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June 5-11, 2024

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**SAY CHEESE! THE 2024 PRIDE ISSUE**



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# THE 2024 LANSING JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Save the  
Dates!

JUNE 8  
JUNE 13  
JUNE 14  
JUNE 15


JUNE 14 & 15

SATURDAY  
JUNE 15

ANNUAL BALLGAME  
KICKOFF & ESSAY/SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS  
FREEDOM FESTIVAL - FRIDAY NIGHT  
5K-RUN/WALK/ROLL  
AFRICAN AMERICAN PARADE  
FREEDOM FESTIVAL - SATURDAY  
Freedom Festival at St. Joseph Park, 2125  
W. Hillsdale, Lansing, MI 48915

Concert: Alexander Zonjic & Friends  
7-8:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Park

LANSING JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION




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TRIBUTE GAME**

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For More info visit [LansingJuneteenthCelebration.org](https://LansingJuneteenthCelebration.org)

## THE LANSING JUNETEENTH COMMITTEE AND RUN THA CITY 517

invite you to participate in the

## JUNETEENTH 5K Run/Walk/Roll!



## Join us for the 2024 AFRICAN AMERICAN PARADE

The parade will take place on Saturday, June 15 and will kick off at 11:00 am.  
The starting point is J.W. Sexton High School, 102 S. McPherson Avenue, Lansing, Michigan.

The 2024 Grand Marshals are Ms. Mitzi Allen (Activist and Entrepreneur)  
and Ms. Carmen Y. Moultrie-Turner (President of the Boys & Girls Club of Lansing).

Visit the PARADE page to learn more and to view the parade route

## Lansing Juneteenth/NAACP Lansing Branch Job and Community Resource Fairs

**WHAT:** Lansing Juneteenth/NAACP Lansing Branch  
Job and Community Resource Fair

**WHEN:** 11am - 4pm Sat., June 15, 2024 (rain or shine)

**WHERE:** St. Joseph Park, 2125 W Hillsdale St., Lansing

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



2024 Capitol City  
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5:30pm - 7:30pm

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## Paid Advertisement

It's PRIDE MONTH. I'm not going to say anything that hasn't been said before. I'm still pretty much at a loss for words. But I paid for the ad space, and I couldn't just leave a blank page. I am hopeful for a month of peaceful celebrations. I want to be clear: I know if you're celebrating Pride, you simply want to surround yourselves with people you feel safe around and just get a chance to be your true, authentic self.

Coming off a week of news that should send a message to everyone that there are consequences when you break the law, I don't truly get the feeling that justice has been served. Instead, we are watching political theatre, and I'm actually a bit more anxious now because of how many people are responding to this conviction.

With Pride coming on the heels of that decision, I'm seeing a lot of energy by some folks being put into more ignorance. "Why does Pride get a whole month?" they say. Or "If you want it to be normal, then you're doing the opposite of what is normal." And my favorite, "Why isn't there a straight pride month?"

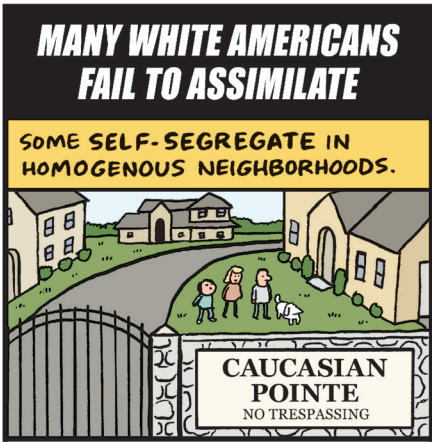
It's obvious to me that anyone making these sort of statements does not have the intellect to have meaningful conversations and has never felt what it's like to be targeted, or have their human rights be questioned. So much for freedom, eh? What I'm saying, and I know you know this, is that while I know the Pride community is peaceful, it's particularly important to be more vigilant than ever.

The MAGA crowd will be looking for any opportunity to disrupt and cause mayhem. I know I feel safe around and, unfortunately, I also know that for you, it's difficult to discern whom you can feel safe around in public spaces. There will be lurkers in crowds who are there for no other reason than to lash out and create havoc. I call on all allies to be present wherever there is a Pride event and for and deter anyone who might intend to bring negativity to what is supposed to be a positive and welcoming space.

We have a long way to go before inclusion and acceptance are fully realized, and the future Pride communities are depending on progress being made so someday it will be normal to just be gay, queer, or trans. So ... Happy Pride Month! We see you, we love you and we support you, and we also recognize the pain your community has been put through generation after generation. You deserve this month, but also every month to live a life without shame and intolerance.

In the immortal words of Dory, "Just keep swimming."

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# CityPULSE

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**PAGE 12**

Local women find community, purpose through upcycling



**PAGE 48**

HobNob Pizza brings unique crust style to Lansing



**PAGE 53**

Arms & Embers Grill aces vegetarian breakfast

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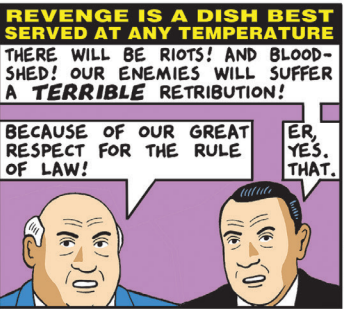
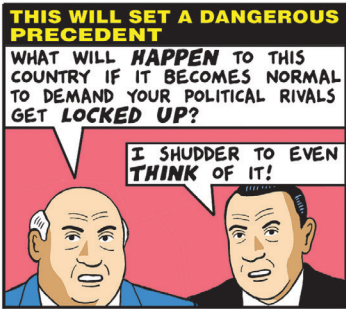
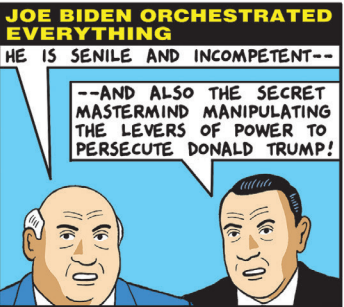
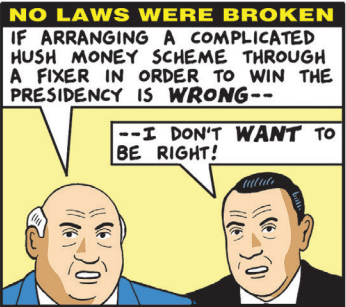
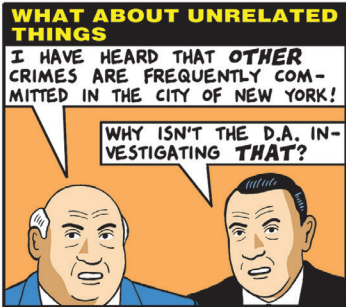
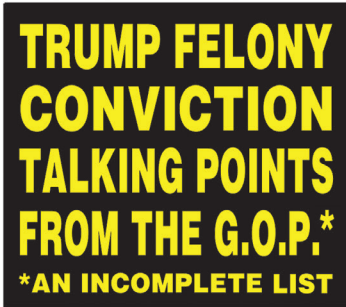
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## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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## PULSE

## NEWS &amp; OPINION

# ‘A Place For Us’

## LGBTQ+ housing activists look to create a shelter

In 2019, SJ Therese fled an abusive home situation and checked in at the City Rescue Mission’s women and children’s shelter.

Therese, a lesbian, stayed there for a couple of weeks before going to the hospital due to a disability. While she was there, she said she felt as though she faced “two different forms of discrimination.”

“I experienced some pretty intense ableism and disability discrimination, but I did also experience some queer discrimination,” she said. “It was a very uncomfortable atmosphere, and it seemed like it was known among the people staying there that it just wasn’t something you talked about. So, I didn’t.”

Therese’s experience wasn’t particularly unique for homeless LGBTQ+ individuals. According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, “Members of the LGBTQ+ community are more likely to become homeless, and once homeless, more likely to endure discrimination and harassment that extends their homelessness.”

Luna Brown, a trans woman living in Lansing, is especially familiar with that trend. In the past three years, she has temporarily housed five transgender individuals who were either already unhoused or at risk of becoming homeless. Last October, Brown decided to form the A Place For Us coalition with the goal of establishing an LGBTQ+-friendly shelter in Lansing.

“This has been something that was brewing inside me for a long time, because I keep having to take in trans friends who have nowhere else to go,” Brown said, adding that some of them had left shelters or in-patient rehabilitation centers due to discrimination.

Brown, 35, believes A Place for Us is needed in part because many who fall under that umbrella may feel uncom-



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Luna Brown, a transgender woman from Lansing, began taking steps to bring an LGBTQ+ homeless shelter known as A Place For Us to the region last October. Her goal is to provide a secular alternative to the largest shelter in the city, the City Rescue Mission, which requires guests to attend a daily Christian chapel service.

fortable staying in a religiously affiliated shelter like the City Rescue Mission of Lansing. It operates a men’s shelter at 607 E. Michigan Ave. and a women and children’s shelter at 2216 S. Cedar St.

“A lot of people who need the help aren’t Christian and aren’t comfortable going through Christian outreach,” Brown said. “And even if they are, that doesn’t mean they’re going to mesh with the message specifically being given at places like the City Rescue Mission.”

Brown noted that many LGBTQ+ people, including herself, were raised in a religious environment that exacerbated their traumas. For them, she said, a stay at the City Rescue Mission, which generally requires guests to attend a daily chapel service, may be problematic.

For Therese, this was a legitimate concern.

“At the time, I was identifying as spiritual and exploring Buddhism. I mentioned that once in the shelter and had a woman stand over me with a Bible telling me how wrong I was to have a different view,” Therese said.

Mark S. Criss, the Rescue Mission’s director, said he’s “sure it’s happened.”

“That’s our religious conviction,” Criss said. “That’s what we’ve been practicing here for 113 years. Our main purpose is actually the gospel and sharing the good news of Christ, and our second is the food and shelter,” he explained.

The Mission saw a record number of guests last year, averaging 244 people per night. That figure has dipped to under 200 this year. Starting next year, the mission plans to begin moving into buildings at 415 and 421 W. Kalamazoo St. that will add more than 26,000 square feet of shelter space.

“We have almost 2,000 people come to the Mission on an annual basis, which is a lot of unique people,” he added. “There’s going to be some who are just not satisfied with how we provide services, but those people don’t have to come here. They can vote with their feet, quite honestly.”

In Criss’ estimation, LGBTQ+ guests make up around 15% of the mission’s intake, or roughly 30 guests per night. However, Mission spokesperson Laura Grimwood noted that the mission

doesn’t “track those numbers.”

“They may want to share the issues that they have experienced, and we appreciate that, because it’s helpful to know so we can take the best possible care of the individual. But we’re not asking, and we don’t have any data,” Grimwood said.

“They might also want to share their pronouns, which happened here with some guests yesterday,” Chris added.

Even if LGBTQ guests don’t experience discrimination from staff during their stay, Brown said many still face harassment from their peers.

“We definitely need a secular, preferably public-owned, shelter, but even if we did have that option, there are potential discriminatory issues with other residents that could mean those places could still be unsafe,” Brown said.

It happened to Chelsey King, a guest at the women’s and children’s shelter in 2017.

“I’m non-binary, so I dress fairly masculine despite being assigned female at birth. I literally did nothing but smile at this lady in my dorm and she went on to threaten me multiple times,” King said. “One day, I was leaving the shelter and she followed me out, wanting to fight me. I guess she just didn’t like the way I looked.”

When King complained, the staff put the woman she found threatening into a private room.

“In my eyes, they rewarded her for being a bully,” King said.

The staff was generally “a mixed

See LGBTQ+ Shelter, Page 6

“Members of the LGBTQ+ community are more likely to become homeless, and once homeless, more likely to endure discrimination and harassment that extends their homelessness.”

— U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

## LGBTQ+ Shelter

from page 5

bag," King added.

"I could tell there were some really kind-hearted, open-minded staff members, but a lot of the older ones were very curt with me for no reason," King said.

Brown believes A Place For Us would address these concerns, though she understands it may take some time to build a proper foundation.

"It'll be a lot easier to roll out if we can first create a good model with the intention of making it usable throughout the state," Brown explained.

Right now, Brown and her allies are working on securing nonprofit status. They're also researching similar concepts around the country, build-

ing a social media presence to attract a greater following and reaching out to local politicians and stakeholders to discuss potential grants and funding.

"I don't expect it to be a huge shelter. The more beds we can get, the better. But I think six to 12 beds is a realistic goal at this point," Brown said.

Criss isn't so sure the concept is viable.

"We're already exceeding the capacity of this new alleged LGBTQ shelter. I would say the history has kind of proven that separate but equal is not legal, and not kind or loving either," Criss said.

Brown questioned his assertion.

"I don't even understand the argument," she said. "If we have ser-

vices exclusively for women, homeless moms with children or sexual assault victims, but none for men, what would be the difference for LGBTQ-specific shelters?"

Criss urged skeptics to reserve judgment until they see the services the Mission provides firsthand.

"If the argument is that another shelter is needed because we're not providing the proper services, I think that's just false," he added. "It's unfair and a little bit ignorant thinking to say that we don't help people. I think if those people came and saw what we do and how we do it, they would change their mind."

Brown has been a vocal critic of the

Mission's policies, including a section of their mission statement that forbids staff or volunteers from committing "sexual sex," including "homosexuality" and "transsexualism." But she also recognizes the growing need for shelters in general.

"The thing is, I don't want to get this shelter shut down. We need as many beds as we can get. I just want realistic public alternatives," Brown said.

Therese agreed, calling A Place For Us "insanely necessary."

"Some of the most vulnerable members of our homeless population are people in the queer community. They are the ones who feel the most alienated, discriminated against, rejected and who have problems at home," she said.

— TYLER SCHNEIDER



Mark S. Criss

### My Why

### Happy Pride Month

*My passion for family and community drives me professionally and personally, shaping my commitment to the Ingham County Board of Commissioners. With expertise in grassroots organization, coalition building, budget management, and advocacy, I'm equipped to serve District 13 effectively. My experience listening to and learning from diverse groups ensures I will be dedicated to advocate, working to enhance county services and represent constituents' needs as the People's Advocate.*

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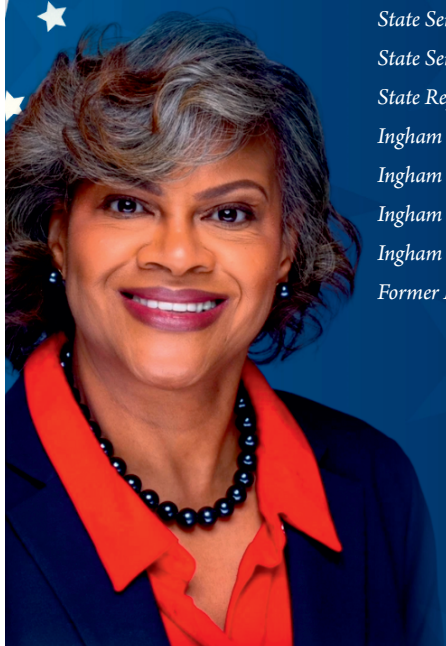
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# REWIND

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



**The 16 and 20-year-olds critically injured during the May 27 mass shooting in the parking lot between Rotary Park and Lansing Shuffle were upgraded Thursday to stable condition.** Kylete Owens, 17, was pronounced dead at Sparrow Hospital, while the other four victims who suffered non-life-threatening injuries were released. Friends and family gathered May 29 at Kensington Meadows Park in south Lansing to remember Owens, releasing several dozen blue balloons into the sky.



**Lansing Public Schools Superintendent Benjamin Shuldiner emailed district families Thursday and Sunday following the shooting, focusing on discouraging victim-blaming and building up the student community.** “This is not a story of kids up to no good in a park ... (or) how there needs to be activities for the students to keep them off

the streets,” he wrote. “This is a tragedy about how effortless it is to get a gun. How simple it is to drive by and shoot at a group of people.” He added that a crisis intervention task force was deployed throughout the district and detailed a variety of other resources for community support.

**Kalil Calunga-Rodriguez, 17, of Lansing, was killed Sunday in a possible drive-by shooting in Jackson.** The teen was found outside the back door of a home on the city’s south side. He died at Henry Ford Jackson Hospital. Police said they believe the suspect shot the victim from a vehicle that was eastbound on Griswold Street.



**Cynthia Marek, 65 was on the phone with a 911 dispatcher May 23 when her son, Brandon Labrie, fatally attacked her with a utility knife, the Lansing State Journal reported based on court documents.** The killing was recorded on the 911 call. Labrie, 42, was charged with open murder and held without bond. A hearing is set for June 7.

**Haslett Public Schools announced May 29 that it has hired Patrick Malley as superintendent, starting July 1.** Malley has served as chief academic officer for Bay City Public Schools since 2019. He succeeds Steve Cook, who served eight years and previously was director of finance and chief financial officer.



**Construction is starting for a new Willow Elementary School in north Lansing after a groundbreaking ceremony Monday.** The district hopes to open

the new K-8 school in fall 2026. It is being funded by a \$129.7 million bond that was passed in 2022 to rebuild Willow, Mt. Hope STEAM Magnet School, Lewton School and Sheridan Road STEM Magnet School. Willow’s classes have been taking place at Riddle Elementary School due to demolition and planned replacement of the building constructed in the early 1950s.

**Pride flags have been stolen this spring from at least three homes on Lansing’s east side, according to WLNS 6 News.** Luna

Brown reported that her Pride flag was targeted among several flags on her porch and that the hook it was on was mangled. She said a neighbor warned her that Pride flags were being stolen and she knows of two other such instances. Lansing officials raised the Pride flag Friday over City Hall, marking the first year it will fly it for the entire month of June.



**Anthony Anderson Jr., 29, was sentenced Monday to life in prison for the 2022 murder of Curshaw “Kaz” Terrell in Terrell’s recording studio on East Michigan Avenue in Lansing Township.**

Anderson was convicted April 22. He was also sentenced to at least 27 years in prison for shooting recording engineer Shaquille Brown, who survived, but that sentence will be served simultaneously.



**Djarou Aboubakar, 20, and Jamari Parker, 18, have been charged with armed robbery and other offenses after police said they robbed a pizza delivery driver outside of MSU’s Snyder Hall Friday.** Both also face two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon and three counts of felony firearm. The driver, who has not been identified, sustained minor injuries. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for June 20 at 54B District Court.

### Public Safety

The driver of a tractor was killed Thursday at Jim’s Rubbish in Bath Township when the vehicle rolled over due to a culvert collapse. The tractor rolled into a drainage ditch and the unidentified driver died at the scene, police said.

### PUBLIC Art OF THE WEEK



### Biddle City

A previously neglected building at 1038 E. Oakland Ave. now has a beautiful billboard-style façade advertising Biddle City, a full-service video production company.

The mural was executed by Sara Pulver, a local muralist and owner of Dear Ollie and Co., a stationery nook inside Novel Concepts in downtown Lansing.

Aaron Greer, a Biddle City co-owner, said Pulver’s work came to his attention when his spouse pointed out a small mural she had painted inside Lansing Shuffle.

Greer said she was a good fit for the company, which has won a local Addy Award. Lansing’s Façade Program helped subsidize the mural.

Pulver’s design uses a “saturated color palate” incorporating mid-century recording technology.

“It has a retro flair with the VHS camcorder,” she said.

She said the painting itself was on “the most difficult surface” she had ever painted with a brush.

Greer said the building was originally opened as a corner grocery store in 1913. “It needed a lot of work and is still a work in progress,” he said.

Pulver is from Laingsburg and did her first mural on the side of the Washington Square building in downtown Lansing that Social Sloth previously occupied.

— BILL CASTANIER

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](mailto:eye@lansingcitypulse.com) or call (517) 999-6704.



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# Election year realities put hate crime bill on the shelf

What would you consider a hate crime? Is it threats of violence against someone because of who they are, whether they are part of the LGBTQ+ community, have a disability, come from a different country, are old or are heavy?

Or is it more than that? Is it stalking someone for being something other than being straight and white? Is it calling someone a racial epithet and then physically assaulting them?

Could it be uttering what others perceive to be a threat? That they're going to tag your car? Deflate your tires? All because of who you are?

State Rep. Noah Arbit, D-West Bloomfield, has spent most of his first term in office trying to pin down in state law a more expanded definition of a hate crime that ropes in all the types of verbal attacks thrown his way as a gay man.

He's felt the threats firsthand and believes that those making them need to be prosecuted to prevent real violence and real hurt.

He's on draft three of his bill, and he's struggling to gain traction, even within the LGBTQ+ community.

Equality Michigan, the state's top advocacy group for LGBTQ+ folks, is neutral on what Arbit's trying to do. In response, Arbit isn't seeking Equality Michigan's endorsement in the coming election. He finds their position "noxious to the people it claims to serve."

Equality Michigan Executive Director Erin Knott didn't want to expand on why Equality Michigan doesn't want to engage, but the political realities are obvious.

When Arbit's bills were first introduced, Republicans targeted them as making it a felony to misgender someone.

Whether the misgendering is intentional, folks like Rep. Andrew Beeler, R-Port Huron, said to make something as subjective as "intimidation" a prosecutable offense crosses into "constitutionally protected" free speech.

Beeler's gotten some national media traction on his claims.

The idea that you could be arrested, fined or even jailed for calling a transgender man a woman or a transgender woman a man has captured the

imagination of FOX News and other conservative media outlets.

With polling between President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump as close as it is, Democratic sympathizers like Equality Michigan do not want to give Republicans an easy wedge issue with which to pick off swing voters.

Arbit is swearing up and down that his original bill didn't criminalize misgendering people. His second version didn't either. Nor did his third version.

Yet, none of that matters in terms of what could show up in a TV ad or a mailer. The Democrats have a slim, 56-54 majority in the state House.

House leadership is being extremely careful about the types of subjects they're taking up this year. Anything that remotely sniffs of a tax increase, expanded government or any other societal wedge issue is being pushed to lame duck or next year, presuming they have the gavel next year.

It's all budget, all the time in the House. They are spending more money for schools, making targeted economic investments that help communities grow and providing assistance to those who need it.

Democratic members in swing districts should expect to see their communities taken care of. A new fire engine. A new boat dock. Improvements made to a park. These types of things will be snuck into the budget at the last minute to give those 10 to 15 lawmakers representing districts with a smaller Democratic base something more to campaign on.

That's the focus of the Michigan Legislature right now.

Whether Arbit is or isn't endorsed by Equality Michigan won't impact the outcome of his election. But the fact that Equality Michigan isn't endorsing his hate crimes bill isn't going to impact its future either.

Equality Michigan sees that pushing for something that could be twisted and exploited — right or wrong — isn't worth putting the Democratic majority at risk.

If the Dems win this November, Arbit's bill may be worth looking at. For now, though, it's firmly on the shelf.

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

POLITICS




KYLE MELINN

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT, COUNTY OF INGHAM, PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING, FILE NO. 00-1973-CA, In the matter of Alyce Faye Jones. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, including Ali Jones, Evan Jones, Justin Jones and Tri-County Office on Aging and all interested parties. TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on June 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Richard J. Garcia for the following purpose: Uncontested Hearing - **Petition for appointment of conservator.** 5/24/2024. Petitioner name: Michelle Hardman, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing MI 48911, 517-515-2164.

CP#24-534

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT, COUNTY OF INGHAM, PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING, FILE NO. 00-1972-GA-P33, In the matter of Alyce Faye Jones. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, including Ali Jones, Evan Jones, Justin Jones and Tri-County Office on Aging and all interested parties. TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on June 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Richard J. Garcia for the following purpose: Uncontested Hearing - Petition for appointment of guardian. 5/24/2024. Petitioner name: Michelle Hardman, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing MI 48911, 517-515-2164.

CP#24-540



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY**  
**LEGAL AD NOTICE: VARIANCE REQUEST 24-08**  
**2600 & 2630 BENNETT**  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024**


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**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST 24-08**  
**2600 & 2630 BENNETT RD.**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 26, 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 variance request from 242 Community Church. The applicant is proposing to construct a bridge that does not meet required setbacks at 2600 & 2630 Bennett Road. The subject site is zoned RA, Single Family Medium Density.

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. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to [chapman@meridian.mi.us](mailto:chapman@meridian.mi.us), or at the public hearing.


Deborah Guthrie  
Township Clerk



CP#24-538

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[meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)



**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY**  
**LEGAL AD NOTICE: VARIANCE REQUEST 24-07**  
**V/L LAKE LANSING ROAD**  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024**


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**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST 24-07**  
**V/L LAKE LANSING RD. (TAX ID #06-378-026)**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 26, 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 variance request from Consumers Energy. The applicant is proposing to construct a new building that does not meet required setbacks and a fence that exceeds permitted height at V/L Lake Lansing Rd. (Tax ID #06-378-026). The subject site is zoned RB, Single Family High Density.

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. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to [chapman@meridian.mi.us](mailto:chapman@meridian.mi.us), or at the public hearing.

Deborah Guthrie  
Township Clerk



CP#24-537

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# Explore eastside art, culture and community by bike

By JOAN NELSON

Inspired by the number and variety of summer festivals detailed in a recent City Pulse issue, I am prompted to add just one more unique event to your jam-packed calendar: the inaugural Eastside Read and Ride Tour.

Its organizer, neighborhood leader Jennie Grau, describes it as “an arts, culture and community festival on wheels.”

The event happens at 11:30 a.m. Saturday (June 8), rain or shine.

Biking through the lively eastside neighborhood, participants will make frequent stops to enjoy hidden gems that include 12 murals, five sculptures, three gardens, three artistic bus stops, two parks and an urban farm. Stops are



Opinion

scheduled at four food businesses “with interesting origin stories,” Grau said. The free, leisurely 6.2-mile ride will take place within one mostly flat square mile of the east side. And this is just the biking part.

Along the ride, David King, the Chicago-based journalist and author of “America on Two Wheels: Biking Coast to Coast in Search of Human Stories,” will read excerpts from his book. You will hear stories about the memorable

places he peddled and the cast of characters he met over the course of his four-month ride, the hugely varied terrain he crossed on his 3,000-mile journey from San Diego to Miami and the important life lessons he learned along the way.

Grau met King through the Interna-

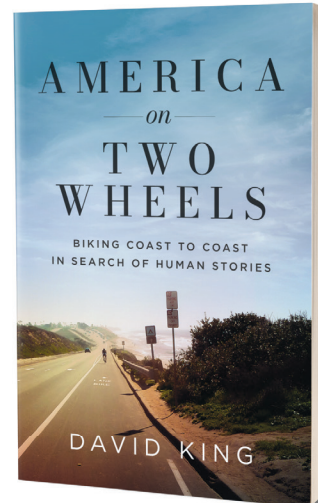
tional Listening Association. As she describes it, they discovered a common interest in collaborative conflict resolution, non-violent communication, a passion for words and, of course, listening. They also both hail from New York, though each has settled in the Midwest. Grau had hoped to invite King to Michigan at some point.

“After reading his book and realizing his appreciation for people and community, and the hidden joys of small things, the idea to put together this event started to percolate,” Grau told me. “It started to become real when Scott Harris, owner of Everybody Reads bookstore, agreed to host a book signing.”

Appropriate for all skill levels, the Eastside Read and Ride Tour will start at the Lansing Bike Co-op and end around 2 p.m. at Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave.

Partners and supporters in the Eastside Read and Ride Tour include Lansing Bike Co-op, Everybody Reads, Allen Neighborhood Center with its Rathbun Accelerator Kitchen and Hunter Park urban gardening operations, the Lansing Bike Party and Half Barn Farm.

The box on this page features a condensed version of a much longer and more detailed site list. The full list,



Author David King will read excerpts from his book at Saturday’s eastside bike tour.

along with the route, will be posted on partners’ social media for those unhappy folks who miss the tour but might want to do a self-guided version.

Some of the listings are stops with readings, some are stops with story-telling, while others are pointed out or passed along the way. Invite a friend, or better yet, someone new to the east side, and treat them to a unique introduction to the abundant, accessible art and other assets of this dynamic neighborhood.

## Eastside Read and Ride Tour

An arts and culture bike ride in search of human stories on Lansing’s east side

One square mile, two leisurely hours, and 30 gems and stories to discover. 11 a.m. to 2 P.M. Saturday, June 8. Meet at Lansing Bike Co-op 1715 E. Kalamazoo St.

## Murals & Street Art

Of 12 sites, here are the three best known:

- “Bike Lansing,” by Cait Schneider, on display at the Bike Co-op. This mural reflects the vibrancy of the community formed at the Bike Co-op and the many facets of Lansing that are best experienced by bicycle.
- “Cinnaire Courtyard,” by Brian Whitfield, at Allen Neighborhood Center. This mural captures typical eastside scenes, including visitors and performers at the Allen Farmers Market, gardening and farming, cooking, dancing, making music, biking and more.
- “Hope is the Last to Die,” by Marshal Kelly, at The Fledge.

The remaining nine murals/street art sites include an untitled work affectionately called “Bee and Tomato,” “Growing Together,” by Caitlin Schneider, “Most Kids Don’t Like,” by Reach Art Studio youth, “Every D@#n Day,” by Samskee and several fine examples of Jill Dumbrowski’s street art.

## Bus Stop Murals (three sites)

- You’ll be delighted with “Eastside,” by Barbara Hranilovich, “Market Women,” by Jerry Smith, and “Red Cedar Meets the Washtanong,” by Dustin Hunt.

## Sculptures (five sites)

- Sculptures include the extraordinary “Mother Tree,” by Ivan Iler, “Lester” (or what some call “Dave at Work”), by Dan Welden; leaf-themed bike racks crafted by Ivan Iler and more.

## Gardens and Farms (four sites)

- The heart of urban agriculture in Lansing, the Eastside Tour features Giitigan Anishinaabe, Half-barn Farm and two more demonstration sites.

## Architecture

- As we ride, we will point out classic Craftsman style homes, historic sites, and distinctive architecture such as the Sparrow Professional Building, designed by Albert Kahn

## Food (foursites)

- Talk with founders of Tantay Peruvian, Hong Kong Chinese Restaurant, Mr. Leslie’s Cheesecakes and the Eastside Lansing Food Co-op

Finally, keep our eyes peeled for neighbors getting creative with stump, street and flower art.

“This tour will leave you wanting more,” Grau points out, “which is great, because there are 20 additional eastside sites to explore on your own.”

For more information, contact Grau at jenniegrau@outlook.com

**Happy Pride!**  
from  
**EXCHANGE**  
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**FRIDAYS 6PM -1AM**  
**SATURDAYS DAYS 6PM -1AM**

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NOX ENTERTAINMENT

# ARTS & CULTURE

## ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

### In Mason, women of Dixie Belle give furniture, themselves 'new life'

By **TESSA PANETH-POLLAK**

Stacey Small entered the basement storage room at the Maple Street Mall in Mason wearing a blue work shirt.

"I'm here to absorb knowledge — and boy, do you have your work cut out for you!" she called out as she set a small, scalloped-edge tilt table down at her workstation.

The table had belonged to her father, Gordon Ellis Small. It bore a faded red, white and blue decal of an eagle with the motto "E pluribus unum."

"It's patriotic," she said, and that "had meaning to him."

Her father died of COVID-19 on May 8, 2020. His hobby had been selling matchbox cars and tin toys at flea markets, and Small spent her childhood attending markets with him. After his death, she didn't know how she would return to the pastime. She found her answer in Debbie Shattuck, owner of the Maple Street Mall, who encouraged her to open a booth in 2021. She named it Small's Keepsakes and uses the booth ID "G.E.S." in honor of her dad.

Small sanded the eagle decal off the tabletop and coated the whole thing in Dixie Belle's white Endless Shore paint.

"I'm giving it new life," she said.

Eight women were at the mall that evening to brush up on their knowledge of Dixie Belle, a line of mineral paints, stains and other products used for furniture upcycling. All were vendors at the mall who use the paint in their furniture upcycling and resale businesses.

Their instructor was Marilyn Greene, a registered retailer of Dixie Belle products whose booth, Gallery Eleven 11 LLC, welcomes customers at the mall's main entrance.

Shattuck said Greene's business is a "destination booth" for the mall. Greene is one of four registered retailers in a 25-mile radius of Lansing.

"Dixie Belle is one of those brands that continues to bring people back into the store, a retailer's dream," Shattuck said.



Tessa Paneth-Pollak for City Pulse

Vendors listen intently as Marilyn Greene of Gallery Eleven 11 LLC explains how to use Dixie Belle's rub-on transfers in the basement of the Maple Street Mall on May 30.

Greene said Dixie Belle aims to be a "one-stop shop" that takes crafters through the entire furniture upcycling process, from cleaning and preparing the piece for painting to sealing it with a top coat of wax.

Dixie Belle is based in Florida, but retailers have access to Dixie Belle University, an online platform where they can study up on the products and learn more from brand ambassadors. In addition to occasional vendor classes, Greene offers a Dixie Belle 101 class for the public. The next one is June 30, and participants will receive 30% off any products purchased.

"I don't think there's a company out there that gives more training and help to their retailers than Dixie Belle," Greene said.

Greene attributes the popularity of the line of paints, in part, to the poor workmanship found in most

new furniture.

"It's hard to find solid furniture, and you pay a fortune for it. People are starting to appreciate the workmanship that goes into some of the older pieces. But the look that some of that brown wood or orangey-colored wood has doesn't always fit their aesthetic. That's where paint products come in," she said.

Many of the women in the class

traced the opening of their booths to times of personal or professional change or upheaval: children flying the nest, retirement, a death in the family or an unexpected career change. Upcycling home furnishings with Dixie Belle and reselling them is helping them start over, economically and emotionally, and carve out room for creative pursuits.

Greene said most of her customers are women between the ages of 30 and 60, many of whom first come into contact with the products at a time of transition in their lives. Some of those customers end up taking on upcycling as a "side hustle."

Amy Fox of Lansing opened her booth, Expressive Collective, in April. She retired from public school teaching after a 28-year career out of frustration with the system.

"This place has really helped me transition from my professional life. People say this is better than therapy," she said.

Like others, she got into upcycling after a death in the family. She helped her mom sell some of her stepfather's possessions on Facebook Marketplace after his death.

She brought a short, blocky side table to the class.

"You're the only one who did your homework!" Greene announced, happy to see Fox had primed her table in advance.

Lorena Griffin, who described her-

self as being at an "intermediate" level with the products, brought an old suitcase to repaint. She said she loves the cycle of choosing, buying and refurbishing something creatively, then selling it to someone else "who loves it."

Her plan was to turn the suitcase into a piece of display furniture on legs. She prepped by exposing the wood interior of the old suitcase and spent the workshop priming the surface with Dixie Belle's Bonding Boss.

Griffin began upcycling in the years prior to retiring from her 35-year career at Michigan State University so she would have something to do with her time.

She opened her booth at the mall because "hobbies are really expensive sometimes," and selling her work allows her to "make money while doing my hobby."

"I don't really look at it like I'm making a ton of money because I feel like I would let myself down. But emotionally and physically, it's a positive change in my life," she said.

Shelley Brown of Charlotte, who has had a booth in the mall for six years, got right down to business. She said she chose her piece based on what was likely to sell.

"You gotta have small stuff because bigs don't sell," she said, referring to larger pieces of furniture like dressers.

She brought in a splayed-leg end table with a lower shelf, which she painted with the shade Cape Current from Dixie Belle's Silk line in preparation for a beachy floor set for summer.

Anyone can be a Dixie Belle customer, and every customer is a potential vendor. Several women reported coming to the mall as customers until, through Shattuck's encouragement, they opened their own booths.

Greene said many seek out Dixie Belle's products for a specific project but get hooked when they realize they find them relaxing.

It's also a way to build community. Greene said her involvement with the mall and Dixie Belle has been a great way to meet people.

"When I moved here, I was 60 years old. My kids weren't in school, so I wasn't meeting people that way. It afforded me the opportunity to make friends in the community."



Jessie Gott, who created “Cheese,” which is on the cover this week, says: “This piece, and others I have done, explore how you present yourself to the world, and what you choose to let people see about you, versus what you choose to keep guarded or hidden away.”

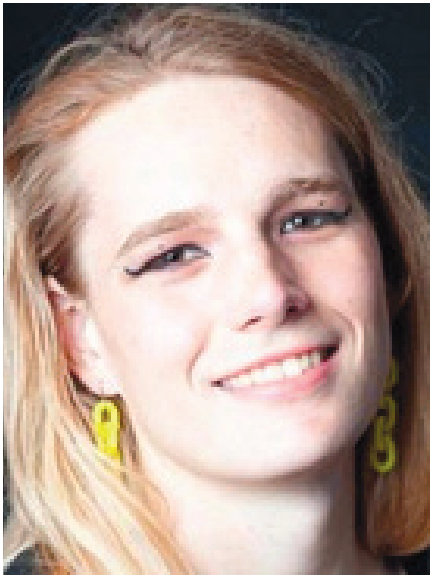
Raymond Holt for City Pulse

# ‘The vastness of queer identity’

## Lansing Art Gallery exhibit is a quiet riot of themes, media and emotions

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

To get an idea of the variety, exuberance, weirdness and joy of the Lansing Art Gallery’s second annual exhibition of art by LGBTQ+ artists, you



Lorelei d’Andriole

**LGBTQ+ Artist in Michigan**

Through June 29, 2024  
Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center  
300 S. Washington Square, Ste. 100  
(517) 574-4521

Photos throughout this article  
by Raymond Holt or Courtesy of  
the Lansing Art Gallery

have to go back to the opening reception, where musician and artist Lorelei d’Andriole gave a unique performance.

D’Andriole is both a musician and an artist,

and she loves to multi-task. She played a guitar while slathering it with wet plaster, gauging the plaster’s effect on the sound as it dried, adapting her touch on the strings to the shifting timbres and changing volume.

You can see one version of the resulting sculpture, complete with a tiny amplifier, tucked into a quiet riot of paintings, prints, sculptures and unclassifiable objects at the Lansing Art Gallery that plumb the highs and lows of LGBTQ life, and life in general.

The amp actually works.

“You can turn it on, strum the strings and it makes sounds,” d’Andriole said.

As the plaster dried, d’Andriole added decorative streaks and swirls with crayon, marker and paints, coating the instrument in a festering, yet festive, frosting of confetti-white ooze.

“I’ve been a musician for most of my life,” d’Andriole said. She plays drums and guitar and has toured the country in punk bands in venues of all sizes. She’s now an assistant professor of art and intermedia at MSU and plays drums in the indie band LVRS and other combos.

“There’s only so many ways you can play a gui-

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 16

# June Pride events across the state and beyond

## Suits and the City 20th anniversary and Pride party

Wednesday, June 5  
6-7:30 p.m.  
Brenke Fish Ladder  
216 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing  
7:30-9:30 p.m.  
UrbanBeat  
1213 Turner St., Lansing  
suitsandthecity.org

## Milwaukee PrideFest

4 p.m.-midnight Thursday, June 6  
3 p.m.-midnight Friday, June 7  
Noon-midnight Saturday, June 8  
Henry Maier Festival Park  
200 N. Harbor Drive, Milwaukee  
pridefest.com

## Pride Month Boozy Book Fair

5-9 p.m. Friday, June 7  
Hooked  
3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
hookedlansing.com

## Ypsi Pride

5-10 p.m. Friday, June 7  
Depot Town, Ypsilanti  
facebook.com/YpsiPride

## Kalamazoo Pride

6 p.m.-midnight Friday, June 7  
2 p.m.-midnight Saturday, June 8  
Arcadia Creek Festival Place  
145 E. Water St., Kalamazoo  
outfrontkzoo.org/pride2024

## Macomb County Pride picnic

11 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, June 8  
Dodge Park  
40620 Utica Road, Sterling Heights  
facebook.com/macombcountypride

## Indy Pride

11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday, June 8  
Military Park  
601 W. New York St., Indianapolis  
indypride.org

## Holly Pride picnic and fair

Noon-5 p.m. Saturday, June 8  
American Legion Post 149  
408 S. Saginaw St., Holly  
facebook.com/ACTHOLLY

## Middleville Pride

Noon-5 p.m. Saturday, June 8  
Sesquicentennial Park  
91 E. Main St., Middleville  
facebook.com/events/  
3893809847516293

## Grand Haven Pride

Noon-9 p.m. Saturday, June 8  
Lynne Sherwood Waterfront Stadium  
1 N. Harbor Drive, Grand Haven  
ghpride.org

## Motor City Pride

1-9 p.m. Saturday, June 8  
Noon-7 p.m. Sunday, June 9  
Hart Plaza  
1 W. Jefferson Ave., Detroit  
motorcitypride.org

## Upper Peninsula Pride Fest

1-10:30 p.m. Saturday, June 8  
Ellwood A. Mattson Lower Harbor Park  
200 N. Lakeshore Blvd., Marquette  
uprainbowpride.org/events

## Southgate Pride

3-4 p.m. Saturday, June 8  
Southgate Veterans Memorial Library  
14680 Dix-Toledo Road, Southgate  
southgate.lib.mi.us

## PrideFest on Tour

4-8 p.m. Saturday, June 8  
Dowagiac Library Event Pavilion  
206 Main St., Dowagiac  
4-8 p.m. June 15  
Riverfront Park  
330 Water St., Niles  
4-8 p.m. June 22  
Dwight P. Mitchell Park  
100 E. Main St., Benton Harbor  
outcenter.org/pridefest

## Detroit Tigers Pride Night

6:40 p.m. Tuesday, June 11  
Comerica Park  
2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit  
mlb.com/tigers/tickets/specials/  
events

## Lansing Lugnuts Pride Night

7:05 p.m. Tuesday, June 11  
Jackson Field  
505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
milb.com/lansing

## Columbus Pride

4-10 p.m. June 14  
11 a.m.-8 p.m. June 15  
Goodale Park  
120 W. Goodale St., Columbus, Ohio  
stonewallcolumbus.org/pride/festival

## BAD Brewing Co. Pride drag shows

10 a.m. June 15  
5 p.m. June 29  
440 S. Jefferson St., Mason  
badbrewing.com/events

## Livonia Pride

11 a.m.-3 p.m. June 15  
Civic Center Park  
33000 Civic Center Drive, Livonia  
livonia.gov/1984/Livonia-Pride-Fest

## Grosse Pointe Pride

Noon-2 p.m. June 15  
Corner of Kercheval and St. Clair  
avenues, Grosse Pointe  
wegp.org/Pride-2022-Details

## Howell Pride parade and festival

Noon-3:30 p.m. June 15  
Livingston County Courthouse  
200 E. Grand River Ave., Howell  
facebook.com/pridealliancelivingston

## Lapeer Pride in the Park

Noon-4 p.m. June 15  
Anrook Park  
297 N. Saginaw St., Lapeer  
sites.google.com/view/lapeer-pride/  
special-events/pride-in-  
the-park-2024

## Downriver Pride

Noon-11 p.m. June 21-22  
Downtown Wyandotte  
downriverpride.com

## Lansing Pride White Party Bar Crawl

8 p.m.-midnight June 21  
For list of venues, visit lansingpride.org

## St. Ignace Pride

11 a.m.-3 p.m. June 22  
American Legion Park  
200 N. State St., St. Ignace  
straitspide.org

## Great Lakes Bay Pride

11 a.m.-6 p.m. June 22  
Wenonah Park  
801 N. Water St., Bay City  
greatlakesbaypride.org

## Chicago Pride Fest

11 a.m.-10 p.m. June 21-22  
Northalsted neighborhood, Chicago  
northalsted.com/main-events/  
chicago-pride-fest

## Pride in the Park Rochester

Noon-4:30 p.m. June 22  
Rochester Municipal Park  
400 6th St., Rochester  
facebook.com/foreverprideaction

## Grand Rapids Pride

Noon-10 p.m. June 22  
Calder Plaza

320 Ottawa Ave. NW, Grand Rapids  
grpride.org/pride-festival

## Owosso Pride

1-5 p.m. June 22  
Curwood Castle Park  
224 Curwood Castle Drive, Owosso  
facebook.com/OwossoPride

## Lansing Pride

1-10 p.m. June 22  
Old Town, Lansing  
lansingpride.org

## Lenawee Pride

3-10 p.m. June 22  
Tecumseh Center for the Arts  
400 N. Maumee St., Tecumseh  
facebook.com/lenaweemichiganpride

## Lansing Pride afterglow party

9 p.m.-2 a.m. June 22-23  
UrbanBeat  
1213 Turner St., Lansing  
urbanbeatevents.com

## Pride drag brunch

Noon-2 p.m. June 23  
UrbanBeat  
1213 Turner St., Lansing  
urbanbeatevents.com

## Kalamazoo Youth Pride

Noon-5 p.m. June 23  
Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan  
601 W. Maple St., Kalamazoo  
outfrontkzoo.org/youthpride2024

## Berkley Pride

1-5 p.m. June 23  
Downtown Berkley  
downtownberkley.com/berkley-pride

## Pride & Progress Picnic

1-5 p.m. June 23  
Montcalm Community College Ash  
Technology and Learning Center  
1325 Yellow Jacket Drive, Greenville  
facebook.com/thetablefaithcommunity

## Madison Heights Arts & Pride Festival

2-6 p.m. June 23  
Civic Center Park  
300 W. 13 Mile Road, Madison  
Heights  
facebook.com/MHArtsBoard

## Warren City Pride

11:30 a.m.-6 p.m. June 29  
Warren City Square  
instagram.com/warrencitypride

See Pride events, Page 41

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## LGBTQ+ Art

from page 13

tar before it gets kind of boring,” she said. Mashing up music with visual art is what really stirs her drink.

She discovered that guitars have personalities and a boundless potential for metaphor. They have heads, necks and bodies, and bodies go through a lot. They get roughed up, change, adapt, suffer, persist, yet they play on.

“That guitar, as a body, is getting all this baggage put on it, this plaster, all these marks, put on it by an outside force, and all of that is contributing to some creative expression,” d’Andriole said.

Mackenzie Sheehan-D’Arrigo, another artist whose work is on view at the exhibit, listened and watched in amazement as d’Andriole went to work.

“She slowly started to fill the guitar with plaster. The strings became immobile and you couldn’t really use them, only towards the bottom, but she knew



“Manly Love of Comrades,” by Jesse Amburgey

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 18

**Friday  
June 7th**



**CELEBRATE** *with* **National Donut Day!**



**Buy 1 Donut  
Get 1 FREE!**

WITH  
YOUR



**All  
Day!**

Rolls & Top Shelf Not Included. June 7th Only. While Supplies Last.

**And This Year...  
You Can Celebrate by Giving Back!**

**In Support Of National Donut Day,  
Quality Dairy is Raising Funds for  
The Capital Area Salvation Army  
From June 7th through June 9th!**



**Donate At Any QD Store  
To Help Families In Need,  
Transform Lives, and  
Our Community!**

**SAVE 20%**

**Pre-Order Donuts at  
QDExpress.com  
Before 12PM on June 6th**

**& use Coupon Code:**

**NatDonutDay2024  
during checkout.**

# Hey Voter!



Start the voting process now for the August 6 Primary Election.

**Until July 22:** you can register to vote online or by mail. Complete or download an application at [mi.gov/vote](https://mi.gov/vote).

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# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 16



Mackenzie Sheehan-D'Arrigo just where to put it and how to change the sounds, but still have it work,” Sheehan-D’Arrigo said. Sarah Hopkins, the Lansing Art Gallery’s exhibitions and gallery director, said that the body is a major theme for many of this

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 20



“Letters from America,” by Chelsea Roberts

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# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 18

year’s artists.

“What I see a lot in this year’s show is artists having conversations about the body and how that relates to their identity, whether it’s a celebration of the body or maybe a questioning, or sometimes they touch on ideas of body dysmorphia.”

Sheehan-D’Arrigo saw the semi-smothered yet playable guitar as “a beautiful comparison to the body and the ways we can change it.”

“Maybe we lose parts of ourselves in some ways, but gain so much more in others,” she said.

As d’Andriole created the sculpture, a former student in her sound art class, Abby Behan, assisted her on the loop pedal.

“I said, ‘Hey, I need another queer artist to show up and help me compose with these tools,’ D’Andriole said. “It was a lot of fun.”

Fun is a word many people don’t associate with art.

But who hasn’t wondered what a guitar would sound like under

a glob of plaster, or admired a beetle’s adhesive foot parts and longed to see them rendered in ceramics? Who doesn’t aspire to spider sex? Who doesn’t love the golden crust of newly baked cornbread? All of these stimuli, and many more, can be found at this spectacularly diverse exhibit. Fun takes many forms, some more serious than others.

“There’s this stereotype of the suffering artist and the suffering musician,” d’Andriole said. “Good golly, we’re suffering everywhere else. Why do we have to suffer in our art, too? We work all day, we hear the news, everything can be so hard. Why would we make art hard also?”

You get up in the morning, go to the bathroom, pour a cup of coffee. An uninvited voice in your head whispers, “OK, it’s show-time.”

Jessie Gott’s “Cheese,” the cover image of this week’s City Pulse, depicts a squashed face contorting into a forced grin, baring a row of starkly decayed teeth.

The horrible teeth are offset by a soft color gradient of pink and



See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 22 “Devil’s Law,” by Mackenzie Sheehan-D’Arrigo



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## LGBTQ+ Art

from page 20

coral in the cheeks and forehead. “I love contrasts,” Gott said. “There’s this push and pull between a happy and sweet image, and a scary or ugly one.”

The best word to describe this challenge — for queer folks, for artists, and for everybody else — is “presenting.”

“Many folks experience this pressure to present a certain way, inside and out of the LGBTQ community,” she said. “This piece, and others I have done, explore how you present yourself to the world, and what you choose to let people see about you, ver-

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 28



Lindsay Skvarek



“Sexual Dimorphism,” By Evie Dahmer



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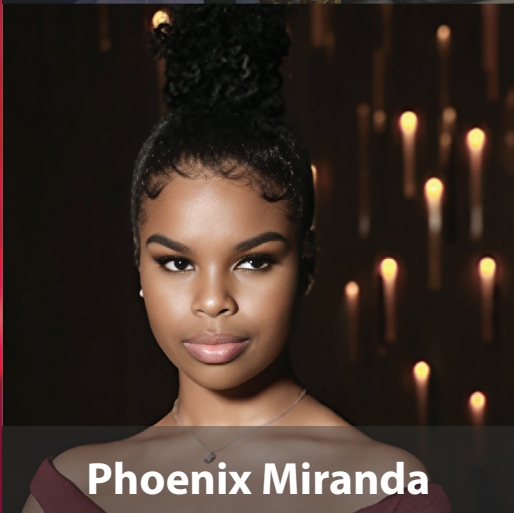
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# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 22

sus what you choose to keep guarded or hidden away.”

Gott got her BFA in studio art at MSU in 2022 with a concentration in painting.

“I’ve always been interested in art,” she said. “I was a kid in school who was always doodling in the margins of my pages.”

A light came on when she took her first painting class, via Zoom during COVID in 2019, sitting in her one-bedroom apartment.

“I enjoyed it more than I expected to,” she said. “It went from a requirement to the class I really wanted to take.”

“This show feels like a safe space,” she said. “Art can be really intimate. It can be a window to who you are as a person, what your experience is, how you walk in this world. This show is a wonderful way to talk about yourself and also learn so much from others.”

Working alone in studios, Gott said,

artists often feel isolated and become overly obsessed with their own ideas.

“It’s really great to take a step back and realize what a large community there is around you, and this show is illustrating that wonderfully,” she said.

Lindsay Skvarek vividly visualizes a troubled, beautiful, struggling body and soul in “Nearby,” a mixed media sculpture that’s half ceramic, half quilt, one of the most forceful, thought-provoking and cryptic pieces in the exhibit.

All of Skvarek’s art is based on feelings of gender dysphoria and body dysmorphia, deep currents of discomfort and unease about her body.

She got interested in ceramics about the same time she began to question her gender “and have only gotten more committed to it since transitioning.”

She built the complicated top half of the sculpture from the bottom up, improvising layer by layer, to build a pulsating mass with cutouts inspired by unicellular organisms.

“The shape comes from feeling like an amorphous blob that’s not quite put to-



See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 29

“Don’t Wake Me,” by Jenelle Austin

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LGBTQ+ Art

from page 28

gether,” Skvarek said.

The oblong decorations embedded in the folds also resemble eyes, mouths and other human features, abstracted in the manner of Picasso.

The quilted bottom part intentionally resembles a skirt, “a feminizing piece of clothing.”

“The fabric is thrifted — second-hand scraps,” she said. “It took me a month to get all the shades of blue I wanted from the store.”

Skvarek grew up in Ann Arbor, studied art history at Wayne State University and became interested in ceramics there. She is about to start graduate school at the University of Tennessee Knoxville in the fall.

“There’s not a lot of trans people in art, in positions of influence over peo-



Gustavo Uriel Ayala

ple in a positive way,” she said. “That’s a big reason why I want to teach.”

Bodies are front, center and everywhere in between in the colorful work of recent MSU graduate Gustavo Uriel Ayala.

Male wrestlers in tight clinches, with hands and faces in close proximity to sub-equatorial regions of the body, dominate two vibrant screen prints, “Subordinate 1” and “Subordinate 2,” and a drawing made with acrylic paint and colored pencil, “Holding Pattern.”

While studying for his MFA at MSU, Ayala was drawn to the theme of wrestlers “as a metaphor for all kinds of struggle — internal struggle, external struggle, wrestling with identity, sexuality, feelings of shame, isolation and loneliness, all of which, I guess, are informed by my own background as an immigrant, and a gay man.”

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 30

“Love Used to Live Here,” by Erin Brott



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# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 29

He became interested in sports because “it’s a place where masculinity is taught and modeled for younger boys,” he said.

When he narrowed his focus to wrestling, the seemingly contradictory themes of being a model “jock” and feeling “different” or “isolated” came together in his mind.

“The wrestler has to endure so much pain, struggle, so much tension,” he said. “When I think about my childhood, I think about this sense of tension.”

The placement and poses are ambiguous — this is wrestling, after all — but Ayala said the images “have a “certain eroticism to them.”

“I find it charming or funny when people are oblivious to the more suggestive interpretation,” he said. “Some people just see it as an everyday depiction of sports. I’m not trying to say that the sport is inherently gay coded or anything like that. I just appreciate the tension between sports and homo-eroticism, as a kid who joined in some sports and always felt out of place.”

Ayala discovered that the formal qualities of printmaking, especially color, were perfectly suited to make the inherent tension of the images jump off the wall.

Instead of reproducing the colors of the original scene, he deliberately used screaming color



Jesse Amburgey

contrasts.

“They attract your attention, but at the same time, the color makes it difficult for you to linger in any one place very long, difficult to read the image at all,” he said.

The entire exhibit at Lansing Art Gallery is awash in bold and inventive colors. Thick, dripping reds and yellows drench the canvas in Jesse Amburgey’s double portrait, “Manly Love of Comrades.”

Amburgey is an assistant exhibitions producer at the MSU Broad Art Museum.

The portrait of two men sharing a cigarette looks completely modern, but Amburgey said it’s a transfer of a Civil War photograph from

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 31





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# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 30

the Congressional Archives.  
“The idea is to bridge that idea of veiled and hidden queer relationships, and the ways we find to make them more open, more obvious, and find ways to express that

sort of love,” he said.  
Bittersweet consciousness of a body that is no longer there suffuses Erin Brott’s “Love Used to Live Here.” A lush bower of roses frames the featureless silhouette of a seated figure, rendered in luminous yellow.  
The gorgeously rendered non-portrait celebrates the loving

relationship between Brott and a longtime partner while mourning their divorce.  
Art makes the impossible possible. Despite the breakup, the portrait enabled Brott to return to bask in “memories that feel safe, places that feel safe, people that feel safe.”  
“For me, yellow represents love, even in the absence of a person,” Brott said. “You still have those memories that kind of bring that love back to life.”  
Look more closely and the yellow void comes alive with subtle gradations and shadings.  
“A lot of times, words can escape me, so I use color to describe how I’m feeling in my work, painting



Erin Brott

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# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 31

certain things a more realistic color, and then really changing the hue to show a different feeling or mood, telling a story with just color,” she said.

As Ayala did with his wrestlers,

Brott made the colors pop to convey maximum emotion and impact.

“Especially with queer love — there’s a lot of color in our community,” she said. “We use the rainbow spectrum to represent us. So as an artist, I’m always trying to explore and push color a little further.”

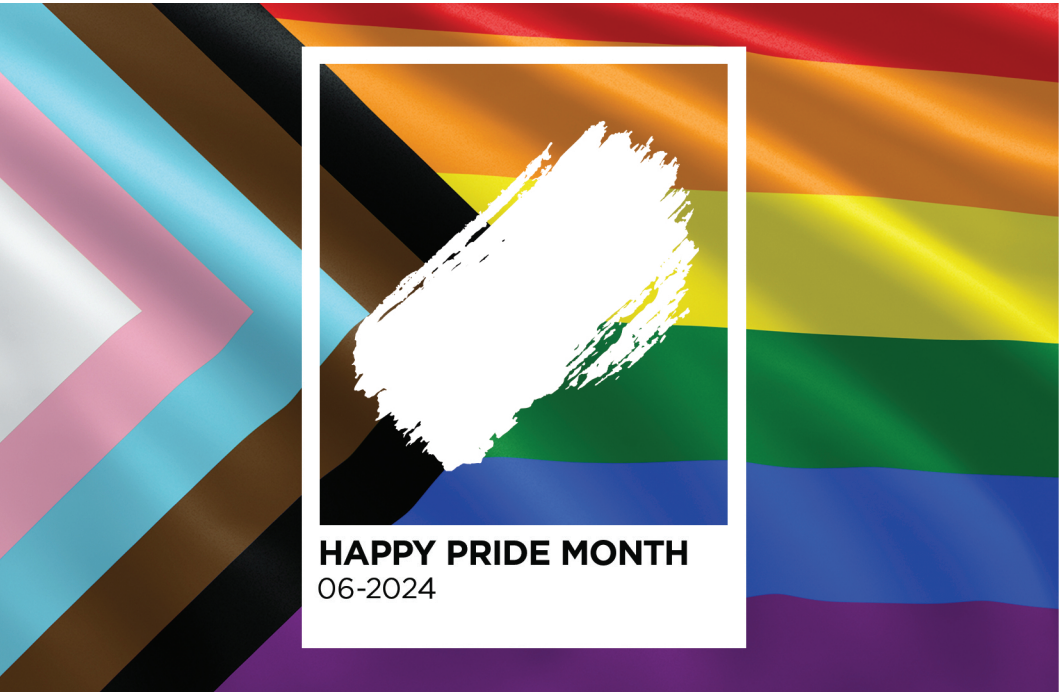
Alongside more conventional

paintings, prints and sculptures, the Lansing Art Gallery exhibit is spiced with surprising and non-traditional media, from d’Andriole’s guitar entombed in plaster to a ceramic cast of an automobile tire, a commercial light box, busts encrusted with punctured cloth and a strange, floating scroll made of melted pink vinyl.

That is no accident, according to Emily Burkhead, creator of the pink vinyl scroll.

“It’s about trying to reject or subvert traditional art mediums and materials, which is a very queer thing to do, in my opinion,” Burkhead said.

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 33



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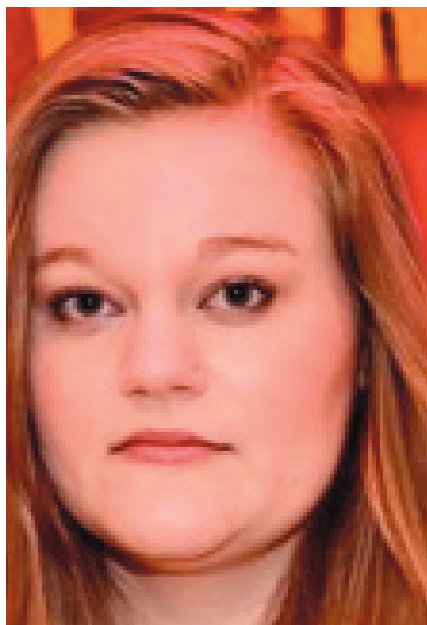
# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 32

Burkhead's amorphous sculpture, "I Don't Think You Understand," is inscribed with fragile, stringy text that twists and floats at the viewer's eye level like congealed thought.

Burkhead graduated this spring with an MFA in fine arts from MSU. Her sculpture focuses on a messy moment of uncertainty and difficulty, when the deadline for her thesis project was looming and she was fighting off feelings of inadequacy.

She used a 3-D printing pen (found at a local thrift store) and a sheet of pink vinyl to create a



Emily Burkhead

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 34



"Holy Trinity 2," by Ray Kelley

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LGBTQ+ Art

from page 33

“visual journal.” The cursive (and discursive) threads of congealed vinyl are hard to read, but bold block letters that read “ignorance,” “incompetence” and “rejection” convey a clear message of distress.

The pink vinyl reminded her of comforting childhood objects like Polly Pocket toys and pool floaties and bubble gum.

“The campiness of it is obviously alluding to things like drag aesthetics,” she said. “On a more personal note, I think queer people oftentimes have a sort of different connection to their childhood, due to things like alienation, growing up, feeling different.”

The cursive text is hard to read, but the feeling of desperation comes through loud and clear.

“I don’t even remember what I wrote,” she said. “It was just a way to get my feelings out.”

The wild variety of media at the Lansing Art Gallery exhibit is matched only by the variety of subject matter.

Mackenzie Sheehan-D’Arrigo’s “Coleoptera” was inspired by a magnified view of the foot of a beetle.

“A lot of my inspiration comes from nature,” she said. “I love to zoom in on little details like that.”

Browsing through an Instagram page on bugs, she was amazed by their endlessly varied colors and patterns.

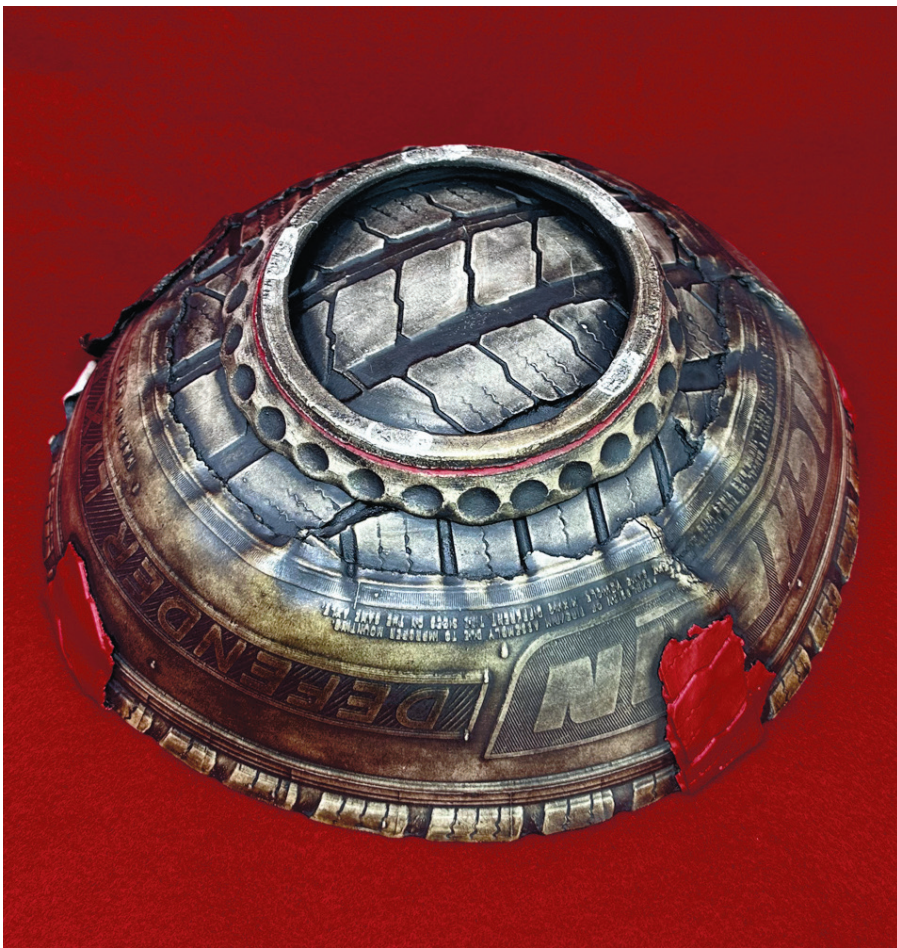
“I zoomed in on one, noticed that shape and it looked like a vessel to me,” she said. “So I said, ‘Let’s go for it.’”

Even with four years of ceramics work under her belt, it was a bit daunting to get the colors, textures and forms right. The stains and glazes she used were experimental.

“I fell in love with the crunchy matte textured look with the gloss and the drips,” she said. She painted over the glaze in some areas and let the glaze flow over the lines in others.

“I fell in love with the crunchy matte textured look with the gloss and the drips,” she said. The result is both scary and beautiful — “like life,” she said.

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 36



“Reclaimed Tire Bowl,” by Micah Sweezie

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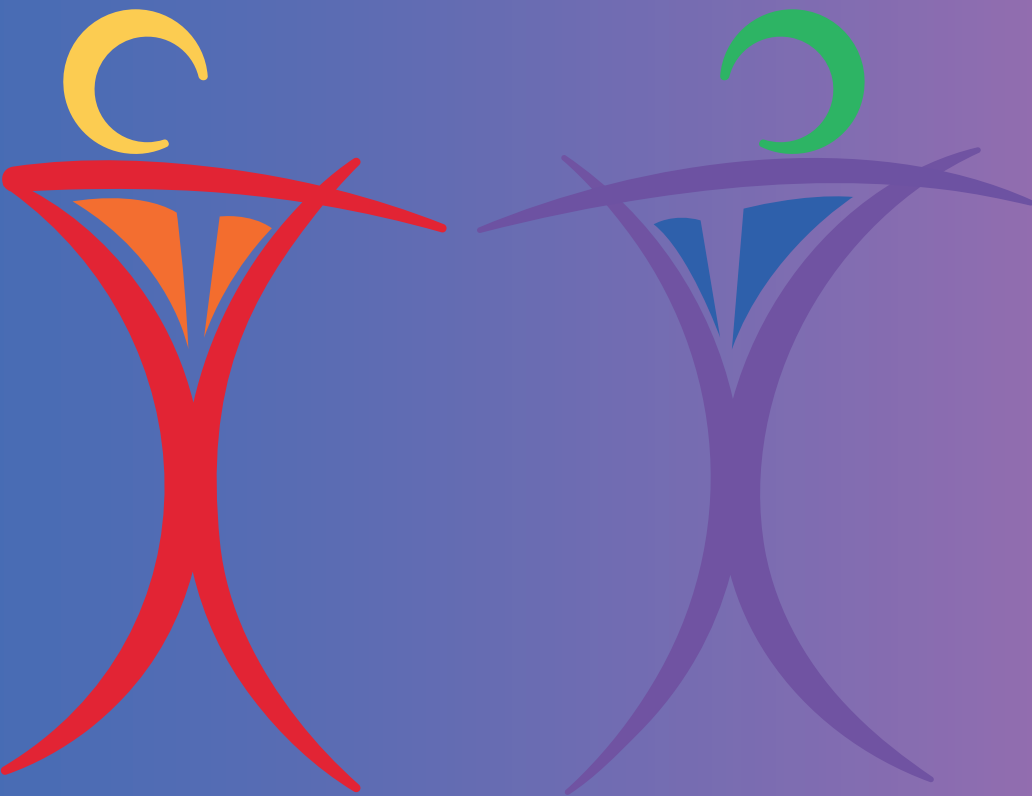
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# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 34

Her second work in the show, “Devil’s Law,” is inspired by the Devil’s Claw, a seed pod commonly found in Arizona, where she grew up.

To create this surreal swarm, she sculpted dozens of individual, three-pronged ceramic pods that took on a life of their own, forming a coral-like cluster that combines airy delicacy and inner strength.

“It spoke to me,” she said. A pot’s throw away from “Coleoptera” and “Devil’s Law” is a smaller but no less stunning bit of ceramic wizardry, Micah Sweezie’s “Reclaimed Tire Bowl.”

The bowl is a successor to an ambitious undergraduate thesis work at the Art Institute of Chicago, a set of four full-scale porcelain replicas of Michelin tires. (The work is on display at the Kalamazoo Institute of the Arts.)

Sweezie, who is Vietnam-

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 37



“Nearby,” by Lindsay Skvarek



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# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 36

ese-American, said their recasting of rubber tires in porcelain refer to the long and dark history of forced labor, slavery and kidnapping in rubber plantations of southeast Asia.

“I’m remodeling the form, recasting it, almost reclaiming the process,” they said.

To make the bowl, he cast thin porcelain slabs, using plaster molds made from a real Michelin tire. The slabs are so detailed they show tread wear and tiny copyright print.

Sweezie pieced the bowl together without concealing any of the seams, leaving curled edges and

even their own fingerprints. The result is a compelling fusion of mechanized manufacturing and loving handicraft, leaving the uncanny impression of a bowl made of salvaged patches of tire rubber.

“The goal was to create an object that holds food, sustenance, gives longevity, out of a form material that has traditionally imposed violence onto Vietnamese people, onto my people,” they said. “It’s trying to re-create something that is more fruitful and supportive and feeding, as opposed to something destructive and harmful.”

Sweezie’s work highlights the diversity of the art on view at Lansing Art Gallery. “Reclaimed Tire Bowl” is concerned mainly with historical themes (and ma-

terial craft) and does not overtly touch on LGBTQ+ concerns.

Other pieces in the show, like Skvarek’s sculpture-with-skirt, clearly do.

“I feel like it can be not a little too on-the-nose to have LGBTQ artists make work about LGBTQ topics,” Sweezie said. “I am queer and I made the artwork, but I’m not intentionally putting it into the artwork. Everyone’s so much more expansive than their gender or their identity or their sexuality. So much more than that makes people.”

Exhibition Director Sarah Hopkins said the jurors were not asked to favor art with content specific to LGBTQ concerns.

“The content doesn’t have to be directly related to the experience



Micah Sweezie

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 38



**August 10, 2024**  
**5:00 pm to 10:00 pm**  
Marketplace on the Green  
1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos

Food & Art Vendors  
Beer Garden  
Live MC and Music  
Advocacy Resources

[meridian.mi.us/MeridianPride](http://meridian.mi.us/MeridianPride)



[www.uumc.church](http://www.uumc.church)  
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Labor Day Weekend

## LGBTQ+ Art

from page 37

of, or the expression of, an individual who is a member of that community,” she said. “But when the work does have something along those lines — whether it’s in the content of the work, the idea behind it, or the use of materials — I think that adds to the show.”

Artist Michaela Nichelle said the exhibit strikes a perfect balance.

“In Black studies, we talk all the time about how Black culture is not a monolith, and the same is true for queer culture,” Nichelle said.

Nichelle’s entry in the Lansing Art Gallery show is an evocative, collage-like print, “All That Glitters Comes Out When Golden,” was formally a part of “We’re Losing The Recipes,” a March 2024 exhibit at MSU’s Union Gallery exploring themes of food, family and community.

Nichelle graduated from MSU this spring and will begin studying for her MFA in fine arts at the University of Michigan in



“Scoring Bodies,” by Lorelie d’Andriole

# CityPULSE

**For its 23-year history, City Pulse has proudly stood with the LGBTQ+ community, not only in celebrating Pride each June, but in being a voice for progress and a safe place for everyone all year long.**



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You can donate online at [lansingcitypulse.com/donate](https://lansingcitypulse.com/donate), by mailing a check to City Pulse at 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912, or by calling (517) 999-6704.

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**Mike McCurdy**  
For Meridian Township Clerk

**PRIDE MONTH**

**LOVE WINS**

# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 38

the fall.

The mixed media print centers on a snapshot of her great aunt, presiding in front of the stove, with a golden round of cornbread rising in the cast iron skillet in front of her. She fixes the viewer in a piercing and steely gaze, as if caught in the midst of a sacred moment.

Another photo in the print depicts Martin's mother at two years old, eating at the table. Boxes of Jiffy mix and other kitchen ephemera surround the snapshots, graced with touches of gold leaf that underscore the



Michaela Nichelle

image of the kitchen as a sacred space.

"I love using gold leaf for little details, to enhance the piece, not as the central thing," Nichelle said. While applying the delicate layer of gold, she thought about cornbread coming up golden,

and the inestimable value of kitchen life and family recipes.

Although the piece is dear to her, she debated whether to submit the piece to an exhibit of art by LGBTQ+ artists.

See LGBTQ+ Art, Page 41

**Transcendence**  
**Performing Arts Centers**  
**«Where Dreams Come to Thrive»**

1518 South Washington | Lansing, MI 48910 | [Tpacworldwide.org](http://Tpacworldwide.org)

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Bud Shulman*



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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY

LEGAL AD NOTICE: VARIANCE REQUEST 24-06

2233 GRAND RIVER AVE.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

LEGAL NOTICE

VARIANCE REQUEST 24-06

2233 GRAND RIVER AVENUE

PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 26, 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 variance request from Tyler & Emily Dawson. The applicant is proposing to construct a deck addition that does not meet required side yard setbacks to a nonconforming building at 2233 Grand River Avenue. The subject site is zoned C-2, Commercial.

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. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to [chapman@meridian.mi.us](mailto:chapman@meridian.mi.us), or at the public hearing.

Deborah Guthrie  
Township Clerk

CP#24-536

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[meridian.mi.us](http://meridian.mi.us)

WHITEHILLS LAKES SOUTH #1 PUBLIC STREETLIGHTING IMPROVEMENT

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 428

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO THE RECORD OWNERS OF, OR PARTIES IN INTEREST IN, THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY CONSTITUTING THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT:

Lots 1 through 13 (inclusive), Whitehills Lakes South #1

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, acting on a request from property owners of Whitehills Lakes South #1 and on its own initiative, pursuant to Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954, as amended, has determined to make the following described public streetlighting improvement:

Install, operate, and maintain four (4) LED streetlights, white bulb, Traditional fixtures with cut-off and gray standard poles along Southridge Road;

and to defray the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties specially benefitted thereby.

Plans and estimates have been prepared and are on file with the Township Clerk for public examination.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board will meet Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, for the purpose of hearing objections to the improvement and the special assessment district therefore. The Township Board is also interested in hearing those that favor the proposed project.

Appearance and protest at the hearing in the special assessment proceedings is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the state tax tribunal. Your personal appearance at the hearing is not required, but you or your agent may appear in person at the hearing and protest the special assessment. To make an appearance and protest, you must file your written objections by letter or other writing with the Township Clerk before the close of this hearing. The owner or any person having an interest in the real property may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the state tax tribunal with 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll if that person appeared and protested the special assessment at this hearing.

The Township Board may proceed with the improvement and special assessment district unless written objections from more than 20% of the property owners are filed with the Township Board at or before the hearing.

"FOR PURPOSES OF THIS HEARING, THE AMOUNT TO BE ASSESSED AGAINST YOUR PROPERTY IS ESTIMATED TO BE:

First Year Cost:	\$121.54/Lot
Annually Thereafter:	\$55.39 /Lot

Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

CP#24-542

Legal Notice

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy

Attention:

Gym Roof Replacement 2024

The Academy is requesting proposals for the removal and replacement of the existing roof material with new .060 mill EPDM roofing and will be fully adhered. The total area is approximately 14,000 square feet.

Contractors/Vendors shall submit all proposals to:

CS Partners  
869 S Old Us 23  
Brighton, MI 48114

The Academy School Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals or to accept the proposal that it finds, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the School District.

A copy of the RFP will be available via email at [dblackmar@charterschoolpartners.com](mailto:dblackmar@charterschoolpartners.com) by May 28, 2024.

A voluntary walk-thru inspection is scheduled for **2:00 pm May 31, 2024** at 730 W Maple St Lansing, MI 48906.

**All proposals must be submitted no later than 12:00 pm, June 7, 2024.** All proposals should be delivered to the above stated address in a sealed envelope and clearly marked to:

Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy  
"Gym Roof Replacement 2024"  
730 W Maple St Lansing, MI 48906  
Attn: Ronald Stanley

05.29.24  
CP#24-539

WHITEHILLS LAKES #7 PUBLIC STREETLIGHTING IMPROVEMENT

SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 429

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO THE RECORD OWNERS OF, OR PARTIES IN INTEREST IN, THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY CONSTITUTING THE PROPOSED SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT:

Lots 147 through 152 (inclusive), Whitehills Lakes #7

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, acting on a request from property owners of Whitehills Lakes #7 and on its own initiative, pursuant to Act 188, Public Acts of Michigan, 1954, as amended, has determined to make the following described public streetlighting improvement:

Install, operate, and maintain two (2) LED streetlights, white bulb, Acorn fixtures with cut-off and black fluted poles along Fenwick Court; a

and to defray the cost thereof by special assessment against the properties specially benefitted thereby.

Plans and estimates have been prepared and are on file with the Township Clerk for public examination.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the Township Board will meet Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, for the purpose of hearing objections to the improvement and the special assessment district therefore. The Township Board is also interested in hearing those that favor the proposed project.

Appearance and protest at the hearing in the special assessment proceedings is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the state tax tribunal. Your personal appearance at the hearing is not required, but you or your agent may appear in person at the hearing and protest the special assessment. To make an appearance and protest, you must file your written objections by letter or other writing with the Township Clerk before the close of this hearing. The owner or any person having an interest in the real property may file a written appeal of the special assessment with the state tax tribunal with 30 days after the confirmation of the special assessment roll if that person appeared and protested the special assessment at this hearing.

The Township Board may proceed with the improvement and special assessment district unless written objections from more than 20% of the property owners are filed with the Township Board at or before the hearing.

Deborah Guthrie, Township Clerk  
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

CP#24-541

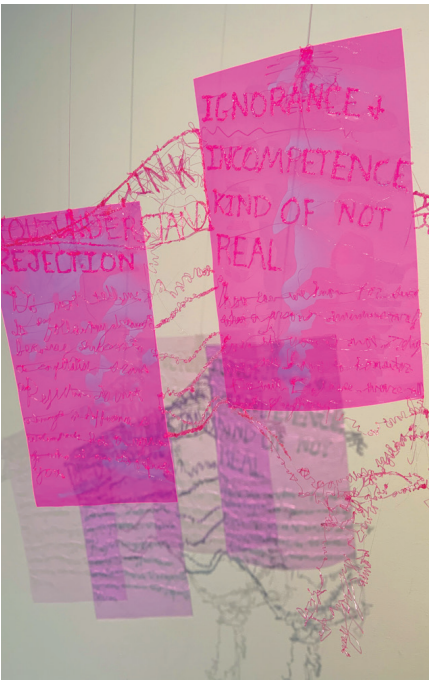
# LGBTQ+ Art

from page 39

“I decided it was important for me to recognize that while my family might not be queer, they are so much a part of me as a queer Black person,” she said. “While a lot of queer artists talk about their queer identity, for me, my art really is based off of my blackness, and my queerness comes along with it.”

Nichelle agreed with Sweezie that LGBTQ+ artists should not be expected to produce art that is “on the nose.”

“Not all queer artists are focusing on their queer identity,” she said. “Some of them are focusing on other topics that are really important to them. Sarah did a really great job of showcasing the vastness of queer identity.”



“I Don’t Think You Understand,” by Emily Burkhead



“All That Glitters Comes Out When Golden,” by Michaela Nichelle

# Pride events

from page 14

## Holland Pride

Noon-5 p.m. June 29  
Centennial Park  
250 Central Ave., Holland  
outonthelakeshore.org/holland-pride

## Jackson Pride

Noon-6 p.m. June 29  
Horace Blackman Park  
212 W. Michigan Ave., Jackson  
mijacksonpride.org

## Monroe County Pride

Noon-6 p.m. June 29  
St. Mary’s Park  
111 W. Elm Ave., Monroe  
facebook.com/PRISMMonroeCounty

## South Haven Pride in the Park

Noon-10 p.m. June 29  
Stanley Johnson Park  
202 Dyckman Ave., South Haven  
southhaven.org/events/  
south-haven-pride

## Three Rivers Pride

Noon-10 p.m. June 29  
Downtown Three Rivers  
trpride.com

## Hastings Pride Festival

1-6 p.m. June 29  
Thornapple Plaza  
301 E. State St., Hastings  
facebook.com/groups/  
1741562419585424

## Flint Pride

2-8 p.m. June 29  
Riverbank Park  
100 Saginaw St., Flint  
facebook.com/FLINTGAYPRIDE

## Newaygo Pride

3-7 p.m. June 29  
Brooks Park  
28 N. State Road, Newaygo  
newaygopride.com

## East Lansing Pride

5-9 p.m. June 29  
Downtown East Lansing  
facebook.com/DowntownEastLansing

## Blue Water Pride

10 a.m.-3 p.m. June 30  
McMorran Plaza  
701 McMorran Blvd., Port Huron  
bluewaterallies.com/team-1

## Chicago Pride Parade

11 a.m. June 30  
For route, visit pridechicago.org/event/  
53rd-annual-chicago-pride-parade-  
2024

## Big Rapids Pride

Noon-8 p.m. June 30  
Downtown Big Rapids  
pridebigrapids.org

## Mason Pride Picnic

1-3 p.m. June 30  
Hayes Park  
827 W. Columbia St., Mason  
facebook.com/theequitytaskforce

## Buchanan Pride

4-9 p.m. June 30  
Buchanan Common  
122 Days Ave., Buchanan  
instagram.com/buchananmipride

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PERCUSSION  
CONCERT**

**SUNDAY AT 3 P.M.  
DART AUDITORIUM**

**JULY 24-28**

**10-MINUTE  
PLAY FESTIVAL**

**WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY  
AT 7 P.M.**

**OUTDOOR AMPHITHEATER**



lcc.edu/showinfo

# Bookstore and writers' group lead the charge on queer lit in Lansing

By **BILL CASTANIER**

You can normally find Wayfaring Booksellers at the REO Town Market-place, but at the upcoming Lansing and East Lansing Pride celebrations, the shop will take to the streets to sell its primarily queer-focused literature.

The relatively new bookstore, co-owned by Eleanor Richards and Casey Holland, started as a pop-up at the REO Town Marketplace's 2021 Jolly Holiday Market and expanded into a small shop in the back of the marketplace in January 2022. It offers a tightly curated selection of books, according to Richards.

"We started by selling used books and built up gradually, and now we've moved up front, where there's sunlight," Richards said. "It's a place where people can come sit down with friends and talk. We offer a diverse selection of new and used books but are very connected to the queer community."

Richards was inspired to start selling books by shops like women-, queer- and veteran-owned Bettie's Pages in Lowell that cater to under-represented communities. She said there's been an influx of niche bookstores like this across the country in the past four years.

In addition to traditional novels, Wayfaring carries a selection of graphic novels and children's books.

The owners choose their inventory from a variety of sources, including what their friends are reading and books authors and publishers send them.

"We also keep our eyes on lists like

the New York Times' bestsellers, but we aren't driven by bestsellers," Richards said.

For Richards, who has a background in technical theater, the hardest part of getting the bookstore up and running was learning the business side of it. However, both she and Holland previously worked for East Lansing's long-running Curious and Archives book shops.

"The other businesses in the marketplace have helped out with the business end," Richards said.

Even though the bookstore's focus for the next few weeks is the Pride events, Richards said, "We want you to read queer all year."

Richards' own reading skews toward nonfiction, fantasy and science fiction.

"Casey and I both love books, and I can't read a book without recommending it to someone else," she said.

Her current favorite book to recommend to customers, C.E. McGill's "Our Hideous Progeny," fits that niche like a glove. It follows Victor Frankenstein's great-niece, a paleontologist, as she tries to replicate a dinosaur. It's a spinoff of Mary Shelley's classic novel, with themes of gender and queerness woven in.

"The book covers everything from historical gothic to science fiction," Richards said.

Richards believes members of the queer community are drawn to science fiction and fantasy because those genres "challenge what we know about society, and queer people can connect with them."



Bill Castanier for City Pulse

Eleanor Richards, co-owner of Wayfaring Booksellers, poses with the shop's Pride Month display.

Like other bookshop owners, Richards is concerned about the long-term implications of book banning.

"It's important we speak up for those books," she said.

In the short term, banned book lists may help sell books, but in the long term, publishers and editors may shy away from releasing controversial books.

Richards' advice for booksellers is to "have a mission and sell the books



Courtesy photo

Standup comedian Mimi Gonzalez leads the Salus Center's monthly Write Hear 4 Queer writers' workshop.

you love."

In downtown Lansing, the non-profit Salus Center is using writing as a means for members of the queer community to build dignity and express themselves. Mimi Gonzalez leads the group Write Hear 4 Queer, which meets monthly for group writing sessions using a series of prompts based on a poetry reading.

Gonzalez, a professional comedian who travels across the country doing standup, stressed that the program is free, and participants don't need to be professional writers.

"Writing together in a group makes the writing process safe for each other. They don't feel alone," she said.

For more information on the group, visit [saluscenter.org/programs](https://saluscenter.org/programs).



## Happy Pride Month!

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## Happy Pride Month

FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS

**J2 TANNING**

# A brief history of Pride Month



Courtesy Lansing Pride

Patrons flooded the streets of Old Town at Lansing Pride 2023.

## From METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Each June, the public comes together to celebrate Pride Month, a time to recognize the contributions of people who identify as LGBTQ+ and shed light on the issues facing these communities.

Pride Month celebrations can take many forms, including parties, parades, proms and even protests. Pride events have taken place in some shape or form since the LGBTQ+ liberation movement of the 1970s. Modern-day Pride celebrations can be traced back to New York City and an event called the Stonewall uprising.

In the mid-1960s, the Stonewall Inn was a popular gay bar, one of the few establishments that welcomed drag queens and allowed dancing. Homeless gay runaways often took refuge there at night. Police raids frequently took place at gay establishments during this time period.

On June 28, 1969, the police arrived at Stonewall, reportedly assaulted customers and arrested 13 employees and patrons who were in violation of liquor laws. They also took into custody individuals who weren't conforming to a New York statute requiring gender-appropriate clothing to be worn in public. Although the raid was a shock, the club's patrons started to fight back.

The Stonewall rebellion gave rise to protests elsewhere and became a unifying incident upon which equality-based advocacy for LGBTQ+ groups was built. For so long, certain people lived in the closet and hid their real identities. Pride Month emerged as a way to achieve equal justice and opportunity for LGBTQ+ individuals and recognize their many contributions to society.

Although there were previous uprisings to Stonewall, as well as various Pride parades around the country, President Bill Clinton officially declared June as Gay and Lesbian Pride Month in 2000. President Barack Obama expanded the observance in 2011 to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month. Informally, June is referred to simply as Pride Month.

## Curious Book Shop

307 E. Grand River, E. Lansing  
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Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Freestyle, Full Substance”  
-- celebrating puzzle #1200!  
by Matt Jones  
© 2024 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
1. Uninspired order, with “the”
6. Butt heads
11. 3-D map type
13. Keep tempo with, as a song (just not on beats 1 and 3)
14. Namesake of element #106
16. Scored 72, perhaps
17. It may precede 44321
18. Sour reactions
19. Pay phone need, once
21. Reno and Garland, for short
24. “Here’s the thing ...”
25. “\_\_\_ Boot”
26. Holiday that lined up with February 10, 2024
27. Singer settings, in literature
28. Suffix after ion or union
29. Actor Heo Sung-\_\_\_ who played gangster Jang Deok-su in “Squid Game”
30. Alex P.’s TV mom
31. Millennium div.
32. MKE abbr.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11					12		13			
14					15		16			
17							18			
				19			20			
21	22	23		24					25	
26				27					28	
29				30					31	
32				33				34	35	
36				37					38	
39			40							
41						42		43	44	45
47						48				
49							50			
51							52			

33. On edge
35. “Chicago Med” areas
36. “Son of,” in some surnames
37. Namesake, say
38. Edinburgh-to-London dir.
39. Far from
41. Some Bronze Age artifacts
42. Silicate mineral that sounds like paradise?
47. Crafts under investigation in 2024
48. Sierra follower
49. Played
50. Sci-fi villains that debuted in 1963
51. Middle name in the “black-ish” cast
52. Bingo coinage?

- DOWN
1. Bear seen outdoors
2. Resort to
3. Cell finish?
4. Onetime Sony line of robotic pets
5. Washington Mystics and Capitals owner Ted
6. Headwear that may ring a bell?
7. Andy’s role on “Taxi”
8. Material at the back
9. They may look up to a Leo
10. Savvy
12. Throughout
13. Dim
15. Air of horror
16. It may cause some division on TV
20. 2002 Wimbledon winner \_\_\_ Hewitt
21. Like some goals
22. Manual replacement?
23. Propeller on the Mississippi, maybe
33. Adam’s group
34. Capital city close to Mount Ararat
40. Children’s movie that interrupted a 1968 Raiders-Jets broadcast
43. Role for Beyonc
44. “See the one before”
45. Opinion
46. “Happy Motoring!” brand

©2020 Jonesin' Crosswords (jonesincrosswords@gmail.com)

Answers on page 52

SUDOKU

Advanced

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

June 5-11, 2024

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** What potentials should you strive to ripen as the expansive planet Jupiter glides through your astrological House of Connection, Communication and Education in the coming months? I'll offer my intuitions. On the downside, there may be risks of talking carelessly, forging superficial links and learning inessential lessons. On the plus side, you will generate good luck and abundant vitality if you use language artfully, seek out the finest teachings and connect with quality people and institutions. In the most favorable prognosis I can imagine, you will become smarter and wiser. Your knack for avoiding boredom and finding fascination will be at a peak.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Since 1969, Taurus singer-songwriter Willie Nelson has played his favorite guitar at more than 10,000 shows. His name for it is Trigger. Willie doesn't hold on to it simply for nostalgic reasons. He says it has the greatest tone he has ever heard in a guitar. Though bruised and scratched, it gets a yearly checkup and repair. Nelson regards it as an extension of himself, like a part of his body. Is there anything like Trigger in your life, Taurus? Now is a good time to give it extra care and attention. The same is true for all your valuable belongings and accessories. Give them big doses of love.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Off the coast of West Africa is an imaginary place called Null Island. A weather buoy is permanently moored there. Geographers have nicknamed it “Soul Buoy.” It's the one location on Earth where zero degrees latitude intersects with zero degrees longitude. Since it's at sea level, its elevation is zero, too. I regard this spot as a fun metaphor for the current state of your destiny, Gemini. You are at a triple zero point, with your innocence almost fully restored. The horizons are wide, the potentials are expansive, and you are as open and free as it's possible for you to be.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** When I worked as a janitor at India Joze restaurant in Santa Cruz, California, I did the best I could. But I was unskilled in the janitorial arts. I couldn't fix broken machines, and I lacked expertise in effective cleaning agents. Plus, I was lazy. Who could blame me? I wasn't doing my life's work. I had no love for my job. Is there an even remotely comparable situation in your life, Cancerian? Are you involved with tasks that neither thrill you nor provide you with useful education? The coming months will be an excellent time to wean yourself from these activities.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** I foresee two possible approaches for you in the coming months. Either will probably work, so it's up to you to decide which feels most fun and interesting. In the first option, you will pursue the rewards you treasure by creating your own rules as you outfox the system's standard way of doing things. In the second option, you will aim for success mostly by playing within the rules of the system, except for some ethical scheming and maneuvering that outflank the system's rules. My advice is to choose one or the other and not try to do both.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Please note that during the next 12 months, I may seem a bit pushy in my dealings with you. I will encourage you to redefine and enhance your ambitions. I will exhort you to dream bigger. There may come times when you wish I wouldn't dare you to be so bold. I will understand if you refrain from reading my horoscopes regularly. Maybe you are comfortable with your current type of success and don't want my cheerleading. But if you would welcome an ally like me — an amiable motivator and sympathetic booster — I will be glad to help you strive for new heights of accomplishment.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Three months after Rachel Denning bore her fourth child, she and her husband sold everything they owned and embarked on a nomadic life. They have been roaming ever since, adding three more kids along the way. She says they have become addicted to “the personal transformation that travel

extracts.” She loves how wandering free “causes you to be uncomfortable, to step out of the familiar and into the unknown. It compels you to see with new eyes and to consider things you had never been aware of. It removes preconceptions, biases and small-mindedness.” If you were ever going to flirt with Denning's approach, Libra, the next 12 months would be a favorable time. Could you approximate the same healing growth without globetrotting journeys? Probably. Homework: Ask your imagination to show you appealing ways to expand.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Among the Europeans who first settled in South America were Jews who had been forcibly converted to Christianity by Portuguese and Spanish persecutions. Centuries later, some families resolved to reclaim their Jewish heritage. They led a movement called la sangre llama, a Spanish phrase meaning “the blood is calling.” I invite you to be inspired by this retrieval, Scorpio. The coming months will be an excellent time to commune with aspects of your past that have been neglected or forgotten. Your ancestors may have messages for you. Go in search of missing information about your origins.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** If you simply let the natural flow take you where it will in the coming weeks, you will become a magnet for both degenerative and creative influences. Fortunately, you are reading this oracle, which will help ensure the natural flow won't lead you toward degenerative influences. With this timely oracle, I am advising you to monitor and suppress any unconscious attractions you might have toward bewildering risks and seemingly interesting possibilities that are actually dead ends. Don't flirt with decadent glamour or fake beauty, dear Sagittarius! Instead, make yourself fully available for only the best resources that will uplift and inspire you.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Capricorn politician Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is campaigning to be U.S. president. But he recently confessed that a parasitic worm once ate a portion of his brain, damaging his memory and cognitive skills. “The worm is dead now,” he assured us, as if that were a good reason to vote for him. Why am I bringing this up? Like most of us, you have secrets that, if revealed, might wreak at least a bit of mayhem. As tempting as it might be to share them with the world — perhaps in an effort to feel free of their burden — it's best to keep them hidden for now. Kennedy's brain worm is in that category. Don't be like him in the coming weeks. Keep your reputation and public image strong. Show your best facets to the world.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** The English and French word “amateur” comes from amatus, the past participle of the Latin word amare, which means “to love.” According to one definition, an amateur is “someone who pursues sports, studies or other activities purely for pleasure instead of for financial gain or professional advancement.” In accordance with astrological omens, I encourage you to make this a featured theme in the coming months. On a regular basis, seek out experiences simply because they make you feel good. Engage in lots of playtime. At least part-time, specialize in fun and games.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Good news, Pisces: In the coming weeks, one of your flaws will mysteriously become less flawed. It will lose some of its power to undermine you. If you engage in focused meditation about it, you could rob it of even more of its obstructive force. More good news: You will have an enhanced capacity to distinguish between skillful pretending and earthy authenticity. No one can trick you or fool you. Can you handle even more good news? You will have a skillful knack for finding imperfect but effective solutions to problems that have no perfect solution.

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

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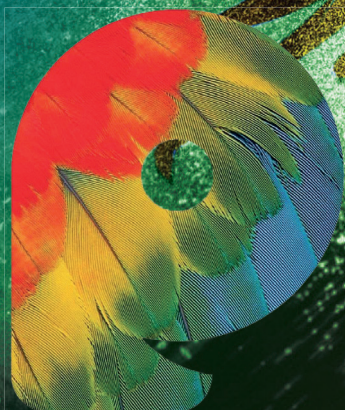
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# Reaching for the stars

## Lansing Community College’s summer theater entertains and educates

By **CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS**

Lansing Community College’s lineup of free summer theater is back in full swing this year, with a classic Shakespearean comedy, a festival of short student plays and the post-pandemic return of the popular percussion concert “La Batterie,” conducted for

the last time by Mike Daniels, who’s retiring after more than two decades of teaching at the school.

Paige Tufford has produced LCC’s concerts and performances for six years. She holds a master of fine arts in directing and has worked in professional and community theater for 35 years. She said the two-year program at LCC is small and cohort-like, with students developing friendships that last

a lifetime.

“I know people who went through our program 20 years ago who are still best friends,” she said.

LCC theater majors typically number 12 to 15 students each semester. The shows are produced with participation from community members and alumni.

“They’re learning and honing their skills together. They’re watching each other grow and supporting each other over the course of the program. It becomes a really close-knit group,” Tufford said.

The first show of the season, running

See Behind the Curtain, Page 47

### BEHIND THE CURTAIN

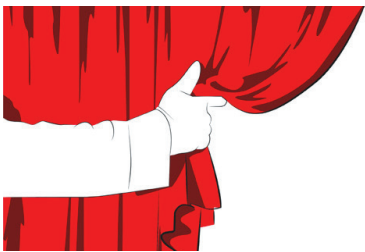


Photo by David Wasinger

Lansing Community College’s summer 2023 production of Shakespeare’s “Love’s Labour’s Lost” at the Outdoor Amphitheater.

# Take PRIDE in your mental health!



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Thursday, June 27, 2024 | 5-7 p.m.

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# CityPULSE

For its 23-year history, City Pulse has proudly stood with the LGBTQ+ community, not only in celebrating Pride each June, but in being a voice for progress and a safe place for everyone all year long.



With your support and contributions, we can continue to tell the stories that fill Greater Lansing with Pride!

You can donate online at [lansingcitypulse.com/donate](http://lansingcitypulse.com/donate), by mailing a check to City Pulse at 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912, or by calling (517) 999-6704.

Thank you so much!  
Your friends at City Pulse

# Behind the Curtain

from page 46

June 26 through 30 at the school’s Outdoor Amphitheater, is “As You Like It,” directed by local theater veteran Mary Job. She said she loves directing Shakespeare because “once a student encounters Shakespeare, they never take words in a script for granted again.”

The production is set in what Job describes as an alternate reality, but no place in particular.

“It borrows from some aspects of modernity, some aspects of medieval, and we have the forest,” she said. “The people in the Forest of Arden have a bohemian vibe, while the people in Frederica’s court are rigid, stratified, hierarchical and, quite frankly, a paranoid society.”

She continued, “And, of course, I love the heroine. Of all of Shakespeare’s heroines, I think Rosalind is the most engaging. Her family has been exiled. She doesn’t belong in the court. But when she enters the forest, she really finds herself.”

LCC’s second show of the season is “La Batterie,” July 14 at Dart Auditorium. According to Tufford, this percussion concert has built an enthusiastic following over the years.

“It’s a very popular concert among the music community — not just LCC, but the community in Lansing. The members are called the Bash Battalion. It’s very well attended,” she said.

Two or three local bands will join the performance. According to LCC’s website, the setlist will include original pieces by Daniels. It’s described as a farewell concert for Daniels, who began “La Batterie” at LCC in the early 1980s.

At the end of July, LCC students will

perform a festival of 10-minute plays written by their peers. Molly Sullivan, 24, is one of seven directors for the festival. She works in enrollment at LCC and went through its theater program, but this is her first time directing.

“I worked with LCC on stage as a student, and as an alum, I’ve done some stage management and stayed involved with the great professors. Paige presented me with the opportunity to direct and get more experience,” she said.

Sullivan and the other directors are just starting their rehearsal processes. They held auditions last week. About 25 people read for the shows.

“I’m coming to realize that it’s a lot of work,” Sullivan said. “When you’re on the acting side of things, you just show up and do it. But when you’re directing, you’re making the tough decisions of choosing your cast and coordinating schedules because some actors are in multiple shows. It’s definitely been eye-opening to see how much has to go into it before you even jump into the rehearsal space.”

Sullivan will direct the play “Hot Sauce in Da Fridge,” by Chandler Donelson.

“It’s about four friends who are working together to create the most perfect burrito. It’s very comedic, so I’m dipping my toe into that. And it’s got a twist ending that everyone loves,” she said.

Of the six 10-minute plays in the festival, Sullivan said, “There are diverse themes because the students were pulling from whatever inspiration they had. There are comedic pieces and more open-ended or dramatic scripts. There’s something for everyone to tap into.”

Sullivan added, “It’s great that we’re showcasing student work and encour-

aging new works to become part of the Lansing theater scene. There’s so much untapped talent around this area. To provide this show for the community is really wonderful, and I’m excited to be part of it.”

After students like Sullivan complete their degrees at LCC, they can choose from a variety of paths.

“People can choose to transfer after they get their associate’s, they may choose to transition into professional theater through internships, or they may pursue another interest. We ask our students where they want to go and help them get there,” Tufford said.

She noted that recently, a student was accepted into the bachelor of fine arts program at Western Michigan University. LCC helped the student with the audition process and finding the necessary contacts and information.

Other students may choose to enter professional theater through internships with equity houses, which are theaters where unions represent actors and stagehands. Or, Tufford said, students might go in a totally new direction.

“A theater degree is so helpful in many areas. You can work in sales, be a lawyer, you can work with people. A theater degree teaches you how to con-

nect, how to listen and how to collaborate. There are so many skills that can cross over to different fields and different professions.”



**Patrick Lindemann**  
Ingham County Drain Commissioner  
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- JUNE 19** The Saline Fiddlers: Premier Youth Fiddling Band
- JUNE 26** Detroit Retro Society: Experience the Sound
- JULY 3** Full Cord: Award Winning Blue Grass Band
- JULY 10** Capital City Chordsmen: Fun Barbershop Chorus
- JULY 17** Fly2K: High Energy Nashville 90s 2000s Cover Band  
With Bear Mitchell & Rachel Thompson Mitchell
- JULY 24** Toppermost: Wonderful Tribute to the Beatles
- JULY 31** Dave Bennett Quartet: From Swing to Rock
- AUG 7** Schrock Bros Band: An Americana/Blues Band  
Featuring Grammy Award winner Peter Madcat Ruth
- AUG 14** Surf Zup: Iconic Surf Guitar Hits from the 60's
- AUG 21** Blueflowers: Detroit Americana/Indi Rock Band
- AUG 28** Denise Davis and the Motor City Sensations:  
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June theater productions:

- “Digging up Dessa”**  
June 6–9  
7 p.m. Thursday–Saturday  
4 p.m. Sunday  
Summer Circle Theatre Courtyard  
542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing  
[theatre.msu.edu](http://theatre.msu.edu)
- “[title of show]” (clean version)**  
June 13–16  
7 p.m. Thursday–Saturday  
4 p.m. Sunday  
Summer Circle Theatre Courtyard  
542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing  
[theatre.msu.edu](http://theatre.msu.edu)
- “Next to Normal”**  
June 14–16 and 21–23  
7:30 p.m. Friday–Saturday  
2 p.m. Sunday  
Lebowsky Center for Performing Arts  
122 E. Main St., Owosso  
[lebowskycenter.com](http://lebowskycenter.com)

**“The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [revised] [again]”**  
June 20–23  
7 p.m. Thursday–Saturday  
4 p.m. Sunday  
Summer Circle Theatre Courtyard  
542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing  
[theatre.msu.edu](http://theatre.msu.edu)

**“As You Like It”**  
June 26–30  
7 p.m.  
LCC Outdoor Amphitheater (between Gannon Building and Dart Auditorium)  
[lcc.edu/showinfo](http://lcc.edu/showinfo)

**“Predictor”**  
June 27–Aug. 4  
8 p.m. Thursday–Saturday  
2 p.m. Sunday; Saturday (beginning July 6); July 24 and 31  
Williamston Theatre  
122 S. Putnam St., Williamston  
[williamstontheatre.org](http://williamstontheatre.org)

# New eatery invites customers to hobnob over pizza and drinks

By TYLER SCHNEIDER



## HobNob Pizza

3214 E. Michigan Ave., Suite B, Lansing  
4-10 p.m. Wednesday–Thursday  
4-11 p.m. Friday–Saturday  
4-9 p.m. Sunday  
(517) 855-2119  
hobnobpizza.com

In fall 2022, Abigail Stellern’s father, Michael Purdum, brought his Columbus, Ohio-based restaurant chain, Old Bag of Nails, to Lansing’s Red Cedar Development.

It was the first of the family’s 19 restaurants to open outside of the Buckeye State. On April 17, Stellern launched the second, HobNob Pizza, in a 2,500-square-foot space on the first floor of the University Edge apartments, also in the Red Cedar Development. She plans to open a second HobNob location in Upper Arlington, Ohio, once renovations are complete.

Stellern said the eatery’s name came from the idea that “anyone can get together to enjoy and share pizza.”

“Hobnob really means ‘to mix together,’ especially among different social

classes and groups of people. We thought the name HobNob Pizza embodied that spirit because pizza is one of the few things people seem to have in common these days,” she said.

Staffed with six employees, the new restaurant is intended to be a primarily carryout operation, although there are a few booths available for dine-in customers. The concept was the result of a series of culinary experiments between Stellern and her mother, Tara Purdum.

“My mom’s Italian, so we would often make pizzas at home when I was growing up. She’s always been a great baker and would frequently make her own bread,” Stellern said. “During COVID, kind of out of boredom, we started playing around with different variations of pizza doughs. We began homing in on what we would call the Midwest cracker-crust dough.”

This style of crust, which is thin and “cut into squares for sharing” is remi-



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

At HobNob Pizza, diners can choose between two crust styles: the thin, square-cut Midwest cracker crust or the fluffier, pie-cut New York-style crust.

niscant of similarly prepared Chicago tavern-style pizza.

“There’s a bit of nuance there because tavern-style pizzas are made from a slightly denser dough and typically have a cornmeal bottom, whereas our Midwest cracker crust is flakier, with a little bit more of a crunch to it,” Stellern explained.

For the pizza traditionalists, HobNob also offers a New York-style crust.

“Our New York-style pizza, which is pie-cut and has fluffier edges, is another one we developed further during COVID, though we’d already been making it at home for years before that,” Stellern said. “In Lansing, the New York style has been more popular so far, which is the opposite of what we expected.”

The menu also includes salads, sub sandwiches and carryout beer and wine.

Stellern said HobNob looks to offer a healthier take on typical Italian carryout fare.

“We make our own sauce and grind our own cheese, and a lot of that goes back to something

that my mom and I are really passionate about, which is limiting the amount of preservatives and chemicals that are in your food,” she said. “I think everybody has this connotation that pizza is unhealthy, but when you have only a handful of ingredients in your dough and you’re using fresh ingredients in your sauce, it’s really not.”

**We celebrate Pride. This month and every month. Love wins.**

**williamstontheatre.org**

**Jacob D. Russell**  
for Ingham County Commissioner, District 6

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Paid for by CTE Jacob Russell  
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OUTon theTOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

Wednesday, June 5

**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](https://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

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

**Allen Farmers Market** - 3-6:30 p.m. 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911. [allenneighborhood-center.org/market](https://allenneighborhood-center.org/market).

**Camping Adventures at Michigan’s State Parks!** - Learn about types of camping, what to pack, activities to enjoy while camping, how to reserve a campsite and the best state parks in Michigan! 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. [gladl.org](https://gladl.org).

**Doc Sherry for Senate Rally** - Meet Doc Sherry and learn about her Senate campaign! Dinner provided by Fire and Rice, live music by Dave Santia. 6-9 p.m. Yoke Farms, 1011 Tihart Road, Okemos. [facebook.com/drsherrydodonnell](https://facebook.com/drsherrydodonnell).

**“Even the Last of These” Reading** - Poet Anita Skeen and linocut artist Laura DeLind read and show off images from their new book. 1-3 p.m. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-346-9900. [everybodyreadsbooks.com](https://everybodyreadsbooks.com).

**Fresh Threads Ritual** - A night of exploration and connection. We’ll use cord magic to set intentions for the discovery and celebration of new skills and experiences. 6 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. [weaversoftheweb.org](https://weaversoftheweb.org).

**Friends of Historic Meridian Speaker Series** - Tom Moore, head librarian at the Haslett and Okemos libraries, will present on the Ingersoll Watch Co. 2 p.m. Meridian Historical Village Chapel, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. [meridianhistoricalvillage.org](https://meridianhistoricalvillage.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](https://lansingrollerderby.com).

**Meridian Summer Concert Series: Sea Cruisers (‘50s-‘70s)** - Free. 6 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. [meridian.mi.us/about-us/calendar/summer-concert-series](https://meridian.mi.us/about-us/calendar/summer-concert-series).

**Meridian Township Farmers Market** - 3-7 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. [meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket](https://meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket).

**Michigan Young Birders Network Virtual Meeting** - Virtual networking group for individuals ages 13-18 interested in birding. 7 p.m. Meeting ID: 946 4329 0865. Password: Chickadee. [michiganaudubon.org/learn/young-birders](https://michiganaudubon.org/learn/young-birders).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Art Show** - 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers’ Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framersedge.net](https://framersedge.net).

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

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

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

**Motivated by Nature Run/Walk** - 6 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866. [meridian.mi.us/hnc](https://meridian.mi.us/hnc).

**Open Mic, Hosted by Rick Hansel** - Family-friendly, welcomes singers and musicians. No cover, all ages welcome. 6 p.m. MICA, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. [urbanbeatevents.com](https://urbanbeatevents.com).

**Portland Sounds of Summer Concert Series: Kick Back (classic rock/country)** - Free. 7 p.m. Two Rivers Park, 201 Divine Hwy., Portland. [facebook.com/MiPortlandDowntown](https://facebook.com/MiPortlandDowntown).

**Wednesday Yoga on Albert** - Hosted by Yoga State. Bring a yoga mat. Free. 9 a.m. Albert El Fresco, corner of M.A.C. Avenue and Albert Street, East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](https://cityofeastlansing.com).

Thursday, June 6

**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](https://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**Bath Farmers Market** - 3-6:30 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St., Bath. 517-641-6728. [shopbfm.org](https://shopbfm.org).

**Ben Awrey at Cleats Bar & Grille** - 6-30 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. [cleatsbarand-grille.com](https://cleatsbarand-grille.com).

**Charlotte Summer Concerts on the Square: Sea Cruisers (‘50s-‘70s)** - Free. 6:30 p.m. 1885 Eaton County Courthouse lawn, 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. [facebook.com/charlottechamberofcommerce](https://facebook.com/charlottechamberofcommerce).

**Chipmunk Story Time** - Stories come alive as children interact with puppet Chicory Chipmunk and his animal friends. Stories followed by nature activities and a guided walk. 10 a.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866. [meridian.mi.us/hnc](https://meridian.mi.us/hnc).

**Consumer Culture and the University Archives and Historical Collections’ R.E. Olds Collection** - Visiting scholar Jason Farman discusses his ongoing research and collections at MSU he’s found valuable. Noon. Main Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. [lib.msu.edu](https://lib.msu.edu).

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

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

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

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

**Laingsburg Indoor Farmers Market** - 5-8 p.m. First

Motivated by Nature run/walk

Wednesday, June 5  
6-8 p.m.  
Harris Nature Center  
3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos

In celebration of Global Running Day, Harris Nature Center will host a 2.25-mile run/walk on its nature trails 6 p.m. tonight (June 5). Participants will receive a commemorative Motivated by Nature T-shirt while supplies last. After finishing, attendees can head over to the pavilion and enjoy refreshments and live music by local singer-songwriter Jessey Adams.

Proceeds will support the expansion of the nature center’s Nature Exploration Area and busing scholarships to help local students attend educational programs. Registration is \$25 per person at [runsignup.com/Race/Mi/Okemos/HarrisNatureCentersRunwithNature](https://runsignup.com/Race/Mi/Okemos/HarrisNatureCentersRunwithNature).



Congregational Church of Laingsburg, 401 E. Grand River Road, Laingsburg. 517-295-8128. [laingsburg-business.org/farmers-market-1](https://laingsburg-business.org/farmers-market-1).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Art Show** - 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers’ Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framersedge.net](https://framersedge.net).

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

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

**Parkinson’s Rock-Steady Boxing** - 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. [lapseg.org](https://lapseg.org).

**Spirit of Michigan Chorus Rehearsal** - Newly formed women’s a cappella chorus. Join us for rehearsal! 6:30 p.m. Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox, 1701 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. [spiritofmichiganchorus.com](https://spiritofmichiganchorus.com).

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

Friday, June 7

**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](https://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**Clayworks Pottery Summer Sale** - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 13121 Wacousta Road, Grand Ledge. 517-626-1160. [clayworkspottery.net/sales](https://clayworkspottery.net/sales).

**Craft Club Jr.** - Create nature-themed pinch pots. Grades 1-3. Registration req. 4:15 p.m. Charlotte

Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. [charlottelibrary.org](https://charlottelibrary.org).

**Cruise to Holt** - Weekly cruise-ins every Friday night at the Holt Farmers Market parking lot. 5-8 p.m. 2150 Cedar St., Holt. [holtfarmersmarket.org](https://holtfarmersmarket.org).

**Euchre with the Kiwanis Club and Unity** - Potluck at 6:30 p.m., euchre at 7. Tournament with cash prizes. Unity Spiritual Center, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. [unitylansing.org](https://unitylansing.org).

**The Heart Collectors** - 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. [urbanbeatevents.com](https://urbanbeatevents.com).

**Lake Lansing Sounds of Summer Concert Series: Atomic Annie (rock/pop)** - Free. Kids can enjoy big-wheel tricycles, a bounce house and an inflatable slide. 7 p.m. Lake Lansing Park South, 1621 Pike St., Haslett. [facebook.com/Lakelansingbandshell](https://facebook.com/Lakelansingbandshell).

**Lansing Fiesta** - Revel in the rhythms of live music, taste the diversity of flavors from local food trucks and celebrate community spirit. 4 p.m.-midnight. Adado Riverfront Park, 201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. [lansingfiesta.com](https://lansingfiesta.com).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Art Show** - 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Framers’ Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framersedge.net](https://framersedge.net).

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

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

**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. [lapseg.org](https://lapseg.org).

The Heart Collectors

Friday, June 7  
Doors 5 p.m.,  
show 7 p.m.  
UrbanBeat  
1213 Turner St.,  
Lansing

The Heart Collectors, an Australian “epic folk” quartet, will perform 7 p.m. Friday (June 7) at UrbanBeat as part of its North American summer tour.

Formed in 2013 in Murwillumbah, New South Wales, the group released its fifth studio album, “The Space Between,” in February. Playing Americana- and folk-influenced music with Celtic undertones and an ethereal bent, the band features Kymrie Henge on piano, percussion and bodhran; Reuben Loire on lead guitar; Mobius Barnaby on cello; and Tristan DaFoe on guitar, mandolin and banjo. With all four members providing vocal harmonies, the group has been compared to Fleetwood Mac and the Avett Brothers.

“We want to bring positivity through our music in a way that can uplift and inspire our audience. Each performance is entirely unique and full of energy, offering a healing of the heart and memories that last,” Henge said.

Progressive singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Jake Allen will open the show, with TJ Rankin on bass. General admission tickets are \$25, and student tickets are \$15 at urbanbeatevents.com.



Events

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**“Passion of the Creative Mind” Art and Photography Gallery** - A celebration of our creative minds and the passion that inspires our creativity. 3-8:30 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. [unitylansing.org](http://unitylansing.org).

**“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, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. [unitylansing.org](http://unitylansing.org).

Saturday, June 8

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

**Clayworks Pottery Summer Sale** - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 13121 Wacousta Road, Grand Ledge. 517-626-1160. [clayworkspottery.net/sales](http://clayworkspottery.net/sales).

**Getting Started with Journaling** - From selecting a notebook to experimenting with writing prompts and techniques, learn how to infuse your journal with authenticity and creativity. 4:30 p.m. Dear Ollie & Co., 222 S. Washington Square, Lansing. [dearollie.com](http://dearollie.com).

**Inebriated Insights** - A night of intoxicated witchcraft! Variety of tarot cards, oracle cards, bone readings, astrology, runes, reiki and more. 5-8 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. [manifestlansing.com](http://manifestlansing.com).

**Introduction To Beekeeping** - Members of the Michigan Beekeepers Association share bee facts and information on becoming a beekeeper. We’ll practice beekeeping skills at our observation hive. 1 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. [meridian.mi.us/hnc](http://meridian.mi.us/hnc).

**Lansing Beerfest** - Outdoor festival on Washington Avenue between South and Elm streets in REO Town. Featuring 20+ Michigan breweries and 100+ craft beers and ciders, food trucks, live music, vendors and more. 4-8 p.m. [lansingbeerfest.com](http://lansingbeerfest.com).

**Lansing Fiesta** - Revel in the rhythms of live music, taste the diversity of flavors from local food trucks and celebrate community spirit. Noon-midnight. Adado Riverfront Park, 201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. [lansingfiesta.com](http://lansingfiesta.com).

**Market on the Grand** - 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jaycee Park, 525 E. River St., Grand Ledge. [grandledgechamber.com/market\\_on\\_the\\_grand.php](http://grandledgechamber.com/market_on_the_grand.php).

**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](http://meridian.mi.us/Farmers-Market).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Art Show** - 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer’s Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framersedge.net](http://framersedge.net).

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

**Next Level Corvette Club Party** - Open to the public. Bring your cars and bikes. Live entertainment and door prizes. 3-8 p.m. One North Kitchen & Bar, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 517-862-8853. [facebook.com/OneNorthLansing](http://facebook.com/OneNorthLansing).

**Twilight Adventures** - Follow clues on a self-guided tour, learn from conservation education stations and engage in fun games and activities while enjoying s’mores and concession snacks! 6-9 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. [potterparkzoo.org](http://potterparkzoo.org).

**Virtual Author Visit with Angeline Bouley** - A member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa

Indians, Bouley will speak about her accomplishments as an author and the Ojibwe community. 1 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. [charlottelibrary.org](http://charlottelibrary.org).

**Youth Fishing Derby** - Ages 15 and younger. Free. 9-11 a.m. Valhalla Park, 2287 Pine Tree Road, Holt. [delhitownshipmi.gov](http://delhitownshipmi.gov).

Sunday, June 9

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

**Creative Expression Through Improvisation** - Learn the basics of improvisation with Celina and Mark Ruhala of Ruhala Performing Arts Center. 9:30 a.m. Unity Spiritual Center, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. [unitylansing.org](http://unitylansing.org).

**Drum Circle at Lake Lansing Park North** - All ages and experience levels welcome. Bring percussion instruments if you have them, as well as chairs. 2-4 p.m. 6260 E. Lake Drive, Haslett. 517-803-2392. [facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers](http://facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers).

**Eastern Ingham Farmers Market** - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. [easterninghamfarmersmarket.org](http://easterninghamfarmersmarket.org).

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

**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](mailto:mikemarhanka@gmail.com).

**Laingsburg Outdoor Farmers Market** - 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Roosevelt Row, downtown Laingsburg. 517-295-8128. [laingsburgbusiness.org/farmers-market-1](http://laingsburgbusiness.org/farmers-market-1).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Art Show** - Noon-4 p.m. Framer’s Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framersedge.net](http://framersedge.net).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Volunteer Show** - A special exhibit by guild volunteers. Noon-6 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. [midmichiganartguild.org](http://midmichiganartguild.org).

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

**Sunday Yoga on Albert** - Hosted by Yoga State. Bring a yoga mat. Free. 10 a.m. Albert El Fresco, corner of M.A.C. Avenue and Albert Street, East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](http://cityofeastlansing.com).

**Three Sparks Comedy** - Free comedy with Three Sparks. 7-9 p.m. One North Kitchen & Bar, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 517-901-5001. [onenorthdining.com](http://onenorthdining.com).

Monday, June 10

**Art Adventure** - Weeklong camp for ages 6-7. Use chemistry to create the perfect color, physics to create unique splatters and biology to inspire natural works of art! 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Broadway Jazz Dance** - Ten-week class, meets biweekly. Ages 12-adult. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Curious Chemists** - Weeklong camp for 5-year-olds. Explore chemistry through fizzy, sticky and colorful experiments! 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Improv Acting Camp** - Four-day camp for ages 5-13. Students will work with a variety of theater games to develop characters and scene work. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](http://ruhalacenter.com).

See Events, Page 51

SUMMER SOLSTICE  
JAZZ FESTIVAL



JUNE 21-22, 2024  
ELJAZZFEST.COM

## Events

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**Improv Acting Class** - Ten-week class, meets bi-weekly. Ages 12-adult. 7:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Jump Into Reading** - Join Ms. Erin for stories, songs, activities and therapy dogs. Ages 0-5 with caregivers. 11 a.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. [eradl.org](http://eradl.org).

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

**Make With Wood** - Weeklong camp for ages 13-14. Learn the skills necessary to build things like keepsake boxes, pencil holders and candy dispensers with wood. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Art Show** - Noon-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framersedge.net](http://framersedge.net).

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

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

**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](http://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](http://unitylansing.org).

**Space Cadets** - Weeklong camp for ages 8-9. Create a telescope to explore the constellations, learn about the sun and find out what it takes to leave Earth and explore space! 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. [impression5.org](http://impression5.org).

**Summer Adventure Kit** - Make a DIY compass, an adventure journal and a Flat Webster to take along on your adventures. Take pictures of Webster's adventures for display at the library. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. [gladl.org](http://gladl.org).

**What's the Code?** - Weeklong camp for ages 10-12. Experiment with multiple block- and text-based coding software as we build our coding skills. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. [impression5.org](http://impression5.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](http://lapsg.org).

## Tuesday, June 11

**B3 at Cleats Bar & Grille** - 6:30 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. cleatsbarandgrille.com.

**Ballet Class** - Ten-week class. Ages 12-adult. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](http://ruhalacenter.com).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Art Show - 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net.**

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

**See Events, Page 52**



## Youth Fishing Derby

**Saturday, June 8**

**8:45-11 a.m.**

## Valhalla Park

**2287 Pine Tree Road. Holt**

In honor of the state's biannual Free Fishing Weekend, Delhi Township's Parks and Recreation Department will host its annual Youth Fishing Derby 8:45 to 11 a.m. Saturday (June 8) at Valhalla Park. Attendees should meet at the park's Beach Pavilion, next to the playground.

Participants will be sorted into three age groups: 6 and under, 7 to 11 and 12 to 15. Prizes will be awarded in each age division for both the largest fish and highest number of fish caught. Bait will be provided, but organizers ask that participants bring their own fishing poles. For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at (517) 694-1549.

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# Events

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**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](#).

**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 517-364-8888. [lapsg.org](#).

**Parkinson's Support Group** - Small group meeting for support and information sharing. People with Parkinson's meet in one room, caregivers in a separate room. 1 p.m. Congregation Shaarey Zedek, 1924 Coolidge Road, East Lansing. [lapsg.org](#).

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

**Trivia at Lansing Shuffle with DJ Trivia** - 7:30-9 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. [lansingshuffle.com](#).

## Wednesday, June 12

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

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

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

## Freddie Cunningham gigs Summer 2024

**Thursday June 6** / Jackson Blues Fest with Jackpine Savages, **6 to 7:05 pm**  
10138 Tompkins Rd, Rives Junction, MI 49277

**Friday June 7** / Michigan Princess Blues Cruise with Mixed Flavors, **6 to 10 pm**  
Ticket information at [www.michiganprincess.com](#)

**Wednesday June 12** / Lansing Concert in the park with ROOT DOCTOR  
Tommy Foster opens the show at **7 pm**. Root Doctor plays, **7:30 to 9**  
Moores Park - 400 Moores River Drive

**Friday June 28** / Jazz at Red Cedar Spirits with F & J Incorporated, **7:30 to 10:30**  
2000 Merritt Rd, East Lansing, Michigan

**Friday July 5** / Music In the park / McCourtie Park with Jackpine Savages, **6 to 9 pm**  
10426 S Jackson Rd, Cement City, Michigan 49233

**Saturday July 27** / Gauci Golf Resort with the Jackpine Savages, **7:30 to 10:30**  
8431 Sports Park Dr, Onsted, MI 49265

**Monday July 29** / Millenium Park / jazz in the park with the Jeff Shoup Group, **6:30 – 8:30**  
The Meadows Amphitheater, 1415 Maynard Ave SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49534

**Tuesday July 30** / Jazz Tuesday at Moriarty's Pub with F & J Incorporated, **7 pm**  
802 E Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48912

**Friday August 2** / Michigan JazzFest with F & J Incorporated, **6:30 pm**  
Main Stage - Turner St., Lansing, MI 48906

**Broadway Jazz Dance** - Ten-week class, meets biweekly. Ages 12-adult. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](#).

**Coffee and Conversation** - Join us to learn about Chamber of Commerce members. 9 a.m. City Hall Community Room, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge. [grandledgechamber.com/coffee\\_and\\_conversation.php](#).

**Fuse-Bead Fun!** - Drop in and make some fuse-bead creations! For students entering kindergarten and up. 3 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. [charlottelibrary.org](#).

**Improv Acting Class** - Ten-week class, meets biweekly. Ages 12-adult. 7:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. [ruhalacenter.com](#).

**Lansing Concerts in the Park: Root Doctor (blues)** - Free. 7 p.m. Moores Park, 400 Moores River Drive, Lansing. [lansingmi.gov/994/Concerts-in-the-Park](#).

**Meridian Summer Concert Series: The Black Barn Band (classic rock)** - Free. 6 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. [meridian.mi.us/about-us/calendar/summer-concert-series](#).

**Meridian Township Farmers Market** - 3-7 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. [meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket](#).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild 12-by-12 Art Show** - 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. [framersedge.net](#).

**Mid-Michigan Art Guild Spring Art Show** - Featuring an array of mediums. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple 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](#).

**Portland Sounds of Summer Concert Series: Portland High School (jazz)** - Free. 7 p.m. Two Rivers Park, 201 Divine Hwy., Portland. [facebook.com/MIPortland-Downtown](#).

**Rummage and Bake Sale** - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-882-6330. [facebook.com/LansingLiederkrantz-Club](#).

**St. Johns Concerts in the Park: Jack Clarkson Band (variety)** - Free. 7 p.m. St. Johns City Park, 801 W. Park St., St. Johns. [facebook.com/StJohnsCityParkPerformanceShell](#).

**Stories in the Garden** - Explore the garden and stop to listen to a picture book when you encounter one of our volunteer readers! 10-11:30 a.m. Michigan 4-H Children's Garden, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. [canr.msu.edu/4hgarden/events](#).

**Summer Bucket List** - Create a personalized summer bucket list filled with adventure, relaxation and unforgettable memories! Grades 4-12. 4 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. [eradl.org](#).

**Wheel of the Year: Litha and Rites of Passage** - 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, June 13

**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](#).

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

**Beal Botanical Garden Tour: iNaturalist Training** - An introduction to digital identification tools such as iNaturalist and their importance in conducting research. 12:10 p.m. 330 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. [lib.msu.edu](#).

**Charlotte Summer Concerts on the Square: Charlotte Community Band** - Free. 6:30 p.m. 1885 Eaton County Courthouse lawn, 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. [facebook.com/charlottetchamberofcommerce](#).

**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](#).

**“Foreign Bodies” Opening Reception** - Solo exhibition by Curt LaCross. Light refreshments will

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 44

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be served, and the artist will be in attendance. Free and open to the public. 5-7 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. [lansingartgallery.org](#).

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

**Karaoke Thursday** - 8 p.m.-midnight. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. [greendoorlive.com](#).

**Laingsburg Indoor 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](#).

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 44

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MERIDIAN

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY

LEGAL AD NOTICE: VARIANCE REQUEST 24-05

2731 GRAND RIVER AVE.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

LEGAL NOTICE

VARIANCE REQUEST 24-05

2731 GRAND RIVER AVENUE

PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, June 26, 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 variance request from Meridian Retail Management II LLC. The applicant is proposing to construct a restaurant with a drive-through that does not meet the perimeter landscape buffer, minimum landscape island width, and building landscaping width requirements at 2731 Grand River Avenue. The subject site is zoned C-2, Commercial.

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. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to [chapman@meridian.mi.us](#), or at the public hearing.

Deborah Guthrie

Township Clerk

CP#24-535

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[meridian.mi.us](#)

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

# Veggie gravy goals at Arms & Embers Grill

By LIZY FERGUSON

A good breakfast is hard to find, and there’s nothing more disappointing than dragging yourself out of bed, putting on real clothes and going out to pay for a bad one. After my inaugural visit last week, I added Arms & Embers Grill to my list of eateries that get the most important meal of the day just right.

Arms & Embers is on Grand Ledge’s lovely Bridge Street. Driving from the east side, I skipped the highway — who knows where I would even get on at this point — and took the long way down West Saginaw Highway, which I recommend so you can stop

at Horrocks and the Volunteers of America thrift store.

The restaurant offered some tempting brunch cocktails, but I just went with coffee. Even more tempting, though, was its selection of specialty pancakes, such as bananas Foster, blueberry Danish and strawberry shortcake, to name a few.

I didn’t have much of a sweet tooth that morning, but thankfully, my dining companion did and was open to sharing, so I got to have my cake and eat it, too. She got the strawberry shortcake pancakes, and I opted for the garden skillet with sourdough toast. Served on a bed of perfectly cooked red skin potatoes were scrambled eggs blan-

keted with melted Swiss cheese, gravy and a medley of wilted spinach, mushrooms, peppers, onions and fresh slices of avocado.

The vegetables weren’t overcooked, which I’ve found is rare in an egg dish. What really stood out, though, was the gravy: Spoon-coating and rich in flavor while still not at all heavy, it was particularly perfect when dashed with some Frank’s RedHot. I was also impressed when I confirmed it was vegetarian.

I let my friend have some bites, but not as many as I stole from her magnificent plate of pancakes, which were covered in a very fresh-tasting strawberry sauce, vanilla sweet cream and mascarpone. Unlike other such confections, these pancakes weren’t too sweet or overwhelmed by a mountain of whipped cream and jelly-like sauce. They reminded me of a more sophisticated, understated version of the pancake sundaes at IHOP.



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

Arms & Embers Grill’s garden skillet packs a nutritional punch, perfect for vegetarians looking for a well-priced and energizing breakfast.

Though the restaurant can be a bit of a drive depending on where you’re coming from, a top-tier, well-priced Sunday breakfast that can be had without any wait in line is more than worth it.



## Garden skillet

\$13

Arms & Embers Grill

219 N. Bridge St.,  
Grand Ledge

8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Wednesday-Friday

8 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3-8  
p.m. Saturday

8 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday  
(517) 731-6131

TOP 5

DINING GUIDE

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

### TOP 5 LATE-NIGHT FOOD SPOTS

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

#### 1. Conrad’s Grill – both locations

No-frills eateries offering a wide variety of wraps, plus fried sides  
See [conradsgrill.com](http://conradsgrill.com) for locations, hours and phone numbers

#### 2. Crunchy’s

Watering hole in old-school digs famous for burgers, buckets of beer and karaoke  
254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing

517-351-2506

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

11 a.m.-midnight Sunday-Wednesday

11 a.m.-1 a.m. Thursday-Saturday

#### 3. Fleetwood Diner

Retro diner serving homemade breakfast, lunch and dinner items, including vegetarian and vegan options  
2211 S. Cedar St., Lansing  
517-267-7606  
[thefleetwooddiner.com](http://thefleetwooddiner.com)  
Open 24 hours

#### 4. Pizza House

Roomy pizzeria serving deep-dish pies and other Italian eats  
4790 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing  
517-336-0033  
[pizzahouse.com](http://pizzahouse.com)  
10:30 a.m.-4 a.m. daily

#### 5. Taco Bell – all locations

Fast-food chain offering Mexican-inspired fare such as tacos, burritos and nachos  
See [tacobell.com](http://tacobell.com) for locations, hours and phone numbers

# Combat hot weather with carbonated grape juice

By ARI LEVAUX

Every October, I make Concord grape juice and seal it away in jars. I hoard these sweet vessels until the following summer, when I mix a chilled beverage I call spicy grape juice.

I don’t remember my first taste of chocolate, bacon or even mayonnaise, but I’ll never forget my first sip of spicy grape juice. I was an 8-year-old city boy visiting friends deep in the Massachusetts countryside. One hot day, we came into the house thirsty. My friends’ mom, Joan, emptied a jar of grape juice and a few cans of carbonated water into a pitcher of ice and poured the mixture into glasses. In that hot, dehydrated moment,

the cold combination of spicy, sour and sweet flavors was like being plugged into an electrical socket of thirst-quenching power.

Carbonated water, aka seltzer or bubbly, contains carbonic acid, which triggers receptors in the taste buds that detect flavors like mustard and horseradish. This produces the beverage’s distinctly spicy taste. For some reason, a little pain in the water makes it more drinkable, similar to how a dash of spicy hot sauce can make a taco more delicious.

It was unusual to consume something so satisfying out of Joan’s kitchen. Her style of cooking was my first exposure to the unprocessed,



See Flash, Page 54



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## Flash

from page 53

“natural” far-left wing of food. She lived on whole grains, carob, nuts and beans. Her archenemy was sugar.

I wondered if this diet had something to do with the fact that Joan’s kids were as tough as superheroes. They would jump off the roof for fun and could cover long distances through the woods, sometimes popping out near a gas station that sold candy.

Years later, I found myself with a Concord grape plant of my own and, as luck had it, a home seltzer maker. Suddenly, I had all the spicy grape juice I cared to drink, which was a uniquely satisfying feeling. Nowa-

days, I use Joan’s mix as a base for exploring more complex combinations of sweet, sour and spicy.

My current spicy grape juice recipe includes lemon and grapefruit juice as well, which add extra shades of tartness. Grapefruit is also bitter, a flavor that, like sourness and spiciness, softens with a little sweetness. I like to add spearmint, which has a sweet flavor, and rose petals when available. The petals provide a beautiful scent while you drink, a reminder to smell those roses while you can because summer won’t wait. And this is one of the best ways to enjoy it. Whether you take your spicy grape juice mixed, spiked or straight, the bubbles and acid will help you squeeze every drop of summer onto the melting ice cubes of life.



Courtesy of Ari LeVaux

Spicy grape juice, a mix of grape juice and carbonated water, hits the spot on a hot day like a jump in the lake.

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517-323-9186  
Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-8pm  
Sun 11am-6pm

### Bubbles and roses

Rose petals aren’t essential to the architecture of this drink, so don’t sweat it if you can’t find any. But if you know of a rose bush that hasn’t been sprayed, go ahead and pick a few — with permission if necessary. Just be sure to use a straw so the petals don’t end up in your mouth.

If you can’t find spearmint, use the sweetest mint available. If you wish to add booze, I suggest limoncello or another citrus liqueur.

*Serves six*

Two lemons, one juiced and one sliced

One grapefruit, half juiced and half sliced

Six sprigs spearmint

Petals of a rose (optional)

1 quart grape juice

1 quart seltzer


Divide the lemon and grapefruit juice among six glasses. Add a sprig of mint to each glass. Layer the ice cubes, rose petals and thin slices of fruit in each glass, then add the grape juice. Finally, add the bubbly to each glass slowly so it stays on top and doesn’t mix until you want it to. Serve during a hot summer afternoon.

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**CityPULSE**

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# RICK WENDORF



***I say too much at times. But I only speak the truth. Be afraid or be valiant. Sometimes our knight is the one we fight off most, only to realize too late that they were the one fighting for us.***

*~Dr. Rick Wendorf. '24*