, if any sympathy, from the Rent Is To Damn High crowd, however. Lawrence was unapologetic in his opposition to the existing power structure

"Right now, they're still listening to the landlords. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer literally said 'the rent is too damn high' in her State of the State address, but she really hasn't offered any leadership when it comes to supporting these renter's rights bills," Lawrence said.

To him, state Democrats "are governing scared."

"They think that doing less will somehow help them win in November," he said. "We need to let Gov. Whitmer know what this is truly about and push her to do the right thing before she leaves office. And that starts this year, in this session, because we may never get the majority back."

- TYLER SCHNEIDER

#### Seniors fight to save their gardens at Grange Acres in Haslett

#### 'Eyesores' causing erosion at HUD housing complex, management firm says

Joan "Ma" Kittle, a seven-year resident of the Grange Acres senior housing community in Haslett, isn't able to work on her small garden plot as much as she'd like to these days.

"I'm 89 years old, so when I go to work out in the yard, I only work for about three to five minutes. Then I come in the house and lay down for half an hour," she explained.

With that said, Kittle added, those few minutes of working in her garden, which was bee-themed and featured a sign that read "Bee Happy," brought a great deal of enjoyment into her life.

"Even the maintenance people would often come by and holler, 'Be happy!' I'd also have people I didn't even know stop and tell me they enjoyed the decorations," Kittle said.

Unfortunately, Kittle's garden has now been relegated to a patch of dirt after Grange Acres' management company, First Housing Corp., issued a March 1 notice instructing residents to remove "personal property, ornaments, decorations or land-scaping of any sort" by May 31. Kittle complied early.

First Housing acted on behalf

of Grange Acres III/IV Nonprofit Housing Corp., the apartment complex's owner.

David Gerchak, First Housing's vice president, said that while many residents' garden plots had "become eyesores," the deciding factor was logistical issues that surfaced while his team was designing replacement retaining walls throughout the property.

"We've been investing a lot of money into it, including for the retaining walls. What we've discovered is that these plants, trees and bushes are causing erosion, so we're going to have to get rid of some of that to finish them," Gerchak said.

Some of Grange Acres' 400 residents see things differently, however. More than 100 of them signed an April 25 letter opposing the plan. On Saturday (May 18), with only two weeks until management can start removing any lingering plants or decorations, nearly two dozen gathered in the heat to protest at the corner of Marsh Road and Hillcurve Avenue.

Susan Hughes, a six-year resident, was among them.

"I've been a rebel since I can remember," she said, citing her activism while attending Michigan State University during the Vietnam War. "We even gave the finger to Tricky Dick once," referring to President Richard M. Nixon.



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

(Top) Joan Kittle, 89, was among Grange Acres' residents in Haslett to protest an order to get rid of their personal gardens by May 31. (Bottom,left) Kittle has already removed her garden. (Bottom right) Another doomed garden.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: SPECIAL USE PERMIT #24012 (CONSUMERS ENERGY) MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Special Use Permit #24012 (Consumers Energy) Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 (phone 517-853-4560) to hear all persons interested in a special use permit request. Consumers Energy is proposing to construct a new natural gas regulator station at a property located on the northeast corner of Lake Lansing Road and Rutherford Drive. The approximate 0.18 acre site is zoned RB (Single-family Residential).

Information may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and on the Township website under Planning & Development Documents at https://www.meridian.mi.us/about-us/departments/community-planning-development.

Comments may be sent prior to the public hearing by writing to the Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, by phone at phone 517-853-4560, or by email at shorkey@meridian.mi.us. Comments may also be given in person at the public hearing.

Deborah Guthrie Township Clerk

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Courtesy Joan Kittle

Hughes, 70, didn't think she'd ever return to the picket line again. But losing her garden, and especially her many bird feeders, was a step too far.

"I can't tell you how important it is to go out and see some nature. The bird feeders alone kept many of the residents going during COVID. Now, by removing the gardens, they're going to create an urban desert here," Hughes said.

For his part, Gerchak contended that First Housing "compromised as much as we could." In its March notice, it offered each resident three plastic replacement flowerpots to keep on their porch or balcony. They



Courtesy Susan Hughes

also plan to expand an existing centralized community garden, where Gerchak said residents are free to plant their own flowers and vegetation.

"We're not trying to start a big commotion, we're just trying to make improvements," Gerchak said. "But these are unauthorized gardens, and some residents are acting like there's no alternative when we actually built them the community garden, which we've had for a long time and are expanding"

Hughes and other protesters said

See Seniors, Page 7

#### Seniors

#### from page 6

it isn't viable for many residents to utilize that community garden as intended, however, because of its distance, which is three-tenths of a mile or farther.

"We have people that are disabled, and half the people here don't drive. How are some of these people going to get there? They just want their little plants outside their door," Hughes said.

Kittle, who uses a wheelchair, agreed with Gerchak that the community garden was a nice amenity — but only for residents who are physically able to make the trek.

"By the time I get to the garden, I'm tired, and I can't lay down there for five minutes. So, unfortunately, that doesn't help many of us at all," she said.

When asked about those concerns, Gerchak said First Housing is looking at next year's budget to add gardens throughout the property.

He said some residents have actually expressed support for the changes.

"A lot of them are telling us, "Thank you for doing this.' But they are, unfortunately, the silent majority. There's a group of six to 10 people that are the ones who are really pushing this," Gerchak said, adding that recent social media posts have overlooked the numerous improvements he said First Housing has made at the complex.

"I used to work as a contractor for



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Residents of Grange Acres, a subsidized senior citizens apartment complex in Haslett, protesting an order to eliminate their private gardens.

HUD, so I've seen a lot of apartment complexes, and this one is probably one of the nicest in the state," he said, referring to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which subsidizes the property.

"We replaced all their air conditioners and heating and fans. We come out and pick up garbage by their door three times a week. We're trying to do improvements whenever we can, but you never hear about that."

Gerchak also noted that Grange Acres could encounter issues during state inspections due to erosion if the gardens stayed.

"They just changed the inspection protocol, too, so we also wanted to make sure we didn't have any problems there," he explained. Some residents still have their doubts, though.

"Erosion 101 is that you should plant more plants to hold the soil. But, for some reason, that's what they're still telling us," eight-year resident Evert Smith said.

According to First Housing's March notice, residents are also prohibited from flying flags "beyond the outside walls of the buildings."

"My son is 100% disabled from Afghanistan, my dad carried shrapnel in his head and his knee and my grandfather died overseas. Now, I can't even put a flag out on holidays to honor them. It's just cruel," Hughes said through teary eyes.

While maintenance staff will remove any gardens or decorations that remain after May 31, resident Robert

Flanders said some residents still intend to protest until the very end.

"The Meta Peace Team reached out to us last week offering to train us in civil disobedience, and we have residents who are open and willing to make human chains in front of our gardens if it comes down to that," Flanders said.

Residents differ in their outlook. Hughes said she had "no optimism whatsoever" that the gardens could still be saved, while Kittle is still holding out hope.

"I can't see why they won't change their mind," Kittle said. "We're not asking for diamonds and gold, we're just asking to have a little enjoyment in our lives."

- TYLER SCHNEIDER

#### ONEIDA CHARTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ADOPTION ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 2024-1**

On Tuesday, May 14, 2024, the Oneida Charter Township Board adopted Ordinance No. 2024-1 which amends the Oneida Charter Township Zoning Ordinance to regulate the placement of temporary and permanent storage containers in order to maintain the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents of and visitors to Oneida Charter Township. Copies of the complete text of the Ordinance were posted at the Oneida Charter Township Hall at 11041 Oneida Road Grand Ledge, MI 48837.

The Ordinance has the following sections and catch lines: Section 1: which amends Section 2.19 of the Zoning Ordinance; Section 2: which adds Section 3.29 of the Zoning Ordinance; Section 3: Severability and Form; and Section 4: Effective Date, which is 7 days after this publication, unless referendum procedures are initiated under MCL 125.3402

Published by Order of the Township Board Jacqueline H. Kilgore Oneida Charter Township Clerk (517) 622-8078 Web: www.oneidatownship.org

CP#24-516



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: REZONING #24013 (FEDEWA HOLDINGS) MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Rezoning #24013 (Fedewa Holdings) Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 (phone 517-853-4560) to hear all persons interested in a rezoning request. Fedewa Holdings is requesting to rezone an approximately 4.28-acre parcel located on Dobie Road from RAA (Single Family-Low Density) to RC (Multiple Family, maximum 14 dwelling unit per acre).

Materials related to the request are available for viewing in the Department of Community Planning and Development office (5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, 48864), Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, or on the Township website at the following location: www.meridian.mi.us/about-us/departments/community-planning-development. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to shorkey@meridian.mi.us.

Deborah Guthrie Township Clerk

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: ZONING AMENDMENT #2024-10 RN DISTRICT UPDATES MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2024

#### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE Zoning Amendment #2024-10 – RN District Updates Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 to hear all persons interested in a proposed zoning amendment. The Meridian Township Planning Commission has proposed to amend several sections of the Zoning Ordinance to update the RN – Village of Nemoka district language to remove incorrect references, specify land use and dimensional regulations, and update allowed land uses.

A complete copy of the amendment may be viewed at the Community Planning and Development office, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198 (phone 517-853-4560), between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to shorkey@meridian.mi.us.

Deborah Guthrie Township Clerk

CP#24-521

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8 www.lansingcitypulse.com City Pulse • May 22, 2024

## REVIND NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS



COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES

The Lansing City Council passed Mayor Andy Schor's proposed \$271.4 million budget for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1. The overall budget is up 4% from this year. It includes the General Fund budget of \$165.8 million, a 2.8% bump. The budget includes a proposal to add a new office of neighborhood safety and



Andy Schor, Mayor

15 police officers, but the latter will be approved only if the state Legislature creates a new funding mechanism that would bring the city an extra \$3 million or more a year. The Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority, which runs the Lansing Center, Groesbeck Golf Course and Jackson Field, was cut \$700,000, but a proposal to start the process of selling these properties failed. Budget details can be viewed at www.lansingmi.gov/mayorbudget.



Ashley Marie Monroe, 35, of Perrinton, was charged Monday with 11 felonies from an alleged hit-and-run crash Saturday on South Wacousta Road in Watertown Township that killed two and injured 14 members of a single family. The charges were two counts of operating while intoxicated causing

death, two counts of failing to stop at the scene of crash causing death, six counts of OWI causing serious injury and one count of failure to stop at the scene of a crash causing serious impairment or death. Monroe, who allegedly had a blood-alcohol level of 0.183 at the Clinton County Jail, is being held on \$1 million cash bond. Johnathan Esch, 30, of Grand Haven, and Daniel Harris, 42, of Grand Ledge, were killed. Another victim was hospitalized in critical condition, while the others had non-life-threatening injuries.

The Lansing School District will be one of just 13 nationwide to receive the U.S. Department of Energy's 2024 Efficient and Healthy Schools program award, Superintendent Benjamin Shuldiner announced. The program, which has 202 participants from schools in 45 states, "rec-



ognizes and provides technical assistance for schools seeking to implement high-impact energy efficiency and indoor air quality improvements in their buildings," The U.S. Energy Department's website said. Kristina Tokar, the district's chief operating officer, and a group of students will accept the award at a sustainability conference in Denver next month.



Three men charged in the May 12 murder and dismemberment in Lansing of Zacarri Marquise Taylor, 25, of Battle Creek, were on parole or probation.

Marcus Lee Hayes, 35, of Lansing, and Leonard Felton Hayes III, 42, of Eaton Rapids, were charged with murder and mutilation of a body, while Terrance James Jones, 37, of Lansing was charged with mutilation of a body and accessory to a felony after the fact — all as fourth-time habitual offenders. It was Lansing's sixth homicide this year, all since April 10.



The British Broadcasting Corp. will bring its "World Questions" program to the Lansing Center June 4, when local panelists will debate questions on national issues submitted by a live audience. Panelists will include state Sens. Sarah Anthony, D-Lansing

and John Damoose, R-Harbor Springs, MSU public policy Professor Matt Grossmann, Kaitlyn Buss of The Detroit News and Jennifer Root, executive director of Michigan's branch of the Service Employees International Union. BBC anchor Anu Anand will moderate the session, which begins with a reception at 6 p.m. Pre-registration is available at https://www.bbc.co.uk/showsandtours/shows/world-questions-4jun24\*. The debate will make its broadcast debut on June 8 through the BBC's World Service English program at www.bbc.com/world-serviceradio.

Basil, a 2-year-old lab and golden retriever mix who will

serve as an emotional support animal, was sworn in May 15 at the Veterans Memorial Courthouse in Lansing. "Basil will support survivors when they are at their most vulnerable — when they have to come into this courtroom, take that witness stand, tell their truth and face their attackers," Chief Judge Joyce Draganchuk said. Basil is the second dog to fill



the emotional support dog role for Ingham County, following Kory. Basil's work will include assisting survivors of sexual assault and child abuse.



Elijah Matthew Klages, 19, of Lansing, pleaded guilty May 15 to two felony counts of operating under the influence and causing death in a crash that killed his sister, Lillian, and Amanda Blue, both 16, last August. The Ingham County Prosecutor's Office dismissed two counts of careless driving causing death. Sentencing is set for July 15. The OWI charges carry a maxi-

mum sentence of 15 years in prison.



A 17-yearold Dewitt boy was sent to Sparrow Hospital Saturday with life-threatening injuries after a two-car

crash in which his car was struck by a commercial vehicle in Riley Township in Clinton County. While traveling eastbound on Pratt Road, he drove into the path of a northbound commercial vehicle from Francis Road. The 26-year-old driver of the commercial vehicle, from Grand Rapids, was treated at the scene with minor injuries.





#### Window art

Eight artists descended on downtown Lansing over the weekend carrying ladders, paint and brushes along with healthy imaginations to create works of art on the windows of mostly empty storefronts.

Local artist Bob Rose organized the paint-in by artists from mid-Michigan and Detroit as part of Best of Lansing 517 Weekend in the City.

The theme was "The Future of Downtown: Where Dreams Come True." The artists showed their creativity from a Wizard of Oz theme by Kristina Wood to anime.

For several of the artists it was the first time they had painted on windows, which can be a little tricky. Chuck Lee of Detroit (pictured above) said it was the first time he had painted "big art," and his dreamscape did not disappoint. What makes the finished painted windows even more interesting is the reflections that pop up in them on a sunny day.

Other artists were Tod Parkhill, Nevin Speerbrecker, a City Pulse cover art regular, Melina Brann, Ivy Herron, Kelsey Brianne and Bryan Whitfield. Sidewalk chalk artist and all-around illustrator and muralist Ryan Holmes was also on site.

Rose commended building owners for permitting their windows to be used as canvases. The installations will remain at least through the summer.

#### - BILL CASTANIER

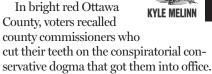
To see more artists' works, go to the A&C page on www.lansingcitypulse.com.

Public Art of the Week is a new feature that rotates with Eyesore of the Week. If you have an idea for either, please email eye@ lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-6704.

## MAGA schtick wearing thin with Michigan GOP voters

It's taken a while, but the game of division, subtraction, exclusion and confron-

tation employed by those in the extreme Make America Great Again movement appears to be losing ground with voters in reliably Republican areas of Michigan.



Ottawa Impact, the far-right group that gained popularity for opposing mandatory mask-wearing public health orders during COVID, no longer has a working majority on the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners as a result of the May 7 election.

Voters in and around Holland and Park Township voted 60% to 40% to pull the plug on Lucy Ebel before her term ended in favor of a Democrat, Chris Kleinjans. This is significant for those familiar with the strong Christian conservative fabric in Holland.

After the 2022 election, eight of the 11 commissioners were connected to Ottawa Impact. They went right to work trying to chase out their public health director for her mask mandates and vaccination suggestions.

Instead, they got ensnarled in a messy PR battle that drew highly unfavorable national media coverage.

Also, in 2023 the commission fired its long-time, competent county administrator for John Gibbs, Trump's failed congressional candidate and election denier of the first order.

His relationship with the commission ended badly a little more than a year in. Among other things, Gibbs was trying to do less work for more money.

They tried to get rid of him. He sued them for a \$630,000 payout. Drama ensued.

Along the way, two commissioners disassociated themselves from Ottawa Impact. They're still Republicans.

Over in Delta County, in and around Escanaba in the Upper Peninsula, three Republican commissioners were booted after firing their county administrator and being on the losing end of several parochial issues.

Delta County's two Republican members of its Board of Canvassers, unhappy to see three of their like-minded compadres on the county's Board of Commissioners recalled from office with more than 70% of the vote, tried to bring back the whole

"election-irregularity, hand-count" schtick.

Then, under public pressure and the threat of criminal prosecution from Lansing, the canvassers buckled and voted to certify the election, breaking a 2-2 tie.

The move comes after Michigan's Queen Election Denier, former Michigan Republican Party Chair Kristina Karamo, was removed from office for playing internal politics in Kalamazoo, Macomb and elsewhere and not raising money, building coalitions or developing a 21st-century strategy to win elections.

Look at the statewide primary ballot sometime.

Extreme MAGA candidates are conspicuously few and far between. There's no Ryan Kelley, Garrett Soldano, Donna Brandenburg or anyone else appealing to the ultra-right fringe.

This year, the only one who comes close to that description is Dr. Sherry O'Donnell, who had to be strong-armed on WKAR's "Off the Record" last week to confess her support for a national abortion ban.

Nearly everyone in the Michigan House Republican Freedom Caucus faces a primary challenge.

More Republican voters finally realize the emperor has no clothes. There was never any widespread election fraud in 2020. Karamo's political strategy of cutting off those who disagreed with her eventually gave her a minority of followers.

The hard-right religious dogma is off-putting to a general election population

Look, they're losing. Republicans lost statewide races in 2018 and 2020. They even lost the state Legislature in 2022. In 2011, Republicans ran everything in state government. In 2024, they run nothing.

The losing stops when they realize their sore-loser, conspiratorial nonsense doesn't fly. Stricter abortion rules don't fly. Bashing gay people and transgender people doesn't fly. More guns don't fly. Going crazy with the book banning doesn't fly. Discrimination, in general, doesn't fly.

If you listen to Donald Trump, he's slowly moving away from everything I wrote in the previous paragraph. He's talking about electric vehicles, immigration, the Chinese communist government, and public safety.

He's moved to where voters are. Republicans interested in winning general elections are also moving in that direction.

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

#### ONEIDA CHARTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF ADOPTION ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

#### Ordinance No. 2024-2

On Tuesday, May 14, 2024, the Oneida Charter Township Board adopted Ordinance No. 2024-2, which amends the Oneida Charter Township Zoning Ordinance to update regulations pertaining to parking restrictions. Copies of the complete text of the Ordinance were posted at the offices of Oneida Charter Township, 11041 Oneida Road, Grand Ledge, MI 48837.

The Ordinance has the following sections and catch lines: Section 1. Amendment of Chapter 17, Section 17.05; Section 2. Severability; Section 3. Repeal; Section 4. Effective Date, which shall be seven (7) days after this publication.

Jacqueline H. Kilgore Oneida Charter Township Clerk (517) 622-8078

CP#24-517

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

**Notice is hereby given** of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**, at East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823:

- 1. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration for a Certificate of Appropriateness application from Dianne Dombrowski on behalf of Beta Beta House Group of the Beta Beta Chapter of Alpha Phi Sorority located at 616 M.A.C. Avenue. The applicant is requesting to replace the front door and transom.
- 2. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration for a Certificate of Appropriateness application from Kirk Trentham located at 359 University Dr. The applicant is requesting the addition of approximately 200 sf of concrete to enlarge the existing driveway.
- 3. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration for a Certificate of Appropriateness application from Katlyn and Gabriel Yancho located at 935 Huntington Road. The applicants are requesting demolition of the existing garage.
- 4. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration for a Certificate of Appropriateness application from Katlyn and Gabriel Yancho located at 935 Huntington Road. The applicants are requesting to construct a 1.5 story garage.
- 5. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration for a Certificate of Appropriateness application from Katlyn and Gabriel Yancho located at 935 Huntington Road. The applicants are requesting reconstruction of an existing brick retaining wall.
- 6. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration for a Certificate of Appropriateness application from Katlyn and Gabriel Yancho located at 935 Huntington Road. The applicants are requesting reconstruction of existing shadowbox wood fence in kind.
- 7. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration for a Certificate of Appropriateness application from Nicole Saad on behalf of the Delta Gamma chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma located at 217 Beech Street. The applicant is requesting replacement of an existing garage.
- 8. A public hearing to receive and discuss consideration for a Certificate of Appropriateness application from Randell Hitts located at 647 Sunset Lane. The applicant is requesting installation of a chain link fence.

Owners of structures containing more than four (4) dwelling units or other distinct spatial areas owned or leased by different persons are requested to post this notice at the primary entrance to the structure

A staff report (Agenda Item Report) for the 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.

For more information on the request please contact Alycia Reiten at (517) 319-6941 or areiten@cityofeastlansing.com. Materials related to the request are available for viewing at the Department of Planning, Building, and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm or on the City's website located at www.cityofeastlansing.com/currentapplications. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Historic District Commission, City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan, 48823, or by email to coelhistoricdistricts@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 Department, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6930 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at rurdial@cityofeastlansing.com.

Marie E. Wicks City Clerk

CP#24-523

## ARTS & GULTURE TO LANDAL ART BOOKS FILM MUSIC

## Greater Lansing celebrates Memorial Day with festivals, parades and services

#### By NICOLE NOECHEL

Observed annually on the last Monday of May, Memorial Day honors members of the United States military who died in the line of service. It has also come to signify the start of summer, with pools, amusement parks and other seasonal establishments opening their doors. This long weekend, municipalities around Greater Lansing will celebrate both aspects of the holiday with family-friendly fun and more somber ceremonies in remembrance of those who gave their lives for our country.

#### Laingsburg

The Laingsburg Lions Club will hold its annual Springtime Festival Thursday (May 23) through Monday (May 27) in downtown Laingsburg. The fun begins with a carnival, featuring rides, games and food like elephant ears and corn dogs, from 5 to 10 p.m. Thursday. The carnival will also be open from 4 to 11 p.m. Friday (May 24), noon to 11 p.m. Saturday (May 25), 1 to 10 p.m. Sunday (May 26) and 1 to 6 p.m. Monday. Ride tickets are \$25 on Thursday and Monday and \$30 on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

The festival's largest-ever arts and crafts show, offering around 45 booths, will run from 2 to 6 p.m. Friday and noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Memorial Park.

The king, queen and marshal of the annual parade will be introduced at 6:15 p.m. Friday at the McClintock Park amphitheater. The parade will begin at 11 a.m. Saturday at the intersection of Woodbury and Grand River roads near the First Baptist Church and will end at the intersection of Grand River and Woodhull roads.

American Legion Post 248 will hold a free breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. Sunday at its building on Grand River Road and a memorial service at 11 a.m. Monday at the Laingsburg Cemetery.

The Lions Club will also sell raffle tickets throughout the weekend, with a drawing at 3 p.m. Monday at the McClintock Park amphitheater. Tickets are \$10 each or three for



ourtesy photo

Many local municipalities will hold services this weekend at cemeteries and memorial sites to pay tribute to fallen military members.

\$20, and prizes include a custom golf cart, a grill, a \$500 grocery shopping spree, an electric bike, an Xbox Series X and various cash awards.

#### Dansville

Dansville has four days of entertainment planned for its annual Memorial Freedom Festival. The events will kick off with DJ karaoke from 7 to 11 p.m. Friday (May 24) at the Wooden Nickel II's outdoor beer tent.

Saturday (May 25) will begin with an afternoon of kids' activities, including inflatables, magic, food vendors, a bicycle parade with a patriotic outfit contest and more, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the corner of M-36 and Jackson Street. The day will continue with entertainment at the Nickel Tent, including a cornhole tournament at 2 p.m. and performances by variety cover musician Bill Moran from noon to 4 p.m. and classic-rock and country cover band Mama Tryd from 7 to 11 p.m.

Sunday (May 27) will feature a free breakfast for veterans from 8 a.m. to noon at the Wooden Nickel II and a screening of the animated Disney film "Encanto" at 9 p.m. at the Dansville High School practice field.

The festival will wrap up on Monday (May 27), starting with a kids' race around the Dansville High School track at 8:10 a.m. and adult 5 and 8K run/walks at 8:30 a.m., also beginning at the school. Registration for the kids' race is \$18, and registration for the adult races is \$34 at runsignup.com/Race/MI/Dansville/ BIGFOOTCHALLENGE. The Memorial Day parade will begin at noon at Dansville Elementary School. Complimentary snow cones and cotton candy will be available during the parade at Dansville Free Methodist Church, along with a bake sale and a quilt raffle. Following the parade, there will be a memorial ceremony at Fairview Cemetery and live music and food vendors at the Nickel Tent.

#### **East Lansing**

At 11 a.m. today (May 22) at the Hannah Community Center's Medal of Honor Memorial and Veterans Monument, the city of East Lansing and Lansing's Charlie Company Marine Corps battalion will lay a wreath in honor of fallen service members.

Scott E. House, brigadier general of the Michigan National Guard and East Lansing's director of public works, will give remarks.

#### Mason

Mason's Memorial Day celebration will include a reading of the names of fallen Ingham County service members listed on the Honor Roll memorial outside the Ingham County Courthouse at 8 a.m. Monday (May 27), followed by a parade beginning at 9 a.m. at Bond Park and concluding at Maple Grove Cemetery with a remembrance ceremony for prisoners of war and members of the military who are missing in action.

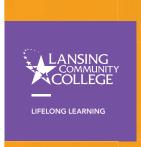
#### Other parades and services

The city of Lansing will hold a memorial service for fallen firefighters at 11 a.m. Saturday (May 25) at Mount Hope Cemetery and a military memorial service at noon Saturday in the Little Arlington section of Evergreen Cemetery.

Meridian Township's memorial service, beginning at 11 a.m. Monday (May 27) at the Glendale Cemetery, will be accompanied by the Meridian Community Band and a color guard led by local Boy Scout troops. There will be a special presentation by Navy veteran Joy Rimpau.

Haslett's American Legion Post 269 will hold a memorial service at 11 a.m. Monday (May 27) at Ralya Elementary School, followed by a cookout.

A handful of parades will also kick off at 11 a.m. Monday (May 27). Dimondale's parade will begin at Carl's Supermarket and will travel through the downtown area to Dimondale Cemetery for a brief memorial service. Charlotte's parade will begin at Courthouse Square and will continue through the downtown area, ending back at Courthouse Square, where the commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2406 will lead a memorial program. Grand Ledge's parade will start at 11 a.m. on Jackson Street and will continue through the downtown area to Oakwood Cemetery for a memorial service.



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#### A cure for fear of the future

#### Wharton Center, Lansing Symphony Orchestra unveil 2024-'25 seasons

Are you terrified of things to come? Use this story the same way you would use eclipse glasses. There are ways to look directly at the near future with reasonable certainty and safety.

Squint past the obvious terrors. You'll find the arts waiting in the wings, ready to unveil a shimmering corona of humanity at its best.

This week's ambitious season announcements for 2024-'25 from MSU's Wharton Center for the Performing Arts and the Lansing Symphony Orchestra are built on a bedrock of faith that whatever else is going on next year, human beings will continue to do the make great music, sing and dance, crack jokes, tell stories, celebrate and investigate life.

Two major themes emerge from this variety and profusion of offerings. First, for a mid-sized community, greater Lansing punches well above its weight regarding the performing arts. The Wharton Center and the Lansing Symphony have high



The London Philharmonic Orchestra, seen here with principal conductor Edward Gardiner, comes to Wharton Center Oct. 17.

reputations in their respective words. That's how the Wharton managed to land major attractions like the London Philharmonic and jazz diva Dee Dee Bridgewater, and the Lansing Symphony snagged a world-class piano sensation, Benjamin Grosvenor, for its May 9 season finale.

The other theme is that both organizations are deeply rooted in the unique strengths of MSU and the greater Lansing community, whether it's the Wharton Center's Nov. 14 Isotopes in Motion dance collaboration with the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams or the Lansing Symphony's monster Dec. 15 holiday concert, with over 100 voices from mighty local gospel choirs.

We sat down with Wharton Center director Eric Olmscheid and Lansing Symphony Orchestra music director Timothy Muffitt for more details about the upcoming seasons and more reasons to look forward to 2024-'25.

- LAWRENCE COSENTINO

#### Wharton Center: 'Spectrum of the arts'

#### By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

From full-scale symphonic splendor to smoking-hot, small-club-style jazz to acrobats teetering on towers of chairs, there's no easy way to summarize the 2024-'25 Wharton Center fine arts season, announced this week.

That's the way Eric Olmscheid likes it.

Now entering his third year as the Wharton Center's executive director, Olmscheid said the season "represents the broad spectrum of performing arts classical music, jazz music, dance, global roots, variety acts and family programming."

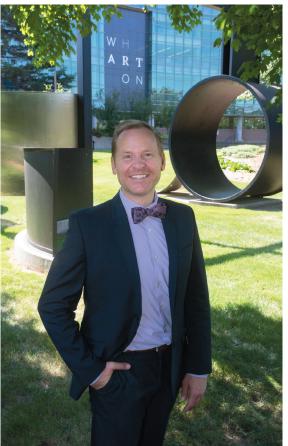
Scheduling a rare visit from the London Philharmonic Orchestra (Oct. 17) with dynamic young violinist Randall Goosby took over a year of planning and negotiation.

That's a major, major programming deal for us," Olmscheid said. "It is one of the world's finest orchestras, and having that here, in a program I think will electrify our audiences, is going to be so great."

Joining the London Philharmonic on the classical slate are the Detroit-based Sphinx Virtuosi (Feb.22), in a program of music by Black composers, and classical crossover ensemble Time for Three (Jan. 29).

Other big names include a pairing of two Grammy-winning jazz greats, vocalist Dee Dee Bridgewater and pianist Bill Charlap (Oct. 4), Broadway, TV and (more recently) Tik-Tok star Mandy Patinkin (Oct. 22), human rhythm machine STOMP (Nov. 6-8) and retro-chic orchestra Pink Martini (Feb. 27).

"It's the week of the election. Three performances of STOMP. Do with that what you want," Olmscheid said The Wharton Center for the Performing Arts' new with a sly smile before reverting to promotional mode. season marks Eric Olmscheid's third year as execu-"It's a show audiences love, and it's so great to intro-



Courtesy Wharton Center for the Performing Arts

tive director.

duce young people to bigger scale, theatrical storytelling in that way, and it's all nonverbal."

Olmscheid compared programming the Wharton Center to concocting "a big recipe with a lot of ingredients."

"When we're looking at programming, we're always interested in finding connections to the community and the campus," Olmscheid said. "But also, what is going to be interesting, appealing, and also push boundaries a little bit?"

Some boundary-pushing spices in the recipe can be found among the eight musical and comedy events scheduled for appearances at Club 750, one of Olmscheid's innovations as Wharton Center director.

Inspired by Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola at Jazz at Lincoln Center, Club 750 transforms the glassy Jackson Lounge into a club-like space with table service, drinks and food.

"It gives us the ability to bring in artists that may not have the awareness or draw to be in a larger space, but also mirrors that club environment that people know and love in other communities," Olmscheid said.

Two most notable are jazz-funk-metal-hiphop fireball Cameron Graves (Oct. 31) and incandescent jazz trumpeter Brandon Woody (Feb. 5).

Another key ingredient in Olmscheid's recipe is dance.

"We are really re-committing to dance as part of our performing arts series," he said.

The visual splendor of MOMIX Alice (Jan.

## Lansing Symphony Orche

#### By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

The upcoming Lansing Symphony Orchestra season, announced this week, runs a breathtaking gamut, from a gala gospel-music extravaganza in December to a much-anticipated visit from British piano star Benjamin Grosvenor next May. Along the way, music director Timothy Muffitt has deftly nestled many brand-new or relatively unfamiliar works he feels will resonate with local audiences alongside familiar classics from Tchaikovsky, Ravel, Gershwin and others.

"LSO at the Robin," at the Robin Theatre in REO Town, returns with a full schedule of chamber and pops concerts. The adventurous series sold out last year.

The season kicks off Oct. 3 with a concert anchored by Edward Elgar's "Enigma Variations" with guest cellist Tommy Mesa.

Mesa, a young and charismatic Cuban-American cellist, tears into each piece of music like there's no tomorrow and has already performed with top orchestras worldwide. In 2023, the Detroit-based Sphinx Organization, dedicated to supporting young Black and LatinX classical artists, awarded Mesa its highest honor, the Medal of Excellence.

"He has a unique voice on the cello, a beautiful sound, great facility, but also that X factor of nuance and expression," Muffitt said. "There's something very personal in his playing that I think will really resonate with the audience." The concert opens with "Bravado," a celebratory blast from a very much liv-

ing composer (under 30, in fact), University of Michigan-based Gala Flagello, a finalist last year for the position of LSO composer-in-residence. Music by Elgar, Tchaikovsky and Mozart will round out the evening, all written in a theme and variations style.

The Nov. 1 concert explores the intersection between classical and jazz music with guest pianist Willis Delony, a longtime scholar, teacher and performer specializing in the connections between classical music and jazz.

"If you see one of his recitals, it would have Claude Debussy and Art Tatum on the same program," Muffitt said. "He's uncompromising in both realms."

"Jazz Concerto for Piano and Orchestra," by Greg Yasinitsky, was commissioned by Delony and Muffitt for the Baton Rouge Symphony in 2017. The performance, conducted by Muffitt, helped earn the piece the American Prize in Composition that year.

Unlike many classical works that fly under the color of jazz, the Yasinitsky concerto includes improvised passages and "truly explores the jazz side of the piano," Muffitt said.

The concert will open with William Grant Still's Symphony No. 2, "Song for a New Race." Muffitt hasn't conducted the symphony, but he's wanted to for a long time.

"From the moment it hits your ears, it draws you in," Muffitt said. "It's so attractive, so appealing, so American. I just know people are going to walk out saying, 'Why haven't I heard this before?"

Neither the Still symphony nor the



Courtesy phot

Cuban-American cellist Tommy Mesa, soloist in the Lansing Symphony's Oct. 3 season opener, is seen here playing with the Detroit-based Sphinx Virtuosi, coming to Wharton Center Feb. 22.

Yasinistsky concerto are well known to Lansing audiences, so Muffitt threw in a much more familiar work, George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," an Art Deco tower of glitter and fizz that's a genre unto itself. Finding a soloist was no problem. Delony gladly agreed to warm the piano stool for another glorious 20 minutes or so.

The Jan. 10 concert continues the tradition of featuring one of the orchestra's principals in a solo role, this time with principal horn player Corbin Wagner playing Richard Strauss' Horn Concerto No. 2. The concert also features a world premiere by LSO compos-

er-in-residence Jared Miller; "Trittico Botticelliano," by Ottorino Respighi; and the soaring, elegant symphony No. 43 ("Mercury") by one of Muffitt's favorite composers, Joseph Haydn.

The whole evening is scaled to a classical-sized orchestra, even for the Respighi, who usually deploys bigger legions. However, true to Muffitt's modus operandi, he tucked in this little-known masterpiece inspired by three Botticelli paintings to blow the audience away with a piece they probably don't know.

"It's a gem," Muffitt said. "He pulls out ancient music techniques and puts

#### Wharton

from page 11

31) recasts "Alice in Wonderland" as a fantasia of dance, acrobatics, mime, props and film. "Isotopes in Motion" (Nov. 14) marks the return of a unique partnership with the Facility for Rare Isotope Beams. This massive particle physics facility does its mysterious work right next door to Wharton.

"Dance is the perfect medium for probing the fragmentation and collision of fundamental particles of the universe," Olmscheid said. "We're taking everything we did in 2022 to the next level."

To crown the dance series, Olmscheid was delighted to snag Wharton's first-ever visit from Ballet Biarritz (April 29) from Biarritz, France, led by artistic director and choreographer Thierry Malandain.

"That level of international notoriety is interesting for our community and, personally, one of the things I'm most excited about," Olmscheid said. He's seen the company several times and jumped at the chance to secure a date for their next tour, devoted to traditional and modern interpretations of Antonio Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons."

"Their choreography is clear, distinct and beautiful," Olmscheid said. "When they tour the U.S., it's usually a quick in-and-out, and to grab one of

those dates was really exciting for us."

Regarding programming, Olmscheid is always looking for a local angle. The Sphinx Virtuosi is based in Detroit; the FRIB is right next door to Wharton. Luther S. Allison, music director of the Jazz at Lincoln Center, coming March 25 with a New Orleans-themed show, has a master's degree from MSU Jazz Studies.

The local connection will often be established when the artists visit a town. When negotiating with artists to book appearances, the Wharton team considers what they will do on stage and what they will do in community outreach and education. Out of the 29 performing arts and family shows on the schedule, 10 groups or performers are doing daytime field trip school matinee performances at Wharton. About 15,000 mid-Michigan students went to school matinee shows at Wharton in 2023.

"It's not lesser quality performances," Olmscheid said. "They are the same quality, high caliber performances on our main stage."

While keeping an eye on local connections, Wharton remains committed to bringing the world to East Lansing. Besides high-profile world travelers like the London Philharmonic and Ballet Biarritz, the season includes wild-card dates like Mariachi Herencia dé Mexico, with a "totally different" holiday show Dec. 12.

"They're credited with re-inventing the art form, bringing females into the



Courtesy pho

The incandescent, high-energy trumpet jazz of Brandon Woody's Upendo comes to the Wharton Center's bistro-style Club 750 venue Feb. 5.

ensemble in a way that wasn't traditionally featuring female players," Olmscheid said.

The Peking Acrobats, Feb. 25, bring jaw-dropping acrobatics, juggling old school razzle-dazzle with new tricks. (Among many other things, they're famous for climbing onto precarious stacks of chairs in hair-raising configurations.)

Besides "STOMP"-ing through the election week, Wharton has tossed a few seasonal offerings into the recipe.

A pre-Halloween show Oct. 15 will mark the 49th anniversary (not the 50th — that would be too obvious) of the film "Rocky Horror Picture Show."

Barry Bostwick, who played Brad Majors in the 1975 film, will narrate, and and a full "shadow cast" will enact the film while it plays behind them.

Singer, actor, TV star and comedian Ana Gasteyer, best known for her work on Broadway and in TV shows like "People of Earth" and "Satur-

## estra: 'Not to be missed'



British pianist Benjamin Grosvenor, among the world's foremost classical pianists and a special guest soloist at the Lansing Symphony's May 9 season finale, displayed his "animated" playing style in a 2012 video of "Rhapsody in Blue."

it in this tonally brilliant 20th-century idiom. It just shimmers and glistens and shines.

Five works with a Spanish tinge fill out the April 4 concert, "Sketches of Spain." Guest violinist Chee-Yun will play one of her signature works, Édouard Lalo's "Symphonie Espagnole."

Muffitt has worked with her several times but not yet in Lansing.

"She's just a dazzling violinist with unlimited technical ability but also so much personality," Muffitt said. "She creates a very strong connection with the audience.

Some of the music on the slate, like Maurice Ravel's "Alborada del Gracioso" and a suite from Manuel De Falla's "The Three-Cornered Hat," are well known, but Marc Migo's "The Ecstasy of St. Teresa" is a sleeper of more recent

Muffitt delights in sneaking in sleepers like Migo's "Ecstasy," the symphony by William Grant Still and Respighi's 'Trittico Botticelliano."

"That's one of the things that's exciting about being in a place for a long time," he said. "I really believe in these works. I think it's something the audience will embrace rather than just endure, and it's fun to be able to share them." The concert ends with Ravel's famous slow-motion dance explosion,

The May 9 season finale is a monster, anchored by Beethoven's epic Piano Concerto No. 5.

British pianist Benjamin Grosvenor, one of the biggest international stars ever to appear with the LSO, will do the solo honors.

"His career has gone through the roof, and he's playing one of the great staples of the repertoire," Muffitt said.

Grosvenor has played with all the major U.K. and U.S. orchestras, from the London and the Royal Philharmonic orchestras to the New York Philharmonic and the San Francisco Symphony. It's a major coup to get him to Lansing.

"We have a good reputation," Muffitt said. "People know they can come here and have a good experience."

The concert will open with composer-in-residence Jared Miller's "Under Sea, Above Sky" and close with Antonín Dvorák's Symphony No. 8.

The LSO has had great success with its pops series, from the music of Abba and The Beatles to "Star Wars," and bigger extravaganzas are on the way.

"Some orchestras have a hard go of it in pops," Muffitt said. "I think we've hit the mark with programming, we've built a nice, loyal audience and people are coming and having a great time."

The Feb. 8 pops concert will feature Queen's music, and an April 18 show, "Diva Legends (I Will Survive)," will wrap exquisite symphonic furs around disco, pop and R&B showstoppers associated with Gloria Gaynor, Beyoncé, Lady Gaga, Diana Ross and many oth-

But the most hotly anticipated event is a spectacular gospel-based pops holiday concert Dec. 15.

LaVonté Heard, director of the Verna D. Holley Project, will lead a 100-voice chorus, with Muffitt conducting.

The Verna D. Holley Project is the recently formed successor to the longlived Earl Nelson Singers, a Lansing gospel music institution.

"We've been talking with LaVonté for a couple of years now, trying to find some way of doing something together, and he's bringing in some heavy hitters, both soloists and choruses," Muffitt said.

The chorus will combine several mid-Michigan gospel choirs, including the Bread House International Ministries Choir, The Jeremy Winston Choir International, Jeremiah Towner & Highest Praise and the Verna D. Holley Project.

Heard has worked with orchestras before, and Muffitt has conducted several gospel-orchestral concerts - they've even worked with some of the same soloists — but they've never brought their combined majesty and might to Lansing. Together, thev'll choose from a rich selection of arrangements built up over the past several decades.

"Gospel is so powerful," Muffitt said. "There's nothing else like it in terms of the emotional impact on the listener. This is not to be missed."



Grammy winners Dee Dee Bridgewater (pictured) and pianist Bill Charlap join forces for a jazz extravaganza at Wharton Center Oct. 4.

day Night Live," brings her "Sugar the recipe," he said. "You have to make and Booze" holiday vibe to Wharton Center Dec. 10, two days before the Christmas-cactus concert by the Mariachi Herencia dé Mexico.

Olmscheid enjoys building a season recipe. The Wharton team is already working on programming big guns on the level of the London Philharmonic organizations whose schedules are determined many months in advance - for the 2025-'27 seasons.

"It's one of the first ingredients in

an early commitment."

It's an abstract exercise in the early stages, but it gets real in the fall, with that tense, hopeful moment when your guests try out the soup. To complicate matters, fine arts attendance across the nation and at the Wharton Center is still "not quite where it was, pre-pandemic," Olmscheid said.

"It's always a gamble," he mused. "These conversations started a year-



Courtesy photo

Singer, actor, TV star and comedian Ana Gastever, best known for her work on Broadway and in TV shows like "People of Earth" and "Saturday Night Live," brings her "Sugar and Booze" holiday vibe to Wharton Center Dec. 10.

plus ago. What will resonate? How will audiences respond? We're hopeful

that the community is as excited for these shows to be right here as we are."



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#### Three terrifying tales await readers in 'The Werewolf at Dusk'

By BILL CASTANIER

Make sure you're strapped in and holding on to your seat before you crack open David Small's new graphic novel, "The Werewolf at Dusk and Other Stories."

Small, who has made his living primarily as a children's book illustrator, has never been afraid to venture into darker territory. His first graphic novel, "Stitches: A Memoir," was an autobiographical look at his torturous childhood living with abusive parents. It was a finalist for the 2009 National Book Award for Young People's Literature, but literary insiders said at the time that the reason it didn't win was its disturbing content.

Despite being a graphic novel, it's likely Small's new book will be marketed for young adults.

The first short story, "The Werewolf at Dusk," by Lincoln Michel, a talented writer noted for his strange fiction, is about a werewolf facing the vaga-

ries of old age. Small illustrates a werewolf viewing his countenance in a mirror, accompanied by Michel's poetic writing, "Mangy gray fur on wrinkled skin that clings to my skeleton like a dirty towel. Liver spots on my hairless belly."

Readers could conclude that Small, who's nearly 80, is considering his own mortality. His sparse line drawing of a howling werewolf, coupled with Michael's

prophetic line, "Perhaps this is what we all transform into in the end: a tired old dog ... barking impotently at the dark sky," warns us to consider what will happen when we reach old age.

The next story, "A Walk in the Old City," written by Small, is a Kafkaesque tale of an aging psychiatrist who takes long walks in a city and becomes lost. We learn these walks only happen in his dreams, which is symbolic of confusion.

The psychiatrist meets an older gentleman who takes him home for a meal, leading him across an old bridge suspended by giant spiders. Here, we see the surreal dreams turn into full-blown nightmares. The spiders, which are as big as dogs, are eyeing him at his next meal. However this tale ends, it can't be good.

Alongside the story, Small uses his skills as an illustrator to terrify readers. He should have included a warning not to read the book before bedtime.

The last section is a reworking of famous French writer Jean Ferry's

"Le Tigre Mondain," a surrealist short story about a tiger and its trainer, who performs a circus-like trick of submission that involves a baby from the audience.

The short tale of thinly veiled barbarism disguised as mesmerism follows a man in 1920s Paris attending a music hall production. These phantasmagorical theater shows were all the rage in pre- and post-World War I Britain and

France, but in this story, the theatergoer sees something much more than casual entertainment.

What makes this story so chilling is the appearance of "a small man" in the audience who, with his toothbrush mustache, looks very much like a young Adolf Hitler. As the story progresses, the theatergoer sees the show's events in a much more menac-



Courtesy photo

David Small, though primarily an author and illustrator of children's books, has never been afraid to venture into darker territory. However, he takes his new graphic novel, "The Werewolf at Dusk and Other Stories," in a more surreal and horror-esque direction than he's explored before.

ing light than the rest of the audience. When he leaves the show, he sees the tiger trainer and the small man having drinks in a café, and a bit later, he sees a group of Nazi thugs beating up a Jewish person.

Small's illustrations represent the quiet dread surrounding the rise of fascism. Small writes in his introduction to the book: "Ferry is long dead. There is no one to consult about the origins of this story. But it strikes me as the prescient vision of someone who has lived through the early days of change and mutability, just before the carnage that swept over Europe."

This story is really about the ability to see wrongdoing but continue on as if nothing is happening. The theatergoer is a "Mitläufer," a German

word that's most commonly used to describe the passive followers of Nazism.

Once again, Small plays with dark themes in this graphic novel, but he takes it in a more surreal and horror-esque direction than he has before. The author, who won a prestigious Caldecott Medal for his illustration of Judith St. George's book "So You Want to Be President?", lives in southwest Michigan with his spouse, Sarah Stewart, who is also a children's book writer. Small has illustrated more than 40 books during his lengthy career.

For those who aren't familiar with Small's body of work, it's important to note that not all of it is dark, and some of it will steal your heart.





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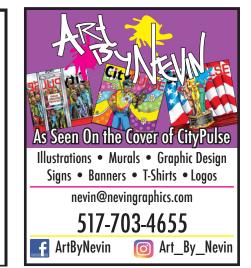




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#### Stock up on soap, scrubs and other self-care staples at Sylvia's Sudsery

By TYLER SCHNEIDER



Sylvia's Sudsery

223 S. Washington Square, Lansing 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday (989) 942-2032 sylviassudsery.com

For Danielle Hastings, moving from Jackson to Lansing in 2018 marked a sort of rebirth.

"I was getting out of a domestic violence situation, and Lansing was kind of my restart and refresh from that," she said. "That's where I discovered the importance of self-care and was able to rehabilitate my mental health, because those

situations can do a lot to a person and can impact anyone."

Hastings' self-care journey led her to take up new hobbies, one of which was soapmaking. In 2020, she began selling her artisan vegan soaps, plus other personal-care items like lotions, shower scrubs, bath robes and candles, through a digital shop she named Sylvia's Sudsery in honor of her late grandmother Sylvia Oeschger.

Near the end of 2021, Hastings signed

on to participate in Downtown Lansing Inc.'s Middle Village retail accelerator program. She took part in the program from 2022 to 2023, after which she began scouting out a storefront of her own. In January, she finally found the right fit in a 2,200-square-foot space on South Washington Square that housed Linn & Owen Jewelers, a staple of downtown Lansing that had been in business for 107 years but was set to close.

"Originally, it was on the down-low that the owner was retiring. We got the go-ahead from the landlord to show us the space, and we immediately fell in love with it," Hastings said.

After a few months of preparations, Sylvia's Sudsery celebrated its grand opening on Saturday (May 18).

"We are a self-care destination," Hastings said. "It's not just the artisan vegan soaps; we also do bath bombs, shower steamers, body butters and gifts like greeting cards, mugs and teas."

She described the vibe of the shop as "a mix of self-care, suds and sass."

"We include some quirky attitude to our stuff, and our name itself is a fun play on words. We're like a vintage candy shop mixed with that sass and all that attitude." she said.

It took Hastings years to open a brick-and-mortar, but she noted that she's ultimately better off because she took the time to get things right.

"Roughly three months or so after I moved to Lansing, I already knew I wanted to have a business," she said. "But I'm also a perfectionist, so I wanted to focus on formulating my brand and finding what my target market was before I went all in. I'm really glad I did."

Through her patience, she was also able to discover Middle Village, which she said was another crucial factor in her

"Without Middle Village, I wouldn't have had as many connections with community groups, such as Greater Area Lansing Moms and 517 Living. All those connections have been fantastic, and that wouldn't have been possible had I not first connected with Lake Trust and Middle Village,"



Danielle Hastings poses in front of her new selfcare shop, Sylvia's Sudsery, during a grand opening celebration on Saturday (May 18).









Phone • Internet • Fiber

#### Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Opera Biffs" -classing it up, but with one letter off. by Matt Jones © 2024 Matt Jones

**ACROSS** 1. Gave a hoot 6. Some TV screens 10. Herring cousin 14. Former "SNL" cast member Cheri 15. "It's all 16. "Aladdin" parrot 17. Opera that's sorta supernatural, but by chance? 19. Actress Cannon of "Heaven Can Wait' 20. 2024 title role for Michael Douglas on Apple TV+ 21. Those who most 23. Partner of yang 24. Opera about actor Ribisi turning into a canine California, 26. Mexico 27. Expected 28. Opera about an Irish wiggly dessert? 31. Collective auction offering 32. Software creators, for short 36. "Holy cow!" 37. Office seeker, for

short

crack

collection

38. Shakespeare

39. Ooze through a

40. Stan Getz's

41. Opera about a

superhero mechanic?

instrument

16 19 50 55 58 59 60 62 63 32. Kids' show explorer

42. League where Utah is deciding on a team name 43. "The Big Easy" 44. Opera where a future king turns bluegreen? 49. "Ask later" on schedules 52. Playwright Eugene 53. Send mass phone messages during an election, maybe 55. Shoelace issue 56. Italian opera about pub quizzes? 58. German article 59. Snack with a roughly 1.75-inch diameter 60. Oopsie 61. In proximity

**DOWN** 1. Like a nice recliner

63. Break a truce,

62. Notify

maybe

2. Pong producer 3. "King Lear" daughter

Guitar" 6. Division for FC Barcelona

Browne

the symphonies 12. "What is it now?" Make It Look Easy" (Meghan Trainor

star nickname 22. Night before

26. Radar flash 28. Fractions of a lb.

29. Coffee 30. Shorn animal 31. Bagel go-with

go bragh 5. "King of the Surf

7. Held on (to) 8. "Hi and Lois" creator

9. Escorted to the door 10. 45's main feature? 11. Composer with all

song) 18. 1988 Olympics track

25. K-pop star, e.g.

or at.

33. Shade tree 34. Through

35. Family tree branch, perhaps

37. Hand part 38. Topple

40. Superficial 41. Raccoon's South American cousin

42. 0. on a soccer scorecard 43. Cell that fires on

impulse 44. Gotten out of bed

45. Concave belly button 46. Singer Lewis

47. Quart's metric counterpart

Tots 49. Papal headpiece 50. Ulan \_\_\_\_, Mongolia 51. Clock-radio feature

54. Very urgent 57. Longtime Notre Dame coach Parseghian

©2020 Jonesin' Crosswords (jonesin ocrosswords@gmail.com **Answers on page 20** 

#### SUDOKU

#### **Beginner**

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

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 Brezsny

May 22-28, 2024

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In the coming weeks, you will experience uncomfortable weirdness i you do the following: 1. Meander without focus or purpose; 2. give yourself permission to postpone, procrastinate and engage in avoidant behavior; 3. ignore the interesting though challenging truths that are right in front of you; 4. hang out with people with mediocre ambitions. But you will experience healthy, uplifting oddness if you do the following: 1. Trust your instincts and intuitions; 2. authorize your spontaneity to invigorate and guide you; 3. take the straightforward path that gets you to the destination most efficiently; 4. be crisp and

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Mysterious energies will soon begin healing at least some of the wounds in your financial genius. As a result, I predict new powers of attraction will awaken in you, making it likely you will add to your wealth in the coming months. To synergize these happy developments, I recommend you give yourself permission to have joyous fun as you lust for more cash. More good news: I will supplement your good fortune by casting a benevolent spell to boost the flow of riches into your bank account.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** When I first got my job writing a horoscope column, I wasn't looking for it. It found me. My bike had been stolen, and I was looking for a new one in the classified ads of the Good Times, the local Santa Cruz newspaper. There, I serendipitously spied a help wanted ad. The publisher of the Good Times was hiring a new astrology writer to replace Robert Cole, who had just quit. I quickly applied for the gig and got it. Ever since, Robert Cole has been a symbol for me of an accidental and unexpected opportunity appearing out of nowhere. I mention this, Gemini, because when I meditate on you lately, I see the face of Robert Cole.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In myths and legends, the ultimate spiritual goal has various names: the Holy Grail, the philosopher's stone, the key of life, nirvana, alchemical gold and many others. appreciate this profusion of sacred symbols. It encourages us not to be too literal about identifying the highest reward. The old fables are equally equivocal about where the prize can be found. Is it in an empty desert or a dark forest? In the deepest abyss, on a mountaintop or in the backyard? I bring these thoughts to your attention, Cancerian, because the coming months will be an excellent time to conduct a quest for the marvelous treasure. What do you need most right now? What's the best way to begin your search?

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** I have good news for any Leos who are devoted to pragmatism and rational analysis. Just this once, my horoscope will offer no lyrical teasers or mystical riddles. Your pressing need for no-nonsense grit has moved me to offer straightforward, unembellished counsel. Here it is, dear: Cultivate connections that will serve your passionate ambitions. Make vigorous use of your network and community to gather information that will serve your passionate ambitions. Meditate on what course corrections might be necessary to serve your passionate ambitions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): For many of you Virgos, your health seems chronically unsettled. You may be constantly hypervigilant about the next glitch that could possibly affect your well-being. There's a problem with that approach: It may intensify your fear of frailty, which saps your vigor. But I'm happy to report that in the coming months, you will have an enhanced power to break out of this pattern. To get started, try this: Every morning for four minutes, picture yourself overflowing with vitality. Visualize every part of your body working with joyful heartiness. Send streams of love and gratitude to all your organs. Do this for the next 21 days.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Many people regard the word "faith" as referring to delusional hope or wishful thinking. But I ask you to rethink its meaning

 and consider the possibility that it could be an empowering force in the coming months. How? Imagine a faith that's earthy and robust. You actually feel it vibrating in your heart and gut. It literally alters your brain chemistry, fortifying your natural talents and attracting needed resources. It liberates you to feel pragmatically excited as you pursue your goal of fulfilling your soul's code.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): When I was born, my parents gave me the name Robert. It's derived from an Old Northern French word meaning "shining" and "bright with glory." In Middle English, though, "robert" was a designation for 'a wastrel, a marauder, a good-for-nothing." use this dichotomy as a reminder that my own nature is a mix of brightness and darkness. A lot of me is shining and inspirational, but there's also a part that's ignorant and confused. And what's true about me is true about everyone else, including you: We are blends of the best and the not-so-best. Now is a good time to draw strength and wisdom from meditating on this reality. Your shadowy aspects have important and interesting truths to reveal to your brilliant aspects - and

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Here are some meditations on emotions. They are as key to our intelligence as our thoughts! But it's crucial that we distinguish between emotions generated by delusions and emotions that are responses to true perceptions. Let's say I get angry because I imagine a friend stole money from my room while visiting, but I later put on my vest and find the supposedly stolen cash in the vest pocket. That is a delusional emotion. But if I am sad because my friend's beloved dog is sick, that is emotion based on an accurate perception. I bring this to your attention, Sagittarius, because I believe it is essential that in the coming weeks you discern between the two types.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** As an adjunct to the Ten Commandments, I have formulated the Ten Suggestions. Here's Suggestion No. 1: Wash your brain at least three times a year. I'm speaking metaphorically, of course. What I mean is that like me and everyone else, you are always accumulating junky thoughts and useless feelings. Some are generated by our old, conditioned responses, and some pour into us from the media and entertainment industries. It's best to be proactive about the toxic buildup and not allow it to become monumental. In my astrological opinion, now is an excellent time for a regular mind

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): So many writers have said terrible things about our existence on planet Earth. "Life is a disease," wrote George Bernard Shaw. "Life is a bad dream," declared Eugene O'Neill. Life is "a vast, cold junk pile," according to Stephen King. There are thousands more of these unnuanced disparagements. Why? Here are the facts, as I see them: As tough as it can be to navigate through problems and pain, being alive in our miraculous bodies with our dazzling awareness is a sublime gift. We are all blessed with a mysterious and fascinating In accordance with the astrological Aquarius, I invite you to celebrate being alive with extra gratitude and ebullience. Begin the jubilee by feeling amazement and awe for your mysterious and fascinating destiny. Second step: Identify five sublime gifts in your life.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In the coming weeks, I ask you to refrain from indulging in extreme nostalgia. On the other hand, I encourage you to explore the past and sift through memories with the intention of clarifying what really happened back then. Pluck new lessons from the old days that will help you forge smart decisions in the near future. Use your history as a resource while you redefine the meanings of pivotal events. For extra credit, create a new title for the book you may someday write about your life story.

HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT 17-873-4888 or 1-900-950-7700 Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezsny's EXPANDED WEEKLY MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone a

## OUTon TOWN

**Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week** 

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com.

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

#### Wednesday, 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. allenneighborhood-center.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 - Selftaught 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** - Monthly adult book club. 6:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

**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.

**Disney-Themed Trivia** - Call 517-371-2600 to make a reservation for your team. 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. lansingbrewing-company.com

**Drew Behringer at the Graduate Rock Bar** - 8 p.m. 133 Evergreen Ave., East Lansing. 517-348-0900. 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. meridian50blus.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.

"James and the Giant Peach" - Special benefit performance for CASA for Kids Inc. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com.

**Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle** - 8 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. 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.

**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.

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.

**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.

"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. framersedge.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,

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

Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer - Selftaught 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.

**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.

**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.

Darin Larner Jr. at Cleats Bar & Grille - 6 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. 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.

**Flower Moon Gelebration** - Art vendors, artmaking, open mic, drum circle, potluck and more. Hosted by Art Interactive. Free, all ages welcome. 4-10 p.m. Moores Park, 400 Moores River Drive, Lansing.

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.

**"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.

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

#### A Musical Celebration of the Life of Betty Baxter

Sunday, May 26 1:30-5 p.m. Community Music Sc

MSU Community Music School 4930 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing

The Jazz Alliance of Mid-Michigan will pay tribute to the late jazz vocalist Betty Baxter with a concert 1:30 p.m. Sunday (May 26) at the MSU Community Music School.

Baxter, a founding member of JAMM, died in December at age 91 after fighting off several health problems. She was a staple of the mid-Michigan jazz scene for decades after moving to the area in 1977 to work for the Michigan Senate, performing regularly at local jazz festivals and Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's Pub.

"She always lit up the room with her voice and presence," drummer and Jazz Tuesdays organizer Jeff Shoup told City Pulse in December. "Over the years, she was

days organizer Jeff Shoup told City Pulse in December. "Over the years, she was featured many times. She attended almost every week until the travel got to be too difficult for her."

She also performed at dozens of Lansing-area venues with pianist-bassist Fred Mitchell and late pianist Sandy Izenson under the name Satin Sounds.

In an obituary for Baxter, Lawrence Cosentino, City Pulse's senior staff writer, described the songstress as having "a winning, lowkey presence and an encyclopedic knowledge of the Great American Songbook." He noted she loved to "breathe new life into long-forgotten songs," such as "I Keep Goin' Back to Joe's," an obscure torch song first recorded by Nat King Cole in 1963.

Baxter was honored with a lifetime award from JAMM in 2016. Ever humble, when she was told of the award, she expressed concern that no one would attend the tribute concert. Instead, a "stellar" array of local jazz musicians showed up to perform for three hours, according to Cosentino.

Many of Baxter's former musical associates and friends will do the same at Sunday's concert, including Wendy Decker, Mike Eyia, Doug Fitch, Ed Fedewa, Jon Gewirtz, Jeff Kressler, Arlene McDaniel, Ron Newman and Sunny Wilkinson. Admission to the concert is free, but registration is required at jazzjamm.org.

Blvd., East Lansing. ladiessilverblades.org.

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

**Laingsburg Lions Club Springtime Festival** - Carnival rides, games and food. 5-10 p.m. Downtown Laingsburg. laingsburglions.org.

Meet the Builder! Q&A with Martin Guitar Designer/Builder Rameen Shayegan - 5:30-7 p.m. Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. elderly.com.

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.

**Off the Couch Band** - The Off the Couch Band will blow your mind with its fusion of rock, country and blues. 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

"Painterly Dialogues" - ART/5, a group of five artists

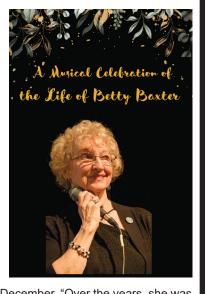
who paint together year-round, showcase recent works from their studios and plein air sessions. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

**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.

**Switch Gaming: "Mario Kart"** - Feel free to bring your Switch to play between turns on the big screen. All skill levels welcome. Ages 8+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

**Thursday Night Live Courthouse Concert** - Bring lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy a free performance by the Mason High School Jazz Band. 6:30-8 p.m. Ingham County Courthouse lawn, 315 S. Jefferson St., Mason. 517-676-1046. masonchamber.org.

**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.



#### Riverwalk's 'James and the Giant Peach' bursts with talent and whimsy

#### **By DANA DEMINK**

From the hands-on exhibit in the theater's lobby, with a menagerie of multilegged critters courtesy of Michigan State University's Bug House, to the standing ovation you'll inevitably give this lively production, Riverwalk Theatre's "James and the Giant Peach" will have you grinning from ear to ear.

Young James Trotter finds himself in a jam after his parents are killed by a stampeding rhinoceros, and he's sent to live with his only remaining family: two comically atrocious aunts,

Review

7 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

228 Museum Drive, Lansing

"James and the

**Giant Peach**"

May 22-26

2 p.m. Sunday

Riverwalk Theatre

riverwalktheatre.com

Spiker and Sponge, who torment him with salty relish. After he's provided the ingredients to create a magical potion that will change his miserable, rotten existence, courtesy of a traveling magician (before children were terrorized by the threat

of "stranger danger"), James drops the potion and accidentally creates a giant peach and oversized insects. Responding to the insects' pleas to escape the aunts' abuse, James cuts the peach's stem and rolls the group into outsized adventures, featuring a transatlantic voyage, killer sharks, seagulls and a certain New York City landmark.

It's hard to go wrong with the catchy score by the Tony Award-winning team of Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, and Timothy Allen McDonald's quirky adaptation of Roald Dahl's classic children's story is whimsically sublime. Director Linda Widener

has stones, wrangling a 29-person cast, a child lead, five insect puppets, a life-sized rhinoceros and multiple song and dance numbers. While I spent the first few minutes of the play stewing

in thought about how set designers Bob Nees and Tom Ferris would portray the ginormous peach, trust me, you won't be disappointed. Thanks to husband-and-wife duo Michelle and Tracy Smith, the clever peach umbrellas make the fruit's exponen-

tial growth look as easy as pie, and the insect puppets, crafted by local puppet maker Adam Carlson, are expertly handled by several cast members.

Morgan Pohl's costumes don't rely on Halloween-esque insect suits with dangling arms. Instead, they're clev-



Photo by Ariniko Artistry

From left: Luka Pawsek as Ladahlord, Joyce Kramer-Cox as Aunt Spiker and Holly Kay-Cannon as Aunt Sponge in Riverwalk Theatre's production of "James and the Giant Peach."

erly subtle. For example, Earthworm, played with comical, androgynous neuroticism by Riley Hirai, wears a longish beige shirtdress with hand-applied segments, round sunglasses and

From the cast of ten main characters to the 19-person ensemble, there isn't a rotten peach in the whole bushel. While I wish I had the space to mention all the standout performances, I do want to spotlight the talented Nicholas Pasko, whose portrayal of James is evocative of a young Peter Ostrum as

Charlie Bucket in "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory"; song and dance man Luka Pawsek as magician and narrator Ladahlord; Brian Farnham as the impressive fiddle-playing Grasshopper; the Broadway-ready pipes of Sophia Charles Bernard as Spider; and Jane Zussman's hilarious portrayal of the orphanage nurse. It's truly a pleasure to witness so much talent right here in Lansing, and choreographer Fran Ludington and the rest of the production team certainly know how to channel that talent.

#### **Events**

from page 17

#### Friday, May 24

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.

**Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer** - Selftaught 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 the Peanut Barrel** - 8 p.m. 521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-351-0608. peanut-barrel.com.

**Cooper Johnson at Mash Bar** - 7 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

**Cristo Rey Fiesta** - Featuring authentic Mexican cuisine, traditional music and dance performances, a Latin American marketplace and more. 4-11 p.m. Cristo Rey Church, 201 W. Miller Road, Lansing. cristoreychurch.org.

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.

"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. riverwalk-theatre.com.

**Keegan Jacko at Mash Bar** - 10 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

**Laingsburg Lions Club Springtime Festival** - Arts and crafts show from 2-6 p.m. Carnival rides, games and food from 4-11 p.m. Downtown Laingsburg. laingsburglions.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.

**North of Five at Harrison Roadhouse** - 6 p.m. 720 E. Michigan Ave., East Lansing. 517-337-0200. harrison-roadhouse.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.-7 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.

"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.

Parkinson's: Movement with Vitality - 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.

Walter Blanding Presents: Dwight Adams and the Music of Donald Byrd - Saxophonist Walter Blanding, guest trumpeter Dwight Adams and local jazz artists perform the music of Donald Byrd. 7:30 p.m. Urban-Beat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

#### Saturday, May 25

a pith helmet.

**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

**Cristo Rey Fiesta** - Featuring authentic Mexican cuisine, traditional music and dance performances, a Latin American marketplace and more. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Cristo Rey Church, 201 W. Miller Road, Lansing. cristoreychurch.org.

**Divination Roundtable** - Learn a new divination method, get a reading and compare notes with others in your field. All readings free, all systems of divination welcome. 5 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. weaversoftheweb.org.

**Giant Tweets May 2024 Alley Cat** - Bike scavenger hunt. Check-in starts at 12:30 p.m., ride starts at 1 p.m., hard cut off at 2:15 p.m. Lansing Bike Co-op, 1715 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. facebook.com/groups/LansingBikeCoop.

**"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.

Laingsburg Lions Club Springtime Festival - Parade at 11 a.m. Arts and crafts show from noon-6 p.m. Carnival rides, games and food from noon-11 p.m. Downtown Laingsburg. laingsburglions.org.

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 8 am.-2 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-712-2395. meridian.mi.us/Farmers-Market.

"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. framersedge.net.

**Summer of Music on the Patio with the Brothers Ralph** - 7-10 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. lansingshuffle.com.

Tomás Esparza Blues Band - 8 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents. com.

#### Sunday, May 26

**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.

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

**Cristo Rey Fiesta** - Featuring authentic Mexican cuisine, traditional music and dance performances, a Latin American marketplace, an 11 a.m. mass and a 1:30 p.m. military tribute. 4-11 p.m. Cristo Rey Church, 201 W. Miller Road, Lansing. cristorey-church.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.

**Eastern Ingham Farmers Market** - 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.

See Events, Page 19

#### **Events**

from page 18

"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.

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

Laingsburg Lions Club Springtime Festival - Breakfast at American Legion (1240 W. Grand River Road) from 8-11 a.m. Arts and crafts show from noon-6 p.m. Carnival rides, games and food from 1-10 p.m. Downtown Laingsburg. laingsburglions.org.

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

Three Sparks Comedy - Free comedy with Three Sparks. 7-9 p.m. One North Kitchen & Bar, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 517-901-5001. onenorthdin-

#### Monday, May 27

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.

Laingsburg Lions Club Springtime Festival - American Legion memorial service at 11 a.m. at cemetery (631 N. Shiawassee St.). Carnival rides, games and food from 1-6 p.m in downtown Laingsburg. laingsburglions.org.

**Open Mic Night, hosted by Kathy Ford** - 6:30-9:30 p.m. One North Kitchen & Bar, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 517-901-5001. onenorthdining.com.

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

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 28

**"Bluey's Big Play"** - 6 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer - Selftaught 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.

The Dangling Participles 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/

**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.

#### **Walter Blanding Presents: Dwight** Adams and the Music of Donald Byrd

Friday, May 24 7:30 p.m. **UrbanBeat** 1213 Turner St., Lansing

Local jazz artists will gather at UrbanBeat 7:30 p.m. Friday (May 24) for the fifth event in a series of concerts hosted by saxophonist, composer and educator Walter Blanding.

Blanding, a Cleveland native who grew up in New York City, is a performing artist and a professor of jazz saxophone at Michigan State University. Over his more than three decades in the industry, he's performed and recorded songs with Aretha Franklin, Elton John, Willie

Nelson, Diana Ross, Paul Simon and many more celebrated musicians. He also served as the jazz ambassador for Jazz at Lincoln Center Shanghai from 2018 to 2020.

The evening will also feature special guest Dwight Adams, a trumpeter and music educator who's become a fixture of Detroit's jazz scene and has been touring internationally with Stevie Wonder for two decades. The pair will be joined by Jordan Anderson on piano, Randy Gelispie on drums and Brandon Rose on bass as they play music spanning their own catalogs, plus selections by the late jazz trumpéter Donald Byrd.

The performance will begin with a brief discussion between the audience and the artists. Attendees are invited to bring their own instruments for an open jam session following the show.

General admission tickets are \$25, and student tickets are \$10 at 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. framersedge.net.

Parkinson's: Balance, Conditioning and Strength -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-

"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 -  $7\!:\!30\text{-}9$ p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. lansingshuffle.com.

#### Wednesday, May 29

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.

See Events, Page 20

#### ONEIDA CHARTER TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC **HEARING VARIANCE** Tuesday, June 4, 2024 5:30 p.m.

A Public Hearing will be held Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at the Oneida Charter Township Hall, 11041 Oneida Rd., Grand Ledge, Michigan, 48837 at 5:30 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to notify the public of a variance request for parcel 030-005-100-003-00 at 13994 Benton Road, Grand Ledge, MI 48837. The variance is a request for a 34-foot variance for the front yard setback area to build an attached garage.

The application and site plan are available for review in the office of the Zoning Administrator Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. Anyone having questions or needing assistance during or prior to the hearing can contact the Zoning Administrator, Melissa Goschka at 517-622-8078. Written comments on this proposal will be accepted until Tuesday, June 4,

Persons with special needs as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act should contact Oneida Charter Township Clerk's Office.

Jacqueline Kilgore Oneida Charter Township Clerk (517) 622-8078

CP#24-518









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#### **Events**

from page 19

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.

"Bluey's Big Play" - 6 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. wharton-

Bookend Gallery display by Melissa Salyer - Selftaught 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.

**Game Night** - Play Eaton Rapids-opoly, giant Jenga, Connect 4, Scrabble, Ticket to Ride, Pie Face, Code Name, Sorry, Guess Who, Life and more! Grades 4-12. 4-5 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.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

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.

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.

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.

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.

Two-Faced Wilson at the Graduate Rock Bar - 8 p.m. 133 Evergreen Ave., East Lansing. 517-348-0900. facebook.com/graduaterockbar.

Weaving the Web: Witches' Pyramid - Join us online or in person for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. weaversoftheweb.org.

#### Thursday, May 30

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 in Miracles" Group, Facilitated by Lisa Schmidt** - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886.

Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

AWD Band - This Lansing-based smooth jazz/R&B band delivers quality music that will calm your soul and soothe your senses. 7:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

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

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.



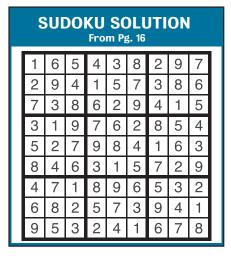
Friday, May 24 8 p.m. **Grewal Hall at 224** 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing

If you didn't get enough nu-metal at the Rock Lansing music festival last weekend, Sugar, a nationally touring DJ event, will bring the music of Korn, Slipknot, Linkin Park, Deftones, Disturbed, Limp Bizkit, System of a Down, Coal Chamber and more to Grewal Hall at 224 8 p.m. Friday (May 24). Don your baggiest jeans and a graphic band T-shirt, throw on a wallet chain, spike up your hair and prepare to be transported back to the late '90s and early

Tickets are \$18 with a \$6.49 service fee at hall224.com. For more information on Sugar, visit thenumetalparty.com.



#### **CROSSWORD SOLUTION** From Pg. 16 F R A N K L I N N R E E D I T Y I N D O G G I O V A N N I O J E L L O L O T D E V S Z O W I E P O L F O L I O L A T R I V I A T A O R E O E R R O R



## FOOD & DRINK\_\_

#### A simple Sunday stew to soothe stuffy sinuses

#### By CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS

Early summer can be a bit of a bummer for those of us with

allergies. Despite a profusion of local activities and excellent weather to match, I spent most of last weekend home alone, suffering from a very stuffy nose.

When enduring my not-unusual sniffles, I typically turn to soup, maybe pho, and let a bucket of hot broth soothe my sinus sorrows. But I wasn't hungry enough to justify such a big meal. Well, I was hungry, but not that hungry. You know how it is when you have allergies.

After perusing Lansing's selection of local eateries, I landed on Altu's, one of my old standbys where, I'll admit, I always order the same thing.

day, a new-to-me dish — the lunch portion of mild chicken stew — stirred my curiosity. I

received a thoroughly spiced drumstick served over a modest bed of yellow rice, accompanied by a small salad and a side of the restaurant's famous cabbage. At \$13, the lunch portion was only a slight discount from the full dinner, but the serving size was perfect for a midafternoon meal.

I don't know much about different cultures' foodways or the politics of food, or even very much about history, but I'm going to say this

anyway: No matter who you are, the combination of chicken and rice just makes you feel better. And this couldn't be truer for the mild chicken stew at Altu's. While noshing, I like to

But on this particular Sun- jot down my thoughts in my phone's Notes app. During this dish, I tossed out snippets like "fragrant," "flavorful," "a little heat but not spicy" and the phrase "rich, nourishing, delicious." These descriptors are a woefully inadequate depiction of the distinct pleasure of consuming Ethiopian spices, which are bright, sweet and just a little bit savory. Black pepper added a little earthiness and heat without outshining the nearly citrusy flavors in the stewed chicken. Although billed as "mild," this well-seasoned chicken leg stood on its own and should be explored, even by those who typically crave more heat.

> As an American of Polish descent, my exaltation of Ethiopian cabbage preparation should come as no surprise. This staple side gives new life to a leafy green that other cuisines don't even approach. My simple Sunday stew, paired with classic cabbage and a tart, vinegary salad, elevated the reliable comfort-food combination that is chicken and rice. It put my



Chelsea Roberts for City Puls

The chicken stew at Altu's, paired with its famous cabbage and a tart, vinegary salad, elevates the reliable comfort-food combination of chicken and rice.

mind - and my stomach - atease, and I'll certainly be back again.

#### A refreshing way to enjoy chamoy

in the pan

Chicken stew

\$13

Altu's Ethiopian Cuisine

1312 E. Michigan Ave.,

East Lanšing

11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 4:30-9 p.m. Tuesday-Friday

11 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday

11 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday

(517) 333-6295

eatataltus.com

#### By ARI LEVAUX

Though salsa and guacamole get more attention, chamoy, a lesser-known Mexican condiment, might be more important. This fruit-based sauce is sweet, sour, salty, bitter and

very spicy all at once, a complete flavor profile that goes with everything.

Chamoy embodies a certain boldness that's common in Mexican food.

The cuisine is alive and evolving, guided by deep traditions but not bound to them and interconnected by an ethos that finds it perfectly sensible to unroll a tamale onto a hot dog bun.

Chamoy tastes vaguely like barbe-

cue sauce, and I love shoveling it into my mouth atop crispy pork. Most other meats are equally chamoyable. And if it's chamoyable, it's enjoyable. Smeared on a slice of melon, chamoy adds a surprising balance. On the rim of a frosty pint glass, it makes your beer more

> quenching. Mixed with mayo, you might as well put the stuff into an IV bag so I can mainline it.

We can direct our gratitude to a recipe from the other side of the world. Chamoy is a legacy of a small Japanese Mex-

ican population. Originally made with salted Japanese plums called ume, the sauce is now made with dried apricots and prune plums. This chamoy, which I'm going to tell you how to make at

See Flash, Page 22



Mangonada, a frozen mango treat dipped in chamoy sauce, may be the best thing you try as the weather heats up.

#### Flash

#### from page 21

home, is relatively wholesome compared to the stuff from the store, which usually contains corn starch, xanthan gum, sodium benzoate and Red No. 40. Those bottled chemicals are a faint approximation of the real chamoy, which has only fruit, lime, chili powder, salt and sugar.

My favorite way to use chamoy is in a brilliant dish called mangonada. There are many ways to arrange and serve this cold, sassy treat, my favorite being a mango popsicle that you dip into a well of chamoy. So, today, we have two recipes. The one for chamoy is the most important because this sauce will make you a true Mexican chef. But the one for mangonada is also crucial because it might be your favorite way to use chamoy — and the best thing you try as the weather heats up.

#### **Chamoy sauce**

It's the flavor that keeps Mexico masticating. A lot of chamoy recipes use hibiscus, which is relatively subtle compared to the other ingredients, but it does add a nice level of complexity.

1/4 cup dried hibiscus flowers
1 cup dried apricots
1 cup dried prunes
1/4 cup sugar
2 teaspoons salt
2 tablespoons chili powder
(mild,
medium or hot, depending on
your inclinations)
5 tablespoons lime juice

Boil four cups of water and add the hibiscus. Let it steep, then strain the flowers and return the tea to the pot. Add the apricots, prunes, salt, sugar and chili powder. Bring to a boil and simmer for 30 minutes. Let cool for 10 minutes. Transfer to a blender. Add the lime juice and blend until smooth. Adjust seasonings if you wish. It should be strong but balanced.

#### Mangoneada, aka the boss

This refreshing concoction depends on strong flavors that are cantilevered against one another, like a sailor leaning off the side of a yacht to keep it from capsizing.

3 cups fresh mango chunks 3 tablespoons lime juice 1/4 cup sugar 1/4 cup chamoy Blend the mango, lime juice and sugar. Pour the slurry into 8- or 10-ounce plastic cups until they're about two-thirds full, then put them in the freezer. When they're partially frozen, add popsicle sticks. When they're totally frozen, they're ready to serve.

To serve, remove a popsicle from its cup and pour in the chamoy. Put the popsicle back in the cup so it squeezes the chamoy about the sides. Let the popsicle sit for a moment so the outer surface can soften and absorb some chamoy. Lick and recoat with chamoy as necessary.

#### Did you know?

Grilling is serious business in the hearts and minds of millions of people, which is perhaps the reason why individuals tend to be so devoted to their preferred method of cooking over an open flame. That devotion extends to the type of grill cooks use, which typically comes down to a choice between gas and charcoal. Though the debate over which type of grill is better will likely never end, charcoal devotees insist science is on their side. Grilling with charcoal leads to the release

of an aromatic compound known as guaiacol. Guaiacol is produced during the breakdown of lignin, a resin that BarbecueBros.com notes holds strands of cellulose together to form wood. As lignin breaks down, guaiacol is released, providing foods cooked over charcoal with a uniquely smoky, bacon-like flavor. That unique flavor is absent from foods cooked on a gas grill, which charcoal grill enthusiasts point to as proof that their preferred method of grilling meat is superior to other means.

#### - METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION



#### **CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!**

DATE: JUNE 5, 2024 | LOCATION: BRENKE FISH LADDER | TIME: 6-7:30 PM URBAN BEAT | TIME: 7:30-9:30 PM

Come celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Suits and the City, Lansing's premier LGBTQ+ networking organization. There will be a short program at UrbanBeat highlighting our history and honoring individuals who established and maintained the organization for two decades. Appetizers will be served. The event is free and open to all.



#### TOP 5 MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANTS

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

#### 1. Aladdin's Restaurant

Middle Eastern restaurant with a robust menu of sandwiches, stews, combo plates and more 300 N. Clippert St., Lansing 517-333-8710 lansingaladdins.com 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday

#### 2. Zaytoon Mediterranean – both locations

Casual restaurants serving shawarma, falafel and other Mediterranean staples

See zaytoonholt.com and facebook.com/zaytoonlansing for locations, hours and phone numbers

#### 3. Woody's Oasis

Quick-service restaurant offering classic Mediterranean eats, plus burgers, gyros and raw juices 1050 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing 517-351-2280 woodysoasis.com 11 a.m.-8 p.m. daily

#### 4. ChouPli Wood-Fired Kabob

Casual eatery serving wood-fired kebabs made with chicken, beef, lamb, veggies or halloumi cheese

4411 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing 517-708-0404 facebook.com/Choupli 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday

#### 5. Sultan's Restaurant

Roomy eatery offering classic Middle Eastern dishes, with lots of vegetarian options

1381 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing 517-333-4444

sultansmediterranean.com

11:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday 3-7 p.m. Sunday

#### THE A 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)

Orchid Orthopedic Solutions, LLC, Holt, MI Global Commercial Manager; Responsible for leading commercial activities for core products, processes, and capabilities; completing required actions, goals and growth plans including the VCP; researching capabilities to understand the market; developing a sales plan and quidelight field sales team to target the most attractive opportunities for growth, managing portfolio of products to ensure the capability profit margins increase each year; supporting the IBP process for demand planning and revenue reporting; and identifying potential new products/capabilities. Bachelor's degree in Business, Marketing, Mechanical Engineering, or related field. Requires five years' experience in sales in Asian/international markets; experience in design & manufacturing of Orthopedic Implants & Instruments using casting, forging, coating & machining processes; experience in ISO 13485 Quality system; experience developing, implementing & leading the VCP and Go-to-market strategy & IBP; experience in doing gap analysis of current capacity & capability vs. customer's requirements for the manufacturing plant; MEDDICC Process or cross-functional experience also required. Travel required 20-25% to customers in the United States. Europe, South Korea, India, China, Australia, and Japan. Occasional Travel to Orchid affiliate in Sheffield, United Kingdom, and Switzerland. Apply to: Jarod Davies, 1365 N. Cedar Street, Mason, MI 48854, jarod.davies@orchid-ortho.com.

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BetterHealthMarket.com

#### **EAST LANSING**

(Frandor) Across from Frandor Mall 305 N Clippert Ave 517-332-6892 Hours: Mon-Sat 8am-9pm Sun 10am-7pm

#### **LANSING**

6235 West Saginaw Hwy 517-323-9186 **Hours:** Mon-Sat 9am-8pm Sun 11am-6pm

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## MEMORIALDAY



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