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Your Voting Guide is HERE READ. LEARN. DECIDE. VOTE.

The resource you've been waiting for, the most complete and most trusted source of 2024 election candidate information, is here. City Pulse is proud to present **The League of Women Voters' Voting Guide for Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties** for the November 5, 2024, election.



A nonpartisan political organization, dedicated to Making Democracy Work

Serving Ingham, Clinton and Eaton Counties

This guide is an invaluable resource to background info on all the candidates and issues on the 2024 General Election ballot. **And only City Pulse has published it.** It's available in the center of this print edition as well as online at lansingcitypulse.com.

Read it, learn about the candidates, make your decisions, then go vote! That's how we preserve our democracy.

Speaking of our democracy, locally produced news is another way to help preserve it. **Our fall membership campaign kicked off Sept. 16, with a goal of reaching 50 new donors for City Pulse.** For those who have made one-time donations, did you know that you can turn your one-time donation into recurring support? Recurring donations help us plan for the future: In the short term, that's tracking candidates and issues, hiring a new reporter to expand our coverage and continuing to fill the void in election coverage here in Lansing.

Please become a new or recurring donor today and support us through one of the options below:

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- Donate by calling (517) 999-6704
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Yours truly, The City Pulse team

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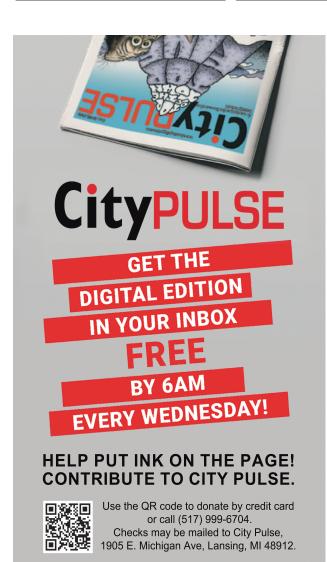
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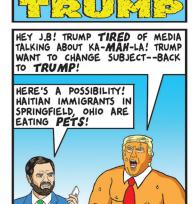
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by TOM TOMORROW





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PULSE TANAL NEWS & OPINION

Election Preview 2024





Courtesy Curtis Hertel for Michigan

Republican Tom Barrett (left) campaigning at the Pioneer Days parade in Charlotte and Democrat Curtis Hertel Jr. at the Independence Day parade in Mason.

Hertel, Barrett headline another competitive MI-7 showdown

Polls show toss-up in state's costliest U.S. House race

Like it or not, the Lansing area is, again, ground zero for one of the nation's most competitive and expensive congressional elections.

It explains all of the TV ads.

Tom Barrett in a helicopter. Tom Barrett being 100% pro-life, allegedly promising to put abortion seekers in jail.

Curtis Hertel Jr. yakking it up with folks. "Liberal lobbyist" Curtis Hertel allegedly brokering a secret deal in Lansing that earned him a "six-figure contract."

If you haven't seen them, you will.

As for Sept. 20, more than \$30 million in political advertising has been spent or reserved in the 7th Congressional District race, according to AdImpact. It would have been more if Hertel or Barrett had had primary challenges. The figure is nearly twice

that of any other Michigan congressional race.

It's an expensive race, in part, because the polling shows it is close.

Barrett, the Republican, ran in 2022, so his name ID started high. Early internal polling numbers showed him up at much as 8 percentage points.

In the last few weeks, though, Hertel, the Democrat, has come after Barrett hard on his pro-life/no exceptions position on abortion in paid ads, moving the race into toss-up territory. (Proposal 3, which put abortion rights in the state Constitution, passed by 16 points in MI-7 in 2022).

"Tom was going to start this race ahead. His name was going to be better known than Curtis'," said Adrian Hemond, CEO of Grassroots Midwest.

When Hertel's camp brought up abortion, Hemond wasn't surprised. "He's a Democrat, so he's got to do it. It makes sense. The issue polls well in his district."

The 7th Congressional is also expensive because it straddles two me-

dia markets.

Around 70% of the MI-7 constituents get Lansing broadcast TV. The other 30% live in the parts of Livingston County that get expensive Detroit TV, where rates cost five times more.

A third candidate is also on the ballot. Libertarian Leah Rachel Dailey, 42, of South Lyon, serves on at least one commission within the city and recently received a "Defender of Liberty" award from the Libertarian Party of Michigan. In the past several elections, the Libertarian candidate has received consistently a little short of 2% of the vote.

Barrett and Hertel's campaigns know the costs, but both are convinced they're going to win.

Barrett, 43, of Charlotte, sees the numbers working to his advantage. While he lost to U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin 51% to 46%, he and his allies were outspent 4:1. Also, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer won reelection in this district by 10 points in 2022.

Even if Donald Trump doesn't win in MI-7 — made up of Clinton, Eaton,

Ingham, Livingston and Shiawassee counties — most expect him to keep it close, helping Republicans up and down the ballot.

Barrett also has a favorable-sounding resumé. Prior to eight years in the state Legislature, the U.S. Army veteran served 22 years in Iraq, Guantanamo Bay, Kuwait and the Korean DMZ, flying highly advanced helicopters, hence the choppers on his campaign signs.

Barrett also likes his odds against his opponent.

Unlike Slotkin in 2022, Barrett's opponent is not a former CIA analyst and one-time defense department official for two former presidents.

Hertel, 46, of East Lansing, was Whitmer's legislative liaison after serving two state Senate terms. He was on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners from 2001 to 2008 and was the county's register of deeds following that.

His wife is the director of the Michigan Department of Health and Hu-

See Barrett/Hertel, Page 6

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Barrett/Hertel

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man Services, his late father was Michigan House speaker, his brother is a state senator and his uncle was in Congress, among other relatives in public service.

At some other point in time, this lineage would be a positive. With voter skepticism high, Hertel leads with the title "Relentless Advocate for mid-Michigan." His first introductory TV ad never mentions he even served in the state Senate.

A card he does play is his desire to work across the aisle, something he did well at in the state Senate, as has Slotkin, a member of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus.

"Progress comes from finding the spaces between people. Residents of MI-7 want reasonable humans in office," said Hertel, bringing up his work in cutting taxes, cutting prescription drug costs and bringing manufacturing jobs back to Michigan.

learn a thing or two from Michigan, and I'm running for Congress to build on the bipartisan progress we've made in our state."

Barrett's record in the Legislature is unquestionably conservative. In 2021, he had the Senate's most conservative voting record, according to MIRS News. In 2022, he was No. 2. He's opposed mandatory vaccines before COVID was a thing. He's on the record as being pro-life without ex-

However, Barrett is eschewing his hardline pro-life stance. From his viewpoint, the U.S. Supreme Court



"People are tired of loud talk and Barrett and his daughters (left) Eleanora, 10, and little action. Washington could Gwendolyn, 7, and son Louis, 3, in his arms.

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has let the states decide the issue. Voters in Michigan put abortion into its Constitution. Passing a nationwide abortion ban with a split Congress isn't realistic. Why talk about it?

Rather, he's relating himself to the working class, talking about southern border security, the \$34 trillion national debt and opposing tax dollars

going to companies headquartered in China, which he says is sending spy ballons over the country.

"I am investing all of my bandwidth to win this race to represent my community and this district," Barrett said.

Both candidates see themselves with a pathway to win. They're getting together Wednesday (Oct. 2) for a debate at WLNS with senior Capitol correspondent Tim Skubick.

As Hemond sees it, the race will come down to who votes.

"The question is, 'Do white guys outside of Lansing, East Lansing



Courtesy Curtis Hertel for Michigan

Hertel's selfie with Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, the Democratic candidate for vice president, during a Sept. 13 campaign stop in Lansing.

and Delta Township come out to vote?' If they do in large numbers, Curtis is in trouble," Hemond said.

"Curtis needs women to show up to the polls, the younger the better and the more pro-choice the better.

"Tom is to the right of the mainstream in this district, but if those Trump voters show up outside of that city of Lansing and East Lansing, he could have a good night."

KYLE MELINN

NOTICE TO CREDITORS, Decedent's Trust Estate, Halen K. Foster, deceased settlor, year of birth: 1946. NOTICE TO ALL CREDITORS: The decedent, Halen K. Foster, died Sept. 1, 2024. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the decedent will be forever barred unless presented to Bruce Foster, Trustee of the Charles J. Foster and Halen K. Foster Trust, u/a/d Dec. 14, 2009, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, Sept. 25, 2024. Bruce Foster, Trustee of the Charles J. Foster and Halen K. Foster Trust, c/o Doyle Law PC, Amanda Betush, P78512, PO Box 3752, Grand Rapids, MI

49501-3752 517-323-7366

In the matter of Arlene Estelle McWhorter: 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, Arlene E. McWhorter (DOB 09/23/1927) who lived at 11800 West Andre Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, died on Aug. 16, 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 Arlene E. McWhorter will forever be barred unless presented to Leo G. Sell, Successor Trustee of The Revocable Living Trust Agreement of Arlene E. McWhorter, dated Jan. 21, 1994, at 544 Stoddard Ave. Grand Ledge, MI 48843 within four months after the date of publication, 9/25/2024. Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it. Attorney: Benjamin L. Cwayna, #P70266, 11973 Sweetwater Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, 517-622-1900. Petitioner: Leo G. Sell, 544 Stoddard Ave., East Lansing, MI 48823, 517-388-3898.

CP#24-662

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1536, amendments to the Zoning Ordinance (Chapter 50 of the City Code), to incentivize certain building forms and materials by permitting additional building height or number of units, allow upper-floor residential uses in certain business zone districts, and permit mass timber production or manufacturing in industrial zone districts.

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

The public may attend and participate at all meetings in person. Members of the public may also participate virtually via Zoom. Please contact City Clerk Marie E. Wicks at 517.319.6914, mwicks@cityofeastlansing.com, (410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823) additional information Visit the City's public meeting https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/ for electronic access information.

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

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services must contact the City Council's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6869 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at tverche@cityofeastlansing.com.

Dated: September 24, 2024 Marie Wicks East Lansing, MI 48823 City Clerk

In the matter of Elizabeth Gray: 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, Elizabeth Gray (DOB 12/4/1930) who lived at Story Point of Grand Ledge, 11555 Silverstone Lane, Grand Ledge, MI 48837 died on August 22, 2024. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom letters of administration have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against Elizabeth Gray will forever be barred unless presented to Marsha Gray, Trustee of The James and Elizabeth Gray Trust dated October 21, 1994, at 5659 Crofoot Road, Howell, MI 48843 within four months after the date of publication, 9/25/2024. Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it. Attorney: Benjamin L. Cwayna, #P70266, 11973 Sweetwater Dr., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, 517-622-1900. Petitioner: Marsha Gray, 5659 Crofoot Road, Howell, MI 48843, 517-242-1630.

Michigan Supreme Court That Protects Our Civil Rights

In November, Michigan voters will decide who fills two spots on the Michigan Supreme Court. Why is this a big deal? Because these justices will make decisions about the laws that impact all of us, and Michigan is one of only 24 states where voters are empowered to elect the members of their state's Supreme Court.

It's the job of the Michigan Supreme Court to act with fairness and integrity, ensuring justice for everyone in our state. That includes protecting and even broadening civil rights protections.

In the recent past, the Michigan Supreme Court has frequently ruled in favor of equity when it comes to civil rights. In 2018, the court ruled that the independent group Voters Not Politicians could launch a ballot initiative to establish an independent citizen's redistricting commission. The success of the ballot initiative empowered Michiganders to pick their elected representatives by taking away redistricting power from partisan control.

In 2022, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that a 1976 law – the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act – bans firing someone, evicting them, or otherwise discriminating against them because they are a member of the LGBTQ community. Despite opponents' opinions to the contrary, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that the law's ban on discrimination based on the basis of sex includes sexual orientation.

The Michigan Supreme Court ruled in 2023 that judges must use the preferred pronouns of defendants, litigants, attorneys, and others with business before the court. Michigan's Supreme Court was the first in the nation to mandate this change through court rules, setting a precedent for respecting people's dignity. Those who choose not to use preferred pronouns can simply refer to "the defendant" or "the plaintiff," making the rule fair regardless of personal beliefs.

Just this spring, the Michigan Supreme Court set a new state precedent with a ruling that allows civil rights claims alleging indirect workplace retaliation. The lawsuit was originally filed by two employees who said they were fired because of claims made against them by a fellow employee as an act of revenge. The 7-0 unanimous decision, which cites similar federal civil rights protections, sends the case back to the Circuit Court where it originated.

The Michigan Supreme Court presides over the most significant and challenging cases in our state. Vigorous discussions among those who preside over Michigan's highest court, which serves as the guardian of justice, keep our state in harmony through fair and equitable outcomes.

The Michigan Supreme Court plays a crucial role in our state's government – and in protecting our rights and freedoms. But you have an equally important part to play, because it's your vote that determines who sits on that bench.

When filling out your ballot this fall, don't stop at the top. Look for the non-partisan section of your ballot and individually select the two candidates that have earned your vote. Although Supreme Court justices in Michigan are nominated by a political party to serve an eight-year term, their party affiliation isn't included on your ballot. So even if you vote for a straight-party ticket, it won't apply to the non-partisan section.

Selecting two Michigan Supreme Court justices is too important to skip—your choice could impact civil rights in the state for the next generation. Learn more about the Michigan Supreme Court, the voting process, and how to spread the word about the importance of choosing who will sit on our state's highest court. Visit www.MISupremeCourtRocks.com to get all the information you need to do your civic duty in this year's election.

-Steve James, Michigan United Movement Politics Director

UNITED

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Two seats on Nov. 5 ballot for MSU Board of Trustees

Michigan State University will have two new trustees starting next year. Former Chair Dianne Byrum isn't running for a third term, and current Chair Dan Kelly failed to win the Republican nomination.

Their successors are expected to come from a pool of four major party nominees. Rebecca Bahar-Cook, an East Lansing Democrat, is a professional fundraiser and former Ingham County commissioner. Tommy Stallworth, a Detroit Democrat, is a former legislator who worked in Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's office, among numerous other state government positions.

Mike Balow, a Plymouth Republican, is a commercial real estate professional who won his party's nomination in 2022 and came within 7,700 votes of winning a board seat. And Julie Maday, a Novi Republican, is a former Novi City Councilmember and conservative "Spartan Mom."

The school hasn't been without its controversies. Larry Nassar. Mel Tucker. Business School Dean Sanjay Gupta's firing. An on-campus shooting. Former President Samuel Stanley abrupt departure amid pressures. Board friction spurring a report suggesting the governor remove a pair of members.

The candidates are all aware of the challenges. In varying degrees, they were encouraged to address the tumult within the board and iron out the bumps in collaboration with new President Kevin Guskiewicz.

Also on the ballot are Libertarian Party candidate Grant T. Baker; Green Party candidate John Anthony La Pietra; and two candidates from the U.S. Taxpayers Party, John Paul Sanger and Janet M. Sanger.

Here's a thumbnail on each candidate:

Bahar-Cook, 54, is the mother of two MSU undergraduates. Her daughter, Sara, is going to MSU for graduate school. She's the CEO of her own business, Capitol Fundraising Associates, and has worked behind the scenes in getting numerous political candidates elected, including former Gov. Jennifer Granholm, former state Sen. Curtis Hertel and many others.

Her husband, Todd Cook, is also no stranger to Ingham County and statewide politics, currently serving as the Michigan Senate Business Office director.

Bahar-Cook served on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners for 12 years. She is best known for bringing people together to complete a project, whether it's Whitmer's inauguration or the Greater Lansing Food Bank's Empty





Democrats Rebecca Bahar Cook, of East Lansing, and former legislator Tommy Stallworth want to fill the trustee seats at Michigan State University that Dianne Byrum and Dan Kelly are vacating.





Mike Balow of Plymouth and Julie Maday of Novi are the Republican candidates for the top spots. Terms are eight years.



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Plate dinner.

Her top priority for the MSU board, initially, is to listen, find areas where trustees and school leaders have general agreement and move forward with that.

"I'm always interested in listening and bringing people together," she said. "If board members are willing to listen to each other, great things can happen."

As for former trustees she admired, Bahar-Cook pointed immediately to Faylene Owen.

"She picked out the things she cared about and dove into it," she said. "I'd like to do the same thing."

What areas would Bahar-Cook like to dive into? She doesn't know right now. If elected, her focus will be to "listen and learn."

Her campaign strategy is not necessarily about advancing herself but realizing that she'll do well if the top of the

Election Preview 2024

ticket does. That means being a surrogate when she's able and assisting with getting out voters for Democrats.

"I can't go to 10 million doors," she said. "It's all about getting out the vote, making sure Democrats are turning up at the polls and mailing in those ballots."

Stallworth, 71, is a former state legislator and gubernatorial staffer who is doing contract work with the state's opioid response and on economic development in distressed communities like Highland Park. His wife, Nicole Wells-Stallworth, is the executive director of Planned Parenthood of Michigan after having done lobbying work for Oakland University.

Her grandfather is James Bibbs, the first Black track coach in the Big Ten and the first Black coach in MSU history.

Stallworth graduated from MSU in 1975 with a degree in urban planning and development. He worked in several roles over the years, but he's best known today as being a legislative mentor for new Legislative Black Caucus members.

"I've got a lot of experience in dealing with complex issues and being a unifying force," he said. "I think the public, and those who know me, trust me, which is why people encouraged me to run."

In the Legislature and with the governor, Stallworth earned a reputation for bringing together people of all personal and political backgrouds.

Stallworth said he'd approach being a trustee with the assumption that everyone on the board is interested in public service and trying to do their best for MSU.

He said MSU is especially important to him and his children, two of whom are graduates. As a community elder, he wants to ensure graduates can use the positive experiences they gained from MSU in their careers.

"I see this as an opportunity to help those who are interested in contributing to make the school the best it can be," Stallworth said. "Sometimes we get sideways in that. We get emotional and do things that are counterproductive. Hopefully, as a board, we can recalibrate and refocus on those reasons that got us to run in the first place."

Balow, 52, initially got into the MSU board politics when the men's and women's swimming and diving teams were cut in 2020. His daughter, Sophia,

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As ARP money expires, officials look to millage to keep program going

Ingham County commissioners earmarked \$9 million in American Rescue Plan funds to add more "affordable, accessible and sustainable housing" through the Ingham County Housing Trust Fund in April 2022.

Some of those federal dollars were used for new-build, single-family home projects, including a pair underway in south Lansing at 2101 Reo Road and 4512 Ingham St., plus seven more in various stages throughout the city. They also helped boost partner organizations like the Eastside Community Action Center, which uses those funds to rehab and rebuild old homes in and near the Potter-Walsh Neighborhood.

With those ARP dollars set to expire in 2026, Ingham County commissioners voted 11-3 on June 25 to place a Housing and Homeless Millage on the Nov. 5 ballot to maintain the county's housing initiatives.

If passed, it would increase local property taxes by 50 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value through 2027. The county expects to raise an additional \$5,618,512 in the first calendar year of the increase.

According to the ballot language, the money raised would be used "for the purposes of expanding and improving the quality of housing available to low- and moderate-income families and to prevent and reduce homelessness." That includes restoring or repairing "detrimental hous-



er Schneider/City Pulse

The American Rescue Plan, a federal program, is paying for construction of this single-family house at 4512 Ingham St. in south Lansing. With ARP funding set to expire in 2026, Ingham County is seeking a tax millage to replace those dollars.

ing conditions" in existing properties throughout the county.

Ingham County Treasurer Alan Fox, who helped craft the proposal, said the ballot language was intentionally written to allow more flexibility in how the millage funds could be spent.

"The county had a health services millage that was adopted just before Obamacare. It was intended to essentially deal with uninsured people, but that millage was so narrowly drawn that the county had millions and millions of dollars sitting there that it wasn't allowed to spend on anything except providing Obamacare," Fox explained.

"We learned from that that if you have an issue of overwhelming concern — and housing is comparable to health coverage and health insurance in that manner — that drawing a millage narrowly risks putting us in a spot where you're taxing people but not able to do anything with the money," he added.

Fox noted that the millage funds would be spent at the discretion of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners, "with the advice" of the Housing Trust Fund's board. The fund was created to administer \$9 million in ARP money for affordable housing. Its board was expanded this summer from seven to 11 members "to include more points of view," Fox said.

"We want the Board of Commissioners to be able to respond to not just the circumstances as they are today, but the circumstances as they are a few years from now, which may be completely different," Fox said.

He said the money it would raise could be used to bolster existing "funding stacks" associated with existing project proposals that require additional funds to get off the ground.

"I'm not worried about running out of projects," he said, noting that the county has plenty of submitted proposals. "I'm more worried about figuring out how best to prioritize them."

Fox said the goal should be to select proposals with "the most short-term impact," which he described as "projects that are ready to get going, where the thought has already been put into it, the permits are already drawn or close to being drawn and the neighborhood's already been consulted."

"There are plenty of those around," he said.

Some Trust Fund money has also been spent on multi-tenant builds, including \$1.5 million towards a 76-unit, mixed-use apartment complex

See Millage, Page 11

MSU trustees

from page 8

was a sophomore on the team. He did not feel the administration was clear or consistent with its rationale.

Since then, Balow has spread his wings on his MSU administration critique, whether it's the school's insular post-Nassar response or general non-transparency.

He shook his head at the board expenditure to investigate Trustees Dennis Denno and Rema Vassar for speaking their minds about the school releasing documents that allegedly were protected under attorney-client privilege.

The school also was not clear enough on why it besmirched Gupta's reputation by demoting him, Balow said "Their response to these things has been, 'Trust us. We're doing the right thing," he said. "No. We can't take steps to protect the brand of the university by damaging the public trust."

Balow sees his experience on community boards as bringing a stabilizing presence to the MSU board. He said he doesn't like having to run under a partisan label because he sees himself as a pragmatic parent "tired of the nonsense."

"I'm promising voters that I'll give them their attention," he said. "I'll use my voice and my vote. I won't embarrass the board. I'll work with whomever, regardless of political leaning, for the kids and getting them to the right place."

Maday, 54, sat on numerous city boards and commissions before being elected to the City Council in Novi. A University of Michigan-Dearborn graduate, Maday married a Spartan, David Maday, and came to bleed green and white through her relationships with him and their expanded social circle.

Her interest in the MSU board came when her son, Blake, was a freshman at State and reacted so badly to the mandatory vaccine he was hospitalized. With Blake a Broad School senior, her interest in serving was fueled when Gupta was demoted as dean.

From there on, Maday said she has been frustrated by watching the board's infighting and dysfunction.

"I am a breast cancer survivor. Two years and three surgeries later, I realized how mortal we are. We are here for a short time, and I didn't feel like I should sit back when I had a chance to make a real difference," she said.

Maday said she is not a fan of the board's practice of hashing out differences behind closed doors. She's not someone who will go along to get along. If she

Election Preview 2024

has an opinion, she said she'll make that known while being respectful.

Also, Maday said she doesn't support biological males competing in women's sports, considering it a women's rights issue. A free speech advocate, she is concerned that those with different opinions don't feel comfortable expressing them at proper times out of fear of having a falling out with their professors.

Overall, she said the MSU board has "lost its way."

"I want to see the university get back to where it was when we fell in love with it."

Millage

from page 10

at the former Walter French School in Lansing, Another \$500,000 went into the Pointe West Condominiums in the 1200 block of Saginaw Street, which will hit the market this December with up to \$30,000 in down-payment assistance available for buyers.

Ingham County Land Bank properties like the old Pleasant Grove School, old Leslie High School and the RC Bottling Plant could house similar projects, Fox said.

Eric Schertzing, who served as county treasurer for 21 years through 2022, is another prominent supporter of the millage increase. Because Ingham County doesn't impose its own sales tax, he said, millage proposals are a particularly important funding source.

"The public finance system in Michigan is, at best, suboptimal. It's very limited in the ways that local governments can raise money. Local income taxes are only in certain cities, so county finances are typically more



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

This single-family house at 2101 Reo Road is another example of construction that ARP money is funding.

stable because they're more diverse," he said.

Schertzing, now the executive director of the Michigan Association of Land Banks, cited the county's Land Bank and Housing Trust Fund as a pair of pivotal tools that have helped the county make big strides in how it addresses housing and homelessness.

He said the funds raised through the proposed millage increase would bolster these initiatives in both the short and long term.

"Local millage dollars are very flexible for leveraging other dollars. So, the hope is that the voters will embrace the millage so that there are additional resources in that housing space that

we can then leverage with other federal and state funds," Schertzing said.

Fox sees the need to address homelessness and housing affordability in the county as "self-evident." But some Republican Ingham County commissioners feared the millage increase would only add to some of their constituents' financial struggles.

Prior to the June vote to place the question on the ballot, Commissioner Monica Schafer said she planned to vote against the motion out of concern that her constituents were already overburdened by taxes and inflation. Commissioner Karla Ruest echoed Schafer, adding that she believed the millage would raise the rent for most residents. Commissioner Randy Maiville cited fears that it would also encourage businesses and developments to relocate outside the county.

Fox dismissed their concerns.

"We're not going to be plucking it all down in one place and having a big ribbon cutting," Fox said. "We're going to be trying to spread it to organizations and projects that have longterm benefits."

- TYLER SCHNEIDER



Wednesday, October 2
2-6 p.m.
Alfreda Schmidt
Community Center
5825 Wise Rd., Lansing

Over a dozen local partners will host a Community Resource Fair to connect BWL residential customers and greater Lansing residents behind on bills to information on resources and financial assistance per available funding and eligibility.

This event is free and open to the public. No pre-registration is necessary.

For more information, visit www.lbwl.com/shutoffprotection.

Mason voters to consider lifting ban on marijuana dispensaries

If approved Nov. 5, Council will decide on allowing two licenses

When Michiganders voted to legalize recreational marijuana in 2018, Mason was among the 1,300 municipalities that continued to prohibit sales.

Since then, Michigan's legal cannabis industry has ballooned into a market that recorded \$3 billion in sales last year.

If Mason had opted in last year, the city would have pocketed more than \$118,000 in cannabis tax sharing revenue from the state. This funding pool has continued to grow since the program began.

Mason could finally join the fold this November if residents vote to allow two dispensaries to be licensed. City Council added the question to the ballot in July.

Mayor Russell Whipple said that decision was spurred, in part, by outside influences.

Twice in the last two years, he said, Michigan lawyers have written to the city about adding a recreational cannabis question to the ballot. The second came in December, when Ypsilanti attorney Anderson Grandstaff informed the Council of his intent to start a petition process for that purpose. In a call with City Pulse, Grandstaff declined to disclose the identity of his client.

"In discussing his letter, we came to the conclusion that it really was not a bad idea to let the people decide," Whipple said. "We said we'd put it to the people, and if the people agreed, we'd write an ordinance, and Council would consider it. More than likely, it would get adopted."

City Council introduced the prospective ballot language in March. Grandstaff, who has sent similar letters to other cities such as Auburn Hills, Harbor Springs and Howell, was willing to work with them to help craft it, Whipple said. Come July 15, members voted unanimously to add the question to the ballot.

"If we were going to do this, we thought it would be better if we wrote it ourselves to make sure there's some consistency," Whipple said. "We just wanted to have some semblance of control over what the law would say."

If it passes, Whipple said there are other factors that will dictate how quickly the dispensaries open. "We've still got to vet it completely. It's also going to involve some changes to our zoning ordinance, if it passes, because we'll have to allow the uses in some zones somewhere," Whipple said. "We're not going to get too bogged down in spending a lot of time on it if we don't even know if it's going to be something we have to work on."

There's reason to believe it could

City Pulse asked Mason residents what they thought about the ballot proposal. Some of their responses are below:

Justin Thayer: "Remember how we couldn't afford a full-size traffic light? Our city could desperately use the revenue. As profitable as antique shops, pizza places and vent cleaning services are, diversity is the spice of life."

Josh Shade: "Lansing has one on every corner, and I haven't seen them paving the streets with gold yet. I'm not a fan of putting taxes into a system I don't trust and hoping that system will put a little morsel for us at the end of that process."

Rex Scheid: "If you allow liquor stores, why is a dispensary any different? Alcohol consumption is far more damaging — like car accidents, domestic violence and alcoholism. It's not 1950 anymore."

Joan Schneider: "People that currently use dispensaries will be just as high driving back to and around Mason. Imagine if these people did not have to exit the city of Mason and could just make their purchases and go directly home."

Christopher Thomas: "I've worked in the pharmaceutical industry for almost 20 years, so I see what 'big pharma' has done to people and their families when it comes to 'pain management' addiction. I've also seen the results people can get by using other forms of pain management such as medicinal marijuana, and those side effects always seem to be way less."

Erik Almquist: "Revenue sharing can be used to pay for more fire and police protection if that's the direction you want to go. It can also help improve public parks. Not having a dispensary does not mean you will not have any of the bad things that

pass. In the 2018 statewide vote, 56% of Michiganders approved legalizing recreational cannabis sales. The city of Mason tallied just above that average, with 57%, or 2,245 of 3,897 votes in favor.

Back then, Whipple was in his second year as mayor and supported opting out of allowing dispensaries in Mason. After several years on the sidelines, he said it's been long

come with it."

Jessy Lasley: "Yes! More revenue for Mason. I can go to Leslie or Lansing, but I'd much rather put that into a local business."

Vickie Zoschnick: "No. The town I grew up in approved them thinking 'it can't hurt.' But accidents due to people driving high has increased dramatically."

Julia Dee: "Someone is going to file a lawsuit and win. Regulate where it is, what it looks like and hours of operation. Being realistic about marijuana is the key. It's far less destructive than alcohol and many stores here sell alcohol."

Brad Robison: "Leslie has one, and that town doesn't seem to have an issue."

Lydia Coe: "Having a dispensary in our town would help so many people! RSO is my main form of pain relief since doctors rarely prescribe narcotics anymore. Nothing else comes close to working."

Richelle Rutledge: "No dispensaries in Mason! I just moved from that crap in Lansing to get away from drugs and crime."

Harlie Kayy: "I don't think one would be bad, but considering we are a smaller, 'quieter' town, we should keep it to a minimum."

Paul Raymond: "I am OK with a dispensary, but I want a portion of that tax money to be spent on enforcing the law and stopping and preventing people from smoking in public and stinking everything up."

Ryan O'Berry: "Bring them in and use the tax money to put a left turn arrow on Cedar and Columbia."

enough to warrant a second look.

"When the law was first passed, there were a lot of questions about how it could be interpreted and implemented at the local level. We wanted to take a wait and see approach, because that's how Mason operates," he said.

City staff examined similar ballot proposals in comparable cities like Birmingham to get a feel for how the process could unfold in Mason.

"The experience we've gained in seeing how it's been rolled out and managed in other communities has given us a good sense of how we might be able to deal with it here," Whipple explained.

If it passes, Whipple said the city could start the process of approving zoning changes and accepting applications early next year.

Miles Mendoza, a resident and employee with a cannabis company operating in Michigan and five other states, showed up to the Council's July 15 meeting to support the proposal. If it were to pass, he urged Council to ensure that whichever businesses were selected would prioritize hiring Greater Lansing residents.

"A lot of that money is typically sent out of the city due to the owners not residing in Mason, whereas facilities like mine employ 100 people and I would say 60% of them are local," Mendoza said.

Mendoza said the city should also consider allowing cannabis growing operations in addition to recreational dispensaries. The proposed ordinance only allows for two of the latter at present, which Mendoza thought was "appropriate" due to Mason's size.

Trish Walley, a resident since 2020, said she plans to vote against the proposal.

"One of the reasons I decided to move to Mason was there are no dispensaries here. I'm in recovery, and I prefer not to be around it. It's bad enough you smell it everywhere already. They are on every block in Lansing. That's enough," she said.

Walley said the city could use a new grocery store, like an Aldi, or other businesses that would "add value" to what she said was a "tight-knit community" focused on "family and small town living."

"The focus needs to be placed on something more positive than drugs. If you want it bad enough, drive to where it's available," she said.

- TYLER SCHNEIDER





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Underwood at (517) 999-6704 or steve@lansingcitypulse.com

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF REGISTRATION FOR THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2024, ELECTION

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing:

Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold an Election on Tuesday, November 5, 2024.

For the purpose of electing candidates to the following offices:

Partisan Section

Presidential: Electors of President and Vice-President of the United States; Congressional: United States Senator, Representative in Congress; Legislative: Representative in State Legislature; State Boards: Member of the State Board of Education, Regent of the University of Michigan, Trustee of Michigan State University, Governor of Wayne State; County: County Prosecuting Attorney, County Sheriff, County Clerk, County Treasurer, County Register of Deeds, County Drain Commissioner, County Commissioner (NOTE: Straight Party Ticket will be a voting option for this election)

Nonpartisan Section

Judicial: Justice of Supreme Court, Judge of Court of Appeals, Judge of Circuit Court, Judge of Probate Court, Judge of District Court; Community College: Board of Trustees Member Lansing Community College; Local School District: Board Member (Lansing, East Lansing, Holt, and Waverly School District)

For the purpose of voting on the following proposals:

County: Housing and Homeless Millage (Ingham County ONLY), Lodging Excise Tax Increase (Ingham County ONLY), Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) Millage Renewal Proposition City of Lansing, City of East Lansing, Meridian Township, Lansing Township, and Delhi Township

Any qualified elector who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of their local clerk, the office of their county clerk, a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms may be obtained at www.Michigan.gov/vote and mailed to or dropped off at the office of the of the local clerk. Any qualified elector that has a Michigan Driver's License or Personal ID can also register to vote at www.Michigan.gov/vote. Voters who are already registered may update their voter registration at www.Michigan.gov/vote.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the Lansing City Clerk's Office is **Monday**, **October 21**, **2024**.

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the following locations and times:

Location	Address	Regular Business Hours September 26 – November 1
City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave 9 th Floor Lansing, MI 48933	Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
Reo Elections Office	1221 Reo Rd. Lansing, MI 48910	Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm Wednesdays 8am – 7pm

Additional times outside of the above listed regular business hours are as follows:

Location	Address	Additional Hours			
a1	124 W Michigan Ave. 9th Floor	Monday November 4 8am – 4pm			
City Hall	Lansing, MI 48933	Election Day November 5 7am – 8pm			
		Saturday October 26 9am – 5pm			
		Sunday October 27 9am – 5pm			
Reo Elections	1221 Reo Rd.	Saturday November 2 9am – 5pm			
Office	Lansing, MI 48910	Sunday November 3 9am – 5pm			
		Monday November 4 8am – 4pm			
		Election Day November 5 7am – 8pm			
		Saturday, October 26 – Sunday, November 3 10am – 6pm			
Foster Community Center	200 N. Foster Lansing, MI 48912	Monday November 4 10am – 4pm			
		Election Day November 5 7am – 8pm			

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

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

The Lansing City Clerk's Office must have a signed application from the voter to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at the locations referenced in the above tables or by visiting our website at lansingvotes.gov.

Friday, November 1, 2024, at 5:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot be mailed to you.

Monday, November 4, 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, November 5, 2024, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk's Office, locations referenced in the above table.

Chris Swope, MMC/MiPMC Lansing City Clerk Phone: 517-483-4131

Email: city.clerk@lansingmi.gov Website: www.lansingvotes.gov

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#24-666



REVIND NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS



COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES

Gwen Walz, wife of Democratic vice-presidential candidate Tim Walz, spoke Tuesday at Lansing Community College West on the "Fighting for Reproductive Freedom" tour. Speakers included sexual assault survivor and reproductive rights advocate Hadley Duvall, Lansing Mayor Andy Schor, U.S. House Democratic candidate Curtis Hertel



Jr. and Attorney General Dana Nessel. The 50-stop tour is "in key states and touching blue communities and red ones, with support for reproductive rights transcending party lines," the Harris-Walz campaign said. Walz' husband visited East Lansing Sept. 13.



Marcell Marshall, 17, was arrested by Lansing police Monday for the Sept. 17 shooting of two 16-year-old Sexton High School students near the intersection of Riddle and Allegan streets. He will be charged as an adult. Both students suffered non-fatal wounds, with one having been released from hospital care and the oth-

er reported in stable condition Monday. The students were with friends and allegedly approached by Marshall, who all knew each other. One accused Marshall of stealing their property, leading Marshall to shoot both before running away, police said. Bond was denied. Meanwhile, an 18-year-old man was shot in the leg Tuesday afternoon near Moores Park, police said, who called his injuries non-life-threatening.

The Lansing School District has joined some 200 districts in suing Meta, Tik-Tok, Google and Snap Inc. for not provid-



ing "adequate warnings" to children about the dangers of social media. William Shinoff, the district's attorney, said that each district is suing the social media companies independently, which gives them a chance to see how jurors react to each lawsuit and puts more pressure on the social media companies to make changes. The suit was filed in federal district court in California, where the defendants have headquarters.



Dart Container has laid off about 250 employees, including some 160 in its headquarters in Mason. The company said the layoffs, representing 2% of its workforce of 13,000, were needed

to "balance administrative costs with current sales volumes and remain price competitive." Dart, which makes food packaging products including paper and plastic cups, plates, lids and cutlery including the red Solo cup, said it's providing severance, a stipend for those enrolled in Dart medical plans and services to help in job searches.

searches.

The grand opening for the new 1 million-square-foot Amazon.com fulfillment center at 6500 W. Mount Hope Highway in Delta Township was set for today, following more than three



years of construction. The center will be used to receive and consolidate inventory into bulk shipments before transport to nearby fulfillment centers. It employs more than 1,200, who average \$22 an hour.

Waverly High School teacher Robert Herzing, 32, was arrested and charged with accosting a child for immoral purposes, third-degree criminal sexual conduct and using a computer/internet to communicate with another to commit a crime. The arrest outside the Delta Township Library followed more



than four months of Herzing communicating on Grindr and via text messages with an Eaton County detective posing as a 15-year-old boy. The school district said it was not made aware by the county Sherriff's Office until September that Herzing was the subject of a criminal investigation.



Jerry and Tamal Flore, of Dewitt, were bound over to stand trial in Clinton County Circuit Court on a combined 26 criminal child-

abuse felony charges, Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel announced. The Flores, charged in December 2023, are accused of adopting children for financial gain and subjecting the children to abuse under the guise of discipline, dating back to 2007.

Taron Gentry, 29, of Eaton Rapids, was arraigned on one count each of resisting and obstructing police and resisting and obstructing police causing injury and three counts of mail fraud. An Ingham County deputy suffered a shoulder injury during a struggle with Gentry near the intersection of Featherstone



Drive and Kinglet Court while arresting him. Gentry is suspected of stealing mail from mailboxes.



Colleen Kelly O'Connor, 58, of East Lansing, was sentenced to six months in jail and 18 months' probation in the 2022 death of Lois Kathryn Cary, 82, who went outside during blizzard conditions and died from exposure while residing at Vista Springs Imperial Park at Timber Ridge Village on Park Lake Road in

Bath Township. O'Connor failed to prevent Cary from going outside, the attorney general said.



In the Old Town alley, a space age robot is joining the likes of Elvis. The robot is part of an intergalactic mural Lansing artist Bob Rose is painting on the rear wall of Katalyst Art Gallery and Gift Boutique on Turner Street.

A facing wall has a mural of a giant Elvis, and a cobbled-together robot lurks nearby in the bushes.

Robots are often portrayed as menacing, but Rose's robot, Phil Z-53, is playing with a bumble bee on a summer beach.

Throughout history, robots have found their way into popular culture, like C-3P0 in "Star Wars," on "The Simpsons" and a themed record album by the Alan Parsons Project. Of course, Isaac Asimov's book "I, Robot" from 1950, which originally appeared as pulp fiction short stories in the 1940s, was the progenitor for numerous offshoots of robot-themed books movies and characters, like Robby the Robot, which first appeared in 1956 in the movie "Forbidden Planet." One of Asimov's robot short stories was called "Robbie."

Rose has supplemented the mural with odd-looking robot creatures like "Kayninner T3775D," which could double as a robot pet.

Rose is ready to move on to his next project: organizing Halloween-themed window painting in downtown Lansing featuring an array of mural artists, including Dennis Preston and Ryan Holmes.

"I do murals to relax," Rose said.
"It's odd but relaxing." Be sure to check out his bathroom art at Harry's Bar on Lansing's west side.

BILL CASTANIER

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

Racist politics eating Springfield, Ohio, and America

By DEDRIA HUMPHRIES BARKER

Kamala Harris says we're not going back, but these past two weeks has me hearing the refrain to a popular 2010 junkanoo band song by Baha Men. The song refrain was, "Who let the dogs out? Who? Who? Who? Who? Who let the dogs out?"

The answer is racist politicians. Their bite has sunk deep, tearing a ragged-edged hole in Springfield, Ohio's, pursuit of community happiness.

Springfield city officials canceled their diversity, arts and local culture celebration set for this weekend in the aftermath of a rumor spreading about people violating American food customs. Hate has descended on the city, threatening safety at the

The event is called CultureFest, but it could be called art fair. Or Pow-Wow. Or Juneteenth. Or Fiesta. Or Tet Festival. Or tailgating. St. Patrick's Bash.

Ox Roast. Blues, or Jazz, or Blue Grass Fest.

public event.

We've all been to these kinds of events. They are all about community, not politics, though a petition might be circulated or candidates allowed to shake hands. It's not about them. It's about getting out of the house. Meeting neighbors and friends, and catching up.

It's the kind of thing we longed to do after the shutdown, but now these mundane community festivals been chewed by the canine-toothed, foaming-at-the-mouth presidential campaign of the Republican Party, which used racism to eat the heart of Springfield, and America.

JD Vance, an Ohio U.S. senator and the Republican vice-presidential can-

didate, lied about Springfield's Haitian residents. Media attention was his goal; racism was his tool.

If it had not been Springfield, it would have been some other town struggling to right itself after an epic fall from industrialism. I feel especially bad that it is Springfield, Ohio, because I owe them.

The event that sparked my book, "Mother of Orphans:

The True and Curious Story of Irish Alice, a Colored Man's Widow," happened in Springfield. My great grandparents, a mixed-race couple, lived in Springfield. When my great-grandfather died in 1912, my great-grandmother put their three

> Black children into an orphanage in Springfield. And that's all my family ever knew about this event until I started researching.

My mother thought the cause was solely racism; I had a different idea, yet while researching I discovered Springfield is as good as it can be, but, like the U.S., not without flaws. Like racism.

America's efforts to avoid dealing with slavery and the resulting racism has been front-page news for years, and a rock in



the shoe of Black people. But now here comes the presidential contest of Beauty and the Beast to fire-up a smoldering unease about the newcomer Haitians. Black people who have achieved critical mass, some 15,000, now composing about 25% of the Springfield popula-

tion. It can happen to any small U.S. In the early 20th century, Spring-

field was the straw that stirred the national drink. A prominent player in the formation of the farm equipment corporation International Harvester, Springfield boasted that it was "second

only to Chicago."

But it has not been that in a long, long time, like a century.

What Springfield needs is people. What residents are trying to accept is that those people are Haitians. They settled in a town most Americans would not consider. It's the same with farm labor. If Americans worked the fields, there would be no work for migrants, but Americans don't.

Fortunately, some Haitians have good jobs, such as the electrical engineer who owns his home and three other properties. In the midst of this mess, he was quoted as saying, "They hate us." And so shrinks Haitian pride in their meaningful contribution to their new community.

Most American towns have race problems to rise above. Detroit's 1943 race riot erupted in an environment of resentment over Black people having good jobs. In that melee, police killed 17 Blacks; 675 people were injured. Then came 1967.

Springfield had twin race riots at the beginning of the 20th century -1904and 1906. Those involved a Black man killing a white man. But in both cases the flowing lava was the more than

4,200 Black people living in a city of 45,000. Black kids attending good public schools; Black people owning businesses. Unions barring Black members. A KKK presence.

The result was the Black neighborhood, called the Jungles by people who wrote the history, burned. Like in Tulsa. Hundreds of innocent Black people victimized because they were Black.

No way Springfield, which now makes useful, small-money items like brooms, is supposed to be at the core of presidential politics and national media. But it's there, shoved by a crudely grasping presidential campaign that seeks to incite national mob tendencies, and heave vulnerable and excitable voters off the cliff.

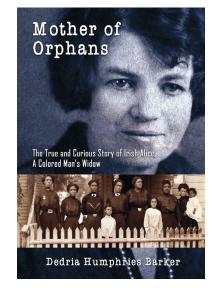
It ignored and undermined community institutions, which, though imperfect, nevertheless are local. Police, mayor and state governor all said, nothing to see here.

Except community sacrificed, prey to hate and fear and lies, dumped into the volcano of political ambition.

Like most of the U.S., Springfield has a history of intolerance of non-whites. That makes America easy pickings for crooked candidates whose aim for high public office is personal, and only personal.

That's the tragedy of canceling CultureFest, a community gathering trying to dilute a cauldron of simmering suspicion. These celebrations of diversity, while simple, hold different people together in community, and move them

(Dedria Humphries Barker is a Lansing author, educator and freelance writer whose column appears on the last Wednesday of each month. She can be reached on Facebook.)



Opinion



The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, October 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider an ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan to amend the Lansing Codified Ordinances by amending Part 12, Title 4, Chapter 1236, Sections 1236.02 1236.03, and 1236.07 to correct internal references and clarify lot size requirements for residentially zoned lots. Descriptions of the proposed changes can be found on www.lansingmi.gov/374/Zoning.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing, or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave. Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MiPMC www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#24-667



Trump's Project 2025 agenda threatens Michiganders' reproductive freedoms

By PENELOPE TSERNOGLOU

(The writer is a Democratic state representative from East Lansing.)

When my husband and I decided we were ready to be parents, we didn't anticipate the possibility that we

wouldn't be able to conceive on our own. We were devastated every single time we saw that singular line on a pregnancy test, telling us that we would not be welcoming a child into the world anytime soon. It's a silent suffering many women and families go through, but one that's rarely talked about.

And as someone who **Opinion** relied on IVF to have my daughter — I can't imagine what my life would be like if I didn't have access to this treatment.

While Donald Trump lies and tries to erase his extreme record, the reality is his dangerous Project 2025 agenda would give him even more control over our daily lives. He's running on a platform that could effectively ban IVF.

Earlier this year, when the Alabama Supreme Court ripped away access to IVF for hopeful parents in their state, I ticked through a list of "what ifs" about my own path toward becoming a parent. What if this ruling had come eight years ago when I started IVF? What if my own daughter one day needs to use IVF to have a family? What if this had happened in Michi-

To be clear — it's because Trump "proudly" overturned Roe v. Wade that we are living in this reality of "what ifs" and women across the country are living in places where we can't control our own bodies or build our families the way that's best for us. It's because Trump and the judges he appointed that access to IVF is at risk and doctors and nurses are being threatened with prosecution and jail time for doing their jobs.

Trump has not only refused to say whether he would veto federal legislation that would ban abortion and

threaten IVF access across the country – his extreme Project 2025 agenda would literally threaten IVF, ban abortion nationwide, restrict access to birth control, and allow the government to monitor women's pregnancies.

Trump and Vance have made it clear that they don't care about women and

> our reproductive freedoms, and their Project 2025 agenda could overrule the health care protections that Michiganders overwhelmingly voted to support.

Luckily, Michigan has a choice this November to protect our reproductive freedoms — and that's a vote for Vice President

Kamala Harris and Gov. Tim Walz.

The contrast between these two tickets could not be starker.

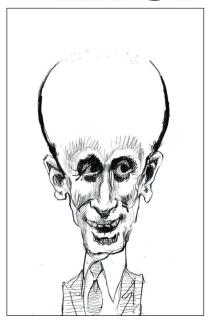
While Trump endorses the extreme abortion bans throughout the country, calling them a "beautiful thing to watch," and appointed an anti-IVF judge to a lifetime federal judicial appointment, Harris has fought to clean up his mess, leading the Biden-Harris administration's response to the overturning of Roe v. Wade and fighting to pass a law to restore reproductive freedoms for women in every state.

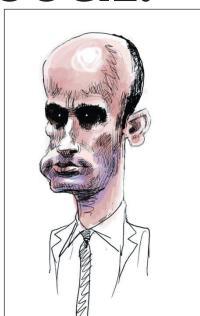
And while Vance criticized abortion laws with exceptions for rape or incest and voted to block the Right to IVF Act in June, Walz signed a law protecting reproductive freedom in Minnesota after Trump overturned Roe v. Wade. And I know we can trust Walz to protect these freedoms as vice president because he relied on fertility treatments to have his daughter.

It's all on the line this election, even here in Michigan — because Trump's extreme Project 2025 agenda would give him nearly unrestricted power and override our protections.

We can't trust another Trump presidency to protect our reproductive freedoms, when the one promise he kept last time was ripping them away.

LET'S BOOGIE!





Wikipedia describes Stephen Miller as a political adviser. He bears a remarkable physical resemblance to Joseph Goebbels, whose official title was Hitler's Reich Minister of Propaganda and then eventually Reich Plenipotentiary for Total War.

So, the resemblances aren't just physical.

Miller demonstrated his zeal, extremism and aptitude for propaganda at an early age.

For example, when he was 16, Miller wrote a letter to the editor of the Santa Monica Outlook stating: "Osama bin Laden would feel very welcome at Santa Monica High

One wonders how welcome a tall thin Muslim wandering the halls of SMHS in a skullcap and thobe would have been to students passing by in jeans, halter tops and

Miller's pattern of hate and extremism has continued unabated throughout his

Miller authored Bozo's policy of separating migrant children from their parents and has been noted for promoting white nationalism and wild, deep state conspiracy He is listed by the Southern Poverty Law Center as an extremist — an understatement, from evidence available in the public record

Miller allegedly suggested "dipping [al-Baghdadi's head] in pig's blood and parading it around to warn other terrorists". He denies this.

Miller is intimately connected with Project 2025, the blueprint for the next Bozo administration modeled roughly on Mein Kampf. Again, the available evidence, which includes research from reliable sources like the Center for American Progress, claims, "One of the most powerful architects is Stephen Miller, a top West Wing adviser for the Trump administration." — Axios, Nov. 13, 2023. Miller denies this. Wink, wink,

And then there is the evidence of Bozo's public statements, affirming parts of 2025 paralleled in Mein Kampf: "We will demolish the deep state." Bozo vows to wipe out something that doesn't exist, and his cult followers love it.

According to Bozo's own statements, he " ... seeks to sweep away civil service protections that have been in place for more than 140 years." He has said he'd make "every executive branch employee fireable by the president of the United States" at will. (But Bozo tried to cast Project 2025 as full of "some ideas, I guess, some good, some bad," while also claiming, "I haven't read it. I don't want to read it." "I haven't read it" is

Miller's devotion to Bozo also has echoes of Goebbels' admiration of Hitler: "I love him ... He has thought through everything,

Goebbels was also notable for killing all of his children with cyanide before committing suicide with his wife Magda as Hitler was defeated.

We have a lot to look forward to when Bozo loses

P.S. Unlike Goebbels, Miller is Jewish.

(The Boogie Kings is an e-newsletter written by Bob Baldori, with art by David Small. The Boogie Kings Newsletter is published several times a week. To subscribe, go to theboogiekings.substack.com.)

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS, CHILL GRANT

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds, CDBG Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Grant, For Tiered Projects and Programs

Date of Publication: September 25, 2024 Charter Township of Meridian 5151 Marsh Road Okemos, MI 48864 517 853 4000

On or after October 2, 2024, the Charter Township of Meridian will submit a request to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) for the release of CDBG Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, Public Law 93-383 as amended 42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq., to undertake the following project:

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: Meridian Charter Township's CDBG Housing Increasing Local Livability Grant

Purpose: The primary goal is to assist low- and moderate-income households within the determined target areas of Towar Gardens and Core Haslett, with their housing repair and improvement needs. Housing assisted through this program will be restored to a good, and safe condition. Eligible renovation activities may include correction of code compliance violations, major housing components that may need replacement within five (5) years, items to make the house energy efficient and less costly to the participant, and necessary accessibility improvements.

Rather than build out an internal team and stand up a new program, the Township intends to contract implementation of the program to Capital Area Housing Partnership (CAHP). CAHP is very experienced in this field and will oversee administrative aspects of program implementation including participant outreach, eligibility determination, creation of work specification and necessary bid documentation, contractor selection and oversight, and program reporting as necessary. The Township will be responsible for oversight of the program parameters.

The Township is targeting areas that we know have more persons of low to moderate income means, neighborhoods that have older housing, and areas that have a higher-than-average number of code enforcement issues, which can lead towards degradation in the quality of housing. We will leverage a portion of the Township ARPA allocation to pay for the third party administration of the grant, ensuring that all of the MSHDA funding will be put towards actual construction costs for homeowners.

The purpose of this project is to bring 12 single-family homes up to code within the Towar Gardens and Core Haslett neighborhoods in Meridian Township, utilizing the \$480,000 we were awarded and an additional \$86.400 in local funding for grant administration. The project scope will not include any new construction or change the footprints of the existing homes.

Location: The project locations are the Core Haslett and Towar Garden neighborhoods, in the northern part of Meridian Township. Specific addresses will be assessed in the site specific reviews

Project/Program Description: After applications from homeowners are received (first come, first served basis), project sites will be selected based off eligibility. The funding will allow selected homeowners to make critical repairs that meet code standards, resulting in safer and more secure homes for residents. **Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known.**

Level of Environmental Review Citation: 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i)

Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site specific reviews will cover the following laws and

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS, CHILL GRANT

authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review: Flood Insurance, Floodplain Management, Wetlands Protection, Contamination and Toxic Substances, Historic Preservation – SHPO, Noise Abatement and Control, Environmental Justice, Asbestos, Lead Based Paint and Radon

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any): Each site will be reviewed and tested as necessary and when applicable. Any findings of these reports will be addressed in accordance with MSHDA, EPA, OSHA and HUD requirements.

Estimated Project Cost: \$480,000 in HUD CDBG funds, \$86,400 in local match

The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8 A.M to 5 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Charter Township of Meridian's Clerk's Office. All comments received by Wednesday, October 2, 2024 will be considered by the Charter Township of Meridian prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Charter Township of Meridian certifies to MSHDA that Tim Schmitt, Certifying Officer, in his capacity as Interim Township Manager consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. MSHDA's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the Charter Township of Meridian to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

MSHDA will accept objections to its release of fund and the Charter Township of Meridian's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Charter Township of Meridian; (b) the Charter Township of Meridian has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by MSHDA; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to MSHDA at 735 E. Michigan Ave, PO Box 30044, Lansing, MI 48909. Potential objectors should contact MSHDA to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Tim Schmitt, Interim Township Manager, Certifying Officer

Materials related to the request are available for viewing in the Department of Community Planning and Development office (5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, 48864), Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm, or on the Township website at the following location: www.meridian.mi.us/about-us/departments/community-planning-development. Written comments may be sent prior to October 2 to Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to massie@meridian.mi.us.

Deborah Guthrie Township Clerk

ity.

ALL STATE REQUIREMENTS.

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ARTS & GULTURE TO LANDAL ART-BOOKS-FILM-MUSIC

Peace, love and Islam

Annual Salaam Peace Festival celebrates community, culture and cuisine

By CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS

Christa Razzaq spends most of the Islamic Center of East Lansing's annual Salaam Peace Festival at the "try on a hijab" booth, where visitors can learn more about the headscarf worn by some Muslim women.

"Most people have never tried on a hijab. It can evoke a full range of emotions, but often they put on the scarf and realize it's just a scarf," Razzaq said. "It's a topic that can be politicized, but this gives people a chance to see what it actually is. People find it interesting, and they ask me to style it for them. It shows a different side to the hijab."

She said sharing her unique perspective as a convert is helpful for non-Muslims who attend the festival.

"Sometimes I will share my hijab story with people," she explained. "It is a scarf, but there's meaning behind it. We, as Muslims, put the meaning to it."

Originally from Tennessee, Razzaq met and married her husband in Washington, D.C., before relocating to his hometown of East Lansing. She has helped organize the relatively new festival, part of the monthlong Greater Lansing PeaceQuest celebration, for the past three years and said its growth is a testament to the welcoming nature of the area.

"Not every community in the country is as welcoming as East Lansing," she said.

Salaam Peace Festival

2:30-6:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 29

Islamic Center of East Lansing

920 S. Harrison Road, East

lansingislam.com/festival

Lansing

(517) 351-4309

FREE

This year's third-annual festival will run from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. Sunday (Sept. 29) at the Islamic Center of East Lansing. It's an opportunity to learn about the world's second-largest religion, a faith that comprises 1.9 billion

people and is practiced across the globe, from the Maldives to Michigan. Attendance is free, but pre-registration is requested online at lansingislam.com/festival.

One key feature of the festival is the cultural booths, which give members of the diverse East Lansing Muslim community an opportunity to share the nuances of their unique back-



ourtesy Islamic Center of East Lansing

Imam Sohail Chaudhry gives an Islam 101 presentation during the Islamic Center of East Lansing's 2022 Salaam Peace Festival.

grounds. This year's event will offer about 40 booths.

"There's a misconception that all Muslims are the same," said Imam Sohail Chaudhry of the Islamic Center of East Lansing, explaining that the booths provide the opportunity to share different expressions of arts, crafts and culture. "Sometimes we have more than one booth for each country because even within a country, Muslims are very diverse."

Razzaq added, "Having traveled abroad and worked as a diplomat, I've seen Muslim people all over. Islam is a very unifying religion, and the basic tenets of faith are almost universally practiced. For example, I walked into

a mosque in Indonesia and prayed the same way I learned in D.C. But the way Indonesian women dress is very different from women in D.C. and Michigan."

Each year, the festival raises funds for

a cause impacting the Muslim community, especially refugees. This year, vendors will donate a portion of their profits to support "peace for the people of Gaza," according to Chaudhry.

"All different segments of society are concerned about what's going on. We want everyone to feel that we're together in raising funds and helping the poor and needy," he said. Chaudhry estimates that between 400 and 500 people gathered at last year's event to enjoy the cultural booths, bounce houses for children and the many halal food vendors.

"It's a great opportunity for people to show up and try food from all over the world," he said.

Sunday's vendors will offer Mediterranean, Lebanese, Indian, Indonesian, Afghani, Iraqi and Somali cuisine.

"If we eat together and just meet each other, that in itself is such a positive for the community we live in. That's where we clarify misconceptions, make friends, and our shared humanity comes through," Chaudhry said. "We want people in our community, next time they run into each other at Kroger, to say, 'You're my neighbor, I know you. I learned about your culture, and we ate good food together."

The festival also offers guided mosque tours and "Islam 101" presentations for those seeking a deeper understanding of the faith. But Chaudhry emphasized that the event's power lies in its informal interactions.

Razzaq agreed. "A smile works a thousand ways to bridge gaps," she said. "Sometimes people see a mosque and can feel intimidated, but everyone is welcome."

Chaudhry said that the local community's interest in Islam tends to fluctuate based on "what's going on in the world."

"It's kind of crazy to think how much



Courtesy Islamic Center of East Lansing

Guests enjoy dishes from various world cuisines at the 2022 Salaam Peace Festival.

that affects us here in East Lansing. When there's no controversy, which is a good thing for the world, we don't have as much interest," he said. "We had been hosting monthly Islam 101 sessions and mosque tours for a long time. Of course, during the 2016 election and with Trump's Muslim ban, there was a lot of interest in Islam, and we had a lot of requests from the community for information."

He estimated that during that time, about 40 to 50 people each month would attend the Islam 101 sessions. But by the time the pandemic had subsided, attendance had dropped, and the Islamic Center was looking to do something more with its outreach efforts. That led to the creation of the Salaam Peace Festival in 2022.

"Every year, we dedicate a sermon to peace and justice, and I had been involved in PeaceQuest anyway. When we started looking at what we could do to improve our outreach, we thought, 'Let's try something different," he said.

For Chaudhry, the festival is guided by the question, "How can we bring community members together from all walks of life and give them a platform to interact and learn about each other's points of view?" But, he said, "It has a very different feel from the Islam 101 sessions. It's about unity, promoting education and peace through interactions and having fun together."

'LANSING' brings together seven unique artistic takes



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

Lansing's newest placemaking effort comes in the form of a "Hollywood"-style sign at the corner of Grand Avenue and Saginaw Street.

Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Marissa Tawney Thaler

explains her choice to

paint Moores Park Pool

By TYLER SCHEIDER

"A" is for Azya.

Azya is a former student of Teresa Dunn, an associate painting professor at Michigan State University. Dunn was one of seven artists chosen to paint the "Hollywood"-like "LANSING" sign that was unveiled Monday (Sept. 23) at the corner of Saginaw Street and Grand Avenue. Azya was Dunn's subject for her letter, "A."

"I chose her because she's a strong

Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Theresa Rosado dis-

cusses her work on the

second "N" of the new

Lansing sign.

woman, she's confident, she's proud of her Blackness," said Dunn, an artist who has taught at MSU since 2006. "It was really important to represent that kind of diversity, which is a foundation of the city of Lansing."

Dunn and six other local female artists each crafted their own unique pieces for one of the 6-foot-high letters. Emily Wilson designed the "L," Jasmyne Wells "N" No. 1, Cait Schneider "S," Sara Pulver "I," Theresa Rosado "N" No. 2 and





Bill Castanier for City Pulse Emily Wilson poses with her letter "L."



Sara Pulver stands in front of her letter "l."

Marissa Tawney Thaler "G."

The project was the result of \$40,000 in combined grants, with \$30,000 coming from the city's own Saginaw Street Corridor Improvement Authority and \$10,000 from the Michigan Economic Development Corp.'s Community Development Fellowship.

Each letter pays homage to different aspects of Lansing's historical identity in different art styles. Viewed as a whole, the pieces are cohesive in their shared vibrancy, with the paintings

sometimes bleeding into the third dimension beyond their frontward faces.

Rosado, director of Casa de Rosado Galería and Cultural Center, took great care to make sure that her letter "N" featured prominent Hispanic figures in Lansing's history, like former Mayor Tony Benavides and artist Rosa Lopez Killips.

"A lot of people don't know our Hispanic historical figures in Lansing. They're not represented, they're not talked about, they're left out frequently. So, for me, this is a way of making sure we have our foot

in the door," Rosado said.

Wells, who designed the first "N," came to the table with a concept ripe with some of the city's most iconic places and things already laid out on a canvas.

"It was actually

my original, such as Quality Dairy and Sexton."

Schneider, an experienced her "S."

"I represented on my letter the vibrancy, diversity and strength that Lansing draws

from through its community gardens, its farmers markets and its public events at community centers," Schneider said. "We're talking a lot about place making, and I feel like the people who are growing food and selling food are doing that in a real, tangible way, and Lansing is really beautiful because of it."

Rounding out the sign was Tawney Thaler, who homed in on a more recent development in the effort to maintain and preserve Lansing's history for future generations.

> "I chose to depict the historic Moores Park Pool with the stacks in the background. This pool and the restoration project around it have meant a lot to a lot of disenfranchised people. On the south side, there are a lot of people who feel like they get left out of a lot of decisions. The pool is such a huge gem to the community, and I chose to depict it because of the palpable excitement around its restoration right now," Tawney Thaler said.

> Lansing Mayor Andy Schor noted that one of the goals he set for his tenure was to continue to take steps to show off more of Lansing's creative community for visitors and residents alike. He was impressed to see the final product after seeing bits and pieces of the concept art in recent months.

> "We've seen it in writing and on drawings, and we've kind of been told what it's going to look like, but until you see it yourself, you don't realize the power of this piece of art," Schor said. "I have seen these in other cities, and we've said, 'This would be really important to have here, but let's do it right.' Let's not just have the letters, let's have the letters showing off our local artists and the excitement, color and vibrancy of our city."



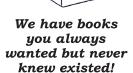
on the letter "G."

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urban farmer, decided to incorporate her own experiences with sustainable produce on



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Artist Cait Schneider

said her work on the

letter "S" stemmed

from her appreciation

for urban farming and

area farmers markets.

Tyler Schneider/City Pulse Jasmyne Wells utilized dozens of iconic Lansing images for the first "N" in "LANSING."

SaltRock Brewing Co. breathes new life into historic Bailey Buildings

By TYLER SCHNEIDER

In the 1920s, grocer Orla H. Bailev had a pair of storefronts built just northwest of the Capitol on Ionia Street. Added to the National Register



of Historic Places in 2021, the buildings have housed a series of businesses over the last century, including Bailey's grocery store, a bakery, two barber shops and a florist.

SaltRock Brewing Co. an experienced

519 W. Ionia St., Lansing 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Wednesday-11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday (517) 580-3836 saltrockbrewingco.com

Kelly, Steve brewer former private chef, leased the property in late 2019, hoping to open a brewpub. The pandemic postponed those

plans, but the idea endured, and SaltRock Brewing Co. opened in one of the Bailey Buildings on July 19.

"We had cars lined up and down the street for our opening, and the community has been quite gracious to us," manager Michelle Brown said. "We're starting to get repeat customers now who seem to really enjoy having somewhere like this within walking distance."

Brown said SaltRock differs from other brewpubs due to its emphasis on higher-end, scratch-made food.

"The type of food we're selling, for a brewery, is completely different than anything else in Lansing. We're serving tomahawk steaks, and people also really seem to enjoy our bacon-wrapped jalapeno poppers and our carrot cake," she said. The brewery also serves brunch between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The rotating drink menu is the icing on the cake. In addition to house brews like the S.M.A.S.H. IPA and the Big Penny nitro stout, SaltRock also makes its own hard seltzers and ciders and serves Michigan-made wines.

"We switch the drink menu out a lot because we're brewing it all on-site. Just like any other place, when we run out, we'll bring in something new," Brown said. The brewery is also working on acquiring its liquor license so it can begin offering house-made spirits.

The new space, which includes a bar,



Lansing's new SaltRock Brewing Co. can accommodate 80 guests between its two dining areas and outdoor patio.

two dining rooms and a patio, can seat about 80 people, but Brown said the brewery is already looking to expand to the other Bailey Building next door, which is undergoing renovations to become a private event area.

Brown, who's worked in food service since the late 1990s, cited her new employer as the "best" she's ever worked for. Her favorite part of the job so far has been watching former Lansing residents return to see how SaltRock has revitalized the historic property.

"The other day, we had some elderly women who were in their late 70s come in. They were telling us about how they used to come over here and play when they were kids," Brown said. "It makes a lot of people happy to see a building that was left to decay be turned into something useful for the community."











Williamston Theatre's first commission tackles post-apocalyptic morality

By MARY CUSACK

Williamston Theatre is known for its balance of weighty dramas and crowd-pleasing comedies. Its 18th season is no different, opening with a world-premiere play about social structure in the wake of an environmental disaster.

or an environmental disaster. Survive "Thirst," and you'll get to enjoy "A Very Williamston Christmas" later this year.

The theater commissioned playwright Terry Guest to create a story about water rights, human rights and corporate greed. The result is an amalgamation of a Hitchcock plotline set against the backdrop of the 2013 film "Elysium," with hints of the 2017

thriller "Get Out" thrown in for extra ickiness.

The story takes place 20 years in the future, some time after a toxic spill poisoned the Great Lakes. The disaster has furthered the wealth gap, forcing the working poor to live in subsidized housing and take pills to stay

hydrated. As in "Elysium," the workers put their health on the line daily, in this case cleaning up the toxic waste in the Great Lakes. Meanwhile, the wealthy elite, like Frank and Florence

Doyle (John Lepard and Janet Haley), drink filtered water and play marriage war games, using select proles as their weapons.

This is the scenario that prostitute Jazz (Zahirah Muhammad)

stumbles into when Frank hires her for more than a few minutes of gratification. Jazz is hustling to support her ill mother, and Frank uses this sense of responsibility to chip away at her morals, pulling her into his plot to kill off Florence for her money. Jazz soon forges a bond

with Frank's chauffeur, Spencer (Jayla Fletcher), and the two women try to outmaneuver the amoral and self-absorbed couple. To say more would spoil the plot twists.

Although the basic plotline isn't incredibly original, setting the show in a dying society gives the story an in-

teresting level of gravitas. It's easy for audiences to imagine what choices they would make under similar circumstances because variations of this imagined world exist here and now. What "Thirst" shows is the moral cost of shifting from surviving to thriving in a world of great disparity.

Lepard has played an array of cads, scoundrels and boors, and his portrayal of Frank as a trophy husband is spot-on. Frank tells Spencer that he's not a bad guy; he's just a guy who does bad things. In Jazz's company, he makes himself out to be a victim of Florence's ambition. Is he deceiving himself, his audience or both?

Haley is outstanding as Florence, effortlessly shifting from a powerhouse corporate professional to a spoiled, needy diva that only her staff and husband see at home. Haley's Florence is physically poised and emotionally brittle, and Haley herself bares more than her soul in a key scene that juxtaposes her power and vulnerability.

It's always easy to marvel at Williamston Theatre's production values, and just when you think it's exhausted the capabilities of its space, it pulls off a real onstage bathing scene. Kudos



Photo by Chris Purchis

From left: John Lepard, Janet Haley, Zahirah Muhammad and Jayla Fletcher in Williamston Theatre's production of "Thirst," by Terry Guest.

to scenic designer Jennifer Maiseloff for creating a beautiful and functional living space.

Muhammad's portrayal of Jazz is nuanced and sometimes ambiguous, leaving room to question where her alliances lie as the story unfolds. Does she develop feelings for Florence, or is she simply drawn in by the comfort and luxury of the Doyles' lifestyle? One final revelation guides her choice, but it may not be the choice most people would make.



Review

7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday

2 p.m. Thursday, Saturday-

122 S. Putnam St., Williamston

"Thirst"

Sunday

Through Oct. 20

(517) 655-7469

Williamston Theatre

williamstontheatre.org



Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Rack Your Brain"
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for 2025!
by Matt Jones
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1. President Franklin

ACROSS

7. Immediately 11. Leatherworker's poker 14. Of a part of the heart 15. LBJ son-in-law Charles 16. By way of 17. *Big, round housecats (answers to starred clues are new words added to Collins Official, for international non-US play as of 1/1/25) 18. *Most materialistic and high-class (using four different vowels) (basically) 20. In 21. Golf stroke 22. Algonquianspeaking Canadian group 23. Four-hour movies, maybe 25. Feathered scarf 26. *Flattens out like a hot resting dog (just a fun word to say) 29. *Whatchamacallit (previously in the list, but with a Y) 33. Infants' sicknesses 34. Four-handed piano song 35. Psychologist/ writer/PBS host LeShan 36. Little help 37. Mario's brother 39. Video games playable by large groups simultaneously 40. Happy tail movement 41. Bit of a cloud 42. American tennis star Stephens 44. *"Isn't that true?" (not a type of mineral)

SUDOKU

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46. *Became a huge fan 2. "Am of (all tenses are now fair game) 47. "Oh yeah? who?" 48. "The Kid" (1950s Western) 49. Liquidation event 51. Oktoberfest (website with an "O'Fest Essentials" category) 53. Nevada neighbor 56. *Cranial attack in a fight (surprisingly, new to the list as one word) 58. *Subject-changing segue word (either spelling is new) 60. Java brewer 61. Multigenerational baseball surname 62. Sweetsop relatives 63. "Yup," without the out-loud part 64. Forrest played by Tom Hanks 65. Malaria-carrying fly

DOWN 1. Lobby gp.

only one?" 3. Greek god of love 4. Wash, as containers for leftovers 5. Sweet spheroid on a stick 6. Golfer Ernie 7. Photographer Diane 8. Chimney remnants 9. Be adjacent to 10. Simple sandwich. for short 11. Statistician's unnamed guy 12. Sagacious 13. "The Show with Stephen Colbert" 19. Desktop image 21. Computer lab inventory 24. "This party rocks!" 25. Commit to the 26. Uh, it's a vowel sound 27. King of Troy in "The lliad" 28. Place for "iced tea"? 29. Harbor hauler 30. Bank jobs 31. "What Have

Deserve This?" (Pet Shop Boys song) 32. Became less difficult 34. Tzatziki, for example 38. Fair laws 39. Any one species constituting a genus 41. "The " (Diana 41. "The Ross musical) 43. Gaps 45. Oregon college near Portland 46. Maya Harris, to Kamala Harris 48. Jokester 49 Avoid 50. Bubbly British chocolate bar 51. "Life & Beth" streamer 52. Molecular component 54. At the drop of bb. "___ the weather up 57. Checkout purchase (if you forgot to bring one) 58. Fitting 59. Sugar suffix

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Answers on page 27

Beginner

4 Fun By The Numbers

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

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 Brezsny

Sept. 25-Oct. 1, 2024

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Here comes the Hating and Mating Season. I want to help you minimize the "hating" part and maximize the "mating" part, so I will offer useful suggestions. 1. To the degree that you can, dissolve grudges and declare amnesty for intimate allies who have bugged you. 2. Ask your partners to help you manage your fears; do the same for them. 3. Propose to your collaborators that you come up with partial solutions to complicated dilemmas. 4. Do a ritual in which you and a beloved cohort praise each other for five minutes. 5. Let go of wishes that your companions would be more like how you want them to be.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Many fairy tales tell of protagonists who are assigned seemingly impossible missions. Perhaps they must carry water in a sieve or find "fire wrapped in paper." Invariably, the star of the story succeeds, usually because they exploit some loophole, get unexpected help, or find a solution simply because they didn't realize the task was supposedly impossible. I bring this up, Taurus, because I suspect you will soon be like one of those fairytale champions. Here's a tip: They often get unexpected help because they have previously displayed kindness toward strangers or low-status characters. Their unselfishness attracts acts of grace into their lives.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You are in a phase with great potential for complex, unforeseen fun. To celebrate, I'm offering descriptions of your possible superpowers. 1. The best haggler ever. 2. Smoother of wrinkles and closer of gaps. 3. Laugher in overly solemn moments. 4. Unpredictability expert. 5. Resourceful summoner of allies. 6. Crafty truth-teller who sometimes bends the truth to enrich sterile facts. 7. Riddle wrestler and conundrum connoisseur. 8. Lubricant for those who are stuck. 9. Creative destroyer of useless nonsense. 10. Master of good trickery. 11. Healer of unrecognized and unacknowledged illnesses.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Tanzanite is a rare blue and violet gemstone that is available in just one place on Earth: a 5-square-mile region of Tanzania. It was discovered in 1967 and mined intensively for a few years. Geologists believed it was all tapped out. But in 2020, a self-employed digger named Saniniu Laizer located two huge pieces of tanzanite worth \$3.4 million. Later, he uncovered another chunk valued at \$2 million. I see you as having resemblances to Laizer in the coming weeks. In my visions of your destiny, you will tap into resources that others have not been able to unearth. Or you will find treasure that has been invisible to everyone else.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Marathon foot races are regularly held worldwide. Their official length is 26.2 miles. Even fast runners with great stamina can't finish in less than two hours. There's a downside to engaging in this herculean effort: Runners lose up to 6% of their brain volume during a race, and their valuable gray matter isn't fully reconstituted for eight months. Now, here's my radical prophecy for you, Leo. Unless you run in a marathon sometime soon, your brain may gain in volume during the coming weeks. At the very least, your intelligence will be operating at peak levels. It will be a good time to make key decisions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Is there a greater waste of land than golf courses? They are typically more than 150 acres in size and require huge amounts of water to maintain. Their construction may destroy precious wetlands, and their vast tracts of grass are doused with chemical pesticides. Yet, there are only 67 million golfers in the world. Less than 1% of the population plays the sport. Let's use the metaphor of the golf course as we analyze your life. Are there equivalents of this questionable use of resources and space? Now is a favorable time to downsize irrelevant, misused and unproductive elements. Reevaluate how you use your space and resources.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): On the morning of Jan. 27, 1970, Libran songwriter John Lennon woke up with an idea for a new song. He spent an hour perfecting the lyrics and composing the music on a piano. Then he phoned his producer and several musicians, including George Harrison, and arranged for them to meet him at a recording studio later that day. By Feb. 6, the song "Instant Karma" was playing on the radio. It soon sold more than a million copies. Was it the fastest time ever for a song to go from a seed idea to a successful release? Probably. I envision a similar process in your life, Libra. You are in a prime position to manifest your good ideas quickly, efficiently and effectively.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You have passed the test of the First Threshold. Congratulations, Scorpio! Give yourself a kiss. Fling yourself a compliment. Then, begin your preparations for the riddles you will encounter at the Second Threshold. To succeed, you must be extra tender and ingenious. You can do it! There will be one more challenge as well: the Third Threshold. I'm confident you will glide through that trial not just unscathed but also healed. Here's a tip from the Greek philosopher Heraclitus: "Those who do not expect the unexpected will not find it."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): What development are you so ready for that you're almost too ready? What transformation have you been preparing for so earnestly that you're on the verge of being overprepared? What lesson are you so ripe and eager to learn that you may be anxiously interfering with its full arrival? If any of the situations I just described are applicable to you, Sagittarius, I have good news. There will be no further postponements. The time has finally arrived to embrace what you have been anticipating.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Capricorn screenwriter and TV producer Shonda Rhimes has had a spectacular career. Her company, has produced 11 prime-time Shondaland. TV shows, including "Grey's Anatomy" and "Bridgerton." She's in the Television Hall of Fame, has won a Golden Globe and is one of the wealthiest women in America. As you enter into a phase when your ambitions are likely to shine extra brightly, I offer you two of her quotes. 1. " realized a simple truth: that success, fame and having all my dreams come true would not fix or improve me. It wasn't an instant potion for personal growth." 2. "Happiness comes from living as your inner voice tells you to. Happiness comes from being who you actually are instead of who you think you are supposed to be.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I have performed in many poetry readings. Some have been in libraries, auditoriums, cafes and bookstores, but others have been in unexpected places: a laundromat, a bus station, a Walmart, a grocery store and an alley behind a thrift store. Both types of locations have been enjoyable. But the latter kind often brings the most raucous and engaging audiences, which I love. According to my analysis, you might generate luck and fun for yourself in the coming weeks by experimenting with non-typical scenarios — akin to me declaiming an epic poem on a street corner or in a parking lot. Brainstorm about doing what you do best in novel situations.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): I have two related oracles for you. 1. During the unfoldment of your mysterious destiny, you have had several homecomings that have moved you and galvanized you beyond what you imagined possible. Are you ready for another homecoming that's as moving and galvanizing as those that have come before?

2. During your long life, you have gathered amazing wisdom by dealing with your pain. Are you now prepared to gather a fresh batch of wisdom by dealing with pleasure and joy?

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezsny'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.

OUTon TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

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

Wednesday, Sept. 25

Acting & Glee Music Class for Kids - 15-week class. Ages 5-12. 4:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - Are you concerned about someone else's drinking? This group welcomes any adult looking for help. 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. cmialanon. org.

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

Broadway Jazz Dance for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

CharLit Adult Book Club: "When Women Were Dragons," by Kelly Barnhill - 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Diane Sanderson Bookend Gallery Display - Diane has a love of animals and nature, which is well-represented in her photography. Stop in and enjoy her work! Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

DJ Trivia at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Join us for some fun trivia and great food and beer. Prizes for first, second and third-place teams. 7 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

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-50olus.com.

Improv Acting for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

It's Elementary - From Bigfoot to Mothman, learn about strange and elusive creatures that have long captivated our imaginations and filled our folklore. Grades 3-6. Registration req. 2:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Joel Ellis Art Display - Original works of art by Joel Ellis are on display through September and October in the Okemos Library's Community Room. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. ioelfellisart.blogsoot.com.

Matter of Balance - Eight-session workshop designed to help older adults improve balance, flexibility and strength. 10 a.m.-noon. St. Johns Lutheran Church, 511 E. Sturgis St., St. Johns. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Meridian Summer Concert Series: Justin Holcomb (singer-songwriter) - 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.

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

Savvy Caregiver Program - Six-week workshop for those caring for a loved one with memory loss. 2:30-4:30 p.m. UM Health-Sparrow Lansing Health Center, 2909 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Shiawassee Artists' Guild Presents: "Reflections" - This group show features a variety of amazing artwork! 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net/shiawwassee-artists-guild-september.

Tap II for Teens & Adults - 15-week class. 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.

Votapek and Friends, Fourth Edition - An evening of music for two pianos, with works by Schumann, Scriabin, Stravinsky and Ravel. Artists: Wei-Qing Tang, Daniel Bazin and Ralph Votapek. 7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing, music.msu.edu.

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

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training -Two-evening class. Learn to identify and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among youth. Ages 18+. Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Thursday, Sept. 26

Acting 101 for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhal-

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Adult Roller Derby Basic Skills Boot Camp - Fourmonth roller derby training course. 6-8 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, Lansing. lansingrollerderby.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - Are you concerned about someone else's drinking^p This group welcomes any adult looking for help. 6:45 p.m. Mason Sparrow Urgent Care, 800 E. Columbia St., Mason. cmialanon.org.

Al-Anon Meeting - 8 p.m. Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1315 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cmialanon.org.

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

Bicycle Rebuilding and Maintenance Class - Learn to rebuild, fix, adjust and maintain your bicycle! Free. 6-8 p.m. Lansing Bike Co-op, 1715 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. lansingbike.coop.

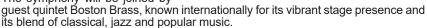
Campfire Glow Paint Party - Learn to paint a glow-in-the-dark campfire scene step by step. We'll also have camping trivia with prizes! 7 p.m. Gravity Smokehouse, 2440 Cedar St., Holt. paintyourpoison.com.

MSU Wind Symphony, featuring Boston Brass

7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26 Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall

750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing

Michigan State University's Wind Symphony will open its season with a concert 7:30 p.m. Thursday (Sept. 26) at the Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall. The symphony will be joined by



The varied program will include the overture from the film "Dancer in the Dark," by Björk; "Downey Overture," by Óscar Navarro; "L.A.tudes," by Jules Pegram; "Perplexing Times," by Gordon Goodwin; "Summertime," by George Gershwin; and "Malagueña," by Ernesto Lecuona.

"This concert promises to be an unforgettable event for both students and audience members," said Kevin Sedatole, MSU's director of bands. "It will highlight the artistry and energy of Boston Brass alongside the dynamic range of our Wind Symphony. Our students are thrilled to work with these musicians, and we believe our patrons will be delighted with this concert."

Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors ages 60 and older and free for students and attendees under 18. They can be purchased online at music.msu.edu, by calling (517) 353-5340 or at the door.

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

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

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

Diane Sanderson Bookend Gallery Display - Diane has a love of animals and nature, which is well-represented in her photography. Stop in and enjoy her work! Noon-6 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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

Pretoria/Get Tuff/LVRS/Headband Henny/The Doozers - 8 p.m. Grewal Hall at 224, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

Joel Ellis Art Display - Original works of art by Joel Ellis are on display through September and October in the Okemos Library's Community Room. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. joelfellisart.blogspot.com.

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

Ladies Silver Blades Skating Club - Join other adult women for fun, exercise, friendship and skating practice. 9:30-11:30 a.m. lce Cube, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. ladiessilverblades.org.

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.

MSU Wind Symphony - Featuring guest quintet Boston Brass. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Parkinson's Exercise: Boxing - Exercise program proven to help enhance strength, balance and agility. Free for people with Parkinson's and their caregivers. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8888. lapsg.org.

"Pickleball" - In this comedy about America's fastest-growing sport, four below-average players must overcome their limitations to achieve greatness. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers - Six-week workshop focusing on self-care for caregivers. 1-2:30 p.m. First Congregational Church, 106 Bostwick St., Charlotte. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

"Refuge Recovery" - Buddhism-based recovery group that can be used for all addictions. Meetings include meditation and readings from the book "Refuge Recovery." 6:30 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

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Events

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Richard Gilewitz Guitar Masterclass - Making use of fingerstyle patterns and music theory fundamentals, Gilewitz will show what sets him apart from other guitarists: The emotional tone he elicits from every piece. 5:30 p.m. Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. elderly.com.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble for All Ages - 15week class, meets biweekly. 5:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Shiawassee Artists' Guild Presents: "Reflections" - This group show features a variety of amazing artwork! 10 a.m.-7 p.m. 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. framersedge.net/shiawwassee-artists-guild-september.

Steely Dan Tribute - Enjoy an evening of Steely Dan music, performed solo by Duffy King with just his guitar, voice and some live looping. Doors 5 p.m., show 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

"THIRST" - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

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

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

Two-evening class. Learn to identify and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among youth. Ages 18+. Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Friday, Sept. 27

Anara Pearl and Austin Kaufmann at Harrison Roadhouse - 6 p.m. 720 E. Michigan Ave., East Lansing. 517-337-0200. harrisonroadhouse.com.

Cafecito Caliente Awards Ceremony - Join us to celebrate the local Hispanic and Latino communities. Enjoy dinner, entertainment, networking and a cash bar, 5 p.m. The Cadillac Room, 1115 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. cafecitocaliente.com.

Craft Club - Make a full-moon yarn chandelier! Grades 4-12. Registration req. 4 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Cruise to Holt - Weekly cruise-ins every Friday night at the Holt Farmers Market parking lot. 5-8 p.m. 2150 Cedar St., Holt. holtfarmersmarket.org.

Diane Sanderson Bookend Gallery Display

Diane has a love of animals and nature, which is well-represented in her photography. Stop in and enjoy her work! Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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.

Frog & Koop at the Peanut Barrel - 8 p.m. 521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-351-0608. peanutbarrel.com.

Joel Ellis Art Display - Original works of art by Joel Ellis are on display through September and October in the Okemos Library's Community Room. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. joelfellisart.blogspot.com.

Keegan Jacko at Mash Bar - 9 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

Mark Collins at Lansing Shuffle - 7 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4365. lansing-

MSU Symphony Orchestra: "The Triumph of Freedom" - Presenting Beethoven's concerto with MSU faculty, Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 and a student-composed fanfare. 8 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Parkinson's Exercise: Movement for Vitality -Free group class for people with Parkinson's and their caregivers. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8888. lapsg.org.

Parkour for Littles at AL!VE - You and your little one will learn to safely maneuver obstacles using the whole body. Build strength, balance, focus and problem-solving skills after listening to related stories. Ages 3-6. 10 a.m. 800 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. myalive.com.

Peace Vigil - All are welcome. Bring peace-related signs if you would like. Noon-1 p.m. Michigan Capitol, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. peacequestgreaterlansing.org.

"Pickleball" - In this wild comedy about America's fastest-growing sport, four below-average players must overcome their limitations to achieve greatness. 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

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

"THIRST" - 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Saturday, Sept. 28

2024 Mabon Ritual - Join us in person or on Zoom as we celebrate the second harvest with a shared feast, ritual and teacup raffle. 4 p.m. Fenner Nature Center Scout campground, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.

Annual Jigsaw Puzzle Swap - Those who donated puzzles prior to Sept. 26 can redeem their vouchers for new gently used puzzles. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Ben Traverse - This singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist digs deep into the repertoire of American and Celtic folk music to bring a youthful enthusiasm to a rich musical tradition. 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing, lansingbrewingcompany.com.

Campfire Science & S'mores: Autumn Exploration - Enjoy an evening of storytelling, nature hikes and hands-on science activities. The night will conclude with some delicious s'mores. 6 p.m. Lincoln Brick Park, 13991 Tallman Road, Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Charming Disaster - Goth-folk musical duo based in New York. Super Secret Cult Band opens with a set of apocalyptic pop songs! Doors 7:30 p.m., show 8 p.m. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. therobintheatre.com.

Craig Hendershott Live & Eclectic! - 9 p.m. REO Town Pub, 1145 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517-485-4863, reopub.com.

Diane Sanderson Bookend Gallery Display

Diane has a love of animals and nature, which is well-represented in her photography. Stop in and enjoy her work! Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Eaton Rapids Fire Department 150th Anniversary Celebration - Enjoy a 5K fun run, a fire truck parade, hot dogs and cake, bounce houses, face painting and a cornhole tournament. 8 a.m.-8 p.m. 101 Line St., Eaton Rapids.

Hispanic Heritage Month Sugar Skull Decorating Workshop - Free and open to the public. 1-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado Galeria and Cultural Center, 204 E. Mt Hope Ave., Lansing. facebook.

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Uncle John's Cider Mill Fall Festival

11 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28 and Sunday, Sept. 29 8614 U.S 127, St. Johns

Uncle John's Cider Mill is opening its pumpkin patch and "Peanuts"-themed corn maze this weekend, and it's celebrating with a slew of activities 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 28) and Sunday (Sept. 29), including live music, wagon and train rides, kids' entertainment like a jumping pillow and pedal tractors, a pumpkin scavenger hunt, food trucks and more.

Kalamazoo guitarist Trevor Shepich will kick off the weekend's lineup of live performances 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, followed by acoustic cover duo Almost Famous 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday. On Sunday, '90s and 2000s alt-rock cover band Be Kind Rewind will perform from 1 to 4 p.m., followed by country-rock singer-songwriter Austin Benzing from 3 to 6 p.m.

Food trucks in attendance will include Build a Bowl, Camzies Pizza, Chuckie D's BBQ, Fire & Rice Paella, Fun Food, Kate's Kettle Korn and Say Cheese Curd. Uncle John's taproom, bakery and cider mill will also be open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days, offering more food and beverages.

Some activities are free, while others cost between \$1 and \$6 per person. For more information, visit ujcidermill.com/calendar.



TICKET GIVEAWAY!!!

Email Olive@lansingcitypulse.com



with "Olive" in the subject line for your chance to win.

Events

from page 25

Intermediate Ballet for Teens & Adults - 15week class, meets biweekly. 11 a.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Joel Ellis Art Display - Original works of art by Joel Ellis are on display through September and October in the Okemos Library's Community Room. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. joelfellisart.blogspot.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 am.-2 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-712-2395. meridian. mi.us/FarmersMarket.

MSU Spartans Football vs. Ohio State Buckeyes - 7 p.m. Spartan Stadium, 325 W. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/ football.

"Pickleball" - In this wild comedy about America's fastest-growing sport, four below-average players must overcome their limitations to achieve greatness. 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.

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

Summerlands Movie Night - Free film screening. 10:30 p.m. Summerlands Brewing Co., 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlands-brewing.

Summerlands Saturday Matinee Movie - Free family-friendly film screening. 2 p.m. Summerlands Brewing Co., 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

"THIRST" - 2 and 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre are

Twin Temple - This black-clad duo has created a sound that blends their satanic ideology with the irresistible sass and melody of '50s and '60s rock 'n' roll. Opener Creeper. 7:30 p.m. Grewal Hall at 224, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing, hall224.com.

Sunday, Sept. 29

Adult Roller Derby Basic Skills Boot Camp -

Four-month roller derby training course. 7-9 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, Lansing. lansingrollerderby.com.

Copper Chimney Lounge Poetry Series - Featuring readings by poets Janine Certo and Chad Sanders, plus an open mic. 4-6 p.m. University United Methodist Church, 1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/LansingPoetryClub.

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 - Live country music with Jessey Adams from noon to 2 p.m. Market runs 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. easterninghamfarmersmarket.org.

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

Harmony Sundays - Weekly DJ event featuring Aura the Brave and special guests. 9 p.m. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-484-6795. instagram.com/macsbarmsu.

Hispanic Heritage Month Sugar Skull Decorating Workshop - Free and open to the public. 1-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado Galeria and Cultural Center, 204 E. Mt Hope Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/casaderosado.

Joel Ellis Art Display - Original works of art by Joel Ellis are on display through September and October in the Okemos Library's Community Room. Noon-6 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. joelfellisart.blogspot.com.

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

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

MI Cinderella Pageant Kickoff Preliminary - Open to girls and women ages 0-29. Build confidence, poise and elegance while making friendships that will last a lifetime. Noon. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. michigancinderella.com.

"Pickleball" - In this wild comedy about America's fastest-growing sport, four below-average players must overcome their limitations to achieve greatness. 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

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

Ruth Moody - Moody is an Australian-born singer-songwriter and member of the Canadian folk trio The Wailin' Jennys. Opener Jen Sygit. 8 p.m. Grewal Hall at 224, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

Salaam Peace Festival - Celebration of Muslim culture and cuisine from various countries around the world. 2:30-6:30 p.m. Islamic Center of East Lansing, 920 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. Registration reg. at tinyurl.com/salaampeacefestival.

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

Summerlands Sunday Brunch - Noon-4 p.m. Summerlands Brewing Co., 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

SW Fest - Join us for a community-wide celebration of Southwest Lansing, featuring live music, inflatables, games, a video game truck, community resources and more! 2-5 p.m. Risdale Park, 4500 Pleasant Grove Road, Lansing. joinswag.org/swfest.

"THIRST" - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

Young Hyun Cho Performs Beethoven, Part 4 - Pianist Young Hyun Cho presents Beethoven's piano sonatas No. 12 through 15. 3 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Monday, Sept. 30

Al-Anon Meeting - Are you concerned about someone else's drinking? This group welcomes any adult looking for help. 8 p.m. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing. cmialanon.org.

Bingo Night at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Free to play, with fun prizes every game! 8-9:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Broadway Jazz Dance for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

The Civility Project - Journalists Nolan Finley and Stephen Henderson lead a lively conversation on the importance of civility in the workplace, political spheres and other social settings. 6 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Charlotte Shadow Season

Sept. 28-Oct. 29 Various locations

An eery aura will descend over Charlotte with the arrival of the town's Shadow Season celebration, promising a range of spooky events and activities from Saturday (Sept. 28) through Oct. 29.

The celebration kicks off 6:30 to 8 p.m. Saturday at Courthouse Square with the unveiling of a series of gargoyles decorated by local artists. Establishments in the town's social district will offer special deals during the event. The gargoyles will also be the focus of a scavenger hunt running Monday (Sept. 30) through Oct. 24.

Other events will include a chilen's fall festival, combole and axe-throwing tourna

dren's fall festival, cornhole and axe-throwing tournaments, a ghost hunt, an afternoon of true-crime storytelling, a 5K, a pub crawl and a masquerade costume party. "Shadow Season is our way of bringing the community together to celebrate the fall and embrace the fun and the spooky sides of Halloween," said Annie Williams,

fall and embrace the fun and the spooky sides of Halloween," said Annie Williams, director of CharlotteRising, which is hosting the festival in partnership with Charlotte's Courthouse Square Museum. "Whether you're looking to be scared or just enjoy the festivities, there's an event for you."

To view the full schedule of events and register for ticketed activities, visit shadowseason.org.

Department of Public Works Meeting - 5:30 p.m. City Hall, 114 Woodhull St., Laingsburg. 517-651-5374. 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.

Improv Acting for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jazz/Ballet II for Kids - 15-week class. Ages 9-13. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road. East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Joel Ellis Art Display - Original works of art by Joel Ellis are on display through September and October in the Okemos Library's Community Room. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. joelfellisart.blogspot.com.

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.

Paperback Book Pumpkin/Apple - Use one of our old paperbacks to make a pumpkin or apple decoration. Ages 12+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

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

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble for All Ages - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 5:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Tuesday, Oct. 1

"A Course in Miracles," with Lisa Schmidt - Group reads a passage from the book and discusses its meaning and how to apply it to real-life situations. 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Acting 101 for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464.ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - Are you concerned about someone else's drinking? This group welcomes any adult looking for help. 9 a.m. Alano Club South, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. cmialanon.

Al-Anon Meeting - 7 p.m. St. Jude Church, 801 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. cmialanon.org.

Bicycle Rebuilding and Maintenance Class -Learn to rebuild, fix, adjust and maintain your bicycle! Free. 6-8 p.m. Lansing Bike Co-op, 1715 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. lansingbike.coop.

Buck's Funhouse - Live experience that blends the thrill of a game show with the intimate vibes of a podcast. Attendees can put their name in the "Buck Bucket" for the chance to take the stage! Doors 7:30 p.m., show 8 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing. bucksfunhouse.com.

Comedy in Billtown - An evening of stand-up comedy featuring Michigan comedians Louis D. Michael, Andrew Yang, Mary Spencer, James Couture and Tim Reaburn. 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. Williamstontheatre.org.

Intermediate Ballet for Teens & Adults - 15week class, meets biweekly. 5:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jazz Tuesdays - Weekly series showcasing the best and brightest mid-Michigan jazz musicians. 7 p.m. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/jazztuesdaysatmoriartys.

Joel Ellis Art Display - Original works of art by Joel Ellis are on display through September and October in the Okemos Library's Community Room. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. joelfellisart.blogspot.com.

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Events

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Level I Dance for Kids - 15-week class. Ages 5-8. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.

Parkinson's Exercise - Free group class for people with Parkinson's, led by exercise professionals. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8888. lapsg.org.

Preteen Reads Book Club - Each participant reads the same book beforehand and comes to the meeting ready to chat, eat snacks and have book-related fun. Grades 4-6. Registration req. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

River Walk Trash Cleanup - Pick up the trash on the Lansing River Trail and around our building. We'll walk for about 30 minutes, then head back to the building for disposal and cleanup. 11 a.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

Summerlands Karaoke Night - Family-friendly until 9:30 p.m. Enjoy food and beverages, both alcoholic and nonalcoholic. 7:30-11 p.m. Summerlands Brewing Co., 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/ summerlandsbrewing.

Toastmaster Meeting - We welcome guests who wish to learn and practice public speaking and leadership skills. 6:30 p.m. Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. capitalcity

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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toastmasters.toastmastersclubs.org.

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

Wednesday, Oct. 2

Acting & Glee Music Class for Kids - 15-week class. Ages 5-12. 4:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464, ruhalacenter.com.

Al-Anon Meeting - Are you concerned about someone else's drinking? This group welcomes any adult looking for help. 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos.

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

Broadway Jazz Dance for Teens & Adults -15-week class, meets biweekly. 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

DJ Trivia at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Join us for some fun trivia and great food and beer. Prizes for first, second and third-place teams. 7 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Empower, Engage, Elevate: Mastering Modern Communication - Daylong seminar for PR professionals. Hear from experts on industry trends and information you need to improve your performance. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. University Club, . 3435 Forest Road, Lansing. cmprsa.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 50 plus.com.

Improv Acting for Teens & Adults - 15-week class, meets biweekly. 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Joel Ellis Art Display - Original works of art by Joel Ellis are on display through September and October in the Okemos Library's Community Room. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-347-2021. joelfellisart.blogspot.com.

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

Michigan Young Birders Network Virtual Meeting - Free, virtual networking group for individuals ages 13-18 interested in birding, 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 946 4329 0865. Password: Chickadee. michiganaudubon.org/learn/young-birders.

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.

Navigating Money Challenges - Learn to recognize impacts on your financial affairs, set spending priorities, watch for scams and make an action plan. Registration req. 6 p.m. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, Suite 9008, DeWitt. dewittlibrary.org.

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

Savvy Caregiver Program - Six-week workshop for those caring for a loved one with memory loss. 2:30-4:30 p.m. UM Health-Sparrow Lansing Health Center, 2909 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@

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











FOOD & DRINK JATALANSING AND AND DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

VEG-N makes vegan cuisine accessible

By TESSA PANETH-POLLAK

I once had a vegan roommate who shunned products that approximated meat because she felt they normalized meat culture. This is clearly not the sentiment held at VEG-N, where the menu focuses on burgers, chili and hot dogs — all plant-based and fully vegan.

My first experience with VEG-N was after a physical therapy appointment. Famished, I stumbled upon the drive-thru at its previous Lansing location, a retired fast-food restaurant on César E. Chávez Avenue. I was thoroughly tickled at the thought that I was saving the Earth from the



Coney Not-Dog 2 for \$10 Side fries

\$4 Kids' mac and cheese

\$5

VEG-N

1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos

11 a.m.-8 p.m. Wednesday-Friday

10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday (517) 402-4439 eatvegn.com

air-conditioned comfort of my gas guzzler. The owner, who comes up with all the recipes, patiently answered my questions in a way that told me we weren't at Mc-Donald's anymore and assured me several times

that the food is really all vegan. I loved the breakfast burrito.

Sadly, VEG-N opted not to renew the lease at its César E. Chávez location last October, making drive-thru vegan cuisine a thing of Lansing lore. But I was excited to give the food another try when the restaurant popped up last month in another place you'd least expect to find an all-vegan eatery: the Meridian

Mall food court.

The stall has no sign yet — it just reads "Italy." For now, it's open limited hours Thursday through Sunday. It's also serving a limited menu, so I couldn't order my beloved breakfast burrito.

Nevertheless, in a place where I once happily consumed many a Steak Escape cheesesteak, I tucked into my Not-Dog, ordered Coney style with chili, onions, mustard and shredded "cheddar" on top. (At two for \$10, it's hard to beat the price.) I'm not a fan of mustard or onions, so I enjoyed the one I got without those fixings more.

My children munched on burgers and chili mac and cheese without knowing they were eating their vegetables. The little guy didn't seem to catch on at all, and the older one, who can now read, raised one eyebrow, asked what "vegan" means and continued eating. My husband, who later devoured some of the leftovers while standing at the kitchen countertop, described the mac as "convincingly cheesy."

We all shared a "side" of french fries, which was a generous portion. As a fry aficionado, these were my standout favorite of the meal. They were oily without being greasy, very thin — thinner than I remember them being at the Lansing location, which is my preference — and had



Courtesy photo

VEG-N's menu focuses on traditional fast-food items like burgers, chili and hot dogs, all plant-based and fully vegan.

a nice balance of soft and crispy textures.

You can pick out VEG-N's clientele in the food court — they're the ones sitting with serene, grateful smiles, awaiting beloved dishes they haven't tasted for months. The restaurant has brought to the food court more rainbow dreadlocks, gray hair and parents of small children who expressed open approval of my pro-abortion T-shirt.

Not being vegan myself, it's just nice to have a quick and easy plant-based alternative in a fast-food setting. The next time I find myself hungry at the mall, I'll be happy to default to VEG-N for my next fix of clandestine vegetables.

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN GREATER LANSING AS DECIDED BY CITY PULSE READERS

TOP 5 SEAFOOD RESTAURANTS

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

1. Mitchell's Fish Market

Upscale restaurant chain specializing in fresh seafood dishes 2975 Preyde Blvd., Lansing (517) 482-3474 mitchellsfishmarket.com 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Sunday

2. King Ocean Crab

Contemporary restaurant offering various seafood meals, from boils and fried baskets to po' boys and sushi 727 E. Miller Road, Lansing (517) 708-7879 kingoceancrablansingmi.kwickmenu.com

Noon-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday Noon-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday

3. Red Lobster

Chain restaurant serving American seafood standards amid New England-themed decor 3130 E. Saginaw St., Lansing (517) 351-0610 redlobster.com 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday

4. The Tangy Crab

Restaurant and bar offering Cajun-style seafood boils and other seafood dishes 7433 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing (517) 925-8215 thetangycrab.com
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday

5. Tony M's Restaurant & Banquet Center

Eatery and event space serving familiar Italian fare, plus fish and shrimp 3420 S. Creyts Road, Lansing (517) 322-2069 tonyms.com
10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday Noon-9 p.m. Saturday Noon-7 p.m. Sunday

Mindful living in the Eastern Townships: A spotlight on Quebec's Spa Eastman

By JILL DUTTON

From its humble beginnings to its status today as a renowned wellness retreat, the story of Spa Eastman is one of passion, dedication and a commitment to the art of living well.

I had the pleasure of experiencing this haven firsthand, immersing myself in the spa's serenity. From indulging in the soothing hot and cold thermal baths to taking a plunge into the invigorating cold pond, every moment was a celebration of self-care, whether we were strolling the grounds,



admiring the scenery and the gardens, taking a yoga class or dining on the exquisite cuisine.

I sat down for a Q&A with the spa's founder and president, Jocelyna Dubuc, a visionary whose impact extends far beyond the creation of a flourishing, inno-

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Global Plates

from page 28

vative business. When she founded the first destination spa in Canada, she gave birth to an entire industry, with Quebec now boasting more than 140 spas. Her legacy goes beyond business success—it encompasses a commitment to healthy living, environmental protection and promoting wellness.

If I remember correctly, you mentioned a trip to India as the inspiration behind creating Spa Eastman in 1977. Can you tell us a little bit about that journey?

Jocelyna Dubuc: I had just started making personal changes before going to India — I discovered the curative power of food and detox, and I was shocked by the realization. I made a big change to my way of eating.

At that time, I was teaching history and geography at a high school, and I was surprised nobody taught me that food had an impact on how I was feeling. That was the first 'wow' moment — I changed completely. I became vegan, and at the same time, I discovered yoga and meditation.

After a year of doing those things at home, I dreamed of experiencing real teachings about yoga and meditation. That's why I went to India. While I was there, someone told me there was an ayurvedic doctor I should meet. He helped me discover this way of taking care of our health in a deeper way.

Because I had time — my first trip was four months — I was really trying to give more depth to my meditation and yoga. When I came back, I had the dream of creating a place where people could learn to discover themselves.

So, I created a destination spa. I did it without a model, just from my personal knowledge about food, the power of what you eat and the impact of meditation and physical activities like yoga.

You brought this art-of-living philosophy to Spa Eastman. Can you give a brief introduction to it?

I already mentioned the food and exercise. There are 15 kilometers of trails on this property, and we're in beautiful nature, even though we're five minutes from the highway. I designed an eating plan based on what I had learned. The interesting thing is that I'm not a chef. I love eating, but I'm not a chef, so I hired all kinds of people to make it happen.

Although I had been vegan, in 1994, I discovered the work of Barry Sears, who is well-known in the United States. At that moment, I decided to introduce meat, fish and milk protein healthily but slowly. We now know that many sicknesses are caused by inflammation, and inflammation is heavily based on food. I realized it's possible to create a diet that will make you feel good and won't create inflammatory symptoms.

Tell me about the foods you serve and how they reduce inflammation and improve the gut microbiome.

It's gluten-free cuisine. It's dairy-free because of casein, the protein in dairy. And meat is cooked very slowly at 230 degrees Fahrenheit because they've discovered that when you cook meat at a high temperature, it creates what are called glycotoxins. There's a reaction in the protein that could be carcinogenic.

We also look at lacto-fermentation and how it makes our microbiomes healthier and maintains our immune system. But keep in mind, we aren't on a diet here. I've seen people who want to lose weight when they come here. What they find is that by removing the foods that cause inflammation, they naturally lose weight.

What can guests expect when they visit Spa Eastman?

Some come here just to lose weight, and some to unwind and destress, but they also need coaching. Our program is seven nights, and we design it according to each person's objective. And in coming to Quebec, they discover the French flavor.

See Global Plates, Page 30



Courtesy phot

Spa Eastman aims to reduce inflammation and promote a healthy gut mirobiome with the food it serves, like this dairy-free, probiotic yogurt.







Global Plates

from page 29

Spa Eastman yogurt

500 milliliters (2 cups) almond milk

1/2 teaspoon agar-agar 500 milliliters (2 cups) cashews, soaked for 12 hours, then rinsed and drained 200 milliliters (3/4 cup) coconut cream 2 teaspoons vanilla extract 50 milliliters (1/4 cup) maple

Pinch of salt Two probiotic capsules

Bring 250 milliliters (1 cup) of almond milk to a boil. Add the

agar-agar and boil for two minutes, stirring with a whisk. Reserve.

Blend the remaining almond milk, cashews, coconut cream, vanilla extract, maple syrup and salt in a blender until smooth and creamy. Pour into a saucepan and add the agar-agar mixture. Mix.

Check the temperature and let the mixture cool, if necessary, to 107.5 degrees or lower. Once it has cooled, open the probiotic capsules and stir the contents in well with a whisk.

Pour the mixture into glass jars and cover. They must be able to stand upright in the dehydrator. Leave them in the dehydrator at 107.5 degrees for six hours. If you don't have a dehydrator, use the oven (door ajar, if needed) or a yogurt maker. Place the jars bain-marie style in a saucepan, surrounding them with water.

Refrigerate in an airtight container and consume within eight days. Serve with fresh fruit.



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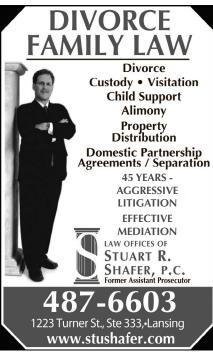
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