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July 10-16, 2024

# CityPULSE

A newspaper for the rest of us  
Locally owned

A photograph of a blue baseball jersey with a large white letter 'L' on the chest. Resting on the jersey are a black baseball cap with two white stripes, a white baseball, and a wooden baseball bat with blue tape on the handle.

## ROOTS 'BASE BALL'

See Page 12



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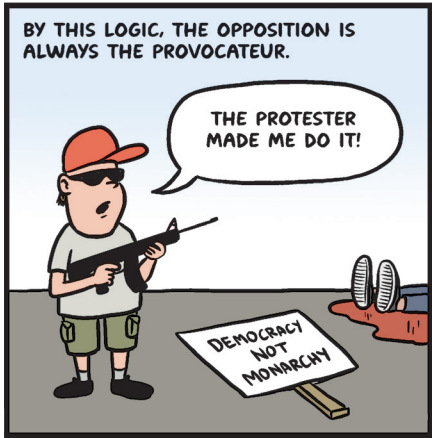
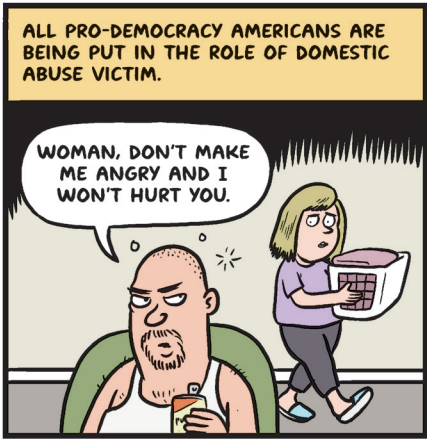
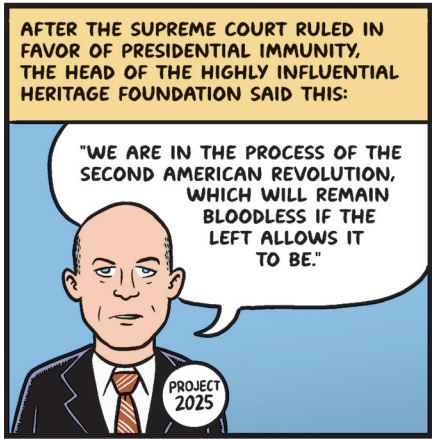
# Coming soon ... as a tee shirt



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Join the Friends of Historic Eastern High School Facebook Page  
Committee to Preserve Eastern and Promote Mental Health



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Robin Theatre offers an eclectic July lineup



The trick to never buying garlic again

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Cover photo by Raymond Holt

# CityPULSE

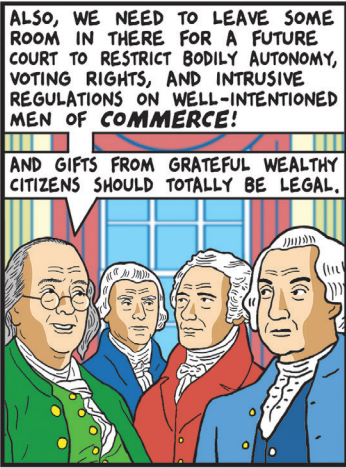
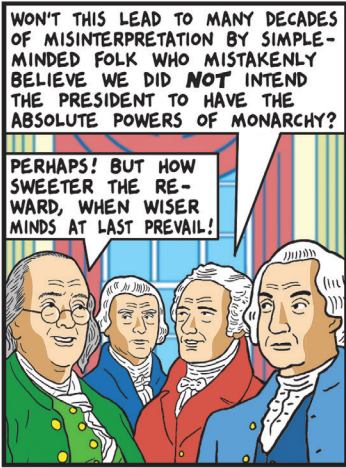
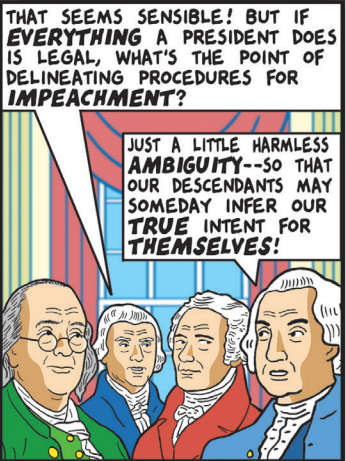
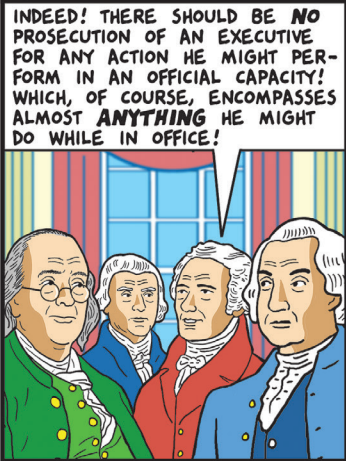
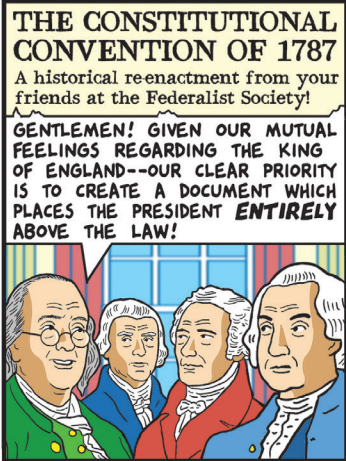
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## This Modern World

by Tom Tomorrow



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## PULSE

## NEWS &amp; OPINION

# At long last, Beitler may get to buy City Hall for a hotel

Michigan State University alum John Paul Beitler remembers his undergrad years as when his interest in architecture flourished, paving the way for a successful career as a Chicago developer.

Now president of Beitler Real Estate Services, the 1967 graduate has long eyed a passion project: turning Lansing's City Hall into a hotel.

Beitler tried to purchase it in 2017 after then Mayor Virg Bernero selected his plan from several proposals because it would save the landmark mid-century-modern building.

But after taking over in 2018, Andy Schor put it on hold because the Bernero proposal for a new city hall did not accommodate police and courts. However, voters approved a \$175 million bond issue, including a public safety building on Washington Avenue, clearing the way for Schor to give Beitler a green light after announcing plans for a new city hall.

Now, it is up to the City Council, which will decide on a \$2.78 million purchase pact on July 22.

Judging by the lack of public opposition at Monday's public hearing, Beitler may finally see his dream come true.

The only public comment was from a Council regular, Loretta Stanaway, who cited the "ridiculously low price."

"We need an outside, independent, unbiased current assessment of the value," Stanaway said, "because if it were just a hole in the ground with no building on it, it would be worth more than what we're getting offered."

The building was appraised under Bernero for \$4.2 million in 2015 and then \$3.5 million in 2021 before sinking to \$2.78 million last year.

Schor said earlier that in the last nine years, "this building has significantly deteriorated. So, it's not a huge surprise that the appraisal is a lot



Raymond Hot for City Pulse

John Paul Beitler (right) and his son, John Paul Beitler III, at Monday's public hearing on their plan to convert the current Lansing City Hall into a hotel.

less." He cited asbestos removal as one of the challenges the Beitler stands to inherit if the sale is approved by the Council.

Council members have raised questions about the difference in appraisal results, but none have indicated opposition to the plan because of it.

Beitler and his son, John Paul Beitler III, attended the public hearing but did not speak. They also declined an interview.

They said their piece on June 24, when they presented their vision of transforming the space into a 183-room hotel to the Committee of the Whole.

Beitler explained how in the 1960s he first became acquainted with the 126,575 square-foot, 10-story building while working at the former Jack Tar Hotel, now the state's George W. Romney Building, across Michigan Avenue.

Then, the 1958 building was less than a decade old. Beitler said he'd marvel at the architectural prowess of local designers Lee and Kenneth Black. He called it "an architectural wonder and statement."

"It was beautiful and something Lansing had never seen before," Beitler said. "It has an architectural heritage that is the cornerstone of the



Courtesy Beitler Real Estate Services

A rendering of the Beitler plan.

city's buildings downtown, and I don't want to see a wrecking ball knock it down — not even one stone."

If Council approves, Beitler would purchase the building "as is" and without any financial incentives attached, meaning the city would retain 100% of the property taxes. The hotel would also include a third-party restaurant, meeting rooms, a pool, fitness center and street-level retail space.

In buying and renovating the dilapidated property, Beitler said he wants to "reposition" it as a "revenue generator" for the city and local economy.

The sale would work in tandem with the development timeline for the new, \$40 million city hall at the corner of Grand Avenue and Lenawee Street, now a municipal parking lot. Designs are expected around December, followed by a 14-month construction process ending in February 2026.

Under the purchase agreement, the Beitler team would close on the sale within 60 days after city employees move in. Beitler's anticipated completion date is April 2027.

Beitler III, the company's vice president, said the property "may not be efficient for a modern office building" but that it was "almost ideal" for a hotel.

"With a diverse population and a

diverse source of uses, you have the drivers that a hotel needs to live on year-round," Beitler III said. "And while another building may require demolition, this does not."

The purchase would include the 60 underground parking spaces, with Beitler hoping to lease another 100 spots for valet service in a nearby city lot.

Schor noted that Beitler also "volunteered" a stipulation in the purchase agreement to preserve Leonard Jungwirth's sculpture on the building's west side after renovation.

The proposal has garnered letters of support from Choose Lansing president Julie Pingston, local developer Patrick Gillespie and downtown hotelier Patrick Perry, the general manager of the DoubleTree by Hilton since it opened last fall in the former Radisson, 111 N. Grand Ave.

"I have observed an increasing demand for hotel rooms that far exceeds our current capacity," Perry wrote in a letter he sent to Council on July 1. "This shortage of rooms not only affects our ability to accommodate visitors but also has broader implications for the local economy. By addressing this need, we can ensure that our city continues to thrive."

— TYLER SCHNEIDER

# REWIND

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



**U of M Health-Sparrow president Margaret Dimond agreed to meet with a group of residents and elected officials who support saving old Eastern High School, which the health system wants to tear down for a 120-bed, \$97.2 million mental-health facility.** Dimond said U of M rejected reusing the landmark building because it would cost “tens of millions more” than a new one. Meanwhile, Lansing City Council unanimously approved a resolution calling on U of M to preserve the building and auditorium on Pennsylvania Avenue as well as build the facility. To read more, go to [www.lansingcitypulse.com](http://www.lansingcitypulse.com).



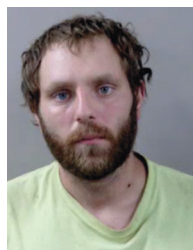
plaint, Eaton County sheriff's deputies claimed they found more than 1,000 pieces of mail in the suspects' vehicle.

**The Ingham County Prosecutor's Office has filed juvenile petitions against four minors for aggravated assault against two gay students at the MSU library.** The minors were unnamed because of their ages. The State News reported that the two alleged victims, who were boyfriends, said they were studying when the youths insulted their appearance before assaulting them. The two men said they spent nine hours in the emergency room for a fractured finger and other injuries. One said his earring was pushed into his ear.



**Shelbi Frayer resigned as Lansing's deputy mayor to consult and spend more time with her children, the city said.** The city's information technology director, Christopher Mumby, will serve in the same role but with the title of chief administrative officer, while continuing in his current job. Frayer was chief strategy officer in 2019 and 2020, left for two years, then returned to work as deputy mayor in 2022.

**Joseph Ketchum, 26, of Lansing, was charged Monday with 48 felony counts, including first-degree criminal sexual conduct, child pornographic activity and felony firearm possession.** He is being held without bond after arraignment in 54A District Court, following an investigation by the Michigan State Police Computer Crimes Unit and the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force based on cyber tips from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. An evidence hearing was tentatively set for July 26.



**Avelo Airlines has discontinued flights from Capital Regional International Airport and out of Capital City Airport after two years. It flew winter flights to Orlando and Fort Myers, Fla., but the routes were unprofitable, Avelo's spokesman told**

**the Lansing State Journal.** Breeze Airways, however, will begin nonstop wintertime service to the same Florida cities, said Nicole Noll-Williams, president and CEO of Capital Region Airport Authority.

**Six small Greater Lansing communities are receiving \$11,000 to \$25,000 from the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) Small Town Enhancement Grant Program.** Dimondale, Leslie, Maple Rapids, Ovid, Stockbridge and Vermontville were chosen based on creativity, community impact, cost, letters of support and collaboration.



**Gov. Gretchen Whitmer elevated Eaton County District Judge Kelly Morton to the circuit court and named Adrianne Van Langevelde to replace her.** Morton replaces retiring Circuit Judge John Maurer. Their partial terms expire

Jan. 1, 2027. Both were prosecutors who once specialized in domestic violence cases and received law degrees from MSU. Van Langevelde has been a member of the Michigan Parole Board since 2020 and worked as an assistant prosecutor in Eaton and Mecosta counties.

**Amber Nicole Sperbeck, 26, and Michael James Craig, 42, were arraigned on 39 counts each of mail theft and one count each of improper possession of an absentee ballot.** Sperbeck is charged as a second-time mail theft offender. Both are facing a maximum of five years. A \$50,000 cash bond was set for both. Responding to a larceny-of-mail com-



**A 92-year-old Lansing man has won \$434,105 in the Michigan Lottery's Lucky 7s Fast Cash game.** The player, who remained anonymous, bought the winning tickets at the Sunoco station on Migaldi Lane in Delta Township. He said he won \$50 on one ticket and matched number 59 with the “Jackpot” underneath on the other. He said he knew he'd won the jackpot when he was instructed to file a claim at the Lottery office.

### Public safety

A 51-year-old Lansing man and a 45-year-old Delhi Township woman were seriously injured after the truck he was driving struck two parked vehicles Friday on Dell Road between Aurelius Road and Brigantine Drive. The injuries were not life-threatening, and neither of the parked vehicles were occupied. ... An Ingham County sheriff's deputy was struck by a firework intentionally launched at him while responding to a fireworks complaint in Delhi Township Wednesday. The projectile bounced off the deputy's chest before it exploded, and he escaped serious injury.



401 Leslie St., Lansing

This 1,296 square-foot, three-bedroom home has stood in Lansing's eastside neighborhood since 1916. Today, it's red-tagged and features a front porch with peeling paint and a deteriorating foundation. Owner Mike Penta bought it from Geraldine and Harlan Stoin for \$32,000 in June 2020, a month after the city ticketed them for lacking a proper rental certificate. The citations continued under Penta's ownership. In August, 2022, the city declared the property unsafe for habitation and fined Penta \$465. Code compliance added another \$1,389 in fines for trash last July, plus \$150 for an unkempt lawn on May 20. Ingham County Treasurer Alan Fox confirmed that property taxes had been paid through 2022. According to the Assessor's Office, Penta owns at least two other red-tagged Lansing houses, at 815 Prospect and 1223 Hickory streets. Efforts to reach Penta for comment were unsuccessful.

— TYLER SCHNEIDER

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

# Lansing residents deserve local life-saving mental health care

By CHRISTINA CANFIELD

*(The writer has lived in the Lansing area for over 35 years. She worked for the state Legislature and for the Michigan Education Association.)*

In spring 2016, my family was at a breaking point. Our daughter, Sarah, was in her senior year of high school and had been struggling with a severe eating disorder. Despite the efforts of several wonderful doctors here in Lansing, she wasn't getting any better. It became clear that if something didn't change, Sarah might not make it. We were watching our youngest child wither away, completely outside of our control.

That's when her pediatrician recommended an intensive, partial hospitalization eating disorder treatment



Opinion

program. The closest option was at the University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. The program required Sarah to spend eight hours a day in the hospital, five days a week, with mandatory parental attendance every day. On top of the program, we spent up to three hours in the car daily commuting from East Lansing, depending on construction traffic.

This program was worth it all because it saved Sarah's life. She's now a happy, successful adult, and I am immensely grateful for the treatment she received. But that's not to say it didn't take a toll on our family. Eleven-hour days are almost impossible to manage when you already feel like you're falling apart. Yet, without sufficient behavioral health services and resources in Lansing, this is what we ask of

families like mine who are experiencing the worst crisis of their lives.

And my family was one of the lucky ones. I am acutely aware of how blessed we were to be able to take advantage of U of M's program. My job was extremely accommodating to my schedule. We had a reliable car to drive to and from Ann Arbor every day. My husband had retired, and in addition to attending the program every day, he took care of preparing many of the special meals we needed. Our son, who had already graduated from college, did everything he could to support us.

These circumstances allowed us to invest nearly all our time in Sarah's treatment. But what happens to families in Lansing dealing with behavioral health challenges who aren't as fortunate? What happens to the people who can't access these critical resources when their child is in crisis?

Sarah's story is just one example of why it's so crucial to have comprehensive, adolescent behavioral health services available locally here in Lansing. I saw firsthand how these services are quite literally lifesaving for someone struggling with their mental health — and how under-resourced our area is today. Local resources, like U of M Health-Sparrow's planned behavioral health facility in Lansing, would immensely impact and help meet the profound need for these services.

When someone in your family is experiencing a mental health crisis, access to local care makes everything just a little bit easier in an already exceptionally difficult situation. If we truly want to help friends and neighbors grappling with serious — possibly life-threatening — mental health issues, we need to bring more vital behavioral health care resources into our community.

# For Lansing's mental health, save historic Eastern High School

By MARY OLDS TOSHACH

*(The writer is president of Preservation Lansing and holds master's degrees in historic preservation and urban and regional planning from Ball State University. She is also a University of Michigan alumna. She is a Committee to Preserve Historic and Promote Mental Health member.)*

Preservation Lansing and the Committee to Preserve Eastern High and Promote Mental Health applaud University of Michigan Health-Sparrow for the desire to construct a behavioral health facility on the property that includes historic Eastern High School.

However, retention of our historic school and neighborhood character are also essential for the physical environment and "mental health" of the city.

The original sale to Sparrow Hospital included a clause stating: "Purchaser shall develop a plan, which in Purchaser's reasonable discretion

protects and preserves the historical value of the Property."

U of M would benefit from engaging the surrounding community in discussion and providing opportunities for alumni and others to have input on the structure's future.

Hospitals have had a reputation nationwide of willfully destroying neighborhoods while developing their campuses. This has also led to neighborhood blight and loss of economic value. While, for many reasons, pulling services into one area is important, there is also a viable argument for respecting the neighborhood environment and integrating these services within.

Many urban hospitals are landlocked, but not U of M Health-Sparrow's Michigan Avenue campus. It has the advantage of the 18 acres of land and old Eastern High School that it acquired from the Lansing School District and a vacated street to utilize.



Opinion

This offers U of M the opportunity to develop a creative plan that incorporates the new facility and an enlarged Emergency Services facility, which is apparently also under consideration, while retaining the memorable landmark Pennsylvania Avenue classroom building and auditorium for a variety of services, including medical offices, community services and education, and more.

While costs may be higher, the benefits are much greater, including the environmental impact of demolition and the cost of demolishing a reinforced concrete frame structure. And we cannot stress strongly enough the appreciation from those who attended and love old Eastern High School, those who attend the new Eastern High School, residents of the surrounding neighborhood and the broader Lansing community.

Eastern High School is one of Lansing's most historic and architecturally significant schools. Designed by Pond & Pond architects (brothers who were U of M grads), it reflects the

cultural environment and architectural styles of the 1920s. The automobile was becoming the primary industry in rapidly growing Lansing, requiring new schools for new neighborhoods. Eastern has graduated tens of thousands of students, who share a common connection through this building.

The retention of our historic built environment provides us with a feeling of stability, memories and a sense of place. Since the pandemic, studies are looking at the connection between historic structures and urban environments and mental health. See <https://www.urbandesignmentalhealth.com/blog/spontaneous-fantasy-the-relationship-between-urban-historic-environments-and-mental-health>.

For that and the other reasons I've outlined, we ask U of M Health-Sparrow and the Board of Regents, which will ultimately decide, to join the Committee to Preserve Historic Eastern and Promote Mental Health in finding a progressive solution in the best interest of both our goals

**B/25/004 ROCK SALT CONVEYOR RENTAL** for the Public Service Department-Operations & Maintenance as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept bids at The City of Lansing, Purchasing Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave. 3rd Floor, Lansing, Michigan 48933 or electronically submitted thru MITN Site ([www.Mitn.Info](http://www.Mitn.Info)) until 2PM local time in effect on JULY 22, 2024. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by contacting Marilyn Chick at (517) 483-4282, or [Marilyn.chick@lansingmi.gov](mailto:Marilyn.chick@lansingmi.gov) or go to [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info). The City of Lansing encourages bids from All Vendors Including MBE/WBE Vendors and Lansing-Based Businesses.

CP#24-579

**B/25/003 SNIPER RIFLE AMMUNITION FY25** for the Lansing Police Department as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept bids at The City of Lansing, Purchasing Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave. 3rd Floor, Lansing, Michigan 48933 or electronically submitted thru MITN Site ([www.Mitn.Info](http://www.Mitn.Info)) until 2PM local time in effect on JULY 22, 2024. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by contacting Marilyn Chick at (517) 483-4282, or [Marilyn.chick@lansingmi.gov](mailto:Marilyn.chick@lansingmi.gov) or go to [www.mitn.info](http://www.mitn.info). The City of Lansing encourages bids from All Vendors Including MBE/WBE Vendors and Lansing-Based Businesses.

CP#24-580

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT, INGHAM COUNTY, NOTICE TO CREDITORS, Decedent's Estate, Case No. 24-000485-DE-P33. Estate of Oliver Francis Barnes – Date of Birth: 06-29-42. NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Oliver Francis Barnes died 3-20-24. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Evelyn Barnes, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 West Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933, 517-483-6300, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 07/10/2024. Personal representative: Evelyn Barnes, 3709 Jerree St., Lansing, MI 48911, 517-763-2245. **CP#24-577**

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF  
CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY'S  
REVISED FISCAL 2023 PROGRAM OF CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Capital Area Transportation Authority hereby provides notice to the public and to private providers of its proposed fiscal 2023 program of capital projects, which has been revised. The FY23 proposed capital list of projects was modified following consultation with CATA's funding partners, the Federal Transit Administration and Michigan Department of Transportation.

Section 5307 Formula Funding		
Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Large Buses 40' Replacement	\$5,600,000	\$7,000,000
Less than 30' Replacement Bus	\$384,729	\$480,911
Facility – A & E Design (Admin, Maintenance, Storage)	\$120,000	\$150,000
IT Hardware	\$436,400	\$545,500
Mobile Fare Collection Equipment	\$400,000	\$500,000
Support Vehicle Replacement	\$400,000	\$500,000
Facility Improvements (Admin, Maintenance, Storage)	\$800,000	\$1,000,000
Consultant Services	\$120,000	\$150,000
Planning	\$400,000	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,661,129</b>	<b>\$10,826,411</b>
Section 5339 Formula Funding		
Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Replacement Vans – Rural Service	\$384,000	\$480,000
Replacement Vans – Urban Service	\$388,966	\$486,208
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$772,966</b>	<b>\$966,208</b>
Section 5310 Formula Funding		
Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Less Than 30' Replacement Bus	\$244,537	\$305,671
Construct Pedestrian Access/Walkways	\$200,076	\$250,095
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$444,613</b>	<b>\$555,766</b>
CMAQ Formula Funding		
Item	Federal Share	Total Grant Budget
Clean Commute Program	\$100,000	\$100,000
Public Education Efforts	\$100,000	\$125,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>\$225,000</b>

The proposed program of projects will constitute the final program of projects if there are no changes. Additional details on the proposed fiscal 2023 program of capital projects are available for public inspection at CATA's Administration Building, 4615 Tranter St., Lansing, MI 48910.

Written comments on the program of projects or written requests for a public hearing to review the application must be received by 5 p.m. July 30, 2024. If a hearing is requested, notice of the scheduled date, time and location will be provided at least 10 days in advance.

Submittals should be sent to CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, FY 2023 Revised Program of Projects, Attn: Planning and Development Department, 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, MI 48910 or via email to: [marketing@cata.org](mailto:marketing@cata.org).

**CP#24-567**

# We'll keep asking the same questions until we get the answers we want

Is he out yet? Is she in yet?  
Why doesn't he get out? Why doesn't she get in?

You know whom I'm talking about: our sporadically functional president and our ambitious governor.

Yes, we're talking about the Democratic presidential nomination. Yes, President Joe Biden won nearly every delegate through the primaries and caucuses. No, he doesn't officially win the nomination until those delegates vote at the Aug. 19-22 convention in Chicago.

If Biden declines to run, they will pick someone else. If he accepts the nomination, Biden's name will appear on all 50 states' ballots.

As for Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, she's stepped up her shadow 2028 presidential run with a perfectly timed book about how relatable and politically sharp she is.

She's going to Santa Monica, Martha's Vineyard, Seattle — where influential rich people live — this summer to (hopefully) meet such folks. Maybe they'll buy her book, but that's almost secondary to the first objective.

Let's ask the question again until we get the answer we want. "Is he out yet?"

The answer is still no, despite that dreadful debate performance.

Unfortunately for him, we can't unhear the incoherent mutters or unsee the blank stares. A solid week of debate prep produced that sad, mortifying and cringy performance.

Sigh.

How can anyone seriously chant "FOUR MORE YEARS" after that Weekend at Bernie's-like spectacle? Donald Trump at least commanded a presence with his nauseating barrage of bravado, hyperbole and overstatements.

This wasn't an isolated incident, folks. Read the official White House transcripts of Biden's public appearances. Facts are routinely corrected. It's rare to read complete sentences with one coherent thought when he goes off script.

As you watched, who did you wish was at the podium exposing Trump as the emperor with no clothes? Michelle Obama? Gavin Newsom? Elissa Slotkin? Uncle Jim? Yourself?

How about that That Woman From Michigan?

Why should Whitmer wait four more

years? Democrats need a strong female governor from a swing state now.

Is he out yet?

Obviously, no, not yet. The stubborn elderly gentleman — propped up by a family and paid political operatives who personally benefit from his ambitions — has another month to see if things change.

Will the drumbeat among donors and elected officials die away after he pulls off some better public appearances? Will some other seismic event turn voters' minds away from that train-wreck of a debate?

Everyone riding Biden's gravy train is praying for a "yes" to such questions.

On July 9, 2020, the Real Clear Politics average in Michigan had Biden up 7.5 percentage points in Michigan. On July 8, 2024, Trump was up by a slim 0.6%.

I know. You don't trust polls, but politicians trust them, and Biden isn't winning this one or any other one where it matters.

He hasn't been for a while.

What's changing by October when people start voting? Trump getting caught paying off an adult film star? Four different indictments? Thirty-four felony convictions? Passively encouraging a gang of yahoos to storm the Capitol in his name?

Seriously. What changes this script but a new character?

There are some answers to questions you can't take back in politics.

Biden can say "I'm in" 100 times, but the moment he says, "I'm out," there's no turning back. It's over. He's done.

Same with Whitmer. She can keep playing hard-to-get until Aug. 19. There's no downside to it. To the contrary. The more Whitmer says "I'm out," the more voters want the answer to be "I'm in." Keep the chase alive.

Let's say Biden is out. A split convention could be irreversibly stuck between Kamala Harris and Gavin Newsom.

The Democrats — or the country — might need a compromise candidate!

Whitmer couldn't refuse the nomination if the delegates said yes to her as a compromise candidate.

It's all possible. Until it's not possible, the questions won't stop.

Is he out yet? Is she in yet?  
(Email Kyle Melinn of the Capitol news service MIRS at [melinnky@gmail.com](mailto:melinnky@gmail.com).)



**POLITICS**

# ARTS & CULTURE

## ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

### Tim Russ beams into Lansing for Capital City Comic Con

By KURT ANTHONY KRUG

More people know Tim Russ from his five-second scene in 1987's "Spaceballs" than his seven seasons as Tuvok in "Star Trek: Voyager," which ran from 1995 to 2001.

He played the trooper who shouts, "We ain't found shit!" while literally "combing" the desert with a giant Afro comb in director Mel Brooks' science-fiction parody.

"It was a day's worth of work. It was great working with (Brooks). I forgot about it after that. The check cleared, and we're on our way," Russ recalled. "Then, 30 years later, it becomes a bloody cult classic, and so does that moment in the movie and that line!"

Russ will appear at Capital City Comic Con on Saturday (July 13) and Sunday (July 14) at the Lansing Center as one of the two headline guests (Adrian Pasdar of "Heroes" is the other, along with several pro wrestlers, voiceover actors and comic creators). Based in Los Angeles, this marks his first time in Lansing.

Russ, who's also a musician and will have CDs for sale at his booth, is looking forward to the convention. He said events like this remind him of "how enthusiastic fans have been" for "Voyager."

"Lately, some of them have watched it for the first time, so it's crazy because it's been on for such a long time," he said. "The show has legs. It's interesting hearing the perspectives of those who just started watching the show, rather than the fans who've been marinating in it for 20 to 30 years."

There are no rules in showbiz, and they're strictly adhered to, Russ pointed out.

"There's nothing about this business that makes any sense whatsoever," he said. "There simply isn't. It's an art form, it's subjective, and it's unpredictable — that's just the way it is. You'll never be able to pin it down, it's never set in stone, it just does what it does. We're along for the ride."

He compared showbiz to alchemy. "It's putting all these pure elements together, and if you're lucky, it'll turn

out to be gold or diamond," he said. "You can't predict how it'll turn out, you can't predict what will happen, and you can't predict what the path will be."

Born in Washington, D.C., Russ spent the majority of his childhood abroad while his father served in the U.S. Air Force. He completed high school at Rome Free Academy in upstate New York, where he took acting classes and performed in musicals, which he found "exhilarating." He earned his bachelor's degree in theater arts from St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas, and completed graduate coursework at Illinois State University.

"When I came to L.A., I decided to pursue film and TV rather than going to New York to pursue stage," he said. "Mostly, it was financial. Working in film and television, I'm able to support myself much easier than I would've been trying to work on stage. It would've been equally competitive, but the payoff is bigger here."

Russ, whose first regular TV role was in the short-lived 1988 series "The Highwayman," auditioned for the roles of Geordi La Forge on "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and Dr. Julian Bashir on "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine." (The roles went to LeVar Burton and Alexander Siddig, respectively).

He appeared on various "Star Trek" shows as different characters before landing the role of Tuvok, the Vulcan security chief on "Voyager."

In the show, the titular starship,



Courtesy photo

Tim Russ, known for his role as Tuvok in "Star Trek: Voyager" and his brief cameo in the science-fiction parody film "Spaceballs," among other roles, will appear at Capital City Comic Con on Saturday (July 13) and Sunday (July 14).

commanded by Capt. Kathryn Janeway (Kate Mulgrew), attempts to return home to the Alpha quadrant after being stranded in the Delta quadrant on the far side of the galaxy.

"Kate is amazing. It's challenging to work with Kate. You better be on top of your lines because she never makes any mistakes with her dialogue. And I mean *ever*," Russ said, laughing. "You have to have it together when you have a scene with her. Otherwise, you'll be the only one holding up the whole process. She's very much the consummate professional. I enjoyed working with her."

He said "business" attracted him to the role of Tuvok.

"It was about the gig. I knew there was a good chance the series would stay on for several years," he said. "You can work 100 gigs, but it's always tricky — financially and career-wise — because those roles come and go. If you can get a project that'll be on awhile, you'll get not only what you make on the show, but also what you make in residuals for years after the show's over."

He also spoke about what makes Tuvok so popular.

"Vulcans are always popular because they're juxtaposed to humans, human conditions and human emotions. People like to watch that interaction, see the humans tweak him whenever they can. They want to see them get a rise out of him and see his reaction to something, even if it's very little," he explained. "Vulcans suppress their emotions, while humans don't. That's what people are fascinated by. They like this character who can control his feelings and emotions so specifically and so well, while humans cannot."

In 2023, Russ reprised his role as Tuvok, now a captain, on the final season of "Star Trek: Picard." He believed he was a better fit for Tuvok than

Geordi or Bashir, noting those roles "had a lot of techno-speak, which I'm not interested in."

"I wasn't interested in it then, and I'm not interested in it today — for any show. It does nothing for me," he said.

Next year, "Voyager" will celebrate its 30th anniversary.

"Time marches on inexorably," Russ said. "It doesn't feel like 30 years, doesn't seem like 30 years, except for the fact that I can't remember most of what I did, and that's because it's been 30 years! Most of it has evaporated by now. I can only remember bits and pieces. It almost seems like another lifetime to me."

#### Capital City Comic Con

3-8 p.m. Friday, July 12  
9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, July 13  
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, July 14  
Lansing Center  
333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing  
\$15-\$50 (children 14 and under free)  
capcitycomiccon.com

# Lansing is a prime spot to celebrate 710

By CHRIS SILVA

Happy heady holiday, fellow pot-heads! Today (June 10) marks another stoner cultural event: 710, a celebration of cannabis concentrates. When rotated 180 degrees, 710 spells out "OIL"; it's also the temperature early dabbers would take their hits of concentrate at (RIP my lungs).

Much like 420, this set of numbers has become both a designated time of day to smoke concentrates and a singular holiday. If you read this week's issue of City Pulse or almost any other outlet that allows cannabis advertising, you'll certainly see advertisements for the wild incentives retailers are offering to consumers.

This holiday is relatively new to the cannabis community. Since legalization, advances in vape and extraction technology, coupled with an increase in production capacity, have brought concentrates into heavy use among Michigan's stoners.

Today, disposable vapes and vape



Courtesy photo

With a plethora of discounts and sales on cannabis concentrates at local dispensaries, the 710 holiday is the ideal time to stock up. Lansing is stacked with companies producing world-class concentrates, from Lion Labs' Element (left), which offers some of the best solvent-based products, to Ice Cream Hash Co.'s solventless options.



Chris Silva for City Pulse



cartridges line dispensary shelves, along with old-school hash, live rosin and butane-extracted concentrates. Consumer tastes have shifted since legalization: Flower is definitely still king, but concentrate use is growing every day as consumers seek out potent options without the need for combustion.

Lansing is stacked with companies producing world-class concentrates, from Lion Labs' Element, which offers some of the best solvent-based products, to Ice Cream Hash Co.'s solventless options.

Along with great producers, we have some equally great retailers that have been selling concentrates since shortly after dabbing was invented. Shops like Pure Options have been carrying vape carts since there was a market for them. In the early years of Lansing's cannabis market, when caregiver shops were the only accessible option for pa-

See Lansterdam, Page 11

## A WIN-WIN

For 20 years, City Pulse has donated hundreds of dollars a year to the Ingham County Animal Shelter thanks to pet adoption ads sponsored by our readers. Thank you!

Won't you join them in 2024? An ad is \$35, and \$6 goes to the shelter so it can do its important work in placing dogs and cats in permanent homes.

**The next pet adoption ad appears on July 17  
Call by July 12 to be included.**



**Please help City Pulse help the Ingham County Animal Shelter. Call Publisher Berl Schwartz at (517) 999-5061 or email him at [publisher@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:publisher@lansingcitypulse.com) with "pet adoption" in the subject line. You'll be helping City Pulse and the shelter at the same time.**

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LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL  
OPPORTUNITY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION/EMPLOYER.

# Lansterdam

from page 10

tients, the city was a mecca for dabbers. It was one of the only places in the state where consumers could access concentrates, including life-saving Rick Simpson oil.

Some of the earliest concentrate brands hail from Lansing. In fact, back when High Times' Cannabis Cup was judged by industry members, many award-winning extract producers were located here. Butane extraction, the process that was used to produce most concentrates, was very prevalent in Lansing, and the city's lax attitude toward cannabis made it one of the best and most accessible markets in the state.

Speaking of accessibility, this holiday is the ideal time to stock up on all types of concentrates. If you've been reading this column regularly or even visited a dispensary recently, you know weed is cheap right now — so cheap that a lot of operators aren't making money. Increased production capacity for standard flower has also increased the capacity for fresh-frozen flower, the raw material for live rosin and resin. The result will be some of the cheapest prices on these products ever.

Folks who enjoy distillate vape carts should definitely make sure to stock up. The Cannabis Regula-

tory Agency recently indicated that it plans to ban MCT oil in vapes. At the same time, there's a lot of chatter that the CRA might be trying to close the loophole that has allowed many operators to bring unregulated delta-8 THC products into the legal market. When these two reforms hit, I expect the cost of distillate vape products to rise across the board for a significant period of time.

Our city has been and continues to be a pioneer in the legal industry, partially due to its proximity to the state Legislature. The CRA's administrative offices are also located in Lansing, and many of the extraction technicians and high-level staff members at CRA-licensed processing facilities around the state are Lansing natives.

Long story short, we have a lot of great hashheads around here — not just in the industry but in our consumers. I'm consistently impressed with your e-mails and questions, your preferences and your relentless demands of quality. No other city has a cannabis culture and consumer base like Lansing's. Our city has been pretty significant in the history of the state's concentrate industry, and I'm hopeful that as the market continues to mature and consumer preferences become ingrained, our ethos and preferences surrounding concentrates will continue to shine.

LANSING

Concerts in the Park 2024

DATE	BAND	LOCATION
June 12	Root Doctor	Moore's Park
June 19	Black Rock 101	Fenner Nature Center
June 26	Blues Ave Delegates	Bancroft Park
July 10	Frog & the Beeftones	Fulton Park
July 17	Sea Cruisers	Turner-Dodge House
July 24	Kathy Ford Band	Durant Park
July 31	Global Village	Riverfront Salt Shed
August 7	Tejano Sound	Frances Park

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CITY OF LANSING  
PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST  
FOR THE TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024 ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the public test of the program, which will be used for tabulating the results of the Election to be held Tuesday, August 6, 2024 in the City of Lansing, will be conducted at the Reo Elections Office located at 1221 Reo Road on Monday, July 22, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program used to tabulate the results of the election counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS  
Any registered voter may request an Absent Voter Ballot. No reason required.

We must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at [www.lansingvotes.gov](http://www.lansingvotes.gov) or by calling 517-483-4131.

The Lansing City Clerk's Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave., 9th Floor, will be open Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

The Reo Elections Office, 1221 Reo Road, will be open:

- Weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
- Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Saturday, August 3, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Sunday, August 4, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

to register voters and to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

Friday, August 2, 2024 at 5:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot be mailed to you.

Monday, August 5, 2024 at 4:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot in person, except for those who register to vote on Election Day.

Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, August 6, 2024, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk's Office or the Reo Elections Office.

Chris Swope, MMC/MIPMC  
Lansing City Clerk  
Phone: 517-483-4131  
Email: [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov)  
Website: [www.lansingvotes.gov](http://www.lansingvotes.gov)  
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CP#24-575



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

The Capital Base Ball Club of Lansing on Jackson Field last week before a game against the Monitor Base Ball Club of Chelsea.

# When camaraderie mattered 'Base ball' as it used to be played

By **DAWN PARKER**

Doug Hart of Lake Orion and his friend Jim Bradford of Rochester received a special surprise when they arrived early last week at Jackson Field: a vintage “base ball” game before the Lansing Lugnuts took the field.

“It’s interesting to compare the rules to the current game,” Bradford said as they watched the Capital Base Ball Club of Lansing take on the Monitor Base Ball Club of Chelsea. “Though, it’s not surprising that some rules are no longer in the game.”

While Hart, who said he played baseball in college, said he might have considered joining the Capitals were it 10 years ago, chances are “not very likely” now.

“Those are good players out there,” he added.

What was baseball like 160 years ago?

No highly paid stars here, or even young phenoms on their way up — just ordinary folks who come together for the love of the game, no matter the era.

The Capitals are part of the Vintage Base Ball Association. There are 16 clubs in Michigan, with the majority in the Detroit area and on the state’s west side.

The history of vintage baseball dates back nearly as far as the mythical mid-19th-century origination of baseball in the U.S. by Abner Doubleday. There is ample evidence our Canadian cousins played “base ball” in 1793, some 40 years earlier.

The VBBA is based on an organization established in 1845. The original Capital Club of Lansing was founded on April 10, 1865.

The Capitals were among the top clubs in the state, according to Lan-

sing captain Michael E. Jarema, alongside Detroit and Jackson. At the sport’s peak, Michigan had at least 241 clubs across 117 cities.

The Greenfield Village-based Lah-De-Dahs, founded in 1993, are the oldest of the current clubs in Michigan. The new Capitals are just 4 years old, but their popularity is rocketing faster than a line drive

Besides the Jackson Field game, the Capitals have some special games on their schedule this summer, most notably a trip to Dyersville, Iowa, to play on the Field of Dreams (think the 1989 movie with Kevin Costner).

Whenever and wherever the modern game started, one thing’s for sure: becoming a fan is easy.

Vintage base ball has recognizable

ing tournament later this month at Frances Park in Lansing.

Among other rules, a hit ball is determined fair or foul based on where it first hits the ground, not whether it crosses first or third base. And runners may not advance on a ball caught on the fly but may attempt a ball caught on one bounce — at their own risk.

The score isn’t the focus. During a recent game, one of the Lansing players vaguely said, “2-1, at least.”

One difference is the scratchy uniforms, which are uncomfortable enough in high summer for Capitals players to have recently invested in lighter-weight shirts.

Then there are nicknames, like “Cutter” or “Mustang,” Abreu said. Players choose their sobriquets based on something important to them.

The East Lansing resident is known as “Professor” because “I like to teach and educate.” Abreu taught social studies and Spanish in the Battle Creek Pennfield Schools before his current position as a training coordinator for an Okemos software company.

The newer nickname replaced “Clipper” for “how fast I moved through the outfield grass.” He plays mainly in the outfield but will take up other positions as needed.

Like many Capitals, Abreu hadn’t played since his school days. True to his background, what keeps him playing is the chance to teach.

“It is always fun at games to show off the bats and balls we use to new cranks (fans) and discuss the differences in rules and strategy we have against the modern game,” Abreu said.

Sportsmanship is another powerful attraction. When asked, players from one team often fill in on oth-



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

Team captains: (L) Michael “Cutter” Jarema of the Lansing Capitals, (R) “Honest Jon” Van Hoek of the Chelsea Monitors.

down the third-base line.

Lugnuts fans who hit the park early Wednesday got a good taste of the vintage game.

Capitals players like East Lansing’s Ben Abreu were delighted with the Jackson Field experience on July 3.

“It’s awesome to be able to play in an actual stadium and see some more fans out there,” Abreu said.

elements from the modern game but has some unique rules. Wednesday’s game was played by 1864 rules, but there are also 1867 rules.

It’s a lot more laid back. There aren’t any bench-clearing brawls in vintage base ball — heck, there usually aren’t any benches! A common sight is a string of camp chairs at games, like the Capitals’ upcom-



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

The Capitals' Caleb "Bandit" Lewis makes a play down the first-base line.



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

Seth "Sizzle" Rosen turns a double play to first base.



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

The iron hands of shortstop Aiden "Hatchet" Hanchett handle a hard-hit grounder for Lansing.

er teams so they might have a complete roster.

"Players on both sides are there to compete but also to celebrate the plays of each team and, most importantly, to have fun!" Abreu said.

Captain Jarema is the team's most enthusiastic cheerleader, and the one with the unlikeliest background.

Before the summer of 2020, when he went to watch a friend play with the Bay City Independents, Jarema said his only sports experience was playing T-ball as a child.

Watching a friend who played, Jarema became "increasingly enraptured" with the game.

"I was enamored with the attitude of the sport," Jarema said.

"Everyone was trying their hardest — don't get me wrong — but everybody seemed like friends out there, congratulating the opposing club for impressive plays and making jokes between pitches.

"Sometimes a runner on base would miss a good chance to steal the next one because he'd been caught up in conversation with the fielder next to him. I heard a lot of laughter."

Observing players of all ages and skill levels, "for the first time, I



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

This ball will be taking the express lane to left field.

didn't feel intimidated by the notion of playing a sport," Jarema said.

"I didn't feel like my lack of experience would invalidate me as a participant or make my teammates

loathe my at-bats. Instead, I thought, 'Well, heck, this is something I could do.' It's very accessible and very welcoming."



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

Lansing's Matt "Counselor" Hall is is headin' home!



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

Capitals celebrate a victory in their debut match at Jackson Field.



Dawn Parker for City Pulse

East Lansing resident Ben Abreu, also known as "Professor," showed curious new fans some of the equipment used during games like Wednesday's (July 3) contest against Chelsea at Jackson Field.



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**CityPULSE**

## TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene

BY RICH TUPICA

### VENUE SPOTLIGHT: THE ROBIN THEATRE

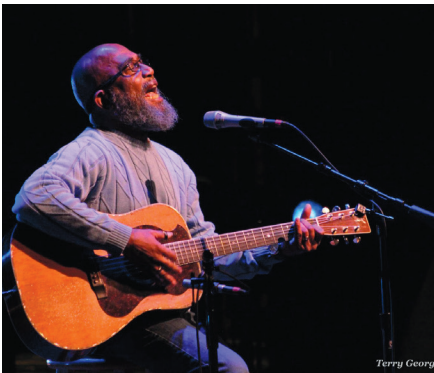


Photo by Terry Georgia



Courtesy photo

Josh White Jr. (left) and the Faux Paws are just two of the shows happening at the Robin Theatre this month.

### REO Town fixture boasts a busy July calendar

Located in a century-old storefront in the heart of REO Town, the Robin Theatre isn't your typical music venue. The unique space, founded in 2015 by Dylan Rogers and Jeana-Dee Allen, is more of an eclectic listening room that hosts diverse events. There's something for everyone, from music and comedy to film festivals, plays, poetry readings and more. Over the years, Dom Flemons, May Erlewine and the Crane Wives have all performed at the intimate theater, and this month, the 60-person-capacity room will be filled with even more talent. For the full calendar, visit [therobintheatre.com](http://therobintheatre.com). To learn what's happening this month, read on. Oh, and for those who are thirsty, you can "BYOB" from Sleepwalker Spirits and Ale, located next door to the venue.

#### The Faux Paws

Thursday, July 11

7:30 p.m. doors, 8 p.m. show

\$20 in advance, \$25 at the door

Unleashing an upbeat concoction of rustic folk, traditional bluegrass and even some jazzy elements, the Faux Paws' live show is both old-timey and contemporary but consistently tight and top-notch. The trio, comprising brothers Andrew and Noah VanNorstrand and Grammy-nominated multi-instrumentalist Chris Miller, delivers the goods with fiery fiddle, mandolin, guitar and saxophone playing.

Aside from its intricate melodies, the band offers soaring vocal harmonies and virtuoso-level impro-

visations. Beefing up its sound, the band added upright bassist Zoe Guigueno to its summer and fall tour, which includes dates at a handful of folk festivals across the country.

The Faux Paws' 2021 self-titled album was named one of the 10 best traditional albums of the year by Folk Alley. Last year, the band issued the "Backburner" EP. Both can be streamed at [thefauxpaws.bandcamp.com](http://thefauxpaws.bandcamp.com). Of course, you can also hear the songs live on Thursday (July 11) at the Robin.

#### Josh White Jr. & Jack Hamilton

July 17

7 p.m. doors, 7:30 p.m. show

\$20 in advance

For decades, Grammy-nominated recording artist Josh White Jr., 83, has carried on the musical legacy of his legendary bluesman father, the late Josh White, who died in 1969 at age 55. On July 17, the junior White brings his family traditions to the Robin Theatre.

The first time he was on stage, in 1944, he performed alongside his father at Café Society in New York City. He was only 4 years old at the time. By age 9, he was performing in Broadway's "How Long Till Summer." The youngster won a special Tony Award for his performance. Of course, he didn't stop there. His solo recording debut was 1956's "See Saw," issued on Decca Records. In the 1960s, he became a staple in the college tour circuit and even landed a 1979 PBS concert special. Shortly after, he portrayed his father in an



Courtesy photo

The Robin Theatre is an intimate venue in REO Town housed in a century-old storefront.

on-stage musical biography.

Since then, he's continued to release records and tour the country, often stopping in the Lansing area. If you're interested in blues history and hearing stone-cold classics like "St. James Infirmary" live and in person, you might want to consider advance tickets for this small-capacity show. White will be joined on stage by his friend Jack Hamilton, a singer-songwriter.

#### The Mike Geeter & Friends Comedy Show

July 18

7:30 p.m. doors, 8 p.m. show

\$25 or two tickets for \$40

Detroit comic Mike Geeter is not only funny — he's engaging and has something to say. Check out his TEDx Talk, "Next! Finding Your Center & Forgetting About Failure," for proof of that. Geeter has worked at comedy venues nationwide, sharing mics with A-listers like Hannibal Buress, Jim Norton, Artie Lange, Rickie Smiley and Natasha Leggero.

His upcoming show at the Robin features not only his smooth, conversational humor but also the side-splitting bits of fellow comics Steve Sabo and Cam Rowe. Sabo is known for his edgy, angry and honest takes, with the common thread being hilarity. Sabo has made crowds of over 5,000 people laugh while sharing stages with comedy titans like Joan Rivers, Chris Rock, Kevin James, Dave Attell, Jim Breuer and more. He's also been featured on HBO, NBC and Comedy Central. Meanwhile, Cam "Big Fella" Rowe — who stands 6 feet, 9 inches tall — has also made a name for himself nationally on television shows like "Storage Hunters" and "Comedy Bang! Bang!"

#### Reuben Stump: The Send-Off Concert

July 25

7:30 p.m. doors, 8 p.m. show

\$10

Lansing-based musician Reuben

Stump will soon need to update his resume to say "Chicago-based." The jazz bassist and composer is moving this fall to pursue his music career, but before he leaves, he's performing a send-off concert, backed by local trio Hedda and the Skat Kats.

Stump was raised on early jazz and the Great American Songbook. Under the mentorship of University of Michigan Associate Professor of music Robert Hurst, he also gravitated toward bebop, fusion and funk. In July 2022, he released his debut EP, "Stump Jump!" The seven-track disc was recorded during his last semester of college at the U of M. To sample Stump's jazzy chops, stream the EP at [reubenstump.bandcamp.com](http://reubenstump.bandcamp.com).

#### The Poetry Room: "Let's Go!" Listening Party

July 27

7 p.m. doors, 7:30 p.m. show

\$20

A reading by the poets featured in the Poetry Room's upcoming book release, "Let's Go," this event features a special performance by Chev, an award-winning slam poet representing the United States at the World Poetry Slam. Also performing at the listening party are Melissa Margo Black, Mary Fox, Lansing Poet Laureate Ruelaine Stokes and former Lansing Poet Laureate Dennis Hinrichsen, to name a few. Pre-orders for printed copies of "Let's Go" will be available.

Masaki Takahashi, former Lansing poet laureate and founder of the Poetry Room, will also perform at the event. Takahashi's bio reads, "The Poetry Room started in 2017 when my friend Dylan Rogers asked me if I would be interested in starting an open mic at the Robin Theatre. We found ourselves an awesome new community." For more information on the Poetry Room, visit [the517poetryroom.com](http://the517poetryroom.com).

# Young entrepreneurs peddle kicks at East Lansing's House of Soles

By TYLER SCHNEIDER



Twin brothers Lonnie and Lennie Smith, 19, began collecting, selling and trading sneakers in 2018, during their freshman year at Haslett High School.

## House of Soles

543 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing  
Noon-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday  
(517) 619-9915  
house-of-soles.square.site

When they turned 16, they started looking for jobs to help save up for their first cars. Their mother, Nadia Sellers,

herself the CEO of a few local companies, encouraged them to try and turn their shoe-selling passion into a steady stream of revenue.

In 2020, the twins leased their first brick-and-mortar space in Okemos, branding the business House of Soles.

"At the time, there weren't a lot of resale shoe stores in the area," Lonnie Smith said. "There are a few more now, but at the time, you had to go to the west side of Lansing or elsewhere. Our goal was to create a safe haven for kids to be able to come in, vibe, look at different shoes and have fun."

Seeking space for additional growth, the twins moved their operation to a 1,900-square-foot space in downtown East Lansing in 2022. Lonnie Smith said they "never really got a proper grand opening," and they felt it was necessary to hold a grand re-opening event on May 11 to continue to get the word out.

"A lot of people were coming in and saying, 'Wow, I've never heard of your store.' We never really got that coverage, so that's why we did the grand re-opening," he said.

The re-opening was accompanied by some new offerings, including shoe restoration and custom design services that can be booked in-store with Jamari Peete of Big Peete Restorations. In August, Kenny Eaton will begin leasing part of the shop's north end to sell vintage clothing and apparel through his brand, Retro Royalty.

House of Soles stocks more than 200 pairs of shoes at any given time. About a quarter of them are second-hand, while a handful of pairs are displayed on consignment.

The shop has also started offering

apparel, such as shorts, T-shirts and hats, which stemmed from Lonnie's decision to study fashion design at Central Michigan University.

This fall, Lennie will take over many of the responsibilities at the shop as Lonnie heads back to Mount Pleasant for his junior year of college. While he's gone, Lonnie hopes to see more new customers discover what House of Soles has to offer.

"People should know that we're very welcoming. They don't even have to buy anything. They can just come in and vibe, chill with us and talk about sports or whatever," he said.



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Lonnie Smith, 19, poses in front of some of the hundreds of pairs of shoes available at House of Soles, a business he formed with his twin brother, Lennie, in 2020. They've since expanded into a space in downtown East Lansing, where they held a grand re-opening event on May 11.

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MSU FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

# Williamston Theatre deftly balances humor and gravitas in 'Predictor'

By MARY CUSACK

On paper, the development of the first pregnancy test doesn't seem like a compelling premise for a play. However, Williamston Theatre's production of "Predictor" is one of the funniest and most touching shows of Greater Lansing's 2023-'24 theater season.

Today, a woman can buy a two-pack of pregnancy tests for less than \$10 and find out in 15 minutes if she's pregnant. We take for granted how cheap, simple, private and empowering it is to have at-home pregnancy tests, but "Predictor" reminds us that not so long ago, a woman needed her husband's permission to get a pregnancy test, it was done through a doctor, and it took weeks to get the results.

Based on true events, "Predictor" tells the story of Meg Crane (Caitlin Cavannaugh), a graphic designer hired by a pharmaceutical company in the late 1960s to manage a line of aloe vera products. Following a tour of the company's lab, she's struck with the idea of creating an at-home pregnancy test. As she pursues its development, she faces challenges from every establishment, including corporate culture, patriarchal attitudes, religion and politics.

That might not sound like a good time at the theater, but playwright Jennifer Blackmer has crafted an amazingly entertaining script by utilizing pop-culture elements of the 1960s and '70s.

One could compare the style of "Predictor" to the recent Netflix movie "Unfrosted," which employs extreme



Photo by Jeromy Hopgood

From left: Kamara Miller Drane, James Kuhl, Chris Purchis and Mona Eldahshoury in Williamston Theatre's production of "Predictor," by Jennifer Blackmer.

absurdity to tell the story of how Pop-Tarts were developed. However, "Predictor" is the superior work because it balances absurdity with gravitas.

Scenes flip quickly between Crane's external life, her childhood memories and her imagination. It's quite the imagination: Elements of game shows, sitcoms, news programs and educational films reflect Crane's internal dialogue. Six actors serve as the "chorus," each keenly switching between multiple characters.

The entire ensemble is solid, but a few standout moments deserve highlighting. Mona Eldahshoury is a firebrand as Crane's roommate, constantly pushing her toward independence and

reminding her of the importance of her project. Eldahshoury also delivers one of the play's most heartbreaking performances as Lillian, a quietly desperate woman from the company's typing pool who seeks Crane's help.

Another devastating scene occurs in flashback when Crane's mother (Kamara Miller Drane) is informed of her first pregnancy. Ryan Patrick Welsh's portrayal of the doddering old doctor is hilarious, peppering his patient with advice while Drane sits in a daze, doubt and fear playing out across her face.

Welsh provides some explosive action as Jack Mullins, a chauvinistic company man who can't stand challenges to his authority. Welsh and Tobin Hissong have two of the juiciest roles as narrators for an educational film on menstruation, which is playing in Crane's head as she falls for ad-

vertising executive Ira (James Kuhl).

The play's design team has created a groovy environment, incorporating Jeromy Hopgood's stylish background projections, Thalia Lara's hip set and Shannon T. Schweitzer's skillful lighting. Another key design element is Mona Jahani's costuming, especially one colorful costume change symbolizing Crane's growing empowerment.

In a YouTube interview, Blackmer noted that the U.S. Supreme Court's 2022 reversal of Roe v. Wade accelerated her completion of the play because it was important to get "Predictor" out into the world. She's right, it is an important story. Despite some adult language and uncomfortable topics, this play is a perfect cautionary tale to show young adults how far we've come as a society and how far back we could go come Nov. 5.



Review

## "Predictor"

Through Aug. 4  
8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday  
2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday; July 24 and 31  
Williamston Theatre  
122 S. Putnam St., Williamston  
(517) 655-7469  
williamstontheatre.org

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# Fictional Michigan beach town the setting for chart-topping summer romance

By **BILL CASTANIER**

One of this summer's hot beach reads is "Funny Story," by Cincinnati-area romance writer Emily Henry, who not only attended college in Michigan but set the book in a fictional Michigan beach town.

The book revolves around two pairs of lovers who split up and end up swapping partners. Daphne and Peter are nearing their wedding date when Peter invites his childhood friend, the glamorous Petra, to his bachelor party. The two decide they're in love, and the wedding is off for Daphne and Peter and on for Petra and Peter.

Petra moves in with Peter, and Daphne finds herself in the lurch, so she and Petra's ex-boyfriend Miles become roommates. After some margaritas, Miles and Daphne play the roommates-in-love game, with a fictitious wedding on the horizon to make their former partners jealous.

Throw in some unusual parents, a few wacky friends and Miles' couch-surfing sister, and you have a "Three's Company"-esque comedy. Henry also brings the heat — body heat, that is — midway through the book. Her former administrators at Hope College, a small Christian university in Holland, Michigan, would blush.

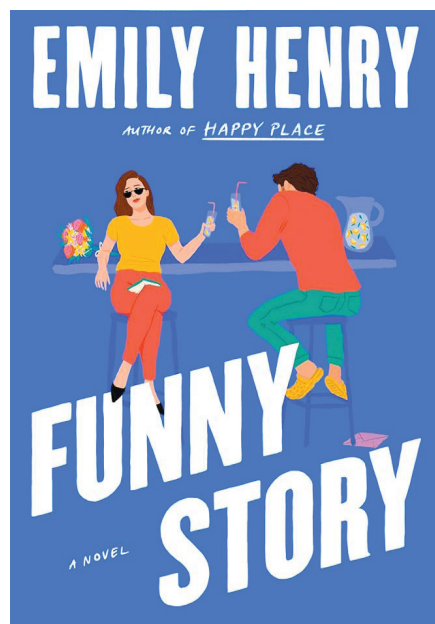
Daphne is a children's librarian, and Miles works at a winery. Petra and Peter, on the other hand, have a rich, high-society vibe — you know, boat shoes and pink pants. As you might expect, Miles and Daphne find love, but Henry knows how to make the old saying "too thick won't stick" play out

in this delightful summer read.

Henry has a way of making absurd plots like this believable. Friends I talked with cited similar circumstances with couples they know.

Henry is unlike most romance writers, who bleed for publicity. She lives a reclusive life, never going on book tours or making TikTok videos. She just writes. In an era where musicians and authors share every aspect of their lives online, it's a refreshing approach.

I requested an interview with Henry, but after some polite emails, her publisher declined. Since two of her books are set in Lake Michigan beach towns, I wanted to ask her several questions: Does she have a place on Lake Michigan? Does she summer here? Does she wear boat shoes?



Elisabeth Egan of The New York Times Book Review recently published a profile on Henry and her writing. What it didn't include was any personal details.

What we do know is that she's a tremendously successful romance author who has dominated The New York Times' best-seller list for several years.

In the article, Egan writes about Henry's anti-celebrity persona: "Emily Henry has never been on a book tour or done a traditional bookstore reading. She's not on TikTok. Her Instagram features book covers and an occasional giveaway; there are no closet tours, rescue cats or elegantly plated snacks."

Egan neglected to mention that a Google search will turn up little in the way of a biography of Henry. Her website says next to nothing, and a short article on her alma mater's website says she was an English major who graduated in 2012.

Despite that, her newest book has been sitting on The New York Times' best-seller list for 10 weeks. A previous novel, "Happy Place," is set to be adapted into a Netflix series, according to Egan.

The article reveals that Henry was previously a technical writer and authored young-adult novels on the side. Her first adult book exploded into popularity despite being published



Courtesy photo

Romance writer Emily Henry is no stranger to The New York Times' best-seller list, publishing five No. 1 best-sellers in the past four years. Her new book, "Funny Story," has been on the list for 10 weeks.

during the COVID lockdowns. I guess it was the right time for a breezy romance novel.

In many ways, Henry's homebody attitude must make things easier for her publisher's publicists. Beyond a handful of interviews, they don't have to bother with complex tours, Facebook updates or much else.

Henry could wander into a Trader Joe's, and it's likely no one would recognize her. She looks a little like Debbie Harry, but she didn't go for the typical glamor pose in her book jacket photo. She's got the Cormac McCarthy vibe going for her — he was notably an anti-publicity kind of guy. Of course, he didn't write romance.

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Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Tidy Up” -- an apt puzzle.  
by Matt Jones  
© 2024 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
- 1. Fencing sword
  - 6. Like used briquettes
  - 10. Add-ons in the self-checkout lane?
  - 14. Slangy summons
  - 15. Fencing sword
  - 16. Alike, in Avignon
  - 17. Single file
  - 19. Long ride?
  - 20. Front-of-book list, for short
  - 21. Fails to be
  - 22. Ab-building exercise
  - 23. Bombarded, Biblical-style
  - 27. Poem with a dedicatee
  - 28. Top of the mouth
  - 29. Forearm bone
  - 32. “I \_\_\_ reason why ...”
  - 34. Portrayed
  - 37. Action seen in “The Hunt for Red October”
  - 41. “Abbott Elementary” principal
  - 42. Crates
  - 43. Pretentious, as some paintings
  - 44. Org. that works with the JPL
  - 45. Blu-ray player predecessor
  - 47. Lyric from Hall & Oates
  - 53. Picked
  - 54. Astronaut’s beverage
  - 55. Classic Japanese drama form
  - 57. Jabba the \_\_\_
  - 58. Interlocks, like what each theme

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	46				
		47	48					49	50		51	52		
53						54					55		56	
57					58	59					60			
61					62					63				
64					65					66				

- answer does?
- 61. Title figure in a Scott Turow book
  - 62. Pound, for one
  - 63. “You’re All \_\_\_ to Get By”
  - 64. Small spot on a globe
  - 65. Like doilies
  - 66. Ancient Scandinavians

- DOWN
- 1. Tam wearer
  - 2. Response to “Are too!”
  - 3. Firewood wood
  - 4. Notable period
  - 5. Laced again
  - 6. Insurance company named after a mountain
  - 7. \_\_\_ bars (raps)
  - 8. Dress line
  - 9. “ \_\_\_-haw!”
  - 10. Conviction

- 11. Antsy feeling
- 12. Full range
- 13. Pig feed
- 18. “... even \_\_\_ speak”
- 22. Hoity-toity type
- 24. Wander
- 25. Peaches and pears, e.g.
- 26. “Game of Thrones” actress Chaplin
- 29. Letters on Forever stamps
- 30. Sweetie, to Brits
- 31. Org. that has guards
- 32. Wakeup hour, for some
- 33. Ethyl or methyl follower
- 34. 1812 event
- 35. Do something
- 36. Field in a jigsaw puzzle, often
- 38. Cheapen
- 39. “The Horse Fair” painter Bonheur
- 40. Acidic
- 44. Quik maker
- 45. Big name in set diagrams
- 46. Coop up
- 47. Cold-shoulders
- 48. Monopoly buy
- 49. Storage spot
- 50. Awful, like some colds
- 51. Key near the double-quotes
- 52. Dramatis personae
- 53. Former “Top Chef Masters” host Kelly
- 56. Robert Louis Stevenson villain
- 58. Ending for spoon or scorn
- 59. TV chef Garten
- 60. “That’s \_\_\_ brainer”

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Answers on page 23

SUDOKU

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

Intermediate

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 Brezsný

July 10-16, 2024

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** I trust that your intuition has been guiding you to slow down and disappear from the frenzied, agitated bustle that everyone seems to be addicted to. I hope you have afforded yourself the luxury and privilege of exulting in the thrill of doing absolutely nothing. Have you been taking long breaks to gaze lovingly at the sky and listen to music that moves you to tears? Have you been studying the children and animals in your life to learn more about how to thrive on non-goal-oriented fun? Have you given your imagination permission to fantasize with abandon about wild possibilities? Homework: Name three more ways to fuel your self-renewal.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Actress Carrie Fisher placed a strong priority on being both amused and amusing. For her, almost everything that happened was tolerable, even welcome, as long as it was entertaining. She said, “If my life wasn’t funny, it would just be true, and that’s unacceptable.” I recommend you experiment with those principles, Taurus. Be resourceful as you make your life as humorously interesting as possible. If you do, life will conspire to assist you in being extra amused and amusing.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** As you charge into the upcoming period of self-reinvention, don’t abandon and forget about your past completely. Some of your old emotional baggage might prove useful and soulful. A few of your challenging memories may serve as robust motivators. On the other hand, it will be healthy to leave behind as much oppressive baggage and as many burdensome memories as possible. You are launching the next chapter of your life story! Travel as lightly as you can.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Even though you and I were both born under the sign of Cancer the Crab, I have a taboo against advising you to be like me. I love my life, but I’m not so naïve or arrogant as to think that what has worked for me will also work for you. Now, however, I will make a temporary exception to my policy. Amazingly, the astrological omens suggest you will flourish in the coming weeks by being at least somewhat like me. Therefore, I invite you to experiment with being kind and sensitive but also cheerfully irreverent and tenderly wild. Be on the lookout for marvels and miracles, but treasure critical thinking and rational analysis. Don’t take things too personally or seriously; regard the whole world as a holy gift. Be gratefully and humbly in awe as you tune into how beautiful and wonderful you are.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** More than 3,700 years ago, a craftsperson living in what’s now Israel fashioned a comb from an elephant’s tusk. It was a luxury item with two sides: one used to smooth hair tangles and the other to remove lice. On the handle of the ivory tool was an inscription: “May this tusk root out the lice of the hair and the beard.” This is the oldest known sentence ever written in Canaanite, a language that created the world’s first alphabet. In some ways, then, this comb is a precious object. It is unspeakably ancient evidence of a major human innovation. In another way, it’s mundane and prosaic. I’m nominating the comb to be a symbol for your story in the coming weeks: a blend of monumental and ordinary. Drama may emerge from the routine. Breakthroughs may happen in the midst of everyday matters.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Some astrologers assert that Virgos are modest, humble and reluctant to shine. But a Virgo New Yorker named Ashrita Furman provides contrary evidence. His main activity in life is to break records. He holds the Guinness World Record for having broken the most Guinness World Records. His first came in 1979 when he did 27,000 jumping jacks. Since then, he has set hundreds of records, including the fastest time running on stilts, the longest time juggling objects underwater and the most times jumping rope on a pogo stick. I propose to make him your spirit creature for the coming weeks. What acts of bold self-expression are you ready to make, Virgo? What records are you primed to break?

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Libran author Diane Ackerman says, “We can’t enchant the world, which makes its own magic, but we can enchant ourselves by paying deep attention.” I’m telling you this, dear Libra, because you now have exceptional power to pay deep attention and behold far more than usual of the world’s magic. It’s the Season of Enchantment for you. I invite you to be daring and imaginative as you probe for the delightful amazements that are often hidden just below the surface of things. Imagine you have the superpower of X-ray vision.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** If I’m reading the astrological omens correctly, you are in the midst of major expansion. You are reaching further, opening wider and dreaming bigger. You are exploring frontiers, entertaining novel possibilities and daring to transcend your limitations and expectations. And I am cheering you on as you grow beyond your previous boundaries. One bit of advice: Some people in your life may find it challenging to follow you freely into your new territory. They may be afraid you’re leaving them behind, or they may not be able to adjust as fast as you wish. I suggest you give them some slack. Allow them to take the time they need to get accustomed to your growth.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Sagittarian actor Jeff Bridges has wise words for you to heed: “If you wait to get all the information you think you need before you act, you’ll never act because there’s an infinite amount of information out there.” I think this advice is especially appropriate for you right now. Why? Because you will thrive on making strong, crisp decisions and undertaking strong, crisp actions. The time for pondering possibilities must give way to implementing possibilities.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** People may be attracted to you in the coming weeks because they unconsciously or not-so-unconsciously want to be influenced, stirred up and even changed by your presence. They hope you will be the catalyst or medicine they need. Or maybe they want you to provide them with help they haven’t been able to give themselves or get anywhere else. Please be aware that this may not always be a smooth and simple exchange. Some folks might be demanding. Others may absorb and integrate your effects in ways that are different from your intentions. But I still think it’s worthwhile for you to offer your best efforts. You could be a force for healing and benevolence.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Sometimes, when gifts arrive in our lives, they are not recognized as gifts. We may even mistake them for obstacles. In a worst-case scenario, we reject and refuse them. I am keen on helping you avoid this behavior in the coming weeks, Aquarius. In the oracle you’re now reading, I hope to convince you to expand your definition of what gifts look like. I will also ask you to widen the range of where you search for gifts and to enlarge your expectations of what blessings you deserve. Now please meditate on the following riddles: 1. a shadow that reveals the hidden light; 2. a twist that heals; 3. a secret that no longer wants to be secret; 4. a shy ally who will reward your encouragement; 5. a boon that’s barely buried and just needs you to scrape away the deceptive surface.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Lake Baikal in Russia is the world’s deepest and oldest lake. It’s also the largest by volume. It contains more than 22% of the fresh surface water on the planet. I propose we make this natural marvel your prime symbol for the next 11 months. At your best, you, too, will be deep, fresh and enduring. And, like Lake Baikal, you will be exceptionally clear. (Its underwater visibility reaches 120 feet.) PS: Thousands of plant and animal species thrive in this vital hub. I expect you will also be a source of richly diverse life, dear Pisces.

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

# OUT on the TOWN

## Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

### Wednesday, July 10

**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).

**Avoiding Legal Consequences for Parents & College-Bound Students** - Litigators Bryan Cermak and Alex Rusek discuss how to avoid potential legal challenges to ensure a safe and smooth school year. Noon. Virtual — register at [bit.ly/2ndWeds2024](https://bit.ly/2ndWeds2024).

**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](https://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](https://grandledgechamber.com/coffee_and_conversation.php).

**Eaton County Fair** - SJO Motocross at 7 p.m. at the grandstand. 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Eaton County Fairgrounds, 1025 S. Cochran Road, Charlotte. [eatoncountyfair.com](https://eatoncountyfair.com).

**Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group** - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. [meridian-50plus.com](https://meridian-50plus.com).

**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](https://ruhalacenter.com).

**It's Elementary: Camping** - Learn about the science of fire, "stargaze" with marshmallow constellations, build a solar oven to make s'mores and more! Grades 3-6. Registration req. 2:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. [charlottelibrary.org](https://charlottelibrary.org).

**Lansing Concerts in the Park: Frog & the Beef-tones (blues rock), with Special Guests Tom & Mary** - Free. 7 p.m. Fulton Park, 4300 Sheffield Blvd., Lansing. [lansingmi.gov/994/Concerts-in-the-Park](https://lansingmi.gov/994/Concerts-in-the-Park).

**"Let's Give Them Something to Talk About"** - Exhibit of 31 original works by local artists Doug and Susan Smith. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. [cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos](https://cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos).

**Life Drawing** - Drawing session with a clothed model or still life. Facilitated by a teaching artist. Ages 13+. 6 p.m. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. [reachstudioart.org](https://reachstudioart.org).

**Meridian Summer Concert Series: Street Angels (Stevie Nicks tribute)** - 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).

**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. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. [lamc.info](https://lamc.info).

**Portland Sounds of Summer Concert Series: We Three Strings** - Free. 7 p.m. Two Rivers Park, 201 Divine Hwy., Portland. [facebook.com/MiPortland-Downtown](https://facebook.com/MiPortland-Downtown).

**Read Between the Wines Book Club** - We'll delve into "The Bordeaux Book Club," by Gillian Harvey. Glasses of wine \$1 off. 5:30 p.m. Burgdorf's Winery, 5635 Shoeman Road, Haslett. 517-655-2883. [burgdorfwinery.com](https://burgdorfwinery.com).

**Samia Halaby: "Eye Witness"** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](https://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**Shoe Art** - Join us for a shoe-painting extravaganza where you can turn ordinary shoes into wearable art! Grades 4-12. Registration req. 4 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. [eradl.org](https://eradl.org).

**Solarize East Lansing** - Educational program to help Lansing-area residents learn about solar electric systems. 7 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. [absolutesolar.com/solar-energy/solarize-your-community](https://absolutesolar.com/solar-energy/solarize-your-community).

**St. Johns Concerts in the Park: Capitol City Chordsmen (barbershop chorus)** - Free. 7 p.m. St. Johns City Park, 801 W. Park St., St. Johns. [facebook.com/StJohnsCityParkPerformanceShell](https://facebook.com/StJohnsCityParkPerformanceShell).

**Summer Vibes Karaoke** - 8-11 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. [lansing-shuffle.com](https://lansing-shuffle.com).

**Weaving the Web: Energy** - Join us online or in person every Wednesday for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. [weaversoftheweb.org](https://weaversoftheweb.org).

**Wednesday Yoga on Albert** - Hosted by Yoga State. Bring a yoga mat. Free. 9:30 a.m. Albert EL Fresco, corner of M.A.C. Avenue and Albert Street, East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](https://cityofeastlansing.com).

**Zoo Days** - Visit the zoo for just \$2, plus enjoy free parking! 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. [potter-parkzoo.org](https://potter-parkzoo.org).

### Thursday, July 11

**"Always Different, Always the Same" Opening Reception** - We'll host a discussion with the artist, Mike Ross, at 6 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public. 5-7 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. [lansingartgallery.org](https://lansingartgallery.org).

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

**Beal Botanical Garden Tour: Interesting and Toxic Plants** - Join Peter Carrington, former curator and collections manager, to learn about some of his favorite plants housed at Beal. 12:10 p.m. 330 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. [bealbotanicalgarden.msu.edu](https://bealbotanicalgarden.msu.edu).

**Charlotte Summer Concerts on the Square: Home-spun (country)** - Free. 6:30 p.m. 1885 Eaton County Courthouse lawn, 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. [facebook.com/charlottechamberofcommerce](https://facebook.com/charlottechamberofcommerce).

**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).

**DeWitt Concerts in the Park: Life Support (variety)** - Free. 7 p.m. Riverside Park, 315 S. Bridge St., DeWitt. [dewittareacc.org/event/concerts-in-the-park](https://dewittareacc.org/event/concerts-in-the-park).

### ScrapFest

5-9 p.m. Friday, July 12

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

Turner Street, Old Town



ScrapFest, an annual art festival focusing on upcycled and repurposed artwork, returns to Turner Street in Old Town 5 to 9 p.m. Friday (July 12) and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday (July 13). Celebrating its 14th year, the event began as a scrap metal artwork competition and has grown to include art vendors, family activities, live music, food, an 8K run/walk and a fashion show.

Teams of local artists have created scrap metal sculptures that will be displayed throughout the two-day event. The pieces are being sold in a silent auction on the festival's website, [scrapfest.com/scrapfest-14-sculptures](https://scrapfest.com/scrapfest-14-sculptures). Bidding will be open until 5:30 p.m. Saturday, with 70% of the proceeds directly supporting the artists, 20% supporting ScrapFest and 10% going to Lansing SAVE, a program that provides Lansing School District students in kindergarten through ninth grade with savings accounts to help them start saving money for college or career training expenses.

The annual Refashion Show, beginning 7 p.m. Friday on the main stage, will showcase sustainable and repurposed clothing made by community members with scrap fabric. There will also be live music on the main stage throughout the festival: Ozay Moore and DJ Y'z will spin tunes Friday evening, and Jonathan Watt, Dylan Tolbert, Pinter Whitnick, the Mark Lavengood Trio and the Darin Larner Band will perform on Saturday.

The Great Scrap Run, an 8K run/walk on the Lansing River Trail, begins 9 a.m. Saturday at the parking area on the corner of Cesar E. Chavez Avenue and Turner Street. Registration is \$35 at [runsignup.com/Race/MI/Lansing/TheGreatScrapRun](https://runsignup.com/Race/MI/Lansing/TheGreatScrapRun). There will also be a free half-mile fun run for kids beginning at 8:30 a.m.

The festival will also feature a variety of eco-art vendors, educational booths and two food trucks. In addition, from noon to 5 p.m. Saturday, REACH Studio Art Center will offer scrap metal craft activities, and Waverly Robotics will showcase some of its student-made robots.

To learn more about all the festival's events, visit [scrapfest.com](https://scrapfest.com).

**Dimondale Farmers Market** - 3-7 p.m. Village Square, 136 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. 517-646-0230. [villageofdimondale.org/general-3](https://villageofdimondale.org/general-3).

**Eaton County Fair** - Truck and tractor pull at 7 p.m. at the grandstand. 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Eaton County Fairgrounds, 1025 S. Cochran Road, Charlotte. [eatoncountyfair.com](https://eatoncountyfair.com).

**Game Night and Live Music** - Enjoy 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).

**Grand Ledge Music in the Park: Mixed Flavors (blues/jazz/funk), opener Brian Bristol** - Free. 7 p.m. Jaycee Park, 525 E. River St., Grand Ledge. [grandledgechamber.com/music\\_in\\_the\\_park.php](https://grandledgechamber.com/music_in_the_park.php).

**Holt Music in the Garden: Sea Cruisers ('50s-'70s)** - Food available for purchase from Picnic food truck. Free. 7 p.m. Veterans Memorial Gardens, 2074 Aurelius Road, Holt. [delhitownshipmi.gov/402/Community-Events](https://delhitownshipmi.gov/402/Community-Events).

**Jazz Trombonist Michael Dease** - 7:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. [urbanbeatevents.com](https://urbanbeatevents.com).

**Laingsburg Music in the Park: Atomic Boogaloo (experimental)** - Free. Open mic at 6 p.m., band starts at 7 p.m. McClintock Park, 299 McClintock St., Laingsburg. [laingsburg.us](https://laingsburg.us).

**Laingsburg Indoor Farmers Market** - 5-8 p.m. First Congregational Church, 401 E. Grand River Road, Laingsburg. 517-295-8128. [laingsburgbusiness.org/farmers-market-1](https://laingsburgbusiness.org/farmers-market-1).

**"Let's Give Them Something to Talk About"** - Exhibit of 31 original works by local artists Doug and Susan Smith. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. [cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos](https://cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos).

**Making Love: How Romance Comics Taught a Generation to Date, Marry, Domesticate and Divorce** - Visiting scholar Brian Rouleau of Texas A&M University 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).

**Medieval Longsword Workshop for Teens** - Join the Swordsmanship Museum and Academy for a class exploring the iconic medieval longsword! 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. [gladl.org](https://gladl.org).

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If setting boundaries in your social life feels like this, therapy may help.



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

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## Events

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**Modern Dance Class** - 10-week class. Ages 12-adult. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

**Picnic Playdate Family Storytime** - Enjoy stories, songs and literacy-enhancing activities like bubbles and water play. Open to children of all ages. 11 a.m. Wacousta Community United Methodist Church, 9180 Herbison Road, Eagle. gladl.org.

**Samia Halaby: "Eye Witness"** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**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.

**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.

**Williamston Concerts at the Shell: Black Barn Band (classic rock)** - Free. 7 p.m. McCormick Park, 300 N. Putnam St., Williamston. facebook.com/williamstonconcerts.

**World Chocolate Tasting** - Let your tastebuds go on an adventure as you sample different chocolates from around the world! All ages. 5 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

**Zoom Support Group for Parkinson's** - Conversations are informal but informative. 6 p.m. Meeting ID: 998 749 4167. Password: MPF2020. lpspg.org.

## Friday, July 12

**Boba Slime** - Create and play with colorful slime that's soft, squishy and stretchy. Grades K-3. 10 a.m. Playground of Dreams, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.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.

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

**Eaton County Fair** - Truck and tractor pull at 7 p.m. at the grandstand. 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Eaton County Fairgrounds, 1025 S. Cochran Road, Charlotte. eatoncountyfair.com.

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

**Lake Lansing Sounds of Summer Concert Series: Glen Erin Pipe Band/Leprecons (Irish)** - Free. Food available for purchase from Kilkenny's food truck. 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.

**"Let's Give Them Something to Talk About"** - Exhibit of 31 original works by local artists Doug and Susan Smith. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

**Samia Halaby: "Eye Witness"** - This exhibition follows Halaby's creative journey to invent an abstract visual language that conveys her experiences and reflects how she sees the world. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**ScrapFest** - Art festival focusing on upcycled and repurposed artwork. 5-9 p.m. Turner Street, Old Town. scrapfest.com.

**Time2Play** - This beloved Lansing band has been entertaining audiences with its diverse blend of rock, pop, blues and country tunes since 2009. 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

## Saturday, July 13

**Eaton County Fair** - Grandstand events include an antique tractor pull at 9:30 a.m. and a street diesel and semi-truck pull at 7 p.m. Fair runs 9 a.m.-midnight. Eaton County Fairgrounds, 1025 S. Cochran Road, Charlotte. eatoncountyfair.com.

**Geech** - Rock 'n' roll, blues, country and Top 40 cover band. 8:30 p.m. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-482-6376. greendoorlive.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.

**Lansing Taco and Tequila Fest** - 100+ tequilas to sample, plus beer, sangria and margaritas. We'll also have food trucks, live music, vendors and more! 4-8 p.m. Adado Riverfront Park, 201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. lansingtacoandtequilafest.com.

**"Let's Give Them Something to Talk About"** - Exhibit of 31 original works by local artists Doug and Susan Smith. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

**Linocut Printmaking 101** - This class covers the entire process of creating linocut prints. It's divided into two 2.5-hour sessions, with a lunch break in between. Ages 18+. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. lansingartgallery.org.

**Live Music with Shelby & Jake** - 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.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.

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

**Samia Halaby: "Eye Witness"** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**ScrapFest** - Art festival focusing on upcycled and repurposed artwork. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Turner Street, Old Town. scrapfest.com.

**Tomás Esparza Blues Band** - Doors 5 p.m., show 8 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

**Turner-Dodge Fairytale Festival** - Featuring fairytale characters, arts & crafts, music, dance and children's activities. FREE festivities on the lawn, \$5 to enter the house (Children 4 and under free). Noon-6 p.m. 100 E. North St., Lansing. facebook.com/turnerdodgehouse.

## Sunday, July 14

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

**Deep-Rooted, with Beal Botanical Garden** - Art and plants intertwine in a conversation about the extraordinary ways our natural world has influenced art and societies throughout history. 1 p.m. 330 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**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.

**East Lansing Farmers Market** - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. 517-319-6823. cityofeastlansing.com/farmersmarket.

**Eastern Ingham Farmers Market** - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. eastern-inghamfarmersmarket.org.

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

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## 'La Batterie'

3 p.m. Sunday,  
July 14  
Dart Auditorium  
500 N. Capitol  
Ave., Lansing



Prolific local band-leader and drummer Mike Daniels will host his final "La Batterie" percussion concert 3 p.m. Sunday (July 14) at Lansing Community College's Dart Auditorium. Daniels, who founded the annual concert in the 1980s, is retiring from his music faculty position at the school, which he held for more than 35 years.

"I'm 76 years old. My energy isn't what it used to be," Daniels said. "But I've had so many requests from so many people to do the concert again, I just had to do it one last time."

Daniels will be joined by his percussion ensemble, the Bash Battalion. At the first concert, the ensemble had just four members, but it has flourished over the years.

"The most drummers we've had on stage for 'La Batterie' was 30. This summer's concert will feature 20 drummers," Daniels said.

Several local bands will join the performance, including Orquesta Ritmo, Atomic Boogaloo and the Jazz Doggs. The setlist will include original pieces by Daniels and other arrangements.

Admission is free, but donations to benefit the school's music scholarship fund will be accepted. For more information, visit lcc.edu/showinfo.

# Events

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**French Opera: Bastille Day** - Celebrate Bastille Day with an afternoon of French opera sung by talented local singers. 2:30 p.m. Grace United Methodist Church, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. michiganoperaoutreach.org.

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

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

**“Let’s Give Them Something to Talk About”** - Exhibit of 31 original works by local artists Doug and Susan Smith. Noon-6 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

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

**Samia Halaby: “Eye Witness”** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**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.

**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.

## Monday, July 15

**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.

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

**Improv Acting Camp** - Students will work with a variety of theater games to develop characters and scene work. Ages 5-13. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

**Improv Acting Class** - 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.

**Jump Into Reading** - Join Ms. Erin for stories, songs, activities and therapy dogs. Ages 0-5 with caregivers. 11 a.m. Playground of Dreams, 100 Howe Drive, Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

**“Let’s Give Them Something to Talk About”** - Exhibit of 31 original works by local artists Doug and Susan Smith. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

**Mysteries of the Moon for Kids** - Ever wonder why the moon changes shape and what it really looks like up there? We’ll read a story and do some science experiments to answer those questions. Ages 3+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.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.

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

**Summer Art Camp, Week 3** - Your camper will work alongside other kids to experiment, wonder, imagine and create in our Kid Studio. Ages 8-11. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu/learn/summer-art-camp.

## Tuesday, July 16

**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.

**Delta Township Music in the Park: Global Village (variety), opener School of Rock East Lansing** - Free. 7 p.m. Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road, Lansing. deltami.gov/residents/events/music\_in\_the\_park.php.

**Hidden Grove Estate Modern Elegance-Styled Shoot** - Join us at Hidden Grove Estate for a stylish photoshoot in a beautiful setting! 4-8 p.m. 2335 N. Williamston Road, Williamston. mirrorballcollective.com.

**“Let’s Give Them Something to Talk About”** - Exhibit of 31 original works by local artists Doug and Susan Smith. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

**Midwives, Home Birth & You** - If you’re expecting and curious about midwives, home birth or doulas, join us at our FREE session to hear from practicing midwives and doulas about your options. 6 p.m. Expectant Parents Organization, 405 W. Greenlawn Ave., Lansing. epobaby.org.

**Singing the Good Old Songs Again** - Join us at Beach Market and enjoy a musical performance by Jackie and Gary! This event is BYOC, or “Bring Your Own Chair.” 7 p.m. 200 W. Lovett St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

**Summer in the Park: Wild Tales, with Potter Park Zoo** - We’ll read stories about Michigan animals. Everyone is welcome; however, this program is geared toward families with elementary-aged kids. 11 a.m. Oak Park, 230 Seminary St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

**Trivia at Lansing Shuffle** - 7:30-9 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. lansingshuffle.com.

## Wednesday, July 17

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

**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.

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

**Clay Letter Dishes** - Craft personalized clay dishes in the shape of your favorite letter. Ages 18+. Registration req. 5:30 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

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

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

**Great Michigan Read: Cultural Foods of “Fire-keeper’s Daughter”** - Traditional and non-traditional foods are part of the Anishinaabe culture explored in the book “Firekeeper’s Daughter.” We’ll explore the history of these foods — and prepare some as well! Ages 16+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

# Capital City Opera Festival

2:30 p.m. Sunday, July 14

2:30 p.m. Aug. 18

7 p.m. Sept. 21

Multiple locations

Michigan Opera Outreach, a project that aims to bring music and literacy education to third- and fourth-grade classrooms in Greater Lansing through fill-in-the-blank word games and opera performances, will kick off its second annual Capital City Opera Festival with a Bastille Day concert 2:30 p.m. Sunday (July 14) at Grace United Methodist Church. Local singers will perform French opera music, from Lully to Fauré and Gluck to Massenet.

The festival will continue on Aug. 18 with a back-to-school concert of operatic favorites at Grace United Methodist Church and will wrap up with a gala on Sept. 21 at the Turner-Dodge House, featuring Mozart’s mini-opera “The Impresario” and other works by the composer. Wine and refreshments will follow the performance.

Admission to each event is free, with a suggested donation of \$20. For more information, visit michiganoperaoutreach.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: Sea Cruisers (‘50s-‘70s), with Special Guest Jen Sygit** - Free. 7 p.m. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E. North St., Lansing. lansingmi.gov/994/Concerts-in-the-Park.

**“Let’s Give Them Something to Talk About”** - Exhibit of 31 original works by local artists Doug and Susan Smith. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

**Life Drawing** - Drawing session with a clothed model or still life. Facilitated by a teaching artist. Ages 13+. 6 p.m. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. reachstudioart.org.

**“Mario Kart” Madness** - Enjoy snacks and drinks as you get ready to drift your way to glory in our “Mario Kart” tournament! Grades 4-12. 4 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

**Meridian Summer Concert Series: Oxymorons (variety)** - 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.

**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. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. lamc.info.

**Portland Sounds of Summer Concert Series: Russ Holcomb (acoustic variety)** - Free. 7 p.m. Two Rivers Park, 201 Divine Hwy., Portland. facebook.com/MiPortlandDowntown.

**Samia Halaby: “Eye Witness”** - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

**STEAM Science: Marble Machines** - Use everyday materials to build an obstacle track that moves your marble from one place to another. Noon session for ages 4-7, 2 p.m. session for ages 8-12. Registration req. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge.

**St. Johns Concerts in the Park: Fly2k (‘90s-2000s tribute)** - Free. 7 p.m. St. Johns City Park, 801 W. Park St., St. Johns. facebook.com/StJohnsCityPark-PerformanceShell.gladl.org.

**Stories in the Garden** - Explore the garden and stop to listen to a picture book as you come across one of our volunteer readers! 7-8:30 p.m. Michigan 4-H Children’s Garden, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. elpl.org.

**Summer Vibes Karaoke** - 8-11 p.m. Lansing Shuffle, 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. lansing-shuffle.com.

**Walk-in Wednesday** - Make a shadow sculpture! Free. Children under 7 must attend with a registered adult. 4:30-6 p.m. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. reachstudioart.org.

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

**Wednesday Yoga on Albert** - Hosted by Yoga State. Bring a yoga mat. Free. 9:30 a.m. Albert EL Fresco, corner of M.A.C. Avenue and Albert Street, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

## Thursday, July 18

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

**Bridge Street Merchants Night Owl Shopping** - A variety of stores will be open from 5 to 9 p.m. with sales, specials and snacks! Bridge Street, downtown Grand Ledge. grandledgechamber.com.

**Charlotte Community Library Board Meeting** - The library board meets the third Thursday of every month in the Spartan Room at the Charlotte Community Library. 7 p.m. 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

**Charlotte Summer Concerts on the Square: The Outsiders (blues/classic rock)** - Free. 6:30 p.m. 1885 Eaton County Courthouse lawn, 100 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. facebook.com/charlotte-chamberofcommerce.

**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. weaver-softheweb.org.

**DeWitt Concerts in the Park: Frog & the Beeftones (blues rock)** - Free. 7 p.m. Riverside Park, 315 S. Bridge St., DeWitt. dewittareacc.org/event/concerts-in-the-park.

**Dimondale Farmers Market** - 3-7 p.m. Village Square, 136 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. 517-646-0230. villageofdimondale.org/general-3.

**Family Pops Concert** - The East Lansing Kiwanis Community Band presents a free concert suitable for all ages. Bring blankets or lawn chairs. 7 p.m. Robert L. Green Elementary School, 1811 Pinecrest Drive, East Lansing. 517-332-5662.

# FOOD & DRINK

## DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

### The perfect handheld to wrap up the weekend

By **CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS**

Though I'm grateful that my summer schedule is piping hot with invites to cookouts and bonfires, I'll admit that I've been hitting the sauce (barbecue, that is). After a long holiday weekend, I was anxious to return to my usual diet of Middle Eastern cuisine.

While hauling some gently loved items to the thrift store Monday night (July 8), I called to order a chicken shawarma wrap from Noosh Afghan Cuisine, and it was just getting boxed up when I made my way back east approximately 10 to 15 minutes later. As I waited for my takeout, I watched with delight as large plates of rice and chicken left



**Chicken shawarma wrap**  
\$10.99

Noosh Afghan Cuisine  
603 N. Waverly Road,  
Lansing

10:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday

Noon-8 p.m. Sunday  
(517) 327-4771

nooshafghan.wixsite.com/  
noosh-afghan-cuisine

the kitchen on their way to the other diners.

Formerly Nola Bistro, Noosh's proprietors have made only minimal adaptations to the restaurant, including stylish outdoor tables with red umbrellas, large photos on the walls (presumably of Afghanistan) and two small mannequins atop the beverage cooler wearing traditional Afghan clothing. Overall, it's still a welcoming, family-friendly environment, and I'm happy to see a new(ish) restaurant so close

to my neighborhood.

My wrap was \$10.99 and came with a side of fries. The portion was plentiful considering the price, and the shawarma itself was flavorful, with seasonings like turmeric and sumac. Fresh vegetables included raw, spicy red onion; tomato; lettuce; and perhaps a sprig of parsley. But the wrap really came together when I reached a bite containing the subtle white sauce. To be honest, even more sauce would've been appreciated.

Halfway through the wrap, I was delighted by a surprise pickle! About the size of a quarter and nestled where a pickled turnip might be in a typical wrap, the briny zest added something unique to my bite.

My fries were thick-cut and cooked to shades of golden brown, topped with a generous sprinkling of large salt crystals, and the side of garlic sauce had a nice balance of lemony and earthy flavor.



Chelsea Roberts for City Pulse

Noosh Afghan Cuisine's chicken shawarma wrap. Not pictured: a surprise pickle!

The delightful mixes of crunchy and smooth, savory and citrusy, and fresh and fried added up to everything a shawarma wrap with fries should be. Given another convenient opportunity, I won't hesitate to try Noosh again. Because I love many of our other local Middle Eastern restaurants, like Woody's, ChouPli and Aladdin's, I'll have to add Noosh to my rotation, but I wouldn't be surprised if it quickly climbed the charts.

## TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

### TOP 5 OLIVE BURGERS

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

#### 1. Dagwood's Tavern & Grill

Casual American mainstay offering handcrafted burgers and grill fare, plus sports on TV  
2803 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing  
(517) 374-0390  
dagwoodstavern.com  
11 a.m.-11 p.m. daily

#### 2. Hard Knocks Food Truck

Roaming eatery specializing in comfort food with a twist  
(517) 488-7088  
See facebook.com/p/Hard-Knocks-Food-

Truck-100041166143454 for locations and hours

#### 3. Weston's Kewpee Sandwich Shop

1920s diner with a collection of antique Kewpie dolls serving burgers, homemade root beer and shakes  
118 S. Washington Square, Lansing  
(517) 482-8049  
westonskewpee.com  
10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday  
10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday

#### 4. Olympic Broil

Casual fast-food outpost serving hefty burgers, cone dogs, wraps and sandwiches  
1320 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing  
(517) 485-8584  
olympicbroil.com  
10:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday

#### 5. The Peanut Barrel

American bar and grill offering burgers, sandwiches, beer and an outdoor patio  
521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing  
(517) 351-0608  
peanutbarrel.com  
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday-Thursday  
11 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday

## Gaining garlic independence

By **ARI LEVAUX**

Sometime in the mid-1990s, after a lifetime of servitude to the shriveled heads of garlic I would bring home from the supermarket, I finally declared myself independent. As a cook and a garlic lover, I would no longer stand for garlic heads containing 47 cloves each — cloves I had to painstakingly peel one by one to get the itty-bitty chunks of garlic inside.

Since then, I've been fortunate to interact exclusively with big, easy-to-peel cloves. It's the best garlic money can buy, and I get it for free because I grow it. It takes about nine months, from September to the following summer, for a clove to grow into a head. If you're going to invest that much time and effort, you should be planting the good stuff.

The central distinction in garlic botany is between the hardneck and

softneck varieties. The cheap stuff from the supermarket is of the softneck persuasion, while the good stuff is all hardneck. The name hardneck refers to the flower-like organ, called a scape, that sprouts from the middle of the garlic plant around the summer solstice. The scapes must be pulled to redirect all of the plant's energy into the below-ground bulb, so it grows as large as possible. This chore is also the first garlic harvest of the season.

If you want to be independent like me and plant your own garlic, the best place to find hardneck is your local farmers market. You can also order it online, although most farms tend to sell out of the good stuff before the mid-July harvest.

Wherever you get your seed garlic, it will cost you. Just remember that your initial investment will be offset

See Flash, Page 23



# Flash

from page 22

by the fact that you'll never have to buy garlic again.

As you round up your seed garlic and figure out where to plant it, you should also take steps to prepare the ground as necessary. If it's a fully prepped garden bed that's ready to go, you can skip this step. But if the location of your new garlic patch is overgrown with weeds or is currently a piece of lawn, you can kill all the plants by laying down a piece of plastic, preferably black. After eight weeks, the weeds or grass will be gone, and the dirt beneath the plastic will turn over like butter.

Since I can't stand to see an empty piece of dirt in my garden, I like to fill it with short-season crops like radish, cilantro, spinach and other plants that will be done by late September or will peacefully coexist with the garlic I plant around them.

Recently, I've been harvesting the scapes from last year's planting. I yank each one gently as soon as it's long enough to grab. If you do it right, the scape breaks deep inside the plant and emerges with a pop, yielding an extra

tender and juicy garlic heart.

The other day, I chopped up some scapes and put them in a pan with some radishes I pulled from next year's garlic patch. I fried the scapes and radishes — including the chopped radish leaves — and when they were cooked, I poured in some beaten eggs. I put a lid on the pan and let the eggs cook slowly until they were done to my liking. I seasoned with salt and hot sauce and basked in the feisty taste of freedom.



Courtesy of Ari LeVaux

Scape pasta with parsley and a ground beef garnish.

**Scape pasta with parsley**

The parsley can be swapped for basil, oregano or other herbs. For a non-veg option, sprinkle fried ground beef on top as a garnish. This dish can be a bit spicy because the scapes are only slightly cooked by the hot noodles. If you want it mellower, fry the scapes.

1 pound pasta of your choosing  
About one scape per eater, depending on how much garlic they like  
One bunch parsley or other herbs

1/2 cup olive oil  
1/2 cup grated pasta cheese  
Optional: ground meat and tomato sauce

While the pasta cooks, chop the scapes and herbs finely. Brown the meat if using. Heat the marinara if you want some. Fry the scapes if you can't take the heat.

When the pasta is done, drain and toss with the oil, herbs, scapes and cheese. Garnish with red sauce and meat.

(517) 648-7693

Lansing - Haslett - South Side

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In the matter of Shirlean B. Hauser, deceased: TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:\* and creditors (known and unknown) whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE:\* The Settlor, Shirlean B. Hauser (dob 07/11/1967) who lived at 6737 English Oak Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823, died on March 21, 2024. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom letters of administration have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against Shirlean B. Hauser will be forever barred unless presented to Gary M. Hauser, Trustee of the Gary & Shirlean Hauser Revocable Living Trust, dated February 27, 2013, at 6737 English Oak Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823, within four months after the date of publication, 07/10/2024. Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it. Attorney: Stephen L. Hicks, #P69221, 11973 Sweetwater Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, 517-622-1900. Petitioner: Gary M. Hauser, 6737 English Oak Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823.

CP#24-576

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Bids must be submitted by 8 am 7/22/24  
at 1500 Haslett Rd. East Lansing, MI 48823  
For more info go to www.hhmobil.com

CP#24-571

**CROSSWORD SOLUTION**

From Pg. 18

S	A	B	E	R		A	S	H	I		B	A	G	S
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**SUDOKU SOLUTION**

From Pg. 18

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

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF A ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS**  
**WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

Pursuant to Section 401 of Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended (the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act), notice is hereby given that at a regular meeting held on May 8th, 2024, the Williamstown Township Board of Trustees adopted amendments to Sections 1.03 and 8.03 and Articles 11.00, 13.00, 14.00, 15.00 and 18.00 of the Zoning Ordinance.

The principal purpose of the amendments is to permit Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) in all single-family zoning districts and Planned Development districts in Williamstown Township. An ADU is a smaller, independent residential dwelling unit located on the same lot as a stand-alone (i.e., detached) single-family home. An ADU has its own kitchen, bath, living area, sleeping area, and separate entrance.

A copy of the ordinance amendments may be obtained or inspected at the Williamstown Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Road, Williamston, MI 48895 during normal business hours. Pursuant to Section 401(6) of Act 110, the amendments shall take effect upon expiration of seven days after publication of this notice.

Robin Cleveland, Township Clerk

CP#24-578



SHOP NOW









# 710 Deals

July 8–July 14

**ALL EXTRACTS 20% off**

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<b>B2G1 FREE</b> Afternoon Delight Live Resin 2g 	<b>B2G1 FREE</b> Afternoon Delight Rosin 1g 
<b>2 for \$39</b> Element Live Resin Dabs 1g 	<b>\$10 ea</b> Element THCA Dabs 1g 
<b>15 for \$75</b> Bamn 	<b>3 for \$90</b> High Grade 3g Buckets 

INFUSED PRE-ROLLS

<b>5 for \$49</b> Pro Gro Infused Preroll 3-pk 	<b>B2G1 FREE</b> Element Infused Prerolls 
<b>10 for \$29</b> Magic/Superfire/Terpene Stix   	

VAPES

<b>10 for \$99</b> Bamn Legacy and Fruit Series 	<b>4 for \$39</b> Breeze 510 Carts 
<b>5 for \$99</b> Pro Gro Live Resin Vapes 	<b>B2G1 FREE</b> Breeze Disposable 

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