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November 27 – December 3, 2024

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See Page 14



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CityPULSE

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Thank you so much and Happy Holidays to all!

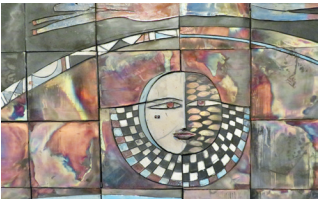
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Golden Harvest's Big Basic breakfast is simple but spectacular

Cover photo by Raymond Holt

ADVERTISING INQUIRIES: (517) 999-5061
or email citypulse@lansingcitypulse.com
CLASSIFIEDS & OBITUARIES: (517) 999-6704

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER • Berl Schwartz
publisher@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5061

GENERAL MANAGER • Steve Underwood
steve@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6704

ARTS & CULTURE/EVENTS EDITOR • Nicole Noechel
nicole@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5066

SENIOR STAFF WRITER • Lawrence Cosentino
lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5065

STAFF WRITER • Tyler Schneider
tyler@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5063

SALES EXECUTIVE • Lee Purdy
lee@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5064

Contributors: Dedria Humphries Barker, Bryan Beverly, Taylor Blair, Courtney Bowerman, Rob Breznsky, Capital News Service, Bill Castanier, Ryan Claytor, Mary C. Cusack, Dana DeMink, Lizzy Ferguson, Roxanne Frith, Mark Gmazel, Ari LeVaux, Gabrielle Lawrence, Audrey Matusz, Kyle Melinn, Joan Nelson, Tessa Paneth-Pollak, Tom Perkins, Dennis Preston, Vic Rauch, Chelsea Lake Roberts, Chris Silva, Jen Sorensen, Nevin Speerbrecker, Rich Tupica, David Winkelstern

Delivery drivers: Quill Blankenship, Cindy Heistand, Terri Paine, Diane Scofield, Lou Sears

Cap-itolation

WELL, WE CALLED FOR TAXES ON THE WEALTHY AND HAD THE SUPPORT OF MOST UNIONS, BUT WE STILL LOST. NOW WHAT?

DEM HQ

WE SHOULDN'T TALK ABOUT AUTHORITARIANISM AND DISINFORMATION BECAUSE VOTERS DON'T RESPOND TO THAT.

WE SHOULDN'T TALK ABOUT MISOGYNY BECAUSE WE NEED TO BRING YOUNG MEN BACK INTO THE FOLD.

WE SHOULDN'T TALK ABOUT MARGINALIZED GROUPS—TOO RISKY AND ALIENATING TO MAINSTREAM AMERICA.

WE SHOULDN'T TALK ABOUT THE CLIMATE CRISIS BECAUSE IT'S A LOW PRIORITY FOR MOST PEOPLE.

SO...?

LET'S TRY THIS!

MAGA

FINALLY THE DEMS HAVE A VISION!

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

SPARKY, WHAT IS **HAPPENING**? WHY ARE WE CAREENING DOWN A HILL IN THIS WEIRD CONTRAPTION? AND ALSO, DIDN'T WE ALREADY DO THIS ONCE **BEFORE**?

WELL, PAL, I'M AFRAID I HAVE SOME BAD NEWS.

IT TURNS OUT THAT WE ARE **CAR-TOON CHARACTERS**, TRAPPED IN A WHIMSICAL-YET-GRIM VISUAL METAPHOR DREAMED UP BY SOME ASSHOLE CARTOONIST.

WE HAVE LITTLE CONTROL OVER THE OUTCOME OF OUR UNFORTUNATE PREDICAMENT. WE'RE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO RIDE IT OUT. AND IT'S GOING TO BE AN **EXTREMELY** BUMPY RIDE.

HUH.

WELL, WHERE DO YOU SUPPOSE WE ARE ULTIMATELY **HEADING**? IN THIS, UH, HANDBASKET.

NOWHERE GOOD, MY FRIEND. I'M PRETTY SURE OF THAT.

TOM TOMORROW © 2024-11-25... JOIN SPARKY'S LIST: thismodernworld.com/subscriptions

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Schor standing by Lansing's 'sanctuary city' executive order

Trump 'deport' plan may meet resistance in East Lansing as well

As President-elect Donald Trump promises to mobilize mass deportation efforts "on day one," Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said he supports the city's existing executive order providing protections for the city's immigrant population.

The executive order, established in 2017 by Schor's predecessor, Virg Bernero, states that Lansing police "will not, independently or in assisting other law enforcement agencies, stop, pursue, interrogate, arrest or otherwise detain a person based solely on their immigration status or suspected violations of immigration law."

"Mayor Schor fully supports the executive order," city spokesperson Scott Bean said.

Early in Trump's first term, his administration threatened to withhold federal funding from "sanctuary cities," although there weren't any in Michigan at the time. In 2023, East Lansing's City Council passed a resolution declaring East Lansing a sanctuary city. While Bernero's 2017 order stopped short of using the term, its effect appears to many to be the same. Thus, Lansing and East Lansing are widely considered the state's only sanctuary cities.

Could Trump look to punish either? To answer that question, it's important to first understand what a "sanctuary city" designation means.

"There's no true legal definition," Christine Sauve of the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center explained. "Generally, though, the term is used colloquially to refer to a community that has written or unwritten policies that limit cooperation with ICE."

In other words, when Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers come knocking, police in Lansing and East Lansing will not assist them unless the person they are seeking committed another "serious" crime unrelated to their immigration status, or if they are otherwise directed to do so via federal



Former Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero (right) on Tucker Carlson's Fox News TV show in 2017 after Bernero in essence declared Lansing a sanctuary city by executive order.

or state statute or a specific court order.

Both Lansing and East Lansing took steps to combat Trump's first-term immigration policies when he took office in 2017, but both avoided adopting a lasting sanctuary city tag at the time.

Lansing's City Council voted 6-0 in 2017 to designate Lansing a "sanctuary city," but members faced swift community pushback because of feared federal retribution threatened by then Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Nine days later, the Council — in an embarrassing turn-around that received national attention — voted 5-2 to rescind its action.

Around the same time, East Lansing's City Council passed a "safe haven" resolution, in part, to avoid the title.

While then-mayor Bernero opposed Lansing's sanctuary city vote because he thought it was "a political term," his executive order provided protections. Under Lansing's charter, the mayor has the power to direct LPD policy, unlike the Council.

"I saw it as a divisive political matter on both sides that didn't necessarily get us anywhere," Bernero recalled last week. "Still, I tried to dig into it a little bit, which included having a well-known immigration lawyer from Washington come in to meet with us. I wanted to understand the issue and ask what we should do differently."

From there, Bernero worked with then LPD Chief Mike Yankowski to find out what the city's existing immi-

gration enforcement policy was.

"We were clearly not closing the door to immigrants and agreed we didn't want to see people targeted or profiled. Yet, we do want violent people captured and moved out. That was basically my position then and now, but it just wasn't in writing," Bernero said. "I said, 'Well, let's codify it.' That's what we did, and a lot of thought went into that executive order. It wasn't just something we pulled quickly out of our lapel pocket. I guess it stood the test of time."

While Bernero maintained that Lansing was "never a sanctuary city," activists say the executive order does fall in line with what a sanctuary city typically provides.

"Under my mayorship, I was not interested in becoming an extension of ICE. We don't have the resources for it, and that's not what we're cut out to do or anything I would want to do. Lansing sort of positioned itself in the middle, but the bottom line is we're never going to do profiling here," Bernero said.

Trini Lopez Pehlivanoglu, Lansing's first Latina City Council member, said she remembers the executive order rollout and continues to support it today.

"I do believe our executive order does hold strength in protecting our populations," she said. "I see it as a safeguard for our community members who may have family members who are undocumented, or who themselves may be undocumented. For me, it really comes

down to the concept of racial profiling."

Lansing's executive order also prevents the LPD from detaining someone "beyond their initial release time pursuant to an immigration detainer request without a valid judicial warrant."

Sauve cited it as "the most effective" type of provision a city can take to combat Trump's deportation plans.

"The courts have looked at this and said that these requests from ICE are completely voluntary for local law enforcement. They can decide whether they want to honor them or not, because keeping someone in jail without a warrant is a violation of the Fourth Amendment," Sauve said. "Being undocumented is not a criminal violation," Sauve added.

"There's no basis for holding someone just because they're undocumented. The civil penalty is deportation or removal, but being undocumented isn't, in and of itself, a crime."

East Lansing's Human Rights Commission plans to reexamine the city's resolution Dec. 9 with an eye toward strengthening its language, which is similar to Lansing's executive order.

"We want to ensure it's strong and, if we can, add further protections" as recommendations to the City Council, Commissioner Rebecca Kasen said.

Sauve expects Trump to rescind the Biden and Obama-era policy of "targeted" or "priority enforcement," in which ICE agents are instructed to only pursue undocumented immigrants with criminal histories. As "mass deportation" again becomes the objective, she anticipates a return to "workplace raids" and a halt on refugee resettlement programs.

Time will tell if Trump can muster the resources and manpower needed to achieve his goals, but immigration activists, including attorneys, are preparing for a lengthy battle over the next four years.

"Folks are very frightened. We've heard a lot of staff say that there's been tears in their meetings with clients. If Trump's promises are carried through, it truly will be devastating for many families," Suave said.

— TYLER SCHNEIDER

Tiny homes tackle homelessness around Michigan

By DONTÉ SMITH
Capital News Service

Tiny homes are gaining attention in the state as a potential solution for housing challenges, offering a creative approach to affordability and community-building.

While often showcased as a minimalist lifestyle choice on platforms like Netflix, where shows such as “Tiny House Nation” highlight their appeal, they’re also being deployed as a tool to address homelessness and housing density.

These compact dwellings, defined by the International Residential Code, are 400 square feet or fewer in floor space. Although they can be built on foundations, most are built on trailers.

More people are experiencing homelessness as affordable housing has become harder to find.

Homelessness in the state increased by 8% in 2022 compared to 2021, going from 30,113 people to 32,589, according to the latest report from Michigan’s Campaign to End Homelessness.

In Michigan, where state-specific rules for tiny homes are absent, zoning and utility infrastructure often dictate the feasibility of projects.

Matthew Grzybowski, the advancement operations manager for Mel Trotter Ministries, is navigating these

complexities through the Hope Village initiative in Grand Rapids.

The project aims to build 16 homes for residents who have completed workforce development programs offered by the organization.

“We hope these homes will create a financially stable living environment and provide opportunities to build financial equity,” Grzybowski said.

“Tiny homes achieve a higher housing density than traditional homes where an apartment complex would not be possible,” he said, adding that the Hope Village project “proves the case” for other tiny home projects in Grand Rapids.

Grzybowski says the homes will be constructed using a panelized building process, which can reduce costs and increase construction efficiency.

However, he noted that zoning permissions remain a challenge, requiring careful planning to manage infrastructure costs related to water and other utilities.

In Detroit, Cass Community Social Services has developed its own Tiny Home community, focused on housing for low-income workers.

Located near the Boston-Edison Historic District, the program offers tenants the opportunity to own their homes after renting for at least seven years.

Meanwhile in Flint, Catholic Charities

of Shiawassee and Genesee counties has launched a similar initiative, the Sacred Heart Veteran Village, to combat homelessness among military veterans.

Thomas Haeussler, the development director for Catholic Charities, said the project broke ground in November 2024 with the first phase of construction set to include a Veterans Resource Center and four homes by summer 2025.

“The program will utilize evidence-based practices to assist veterans of all levels of need, regardless of discharge status, to make improvements in

their quality of life,” Haeussler said. Katie Baxter, the president and CEO of Catholic Charities, emphasized the broader vision for the development.

“With our Sacred Heart Veteran Village, we’re not just providing housing. We’re engaging the community in creating a model of healing, stability and independence that can be replicated nationwide for other vulnerable populations,” Baxter said.

The village’s Veterans Resource Center will serve as a hub for support services, and the project plans to continue with a second construction phase, which will add 22 more homes by fall 2026 Haeussler said.

CITY OF LANSING
SUMMARY OF
ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1326

Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend Chapter 203, Section 203.03, to establish the service requirements for municipal civil infraction violations arising from the unauthorized placement of signs in violation of Section 606.02

Effective date: Upon publication

Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk’s Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan. A copy of the full text of this Ordinance may be obtained from the City Clerk’s Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan at a fee determined by City Council.

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

CP#24-741

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

Pursuant to Section 401 of Michigan Public Act 110 of 2006, as amended (the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act), notice is hereby given that at a regular meeting held on November 13, 2024, the Williamstown Township Board of Trustees adopted the following amendments to the Zoning Ordinance:

Wind Energy Systems. Section 8.02, subsection KK, was revised to set forth requirements for on-site and utility-scale wind energy systems. Utility-scale wind energy systems are permitted in the AG-C, Commercial Agricultural District and the GD, Green Zone Planned Development District only, subject to height, setback, sound, vibration, shadow flicker, and environmental restrictions. On-site systems are permitted as accessory structures in all zoning districts. Zoning district revisions affect Sections 11.02, 12.02, 13.02, 14.02, 15.02, 16.02, 17.02, 18.02, 19.02, 20.02, 21.02, 22.02, 24.04, and 27.04.

Solar Energy Systems. Section 8.02, subsection QQ, was revised to set forth requirements for accessory roof and ground-mounted solar energy systems, and small-scale and large-scale principal use solar energy systems. Large-scale solar energy systems are permitted within a proposed overlay district, subject to height, setback, fencing, screening, ground cover, glare, and other restrictions. Accessory roof-mounted and accessory ground-mounted solar energy systems are permitted in all zoning districts. Zoning district revisions affect Sections 11.02, 13.02, 14.02, 15.02, 16.02, 17.02, 18.02, 19.02, 20.02, 21.02, 24.04, and 27.04.

Energy Storage Facilities. The Zoning Ordinance was amended to insert Section 8.02, subsection TT, which allows energy storage facilities that absorb, store, and discharge electricity. Such facilities are subject to National Fire Protection guidelines, as well as restrictions governing height, setbacks, fencing, screening, lighting, signage, fire safety, noise, and other restrictions. Energy Storage Facilities are permitted in the AG-C, Commercial Agricultural District, AG-SF, Agricultural-Small Farms District, and the GD, Green Zone Planned Development District. Zoning district revisions affect Sections 15.02, 18.02, and 24.04.

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

Robin Cleveland, Township Clerk

CP#24-751

CITY OF GRAND LEDGE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Grand Ledge Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing during its regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., on Thursday, 19 December 2024, to consider and receive public input on a request for reconsideration of a variance to permit the fence in the side and back yards along the east property line of 913 Candela Lane that extends up to 7.6 feet at its maximum height. Grand Ledge City Code Chapter 46 – Zoning, Section 46-9(3)b restricts the height of a fence in a side or back yard to a maximum of 6 feet. A variance of 1.6 feet to the fence height limitation is therefore requested. The revised proposal involves replacement of certain sections of the existing fence so that it extends closer to the ground. The proposed variance is available for review on the City’s website at www.cityofgrandledge.com and at the City Clerk’s office, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, Michigan, between 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, as amended, and will also be livestreamed via Zoom for informational purposes only. The online stream can be accessed at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84738531748>. or by calling +1 309 205 3325 US, +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago), +1 646 876 9923 US (New York), +1 646 931 3860 US, +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC), +1 305 224 1968 US, +1 669 444 9171 US, +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose), +1 689 278 1000 US, +1 719 359 4580 US, +1 253 205 0468 US, +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma), +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston), +1 360 209 5623 US, +1 386 347 5053 US, +1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose), +1 507 473 4847 US, +1 564 217 2000 US, using meeting ID: 847 3853 1748

The Zoning Board of Appeals invites anyone interested to attend in person and offer comments at the public hearing. Written comments can be mailed or delivered to Elected or Appointed Officials at 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, MI 48837, placed in the drop box in front of City Hall, or emailed to cityhall@cityofgrandledge.com. All written comments will be considered if received by 5:00 p.m. the day of the hearing. Please call (517) 627-2149 or email cityhall@cityofgrandledge.com for further information or to request accommodations for disabilities.

Gregory Newman, City Clerk

CP#24-747

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



Democrat Rebecca Bahar-Cook of Lansing claimed the second MSU Board of Trustees seat, joining Plymouth Republican Mike Ballow. Bahar-Cook received 24.24% of votes, beating Novi Republican Julie Maday by 4,012 votes. Maday had originally appeared to have won, but Bahar-Cook found a reporting error that left out 20,000 votes for her in Allegan County.

MSU said in a legal filing that it does not owe attorneys for Trustee Rema Vassar \$281,745 in legal fees because the school had legally terminated a contract with them. The costs were incurred past the point MSU agreed to cover them, rebutting a claim by Rochester-based Miller Law, which represented Vassar during an investigation into bullying and misconduct allegations.



The Michigan Attorney General's Office has sued to dissolve the FaithFirst Foundation of Eaton Rapids for its connection to retired priest David Rosenberg, convicted of embezzling more than \$500,000 from other retired priests. He was sentenced in March to four to 20 years in prison for stealing as a foundation agent between 2018 and 2020. FaithFirst's attorney, Gary Mouw, asked a judge to dismiss the action because the foundation is a separate legal entity from Rosenberg and had acted in good faith.



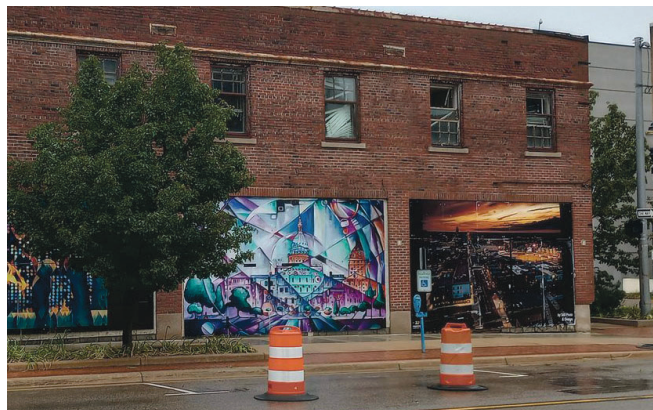
Lansing Promise officials announced a new Lansing Promise Guarantee Scholarship. It allows Lansing School District students enrolled for at least a year to access up to \$10,000 to attend Lansing Community College, the Douglas J Aveda Institute or an approved skilled trades program in Michigan. Previously, only students attending four years were eligible. The latter will receive additional benefits.



Turkish-based Norm Fasteners has canceled plans to build a 365,000-square-foot manufacturing facility in Bath Township off Webster Road. Lansing Economic Area Partnership President and CEO Bob Trezise said the

company, which did not state a reason, is considering two other locations, one in the Lansing area. The company makes screws and bolts and other fasteners for the auto industry and others. General manager Koray Gurbuz said the company's board of directors has decided to investigate the due diligence and look for alternative sites. The company has a non-manufacturing office in Dimondale.

A 63-year-old Lansing man was found dead Tuesday next to his vehicle in the Michigan State Police parking lot in Lansing on North Canal Road. The man died of an apparent suicide, said spokesperson Rene Gonzalez. The post was closed several hours. The man had contacted MSP and said he was in the parking lot and intended to harm himself.



Downtown Lansing's former Walter Neller building, at Grand Avenue and Allegan Street, will be demolished if the city gets authorization at a Dec. 2 City Council hearing. Mayor's Office spokesperson Scott Bean said the building's owner and the Council are pursuing demolition, and the city will ensure it happens. Lindsay Leblanc of the Granger Group, the parent company of building owner Summit Associates II LLC, said Granger expects demolition in March. Bean said the city would bill its owners through taxes. No immediate plans were reported for the site. The city had considered the site for a new city but rejected it as too costly.

Public safety

Two people on board a Cessna 140 aircraft were uninjured after it tipped over upon landing Monday at Jewett Airport in Mason. The Federal Aviation Administration is investigating. ... A 21-year-old Lansing man was wounded in a shooting Thursday on Coachlight Common Street, between South Waverly Road and South Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. No suspects have been identified. ... A Lansing firefighter suffered a non-fatal injury while responding to a garage fire on the 3200 block of Raynell Street Nov. 20. No residents were home.



412 E. Cavanaugh Road, Lansing

This 723-square-foot, one-bedroom, single-bath home near the intersection of Cedar Street and Cavanaugh Road was hit with seven citations for an overgrown lawn between 2012 and 2018. In August 2018, the city's Code Enforcement Office ticketed it for being unsafe to occupy and for not having a proper rental license in place. It was boarded up that same month and has been unoccupied ever since. The former owner, Dabish Inc., sold it to the Romulus-based property group Cedar and Cavanaugh LLC in January 2019. Since then, the new owners have avoided any additional penalties on the 1925-built house, though the property has remained boarded up while its wooden exterior and detached shed have continued to deteriorate. According to the Lansing assessor's website, Cedar and Cavanaugh LLC was issued electrical and building permits to remodel the home in 2022, but both have since expired. They also own the adjacent building at 4312 S. Cedar, which houses a T-Mobile store. Efforts to contact the owners for comment were unsuccessful.

TYLER SCHNEIDER

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

The political engine of race hate accelerates

By **DEDRIA HUMPHRIES BARKER**

For anybody who thought a vote for Donald J. Trump on Nov. 5 was a vote for prosperity or respect for life, like when he was last put into office, those voters need to get a starring role in the next production of the film “La La Land.” Not because the film is about U.S. politics. Because the title is so fitting.

Exhibit A, as they say in television court dramas, is an episode at the state Capitol Nov. 14, a mere nine days after the election. It dramatized the idea that the election was about race and men dominating women. At least, it was for a white man named Avi Rachlin.

He testified at a Senate committee meeting that the only people who need gun regulation are the “Sub-Saharan African niggers” in Detroit.

This episode has been reported by MIRS, which serves government insiders, and had racked up 420K views on social media before I verified it with the committee clerk. That was two weeks ago. So, it’s not new, but being a huge offense, it’s news. Here’s what happened.

The Civil Rights, Judiciary and Public Safety Committee met to hear testimony on a bill to prohibit firearms in certain state buildings, including the Capitol. Sen. Stephanie Chang, an Asian American Democrat from Detroit, chaired the meeting. I imagine this bill started out as a precaution against another Jan. 6 type of event at the U.S. Capitol in 2021 after Trump lost. Alas, the bill is no longer needed to prevent insurrection. The Democrats lost the presidency and the Michigan House.

Yet, the sweep of favor that DJT enjoyed wouldn’t be complete if his supporters just tipped a glass and congratulated each other. No, this victory calls for a Tarzanian beating of chests, so Rachlin attended the meeting. “Absolutely not,” he started his testimony. “That is the message that voters sent last week when they decided to eject representatives from the state House and send Donald Trump into the White House.”

Chair Chang listened for a bit before asking if he was there to testify on the legislation, or what? Required to focus, Rachlin said the bill “targets white people. It is racial ... because they voted overwhelmingly for Donald Trump. You don’t like us.”

But then, he went on to say the only

people causing gun violence are overwhelmingly “Sub-Saharan African niggers” in Detroit.

All breath in the meeting room stopped. I could tell that even from viewing the video. I cannot imagine what it was like inside the room.

It stuns that an emboldened white man spewed such hate speech at a public meeting chaired by a representative of Black Michiganians. Chang’s 3rd Senate District comprises mostly African Americans.

Sen. Jim Runstead, a white Republican representative of western Oakland County, asked, apparently just to make sure his audio equipment was working, “Did I just hear you call a group of people by some ... some epithet?”

“Yes,” Rachlin said.

That took Runstead back, but why? Just a few minutes earlier he was verbally aggressive with Sen. Sarah Anthony, a Black Democrat who represents Lansing. Runstead was unable to control himself while she was talking, so, Anthony, in Kamala Harris style, objected. Frustrated that she had not talked fast enough for him, he sputtered, “Well, go. We can’t wait all day for you to answer.”

It was kind of silly actually, but I’m glad she didn’t give him a pass on acting like a buffoon. Maybe they’ll laugh about it one day.

Starting her testimony, Anthony, the Senate Appropriations Committee chair, announced that she’s a gun owner and carrier. What came to mind was a 2020 photograph where amid threats against the government because of the COVID shutdown, armed Black and Latino men escorted her from home to the Capitol and back.

Sen. Ruth Johnson, a white Republican from a mishmash of areas in Genesee, Oakland and Macomb counties, and a former Michigan secretary of state, told Rachlin, “The term that you used is inappropriate, and it will not get you anywhere in this Legislature.”

But hate speech got Trump elected president. Twice.

Rachlin relied on governmental tolerance of his incivility. A white man uttering a slavery word meant to denigrate, humble, control and defeat Black Americans would not be tolerated as well in public in Detroit. Chang shut him down, and he navigated out of the building, unharmed. Chang showed

how government is supposed to lead. Have a procedure. Stick with it. Don’t let belligerence or disrespect or hate throw you off your game.

Is Rachlin a sign that political winners are like a football game crowd who cheer on their team with the chant, “Push em back, push ‘em back, push ‘em wayyyy back?”

The worry about DJT wasn’t about just him, the individual. The worry was how his public hate speech dupes Americans frustrated by a changing United States and their own inability or unwillingness to change. The worry was resisting growth and a healthy attitude about racial and gender differences.

If the winners can’t be satisfied with a decisive showing at the polls, when and with what will they be satisfied?

When only armed white men can ap-

pear in public?

When only white men can debate civilly? When only white men can make laws?

(Dedria Humphries Barker is the author of “Mother of Orphans: The True and Curious Story of Irish Alice, A Colored Man’s Widow.” Her column appears monthly.)

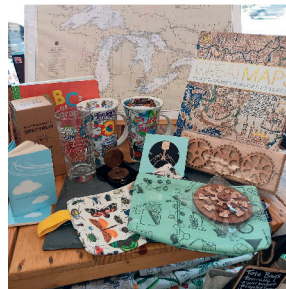


Avi Rachlin, testifying before a Michigan Senate committee against legislation to ban guns in the Capitol and other state office buildings.

Opinion



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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: VARIANCE REQUEST 24-11
GRAND RESERVE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Variance Request 24-11
4700 Everwood Lane & 1542, 1536, 1518, 1516 Woodland Way
Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 (phone 517.853.4560) to hear all persons interested in a variance request from Mayberry Homes. The applicant is proposing to construct decks that encroach into the wetland setback at 4700 Everwood Lane & 1542, 1536, 1518, 1516 Woodland Way. The subject site is zoned RD, Multiple Family.

Information may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to chapman@meridian.mi.us, or at the public hearing.

Angela Demas
Township Clerk

CP#24-748

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CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED SECTION 5310 PROGRAM MANAGEMENT PLAN

CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY seeks public input on its *Program Management Plan for the Section 5310: Enhancing Mobility for Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities* grant program, posted on CATA's website Oct. 30, 2024. The Program Management Plan outlines how the Section 5310 grant program is administered and addresses those eligible to apply, projects eligible for funding and the application-selection process.

The Federal Transit Administration's Enhanced Mobility of Seniors & Individuals with Disabilities – Section 5310 program (49 U.S.C. 5310) provides formula funding to states and designated recipients to meet the transportation needs of older adults and people with disabilities when the transportation service provided is unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate. As the regional transportation provider and designated recipient of Section 5310 funds for the Lansing Urbanized Area, CATA is responsible for program administration.

The proposed PMP is posted at www.cata.org/ProgramManagementPlan and is open for public input for a 30-day period beginning Sunday, Nov. 24, 2024. Comments regarding the plan are to be sent via email to PlanningTeam@cata.org by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for people with disabilities who wish to view the plan or submit comments. To request an accommodation, please contact CATA by Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2024, by visiting the Administrative Offices at 4615 Tranter St., Lansing, MI, or by calling 517-394-1100 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

CATA will review public comments and decide whether to revise or update the plan, reserving the right to include relevant comments in any plan update. Changes, if any, will be posted at www.cata.org/ProgramManagementPlan. If no changes are made to the proposed PMP, it will represent the final plan.

CATA ensures that the level and quality of transportation service is provided without regard to race, color or national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

CP#24-744

As Trump Part II approaches, eastsiders encounter harassment

By SABINA BRENNAN

(This essay was written under the nom-de-plume of an eastside Lansing resident.)

Lansing's east side has lost big old trees lining Michigan Avenue. Torn up by bulldozers, it's all in the name of progress, fixing ancient sewers and raunchy roads. Michigan Avenue, the path between Michigan State University and the state Capitol, is experiencing disturbance of a different type — brought on by the election of Donald Trump.

We have a history. Caesar Chavez marched Michigan Avenue. Take Back the Night and Black Lives Matter have marched here as well. It has more liberal, progressive and radical folks than anywhere in the Lansing area. Walking the streets, I see Harris signs, Antifa flags, trans flags, and they are not coming down now. I've thought of moving over the years, to where there is more space, more trees, less noise, closer to a lake. I've stayed, while house after house was foreclosed on and abandoned, vulture landlords descending to grab houses and make money. I've stayed because of the community. We are part student ghetto, part working class. We work in restaurants, salons, libraries, we are nurses and techies. Lately, roofs are being repaired, houses flipped, the rents are too damned high! New apartment buildings are lining the street, fancy and expensive.

Even the yards are signifiers, some bursting with colors of annuals and perennials, some tidy green with a few bright baskets hanging from porches. As I walk the sidewalks I'm delighted, then demoralized, when weeds crowd my path. Others are covered in black plastic; I'm hoping they are preparing the ground for native plants next year. Our gardens have flourished. The tiny business of composters, riding their bikes and collecting veggies, have grown into a citywide project. Huge garden plots feed us, some folks paint flowers on streets between sidewalks, and we have more chickens in our yards than ever.

Days before the election, a videographer showed up in my eastside neighborhood, with his camera on a stick and his aim at a queer-owned hair salon. He stayed for hours, recording the happenings inside the shop from a legally safe position on the sidewalk. The shop's windows were full of LGBTQ signs and symbols. My neighborhood has been and is a safe place for those of us who don't abide by Christian nationalists' tenets.

The photographer's goal is not promo-

tion, but harassment. He goes where he wants — and knows how far he can push. He knows it is legal to be on a public sidewalk, and that it is legal to film people in public spaces. They say his aim is to provoke a reaction, to film it, maybe even press charges if someone dares to push him, or try to knock his frigging camera from his hands. Is this the harbinger of an assault on our lovely neighborhood?

Disruption is local — one guy shooting video has turned into three, and the third has a gun, and rumor has it they are Proud Boys. They've moved to target a queer coffee shop. I checked in with

Arab shopkeepers on Michigan Avenue: They were "visited" too, as was a small, independent bookstore. A Mexican Restaurant, and a Black-owned barber shop were also visited, with customers and employees videotaped from the sidewalks.

Now the coffee shop's windows are covered with craft paper, and on some days, the avenue-facing doors are closed. Those seeking vegan donuts and fancy coffee must enter from the back. The creeps shot video of my neighbors walking down the street — caring for their baby while queer. I'm getting old, with back and shoulder issues, after a fall. I am feeling more vulnerable.

The CEO of a local nonprofit was fired. He stood up to the Catholic-derived Holy Cross Services and said the organization would continue to do outreach at Gay Pride events. The night before, he and a lawyer for the homeless services organization had been interviewed on TV, with opposing views. The organization is partly funded by the city of Lansing, which prohibits discrimination. But it is attempting to have it both ways, being a "Catholic-rooted organization" and therefore allowed to discriminate, but denying that prohibiting outreach to gay-sponsored events is discrimination, because it wants to continue to be publicly funded. It feels abrupt, like the right wing is empowered to whittle away at rights we've taken for granted.

I see a "God, Guns and Trump" sign nearby, a despicable landlord puts a neon MAGA sign on his apartments, the tenants who rented from afar are groaning and mad that they live in that place. And a house flipper puts a Nazi sign in a window, frightening and enraging the next-door neighbor. Our neighborhood is now up for contention.

My fear is alive as Trump names his Cabinet. I think of what happened in Iran, Germany, Chile. Will the Proud

See Harassment, Page 11

Essay

Harassment

from page 10

Boys march here? They did in 2020, but this time, will they just march down Michigan Avenue, or break windows and instigate fights that the police break up — and arrest the resistance? Will they come into the side streets where we live? And dare to rip out our signs of resistance in broad daylight? Or just maraud after dark, stealing flags here, kicking signs there, maybe terrorizing select residents. Will they use the videos to identify and target businesses and people?

“A house flipper puts a Nazi sign in a window, frightening and enraging the next-door neighbor.”

For years, I’ve been anti-gun, anti-military. I supposed I never really thought the left would have a need, having grown accustomed, and led to slumber as the back and forth of Democrat and Republican rule. But it is different now, right? If they really try to snatch “illegals from the streets on day one,” will those of us with privilege find a way to stand in their way? Will we face Proud Boys, the National Guard, the Army?

Who hasn’t heard of the brown shirts in Germany, identifying and sending Jews, resisters and queers to the camps? I know it is not just me who has these fears as Trump moves into power, or me who can barely watch the news. Friend after friend tells me of their nightmares of this new regime.

in Iran it was the paramilitary Basij who patrolled, emboldened by the regime to harass and attack women who dared let their veils down. Mahsa Amini’s brutal capture and murder by the regime provoked mass protests, lifting up those who yearn for freedom.

In Lansing, I hear high school boys

in a nearby suburb are taunting their classmates with the chant “Your Body Our Choice.” With a known rapist in the White House, what does this mean for women? Trump has made it clear he will really go after the immigrants and trans folks and anyone who stands up.

In this tiny eastside neighborhood, a microcosm of our “swing state” and the entire country, think through and find 1,000 ways to resist.



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All roads in Michigan start with the roads

House Minority Leader Matt Hall, R-Marshall, shook up Lansing last week with his plan to reshuffle \$2.7 billion in the state's roads budget.

The plan isn't revolutionary. Several prior Republican House leaders advocated for something similar: using General Fund money and replacing the sales tax on gasoline with a higher gas tax.

What makes this plan feel different is the timing.

It comes at a perfect time for outgoing House Speaker Joe Tate and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, who desperately need something to rally Democrats around after taking it on the chops on election night.

They need to reconnect with everyday Michiganders again. There's no better issue than the one that helped get Whitmer elected in the first place.

Remember "Fix the Damn Roads?" Remember the governor's proposed 45-cent gas tax increase? No legislator ever introduced the bill.

Whitmer, like Govs. John Engler and Jennifer Granholm, got some projects done in the last few years with bonding. Well, her \$3.5 billion is almost gone, and there's still no long-term funding plan in place.

Tate is mired in internal caucus strife. The days of ramming significant policy through the House with 56 Democrats are limited to things that unions and trial lawyers support that can be messaged as helping the working class. (Read last week's column for more on that.)

To clear the deck on his to-do list, the speaker needs Republicans. If agreeing to a passable plan to fund roads long term is the price for poker, it's time for Tate to push his chips to the middle and call Hall's bluff.

You want to use all this General Fund money to fund roads? Put the proposal on the voting board. See what happens.

In 1993, then-state Sen. Debbie Stabenow sponsored a successful measure to eliminate property tax support for schools. It forced lawmakers to craft a more manageable way to fund schools. Her courage is now heralded 30 years later.

The final month of 2024 presents Tate and the governor with a similar

opportunity. What better way to end the Democrats' first trifecta in 40 years than by finally fixing the damn roads?

Moving something like what Hall is proposing starts a chain of dominos that could end with this lame-duck session being among the most productive in recent memory. As it stands now, taxpayers paid lawmakers a full-time salary in 2024 to pass a budget at 4 a.m. and campaign. That's about it.

Here's what could happen:

1. Using the corporate income tax to fund the roads mercifully ends this perennial debate about raising the gas tax, which is going nowhere with the high cost of living clearly being voters' No. 1 issue.

2. Rep. Dylan Wegela, D-Garden City, has a bill ready to go that would raise more money for public schools by increasing the corporate income tax, if moving money around hurts the schools. Voters aren't crying crocodile tears for corporations these days. As far as they're concerned, the rich can pay a little more to help kids.

Watch Republicans cast that vote. Corporations or kids?

3. A lane of communication is created, for the first time, between Tate and Hall. The two can help each other pass their priorities without the House being paralyzed because all 56 House Democrats aren't in Lansing simultaneously.

4. Maybe, just maybe, lawmakers will be amenable to sending a little scratch to Dan Gilbert in Detroit to tear down a couple of obsolete Renaissance Center towers before that site turns to blight.

If some federal money comes for that massive microchip factory proposal in Genesee County, maybe there's something left over for that, creating a boatload of jobs.

Could this all really happen?

"Bipartisanship" isn't a popular word these days. Folks seem content believing their side has all the answers.

But maybe each side does have the answers. Similar answers, at least. They're just coming from different directions. The road to getting things done for working people can land at the same spot.

And it starts with roads.

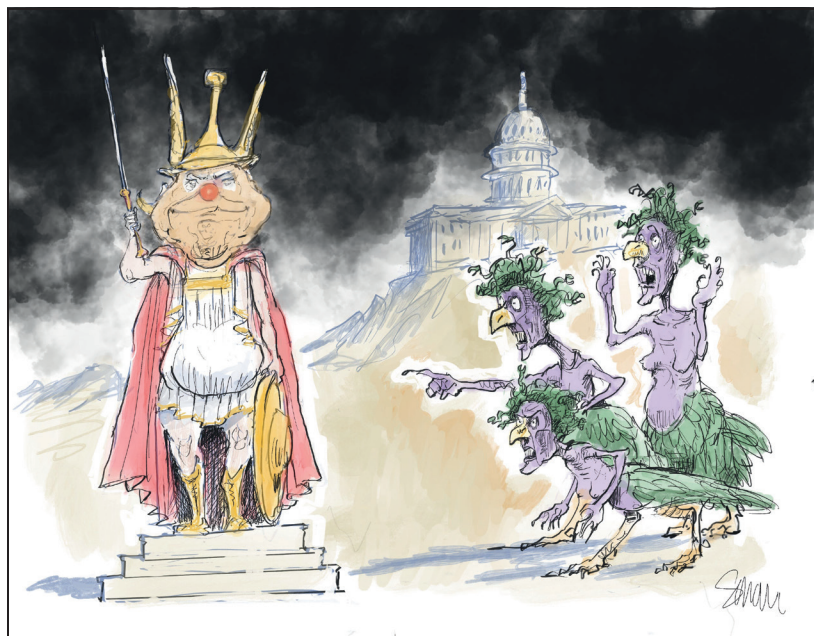
(Kyle Melinn is the editor of the Capitol news service MIRS. Email him at melinnky@gmail.com.)



POLITICS

KYLE MELINN

LET'S BOOGIE! Bob Baldori & David Small



SANEWASHING

I first read "The Education of Henry Adams" (1907) when I was in high school. It riveted me, and I've had it next to my bed (along with a few others for later discussion) ever since. Adams remains one of America's most important writers, and his work marks a significant break from the old world in style and substance.

Jack Smith's filings — which now appear to be moot — brought to mind one of Adams' many memorable passages:

"America has always taken tragedy lightly. Too busy to stop the activity of their twenty million horsepower society, Americans ignore tragic motives that would have overshadowed the middle ages; and the world learns to regard assassination as a form of hysteria, and death as neurosis, to be treated by a rest-cure. Three hideous political murders that would have fattened the Eumenides with horror, have thrown scarcely a shadow on the White House."

I recalled that passage as I read the last filings from Jack Smith, recounting in lurid detail the many criminal acts the incompetent Bozo resorted to when trying to overthrow the 2020 election and the U.S. government.

Laurence Tribe, the respected constitutional guru, notes that he responded "Wow!" time after time as he read the pleading — a factual presentation of criminal act after criminal act in furtherance of Bozo's attempt to overthrow the will of the people.

And now, through an ironic and arguably sham of an electoral process, Bozo and his clown car have achieved what can only be described as the opposite of what elections are supposed to accomplish: the end of democracy in America.

Yet, to paraphrase Adams, the mainstream media in general seems to ignore "tragic motives that would have overshadowed the Middle Ages" — and those motives will certainly fundamentally change the United States as well as world history. And further, dozens of hideous political crimes that would have "fattened the Eumenides with horror" have thrown scarcely a shadow on the electorate. Or the White House. Or so it now seems.

Inherent in what used to be fundamental to the argument for American Exceptionalism — a government of laws, not men — is gone. The great American experiment in democracy ended on Nov. 5.

Yet the Republic hums on, as if nothing out of the ordinary has happened. The very real question is: Can we get it back?

(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.)

ARTS & CULTURE

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Two stories of creation

Peoples Church exhibit showcases the work of Doug and Laura DeLind

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Some people took up cross stitching or painting by numbers to fill their time during the pandemic. Others took on a long-delayed project, like fixing up the basement. Artist Doug DeLind had bigger ideas.

Most mornings, he walked down the hill from his home in rural Mason, hunkered down in his studio with several massive slabs of clay, fired up a kiln to a hellish 2,000 degrees and touched the face of God.

The result is “Days of Creation Revisited,” a set of five murals and two large figures depicting the opening verses of the Bible’s Book of Genesis. The works serve as the centerpiece of an exquisitely balanced art exhibit running through Dec. 5 at the Peoples Church of East Lansing.

The balance comes from Laura DeLind, a longtime printmaker with a nicely appointed studio of her own just up the hill from her husband’s.

A generous sampling of Laura’s crisp linocut prints, popping with whimsical splashes of bird and plant imagery, provide a perfect counterpoint to Doug’s monumental, dark visions.

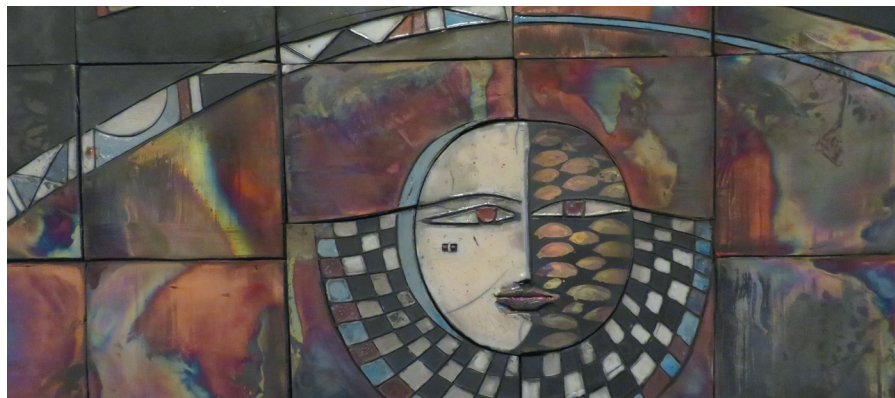
The Genesis murals were fired to iridescent glory in a tricky, centuries-old process called raku.

“It was fun, and I’m glad I did them, but those are probably the last big raku murals I’ll do,” Doug said. “I’m 77, and those slabs weigh 80 pounds apiece.”

He couldn’t remember an “epiphany” that gave him the idea for the ambitious project, but he always wanted to depict a deity with fluid gender and physical form.

“I’ve always loved creation myths,” he said. “I decided to go back to Genesis and put a different figure for God in each one.”

In his vision, human diversity is one with the emerging diversity of creation.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

“Let the Earth Bring Forth Living Creatures,” day six of Doug DeLind’s “Creation Revisited” series, reveals the spontaneous rainbow effects produced by the super-heated raku firing process.

God, in the form of a biracial woman, releases the light into the darkness in the opening mural, “Let There Be Light.”

“I’m trying to poke a little at society and say, basically, ‘We’re all people,’” Doug said.

He felt he was onto something significant, but he admitted to being “a little nervous about it.”

He showed a preliminary drawing to his wife. She encouraged him to render it in clay.

Raku is not exactly genesis, but it’s close. In the fickle firing process, Doug heats the clay slabs to nearly 2,000 degrees, removes them with tongs from the oven and drops them into a metal garbage can, where they are instantly swaddled in paper

(including old copies of City Pulse) and allowed to catch fire.

The results are unpredictable. Heavy as the slabs are, they can easily shatter or crack at any point in the process.

When the smoke cleared on “Let There Be Light,” Doug discovered that a rainbow was burned into the clay, creating a halo over the woman’s shoulders. Other slabs emerged from the kiln with spectacular iridescent shimmers worthy of the six days of creation.

“That’s why I’ve been doing this for 50 years,” he said. “It’s still interesting.”

In “Let the Waters Bring Forth Abundantly,” he chose to depict the deity as an Inuit woman, conjuring a gracefully curved whale.

The directness, confidence and simplicity of Inuit art have long fascinated both DeLinds.

“I find their work self-assured but unpretentious,” Laura explained. “It’s apparently simple, but it’s not simple in the slightest. It’s complicated to get there.”

The same could be said of Laura’s bold, high-contrast vignettes of owls, partridges, pigs, tulips and many other natural delights, reduced to knife-sharp outlines in vivid black and white. At first glance, the prints throw a refreshing splash of icy water into your eyes. A longer look reveals carefully considered nuances of composition and form.

Laura started making linocut prints more than 40 years ago, as a right-brained balance to her work on a dissertation in anthropology at Michigan State University.

She found linocut to be a democratic medium, requiring little more than a kitchen table, a spoon, some paper, a few carving knives and a “hunk of battleship-gray linoleum.” (She uses a press, but shoulders, arms and hands work nearly as well.)

“When I was starting out, it was really inexpensive,” she said. She also liked that linocut prints have a long history in the

world of cheaply and quickly produced political posters and broadsides.

“It’s unpretentious, has no pre-existing texture, and it lends itself to spontaneous, bold images,” she said.

The prints on display at the Peoples Church float in an intriguing middle zone between fine art and disposable, populist art that’s up one day and gone the next.

Part of the fun of the exhibit is finding the commonalities between Doug’s and Laura’s work in spite of the obvious differences in their chosen media, scale and style.

“Doug says we steal from each other, but I don’t know about that,” Laura said.

They consult with each other regularly, but they work in separate studios.

“We found out a long time ago that clay and paper don’t mix,” Doug declared.

Both artists avoid impressionist swirls and romantic, soft-focus forms in favor of bold, stylized imagery and sharp delineation of form. All of the art at the People’s Church exhibit, from Doug’s heavy, Old Testament-freighted raku pieces to Laura’s nimble little linocuts, burn with a deeply humanist, yet unsentimental, life force.

Doug grew up in Mason. He met Laura in the 1970s while working at Ace Hardware of Okemos to pay for his studies at MSU.

Laura had just moved to East Lansing from New York to get her doctorate at MSU. In Doug’s version of the story, she walked into the hardware store one afternoon and asked for “Mr. DeLind.”

He knew she wasn’t looking for him but for his brother, who was offering a room for rent. But he was instantly hooked.

It wasn’t exactly love at first sight for Laura.

In her version of the story, she came to the hardware store to hand over a rent check. When Doug called her two days later, she recalled asking, “Doug who?”

“She didn’t want to talk with me at first,” Doug admitted. “But later on, we got acquainted.”

“Impressions on Paper and in Clay: The Work of Laura and Doug DeLind”

Through Dec. 5
The People’s Church
200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing

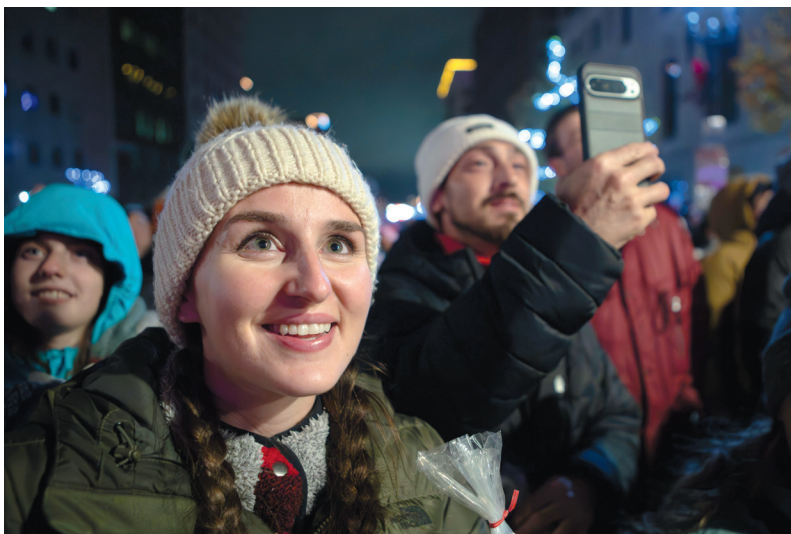
It's Christmas time in the city



What's left to say about Silver Bells?

It arrived Friday. Thousands attended. The weather was tolerably cold. Floats floated. Lights lit up the tree and the sky. The season of peace commenced (despite a few arrests).

Raymond Holt took photos for City Pulse. One is on our cover. Here are more.





City Pulse 2024 Holiday Gift Guide



Eclectic local gifts for everyone on your list

By NICOLE NOECHEL

It's easy to visit Amazon or another major online retailer and purchase all your holiday gifts with a few simple button clicks, but supporting area businesses and keeping money in the community, not handing it over to a bunch of billionaires, is more in line with the holiday spirit. City Pulse has compiled a list of local gifts \$50 and under, from sweet treats to home decor to gift cards, that will satisfy even the pickiest of gift recipients. You won't even have to wait for shipping — you'll have everything on hand and ready to wrap, if the shops don't do it for you.



Board games
Prices vary
The Gaming Cantina
4750 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing
143 S. Cochran Ave., Charlotte
thegamingcantina.com

Games are a great gift because they allow everyone at the get-together to join in on the fun when the exchange is over. With locations in East Lansing and Charlotte, the Gaming Cantina has a variety of options, from kids' games to "Family Guy" Monopoly to more obscure picks you may have never found otherwise.

Jigsaw puzzles
\$15-22
Clever Clover
317 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
clevercloverjewelry.com

With themes ranging from cats and dogs to national parks, wild mushrooms, "The Wizard of Oz" and "Bridgerton," Clever Clover offers an array of colorful 500- and 1,000-piece puzzles that will provide at least a few hours of indoor entertainment during the cold winter months.



OKTO sensory art clay kits
\$11.99-\$29.99
Odd Nodd Art Supply
317 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing
oddnodd.com

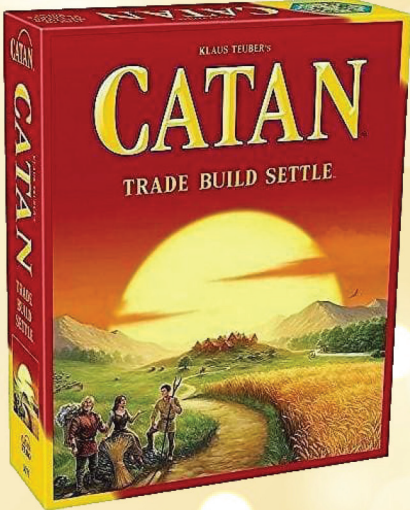
One of Odd Nodd's most popular products, OKTO sensory art clay is

made with safe, natural ingredients and doesn't leave a residue on hands or hard surfaces. Some sets only contain clay, allowing the user to create whatever they'd like, while others come with a canvas and instruction booklet so users can "paint" 3D images with the clay.



DIY craft kits
\$14.99
Broad Art Museum
547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing
broadmuseum.msu.edu

Older kids and teens can create useful and unique crafts with these handy kits, including henna, clay earrings, sun catchers, rainbow flowers and screen prints. Pick up a few to keep them busy all winter break.



Gift Guide

from page 15



Holiday soap bars

\$12

Phillips Cider Bar & Market
3000 Vine St., Lansing
phillips ciderbar.com

Handmade in Michigan, the Soap Baron's moisturizing soap bars are 100% vegan and free from parabens, petrochemicals and sulfates. They're available in an array of holiday-themed scents and designs. Gift sets containing a bar of soap, a soap tray and a crocheted hand towel are also available for \$24.



Christmas bath bombs with toys

\$7.50

Bridge + Main Market
119 N. Bridge St., DeWitt
bridgeandmainmarket.com

Perfect for kids (as long as they're old enough to know not to swallow small objects), the six bath bombs in this set are filled with small, holiday-themed toys like a reindeer, a polar bear, a candy cane and a penguin, which are released when the bombs dissolve. Bath time has never been more fun!

See Gift Guide, Page 17



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Friday, Saturday, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Sunday 12-5 p.m.

Closed Monday

Black Friday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas

Gift Guide

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Self-care gift set
\$40
Horrocks Farm Market
7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
maggieannsoap.com

Featuring a bath bomb, a bar of soap, a body butter or sugar scrub, a lip balm and a 4-ounce soy candle, this set is perfect for giftees in need of a pampering session. A variety of scent options are available, and each product is handmade in Grand Rapids with sustainable ingredients, free from artificial preservatives, animal fats or detergents.



Treat-themed candles
\$20-\$40
Horrocks Farm Market
7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
mywifescandles.com



Based in Brighton, My Wife's Candles crafts mouthwateringly realistic dessert-themed candles, a great gift option for a baker or someone with a particularly sweet tooth. Find holiday-themed options like s'mores, apple cider donuts, pecan pie and Christmas peppermint candy at Horrocks. As an added bonus, once the candles are finished, the containers can be washed out and used as glassware.

See Gift Guide, Page 18

DUSTY'S Holiday Open House

Sunday, December 1st 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Join us to kick off the holiday season at Dusty's with samples from our pastry and catering menus, and specialty Michigan-made food items. Get a start to your holiday shopping with select inventory on sale! We will also be offering a \$10 wine tasting featuring 5 wines. No reservations required.



HOURS
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Monday-Saturday 10 am to 8pm
Sunday: 11am to 5pm
Phone: (517) 349-5150

Wine Bar
Open Tuesday - Saturday
for lunch and dinner
Phone: (517) 349- 8680

Tap Room
Open Monday - Saturday
for dinner
Tap Room open for lunch on
Friday & Saturday



CELLAR & WINE BAR
1839 W Grand River Ave.
Okemos, MI 48864

THE TAP ROOM
1857 W Grand River Ave.
Okemos, MI 48864

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bourbon, whiskey, vodka, gin, brandy

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing
Thurs, Fri, Sat: 4 - 11 p.m Sun, Tues, Wed: 4 - 9 p.m
Closed Monday -- Call for parties: 517-908-9950

Gift Guide

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Flavored popcorn
\$3.50-\$8.75
Jackson Popcorn Depot
1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos
jacksonpopcorn.com

With more than 50 varieties of gourmet popcorn, including sweet flavors like bubblegum, apple pie and banana split and savory flavors like dill pickle, pizza and ranch, there's something to satisfy everyone at Jackson Popcorn Depot, located in the Meridian Mall. For those with braces, the shop also sells a variety of candy, including its own freeze-dried and cotton candy.



Portable s'mores kit
\$35
The Beeswax Barrn
1867 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett
beeswaxbarrn.com

Take s'mores indoors or on the go with this portable kit, featuring an eight-pack of graham crackers, eight mini chocolate bars, eight marshmallows, a roasting tool and a mini portable fire pit made from beeswax. Orders must be placed online, by phone at (517) 749-5278 or at the Dec. 14 Meridian Township Farmers Market (1982 W. Grand River, Okemos).

See Gift Guide, Page 19

Flour Child

BAKERY AND CAFE
bagels • croissants • sandwiches

Check out the Bakery & Cafe
voted the Lansing Area's Best,
for all your
Holiday Treat needs

Special Thanks to all of our FCB Fans for
voting us in the Top Three in 14 categories
and Best in eight, including the
Best Sandwich in the Lansing Area!

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Best Bagels
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Best Bagels
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Best Desserts

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2807 Jolly Road, Okemos
517-339-REED

If we agree to purchase your instrument, after we agree on a price, mention to us that you saw this ad and receive an extra \$10.00.

Gift Guide

from page 18

Hot cocoa kit

\$15

Mitten Mallows

Pre-order at facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551669496340



There are few things more comforting than a cup of hot cocoa in the winter. This kit includes two servings of gourmet cocoa mix and two marshmallow mug toppers, which come in three flavors: peppermint, vanilla and strawberry. Pair it with a mug or some shooters of liqueur if you want to go the extra mile.

Craft liquor

\$17-\$39

Red Cedar Spirits

2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing

redcedarspirits.com



Red Cedar Spirits' artisanal liquors can be enjoyed straight up or mixed into seasonal cocktails, a great gift for those planning to imbibe at this season's bounty of holiday parties, New Year's Eve celebrations and family get-togethers. Options include multiple varieties of vodka, gin, whiskey and bourbon as well as cherry eau de vie and apple brandy. Most products are available in 375- and 750-milliliter bottles.



Winter cocktail flight box

\$35

Twisted Craft Cocktails

126 E. Main St., DeWitt

twistedcraftcocktails.com

Make crafting great cocktails easy with this cocktail flight, containing five 4-ounce jars of ingredients that will infuse flavor into liquor up to four times each. Flavors include Berry Blush, Cherry Citrus Smash, Winter Warmup, Paradise Punch and Hot Toddy.

See Gift Guide, Page 20

517-267-7600 1232 TURNER ST. *OLD TOWN* LANSING MI 48906

Sweet Custom Jewelry

A group photo of a family of seven, including adults and children, standing together.

A QR code that links to the Sweet Custom Jewelry website.

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A large, wrapped gift box with a gold ribbon bow.

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*OFFER VALID THROUGH DECEMBER 24TH 2024 ON IN-STOCK JEWELRY. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR ON PREVIOUS PURCHASES. MUST PRESENT COUPON IN STORE. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY SEE STORE FOR DETAILS.

RATHBUN INSURANCE

A group photo of the Rathbun Insurance team standing in front of a colorful backdrop.

Rathbun Insurance – Local, Independent, Trusted. Rathbun Insurance is independently owned and locally operated to handle your insurance needs. We focus on Michigan and offer affordable and reliable insurance choices all across Michigan. We will help you find the right combination of tailored, personalized insurance coverage at just the right price to fit your needs.

A group photo of the Rathbun Insurance team standing in front of a city skyline.

529 W Saginaw St.,
Lansing, MI 48933
517-482-1316

A blue award ribbon with a gold bell and the text 'voted #1 Top of the Town 2024 CityPULSE Best Insurance Agency'.

Check us out in the Community!

A QR code that links to the Rathbun Insurance website.

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Greenhouse and Flower Shop

VanAtta's strives to be your favorite Garden Center and go-to Flower Shop! With on-staff horticulture experts, our quality grown plant material and award-winning designers, we're here to help!

We are proudly employee-owned and celebrate and promote unity in diversity within our community and workplace.



9008 Old M-78 Haslett



Gift Guide

from page 19



Champagne kit

\$30

Sedona Wanderlust

**215 S. Washington Square,
Lansing**

sedonawanderlustboutique.com

Whether saved until New Year's Eve or used right after the gift exchange to celebrate the holiday at hand, this kit makes popping a bottle of champagne even more of an event than usual. It includes two mini stemless glasses, a bottle stopper, confetti, coasters, swizzle sticks, edible glitter, a champagne cocktail recipe booklet and a "ring for champagne" bell.

Michigan State University pillow

\$42

Bridge + Main Market

119 N. Bridge St., DeWitt

bridgeandmainmarket.com

Graduates of Michigan State University, especially avid MSU sports fans, can display their alma mater loud and proud with this decorative pillow. It may also serve as a handy punching bag during losing games.



See Gift Guide, Page 21



There's no place like
Local for the *Holidays!*

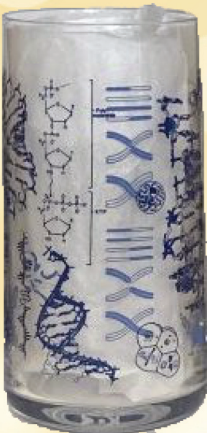
Shop our year-round market's selection of Mid-Michigan vendors! We have baked goods, gifts, produce, and more!

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Meridian Mall JCPenney Wing

www.meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket

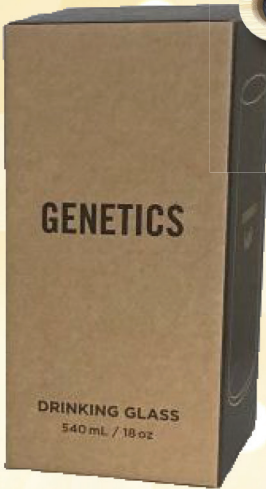
Gift Guide

from page 20



Scientific glasses
\$23.95
Quark!
549 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
quarkgifts.com

For the scientifically curious giftees on your list, these 18-ounce glasses are printed with a range of interesting subject matter, from the levels of the atmosphere, ocean and Earth’s core to the Periodic Table. They’re guaranteed to make every sip an educational experience.



Michigan cutting board
\$25.95
Studio Shop
122 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston
studioshopgifts.com

No one can have too many cutting boards, and this 13.5-by-7-inch bamboo board, engraved with a Michigan-themed design, would also work well as a charcuterie tray. The Studio Shop offers many other Michigan-focused designs on cutting boards as well as coasters, mugs, tea towels and more.

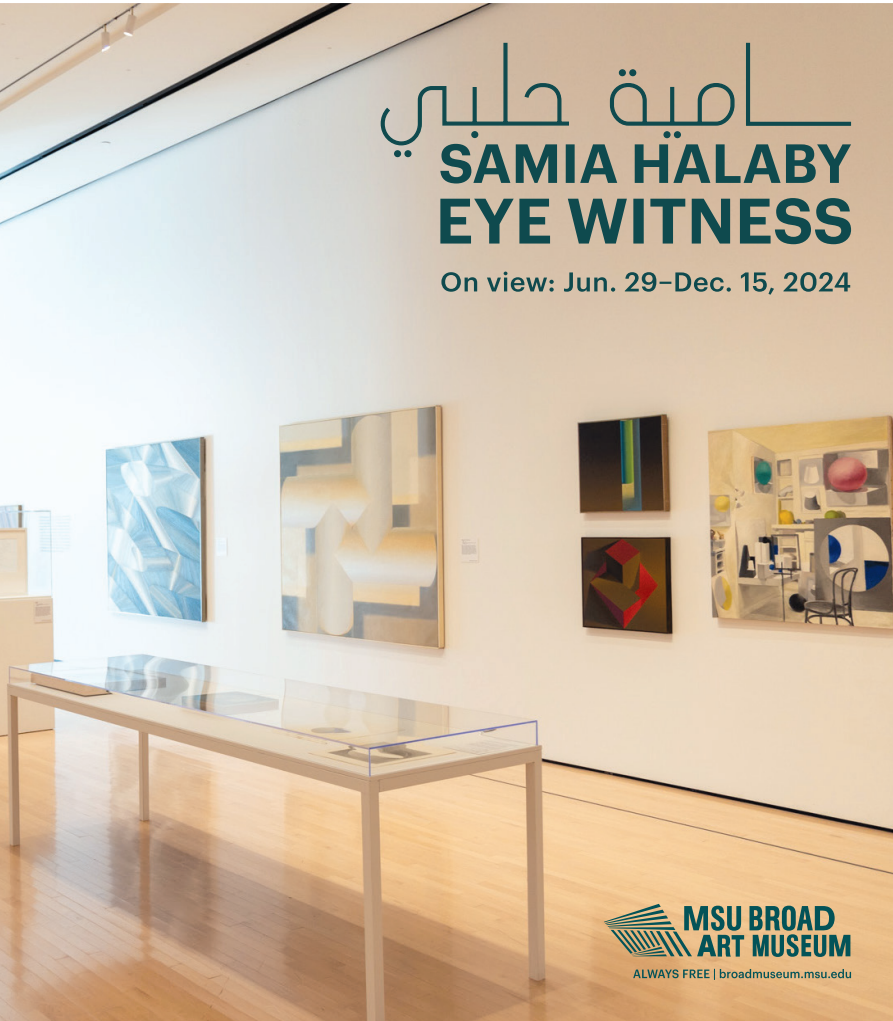



Enamel flowers
\$5-\$12
Ornamaloo
215 S. Washington Square, Lansing
ornamaloo.myshopify.com

Made by Cedar Springs-based Annabelle Noel Designs, these enamel flowers, available in 12- and 18-inch sizes, would be a great gift for gardeners looking to brighten up their plots during the grey winter months. They can also be displayed indoors with artificial foliage to create an everlasting bouquet.

See Gift Guide, Page 22

امية حلبى
SAMIA HALABY
EYE WITNESS
On view: Jun. 29–Dec. 15, 2024





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20% off with this ad

Gift Guide

from page 21



Hold on to Hope vases \$50

Fireworks Glass
119 S. Putnam St.,
Williamston
fireworksglassmi.com

These hand-blown vases are more than just vibrant display pieces — half of the proceeds from each vase are donated to a local family struggling with the effects of cancer. They're available in seven colors and will come in handy once spring blooms arrive.



To: _____ \$ _____

From: _____

Certificate # _____ Date: _____ Auth: _____

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www.wineandcanvas.com

Not redeemable for cash.

Wine and Canvas gift certificate \$25-\$45

580 Frandor Ave., Lansing
wineandcanvas.com

Located in the Frandor Shopping Center, Wine and Canvas offers paint-and-sip events where guests can enjoy alcoholic beverages while creating works of art on canvases, wine glasses, wood boards and more. Gift cards are available online, with three price options based on class prices.



Downtown Lansing, East Lansing and Eastwood Towne Center gift cards

Name your price

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app.yiftee.com/gift-card/east-lansing

app.yiftee.com/gift-card/eastwood-towne-center



These digital gift cards can be used at participating locations in each area for everything from food to clothing to tanning and waxes. If you can't decide on a gift your intended recipient will love, allow them to choose!

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60-min Hydrofacial with RF Skin Tightening: Purchase a gift card for \$165 and we will honor it for this service (regular \$225)

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Okemos duo emphasizes storytelling in escape room venture

By TYLER SCHNEIDER

Rob Garrod and Becca Horste have tackled upwards of 100 escape rooms each since they tried their first together in 2017.

Popularized in the United States in the mid-2010s, an escape room involves “locking” two or more participants inside a themed room for a predetermined duration. As they explore the deliberately crafted setting, they’ll find a series of puzzles and clues that ultimately lead them to the exit.



Escapes Unlocked

1831 Newman Road,
Okemos
5-8 p.m. Thursday
3-9 p.m. Friday
Noon-9 p.m. Saturday
Noon-7:30 p.m. Sunday
Other days and times
by request
(517) 580-7304
unlockedlansing.com

“We got hooked pretty quickly,” Garrod said. “After about five escape rooms, we decided we’d love to start designing some ourselves.”

In 2019, the couple began looking for facilities to house an escape room business, but the pandemic forced them to suspend those efforts until 2021. They signed a lease for a 2,100-square-foot space in Okemos in late 2022 and launched Escapes Unlocked in May 2023 with one hard-level room, “Dream Explorers,” which is themed around the subconscious.

Last December, they opened an intermediate-level room, “Castle Quest,” a dungeon-like setting complete with prop swords, scrolls and armor.

With the debut of a third room geared toward novice escapers and families, “The Case of the Missing Cookie,” earlier this month, the pair felt now was finally the time to publicize Escapes Unlocked to the community. They held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Nov. 8 and a grand opening celebration on Nov. 9.

While all the rooms can be solved by just two participants, Garrod and Horste said groups of four are typically optimal. Interested patrons can book any of the three rooms online from 2:20 to 8 p.m. Thursday, 2:20 to 9:40 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 9:40 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday. The business also takes walk-ins during its regular hours and can accommodate other dates and times by request.

Garrod and Horste are also looking to design take-home escape room games, which would allow customers to bring the fun into their own homes.

Garrod, a Lansing-area native and amateur competitive Scrabble player, quit his IT job in 2022 to run the place full time. He and Horste spent between five and nine months designing each room.

“The key component when we approach a new room is we really try to build a world in the story for it first. From there, we think about what kind of activities would make sense in that world. We try to figure out what kind of puzzles might fit with those objects and settings because it’s important that it all comes together to tell a story,” Garrod explained. “We take feedback and our own observations from watching the rooms as people are playing, and we tinker with all of them continuously.”



Courtesy photo

For “Castle Quest,” the second of three escape rooms created by Escapes Unlocked owners Rob Garrod and Becca Horste, the pair “really took the set design to the next level,” Garrod said. “We tried to make it look more realistically like a castle, so people feel like they’re really on an adventure.”

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Holiday gifts for flower fanatics, concentrate connoisseurs and everyone in between

By CHRIS SILVA

Whether you're looking for a stocking stuffer or to curate a full gift package, Michigan's topsy-turvy cannabis market ensures holiday shoppers will find a range of options and prices for whatever they want, wherever they go. That being said, I've helped sort through all the options to highlight a few products every stoner would love to find under the tree this year.

Live hash rosin — Pleasantrees

\$40/1g

1950 Merritt Road, East Lansing
enjoypleasantrees.com

The concentrate enthusiast in your life will adore any strain of in-house live hash rosin you choose from Pleasantrees' East Lansing location. The business places a strong focus on quality, both in its own products and other brands it carries, and it's leading the way in consumer transparency. Its hash is made from flower grown at its own cultivation facility, using genetics tailored exclusively for solventless terpene extraction. Like



everything else in Michigan's cannabis market, the prices of solventless concentrates have plummeted, so this is a good time to enjoy top-shelf quality at an affordable price.

Punch Cake flower — Willie's Reserve

\$112/1 oz

Local Roots Cannabis

120 W. Grand River Road, Laingsburg



localrootscannabis.com

Willie's Reserve is backed by country superstar Willie Nelson, and the balladeer's reputation for smoking dope really shines in his Michigan offerings. His brand is run by savvy, experienced Michigan operators who have created a celebrity label that actually delivers on quality and consistency. No step in the process is an afterthought — these products are grown and distributed by true cannabis enthusiasts and OGs. Pick up some flower at Local Roots on small business Saturday (Nov. 30) and help support a fixture of the Laingsburg community.

TH3 disposable vape — Trap House Co.

\$35/3g

Arcanna

29 Beardsley Road, Ionia

arcannausa.com

I wanted to spotlight a top-shelf, affordable and, more importantly, safe option for a multi-gram distillate vape. Nothing says "I love you" more than ensuring your loved ones are vaping clean, conversion-oil-free distillate. Trap



House Co.'s parent company has been a vocal proponent of cleaning up the industry and cracking down on conversion oil. With a solid reputation for making some of the most accessible fire in the state, Trap House's 3-gram disposables are a slam dunk on value. The taste and quality really can't be beaten, and the company has paid a lot of attention to the hardware to ensure the last hit is just as flavorful and effective as the first. While at Arcanna, be sure to check out the entire Trap House line.



BlasterNaut gummy — Monster Xtracts

\$3/200 mg

Bazonzoes

2101 W. Willow St., Lansing

920 American Road, Lansing

bazonzoesmi.com



We all know people who claim edibles don't work for them, but this one will. Choose this gummy for the most

See Cannabis gifts, Page 25

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Over 250 voices join the MSU Symphony Orchestra to celebrate the spirit of the season in an uplifting concert. The evening features Poulenc's *Gloria*, a vibrant choral work with rich orchestration and expressive melodies, along with selections from Handel's *Messiah*, renowned for its powerful choruses and intricate arias. Conducted by Sandra Snow and Jonathan Reed.

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College of Music
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'SNL' alumna Ana Gasteyer brings her 'Sugar and Booze' show to Wharton

By KURT ANTHONY KRUG

Comedian, actress and musician Ana Gasteyer may be making her debut at the Wharton Center next week, but she's no stranger to East Lansing. She said she and her family have spent "quite a bit" of time in the city visiting relatives.

"I love East Lansing. For New Yorkers, it's an amazing slice of apple pie. We always go to the Dairy Store," she said. "For my Brooklyn kids who don't even have a football field at their school, this feels real comforting. It's just a different vibe."

Gasteyer has been tied up since late July playing Queen Aggravain in the Broadway revival of "Once Upon a Mattress," which wraps Saturday (Nov. 30). She's looking forward to bringing her "Sugar and Booze" musical act to Wharton Tuesday evening (Dec. 3) before "Once Upon a Mattress" heads to Los Angeles for a month-long run.

"I was able to plan a mini-Midwestern tour the week in between," she said. "I always play Evanston, Illinois, where

my alma mater, Northwestern University, is. I've never played at the Wharton Center before and had that on my list of desired venues."

"Sugar and Booze" has received rave reviews nationwide.

"It's my holiday collection of what I like to call seasonal, secular favorites. It's my joyful, jazzy collection of old and new standards," Gasteyer explained. "It's throwback-y, with an old-fashioned, jazzy theater vibe. It's throwing a cocktail party, except it's live and on stage. It's an incredible jazz ensemble. We have jingle bells, we have horns. We just don't have elves or dwarves or tap dancers – yet."

Gasteyer is perhaps best known for her 1996-to-2002 stint on "Saturday Night Live," where she most notably impersonated Martha Stewart, Celine Dion and Barbra Streisand. She said the subjects have all been "fun and graceful" about her impressions.

"I've never expected to do impersonations — it's not really my thing — but when I'm successful, it's a joy," she said.

In 2005, Gasteyer originated the role of Elphaba, the Wicked Witch of

the West, in the Chicago production of "Wicked," the movie version of which was released last week in theaters.

"It was such a life-changing experience," she said. "It was such a privilege. We rehearsed it soup-and-nuts with the original creators. Vocally, it was so demanding; I learned so much about myself as a performer. Also, it's such a beloved piece of theater. How many shows have been running for 20 years?"

From late 2021 to mid-2023, Gasteyer was the lead on the NBC sitcom "American Auto." Set in Detroit, the show chronicled the lives of the employees of the fictional automobile company Payne Motors. Gasteyer played Payne's new CEO, Katherine Hastings, who came from the pharmaceutical industry and knew next to nothing about the automotive industry. She was saddened that NBC decided not to renew it for a third season.

"It was really a victim of COVID-19 and the strikes — the writers' and the actors' strikes — that halted the entertainment industry. That's such a shame because it was a fun show," she lamented.

She encourages people to come to Wharton and have "a little sugar and booze" with her.

"We experience entertainment so re-



Courtesy photo

Ana Gasteyer likened her holiday-themed musical act, "Sugar and Booze," to "throwing a cocktail party, except it's live and on stage."

motely. The opportunity to perform in front of a live audience is one of total connection," she said. "The holidays are about connecting; they're about having a great time. I encourage my audiences to wear their tacky Christmas sweaters and come out for a good time — that's really what it is. It's about celebrating together and letting it rip."

Cannabis gifts

from page 24

seasoned edible user in your life. Jackson-based Monster Xtracts has been in the legal game since the beginning and advocates for safe and conversion-oil-free products. Selling the gummy in one huge piece allows the cost to be cut down as well, which is saying something in today's market. This is a novel and cheap option for folks who are more or less consuming a whole bag of cannabis gummies in one sitting anyway. Stop in at one of Bazonzoes' two Lansing locations to check out the flavor lineup, which includes Amped Green Apple, Blue Razz Bang, Tropical Thunder and other fruity flavors. Don't worry, the shops carry edibles for people with normal tolerance levels, too.

Lunar wax pen — Dip Devices

\$39.99

dipdevices.com

Dip Devices is well-versed in the vape battery game. Its products are high quality and have always lasted me years. The new Lunar wax pen has some improved functionality, including a



display screen that allows the user to have more control over temperature. It's not going to hit like a traditional dab rig or a Puffco Peak, but it's the size of a pre-roll, allowing for easy on-the-go use, and it's 40 bucks.

Glass joint tips — RAW

Price varies

Local head shops and dispensaries

I recently saw an interview with hip-hop artist B-Real from Cypress Hill. He was discussing smoking etiquette in group settings. The cannabis enthusiast divulged that he only smokes joints with glass tips, even forgoing getting high if paper-tipped joints are the only option. That got me thinking — I've been using glass tips more and more, and

I'm really starting to notice a difference. I like the RAW-brand ones, but pesky laws don't allow RAW to sell directly to consumers, so you'll need to look for them at head shops, dispensaries or third-party websites, as I often do. Pick up a 50- or 75-pack and distribute them among your headiest friends and family members.



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119 S. Larch St, Lansing

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Big stocking stuffers: Books for all the readers on your list

By **BILL CASTANIER**

I remember one Christmas Eve family gathering when my cousin Ricky, who couldn't have been more than 5, exclaimed, "All I get for Christmas is underwear and socks. Socks, socks, socks."

Today it would be more common to hear "books, books, books" from someone who's hard to shop for, but that's OK ... in my book.

With a trip to a local bookstore, you can find something to please everyone on your gift list.

For the mystery reader, consider Louise Penny's "The Grey Wolf" (actually a thriller with a deathly ending); brothers Andrew and Lee Child's latest Jack Reacher book, "In Too Deep"; and Michael Connelly's "The Waiting," a Bosch and Ballard cold-case mystery with Bosch's cop daughter embroiled in the unsolved crime.

Otto Penzler's annual collection of Christmas-themed short mysteries, "Christmas Crimes at the Mysterious Bookshop," featuring one by Michigan author Loren D. Estleman, is another great Christmas Day read.

Three Michigan-related coffee-table books are also excellent choices for the ship, train and trolley, and printer nerds in the family.

"The Michigan Railway Company: The Northern and Southern Divisions," by Norman L. Krentel, follows the short-lived histories of local rail-based transportation systems in mid-Michigan, including Lansing. Did you know sugar beets were transported on urban railways and that Haslett had a mammoth sinkhole?

"Citizen Printer," by Amos Paul Kennedy Jr., a Detroit printer, artist and author, is a compendium of more than 800 reproductions of Kennedy's radical, social justice and just plain funny posters

and broadsheets. My favorite is a simple poster proclaiming, "Ladies: NO! Fighting in the Bathroom" for a bar in York, Alabama.

"Sail, Steam and Diesel: Moving Cargo on the Great Lakes," by Eric Hirsimaki, is a Great Lakes shipping geek's delight that will keep them busy until the Soo Locks reopen in the spring.

A teenager or even a precocious preteen will enjoy the new Taylor Swift biography, "Heartbreak is the National Anthem: How Taylor Swift Reinvented Pop Music," by middle-aged music writer Rob Sheffield.

For more adult novels, look to Louise Erdrich's "The Mighty Red," a coming-of-age story of confusing young love and a complicated tale of a small town living through a recession. Of course, Erdrich's own Indigenous roots and ownership of an independent bookstore play large, along with sugar beets and fracking. Also, "James," Percival Everett's National Book Award-winning reimaging of Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," will keep you reading into the night.

For aging hippie music lovers, two books stand out this year: "The MC5: An Oral Biography of America's Most Revolutionary Band," compiled, edited and written by a legendary editor of Creem magazine, Jaan Uhelszski, and respected rock writer Brad Tolinski, who shepherded the unfinished manuscript of the late Ben Edmonds into print.

On the softer side, "Traveling: On

the Path of Joni Mitchell," by rock critic Ann Powers, delves into the life and times of this force in music, a life that has been described as "kaleidoscopic in scope." This book comes along when we may need it the most.

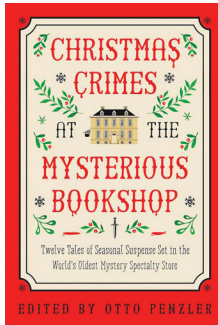
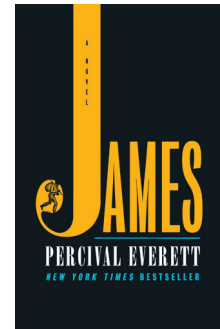
Alice Randall's unique book "My Black Country," about country music from an African American perspective, is a heck of a read even if you have no interest in the genre. Randall is an author

and country-music songwriter who has written for Trisha Yearwood. A previous book, "Black Bottom Saints," won a Michigan Notable Book award. She was born in Detroit.

Knee nippers will be fascinated by the nautical-themed children's book "The Ship in the Window," written by Michigan children's librarian Travis Yonker and illustrated by Caldecott Medal-winning artist Matthew Cordell. This picture book will captivate youngsters and their adult readers as they follow Mabel, a mouse, who takes a model ship on a cruise.

For non-fiction readers who lean toward history and memoirs, check out "Freedom: Memoirs 1954-2021," by former German Chancellor Angela Merkel, and "Patriot: A Memoir," by Alex Navalny, a heroic tale of the fight against a despot.

Lately, I've been recommending two urban history classics: "The Power Broker," Robert Caro's encyclopedic look at Robert Moses, and "The Death and Life of Great American Cities," by Jane Jacobs. They both have a modern relevance to Lansing.



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25% off gift certificates and used hardcovers through Christmas Eve!

Excluding books on
consignment

*The stockings were hung by the chimney with care
knowing a book would fit perfect in there!*

HAPPY Thanksgiving Lansing

Holiday Party Supplies!

Pre-Order Party Trays at www.QDExpress.com

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Cast and Crew” -- double examples.
by Matt Jones
© 2024 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
1. McEntire of “Happy’s Place”
5. Backup idea
10. Racetrack gait
14. Alternatives to lagers
15. Indian currency
16. Water conveyor
17. Group of British whales covered in Band-Aids?
19. “You _____” (Burger King ad campaign)
20. Outdoor dining arrangement
21. Chinese zodiac sign
23. Accelerated
24. Dog-walker’s item
25. Prescription sleep aid
28. Word sung before “dear [insert name here]”
31. “La _____” (Debussy opus)
32. Celery portion
34. Spine-tingling
35. _____-Z (old Camaro model)
37. Swung around a pivot
39. Take time off
40. Head & Shoulders target
42. Inherited factors
44. Actor Mahershala
45. Secluded spot
47. “_____ on the side of my face” (line from “Clue”)
49. Cow, in Cannes
50. Equipment
51. Pyongyang’s country, in some headlines

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20									21	22				
			23					24						
25	26	27					28					29	30	
31				32		33				34				
35			36		37				38		39			
40				41		42				43		44		
45					46				47		48			
			49					50						
51	52						53					54	55	56
57						58	59							
60					61						62			
63					64						65			

53. Shout at some parties
57. Overnight _____
58. What to do in the search bar to get the latest scores?
60. One T of “ST:ING”
61. Tiniest bit
62. Vacillate
63. Crafter’s website
64. Cowboy’s catcher
65. Till filler
- DOWN
1. “Mean Girls” star Rene
2. Late “First Lady of Children’s Folk Songs” Jenkins
3. Rhythm
4. St. Francis’s home
5. Puts forward
6. Drawn in
7. Scheduled mtg.
8. “The Matrix”
- protagonist
9. Two-_____ (apartment spec, slangily)
10. Classic skateboarding magazine
11. Nightmare that keeps you tossing and turning?
12. 1952 Olympics host city
13. Prom attendee, usually
18. Overdrinks
22. Taxi posting
24. Compare (to)
25. “Weird Al” Yankovic’s “_____ Paradise” _____
26. Thanks, in Quebec
27. Ballots using really wide sheets of paper?
28. Bandit’s kid
29. Supermarket
- section
30. Some coolers
33. Aquarium growth
36. Cloudless forecast
38. Lets have the last word
41. Treasure hunter’s step
43. Acronym for a lawsuit filed to silence or intimidate opponents
46. “_____ it be?”
48. Dry creek bed
50. Shot
51. Memo
52. Mario _____ (Nintendo series)
53. Aquatherapy locales
54. Press clothes
55. Eyelid nuisance
56. Those, to Jose
59. “Motion approved”

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Answers on page 30

SUDOKU

Beginner

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

Nov. 27-Dec. 3, 2024

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Renowned composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart had a sister nicknamed Nannerl. During their childhoods, she was as much a musical prodigy as he. They toured Europe performing together, playing harpsichord and piano. Some critics regarded her as the superior talent. But her parents ultimately decided it was unseemly for her, as a female, to continue her development as a genius. She was forcibly retired so she could learn housekeeping and prepare for marriage. Is there a part of your destiny, Aries, that resembles Nannerl’s? Has some of your brilliance been suppressed or denied? The coming months will be an excellent time to recover and revive it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do you know if you have any doppelgangers, Taurus? I bet you will meet one in the coming weeks. How about soul friends, alter egos or evil twins? If there’s no one like that in your life right now, they may arrive soon. And if you already know such people, I suspect your relationships will grow richer. Mirror magic and shadow vision are in the works! I’m guessing you will experience the best, most healing kind of double trouble. Substitutes and stand-ins will have useful offers and tempting alternatives. Parallel realities may come leaking through into your reality. Opportunities for symbiosis and synergy will be at an all-time high. Sounds like wild fun!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Humans have been eating a wide range of oranges since ancient times. Among the most popular types in modern times is the navel orange. It’s large, seedless, sweet, juicy and easy to peel. But it didn’t exist until the 1820s, when a genetic mutation in a single tree in Brazil spawned this new variety. Eventually, the navel became a revolutionary addition to the orange family. I foresee a metaphorically comparable development in your life during the coming months, Gemini. An odd tweak or interesting glitch could lead to a highly favorable expansion of possibilities. Be alert for it.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Cancerian, you are a finalist for our Most Resourceful and Successful Survivor of the Year trophy. If you take a brief trip to hell in the next two weeks, you could assure your victory. But wait! Let me be more exact: “Hell” is incorrect terminology; I just used it for shock effect. The fact is that “hell” is a religious invention that mischaracterizes the true nature of the realm of mystery, shadows and fertile darkness. In reality, the nether regions can be quite entertaining and enriching if you cultivate righteous attitudes. What are those attitudes? A frisky curiosity to learn truths you have been ignorant about, a brave resolve to unearth repressed feelings and hidden yearnings, and a drive to rouse spiritual epiphanies that aren’t available when you’re in the trance of everyday consciousness.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In my astrological opinion, you need and deserve big doses of fun, play, pleasure and love. Amusement and enchantment, too, as well as excitement, hilarity and delight. I trust you will schedule a series of encounters and adventures that provide you with a surplus of these necessary resources. Can you afford a new toy or two? Or a romantic getaway to a sanctuary of adoration? Or a smart gamble that will attract a stream of rosy luck into your vicinity? I suggest you be audacious in seeking the sweet, rich feelings you require.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): December will be Home Enhancement Month for you Virgos. Get started immediately! I’ll offer tips for how to proceed and ask you to dream up your own ideas. 1. Phase out décor or accessories that no longer embody the style of who you have become. 2. Add new décor and accessories that will inspire outbreaks of domestic bliss. 3. Encourage everyone in your household to contribute creative ideas to generate mutual enhancement. 4. Perform a blessing ritual that will raise the spiritual vibes. 5. Invite your favorite people over and ask them to

shower your abode with blessings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Libran songwriter and producer Kevin MacLeod has composed more than 2,000 pieces of music — and given all of them away for free. That’s why his work is so widespread. It has been featured in thousands of films and millions of YouTube videos. His composition “Monkeys Spinning Monkeys” has been played on TikTok more than 31 billion times. (PS: He has plenty of money, in part because so many appreciative people give him free-will donations through his Patreon page.) I propose we make him your inspirational role model in the coming weeks and months, Libra. How could you parlay your generosity and gifts into huge benefits for yourself?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): According to my grandmother, I have such a mellifluous voice that I should have pursued a career as a newscaster or DJ on the radio. In eighth grade, my science teacher admired my work and urged me to become a professional biologist. When I attended Duke University, my religious studies professor advised me to follow his path. Over the years, many others have offered their opinions about who I should be. As much as I appreciated their suggestions, I have always trusted one authority: my muses. In the coming weeks and months, Scorpio, you may also receive abundant advice about your best possible path. You may be pressured to live up to others’ expectations. But I encourage you to do as I have done. Trust your inner advisers.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I invite you to get a head start on formulating your New Year’s resolutions. Jan. 1 is a good time to instigate robust new approaches to living your life, but the coming weeks will be an even better time for you Sagittarians. To get yourself in the mood, imagine you have arrived at day zero, year one. Simulate the feeling of being empty and open and fertile. Imagine that nothing binds or inhibits you. Assume that the whole world is eager to know what you want. Act as if you have nothing to prove to anyone and everything to gain by being audacious and adventurous.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): There was a long period when many popular songs didn’t come to a distinct end. Instead, they faded out. The volume would gradually diminish as a catchy riff repeated over and over again. As you approach a natural climax to one of your cycles, Capricorn, I recommend that you borrow the fade-out as a metaphorical strategy. In my astrological opinion, it’s best not to finish abruptly. See if you can create a slow, artful ebb or a gradual, graceful dissolution.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): When he was young, Aquarian musician and sound engineer Norio Ohga wrote a critical letter to the electronics company now known as Sony. He complained in detail about the failings of its products. Instead of being defensive, executives at the company heeded Ohga’s suggestions for improvement. They even hired him as an employee and ultimately made him president of the company at age 40. He went on to have a stellar career as an innovator. In the spirit of the Sony executives, I recommend that you seek feedback and advice from potential helpers who are the caliber of Ohga. The information you gather in the coming weeks could prove to be highly beneficial.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): What would your paradise look and feel like? If you could remake the world to suit your precise needs for maximum freedom, well-being and inspiration, what changes would you instigate? Now is an excellent time to ponder these possibilities, Pisces. You have more ability than usual to shape and influence the environments where you hang out. A good way to rouse this power is to imagine your ideal conditions. Be bold and vivid. Amuse yourself with extravagant and ebullient fantasies as you envision your perfect world.

OUT on the 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, Nov. 27

"A Joyful Line" - Dorothy Hughes Engelman exhibits her zentangle-inspired art at the Okemos Library through Dec. 31. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Al-Anon Meeting - 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. cmialanon.org.

Emilio Pino Bookend Gallery Display - Enjoy Pino's paintings during the month of November. 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.

JP & The Energy Pre-Thanksgiving Bash at Mash Bar - 9 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

Lansing Live Open Stage Night - Whether you're experienced or just starting out, the stage is open to all. Not a performer? Enjoy dinner, drinks and live music. No cover, all ages welcome. 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Mixed Flavors at the Irish Pub - 9 p.m. 1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. 517-253-8713. facebook.com/IrishPubLansing.

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. lamcsangha.wordpress.com.

MSU Women's Volleyball vs. Northwestern University - 6 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/womens-volleyball.

Weaving the Web: Life After Death - 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. weaversoftheweb.org.

Thursday, Nov. 28

2024 Feast of Gratuities - Potluck feast to celebrate gratitude, warmth and community. We'll prepare turkeys in two different styles. A sign-up sheet is posted in the library and on our website for you to let us know what you'd like to bring. 4-7 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Al-Anon Meeting - 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.

Community Thanksgiving Meal - Menu includes turkey, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberry sauce, stuffing, green bean casserole and pie. Free and open to the public. Noon-2 p.m. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing. cristoreycommunity.org.

Thursday Night Open Forge - Try your hand at blacksmithing! Bring your own ear and eye

protection or purchase them for a small fee. Youth need adult accompaniment. 6-9 p.m. Artfire Michigan, 4567 Churchill Road, Leslie. artfiremichigan.com.

Friday, Nov. 29

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

"A Very Williamston Christmas" - 2 and 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

Michigan Made Holiday Exhibition & Market - Shop for fine art and creative gifts by more than 50 Michigan artists! 3-7 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery, 300 S. Washington Square, Lansing. lansingartgallery.org.

MSU Men's Ice Hockey vs. Lindenwood University - 7 p.m. Munn Ice Arena, 509 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/mens-ice-hockey.

TGIF Black Friday Turkey Burn-Off Dance Party - Doors open at 7 p.m., line dance lesson at 7:15 p.m., dance 8 p.m.-midnight. Coffee and water provided, free refills on soft drinks, cash/credit bar. Eagle Eye Golf & Banquet Center, 15500 Chandler Road, Bath. tgifdance.com.

Saturday, Nov. 30

Aaron Johnson at El Azteco East - 9 p.m. 225 Ann St., East Lansing. 517-351-9111. facebook.com/elaztecoeast.

"A Joyful Line" - Dorothy Hughes Engelman exhibits her original zentangle-inspired art at the Okemos Library through Dec. 31. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

"A Very Williamston Christmas" - 2 and 7:30 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

Emilio Pino Bookend Gallery Display - Enjoy Pino's paintings during the month of November. Noon-2 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Handmade Evergreen Wreath Workshop - Create a wreath using fresh-cut greens! This class typically fills up fast. Registration req. Noon. Van Atta's Greenhouse, 9008 Old M-78, Bath. vanattas.com.

Holiday Market - Shop for handmade gifts, one-of-a-kind items, fresh Christmas trees, wreaths and so much more! 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Beach Market, 120 W. Lovett St., Charlotte. facebook.com/MICharlotteRising.

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 10 am.-2 p.m. Meridian Mall, 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-712-2395. meridian.mi.us/Farmers-Market.

Michigan Made Holiday Exhibition & Market - Shop for fine art and creative gifts by more than 50 Michigan artists! 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery, 300 S. Washington Square, Lansing. lansingartgallery.org.

MSU Football vs. Rutgers University - 3:30 p.m. Spartan Stadium, 325 W. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/football.

The Black Santa Experience

1-7 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 30
The Venue by Eleven 11 Events
5660 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing

The Black Santa Experience, a culturally inclusive holiday event for Black youth and families, returns for its third year 1 to 7 p.m. Saturday (Nov. 30) at the Venue by Eleven 11 Events. It will be held on Small Business Saturday, offering a holiday marketplace highlighting local Black-owned businesses as well as live holiday music by Transcendence Performing Arts Center's Vocal Ensemble; a silent auction; the unveiling of a new Black Santa Experience-inspired work by Michigan artist Mila Lynn, prints of which will be available for purchase; live caricatures by Lynn; face painting; arts and crafts; and, of course, the opportunity to visit with Black Santa, played by George Smithers, a graduate of the Charles W. Howard Santa Claus School in Midland. Professional photo packages are available for purchase.

New this year is a pancake breakfast with Santa from 9 to 11 a.m. at One North Kitchen and Bar. Each child will receive a photo with Santa and a special gift bag, and each family will receive free entry to the main event. Tickets are \$35 for the first registered child and \$25 for each additional child. Parent tickets are \$15.

"We are so proud to once again bring the Black Santa Experience to Lansing for our third year. We are committed to giving mid-Michigan a Santa experience like no other, and we appreciate every Black-owned business that joins us on this incredible day," event founder Karla Wagner said.

Admission to the event is \$5 per person or \$15 per family at the doors. The first 100 attendees will receive a free swag bag. To register for the pancake breakfast or a photo session, visit theblacksantaexperience.com.



Sunday, Dec. 1

"A Course in Miracles" Study Group, with Dan and Carol Maynard - Noon. Unity Spiritual Center, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. unitylansing.org.

"A Joyful Line" - Dorothy Hughes Engelman exhibits her zentangle-inspired art at the Okemos Library through Dec. 31. Noon-6 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

"A Very Williamston Christmas" - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

Bottle and Can Collection for Eastern Ingham Farmers Market - We collect your Michigan-returnable bottles and cans from your trunk while you stay warm in your vehicle. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. easterninghamfarmersmarket.org.

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

First Start Sunday - Monthly blacksmithing workshop for beginners, featuring a shop tour, lessons on safety and technique, and a take-

home project. 2 p.m. Artfire Michigan, 4567 Churchill Road, Leslie. artfiremichigan.com.

FREE Gentle Nidra Yoga Class - Designed for all levels to ease you into deep relaxation and stillness. Noon. Firefly Hot Yoga Barre, 118 S. Washington Square, Lansing. fireflyhotyogabarrefitness.com.

GLAD Drum Circle - We offer a welcoming space for all, from beginners to advanced drummers. Bring your own drum or borrow one! 2-4 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

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/macsbarmmsu.

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.

MSU Men's Ice Hockey vs. Lindenwood University - 4 p.m. Munn Ice Arena, 509 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/mens-ice-hockey.

See Events, Page 29

Williamston Theatre’s Christmas play is so Lansing

By **CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS**

For most of us, a “Christmas play” conjures images of old men being visited by ghosts and rosy-cheeked children peacefully opening presents on Christmas morning. Christmas shows are meant to be nice, but they can feel like sugar scrub in a wound for those of us with more savory, even salty feelings about the holidays.

If you’re also eagerly awaiting the arrival of Dec. 26, run, don’t walk, to the triumphant return of Williamston Theatre’s “A Very Williamston Christmas,” a holiday show for the rest of us that had my companion and me rolling in our seats, bracing for the next laugh during a 90-minute send-up of a Hallmark movie that clocks

lightning speeds and delivers what many real-life Christmas-es only wish they could: A room full of people having a genuinely great time together.

Comedies have to be fast to be funny, and this show has inspired me to introduce a new metric into the Lansing theater review lexicon: JPM, or jokes per minute. You won’t be waiting for a laugh, but your knee might get sore from involuntary slapping.

“Do I have to know anything about Williamston to enjoy the show?” a friend of mine asked as I pressured her to buy a ticket during a post-Silver Bells brunch.

stories and a craft. 11 a.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Finance Committee - 6 p.m. Laingsburg City Hall, 114 Woodhull St., Laingsburg. laingsburg.us.

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.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Fall Art Show - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

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

“The Quest: A Journey of Spiritual Rediscovery” Zoom 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.

Vive la France - Embark on a musical journey to France and immerse yourself in vibrant chamber works by the world’s finest composers. 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Tuesday, Dec. 3

“A Course in Miracles” Discussion Group, with Lisa Schmidt - 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.

See Events, Page 30



Review

“A Very Williamston Christmas”

Through Dec. 29
No show Thursday, Nov. 28
7:30 p.m. Friday–Saturday
2 p.m. Thursday, Saturday–Sunday; Friday, Nov. 29
Williamston Theatre
122 S. Putnam St., Williamston
williamstontheatre.org



Photo by Chris Purcitis

Patrick Loos as Mr. Earde, Nick Yocum as George, Dani Cochrane as Felice and Emily Sutton-Smith as Old Woman in Williamston Theatre’s production of “A Very Williamston Christmas.”

Definitely not — you need only understand the premise. As I described it, “A big city woman comes home to her small town for Christmas, and her world turns upside down. Except the big city is Lansing.” My friends were laughing already, and if I could have pulled out their phones and purchased tickets for them right then and there, I would have.

The show is successful for so many reasons, from the razor-sharp script to the superb stage talent to the impeccable technical execution. Beyond

all this, it reflects our lives back to us in a way that’s universal — within the mid-Michigan region, at least. It’s not only a treat for people who love theater; it’s a great introduction to the caliber of shows that happen in Williamston all year long. The company has once again mounted a triple threat, with script, acting and scenic elements working together in a way that delivers comfort, community and honest-to-God hilarity at a time when we all could use a night of very serious laughter.

Events

from page 28

Red Cedar Quaker Friends Worship - A loving, peaceful community. Non-dogmatic. Live your values. 10:30 a.m. 1400 Turner St., Lansing. redcedarfriends.org/join-us-for-worship.

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. manifestlansing.com.

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

Monday, Dec. 2

“A Joyful Line” - Dorothy Hughes Engelman exhibits her zentangle-inspired art at the Okemos Library through Dec. 31. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Al-Anon Meeting - 8 p.m. St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing. cmialanon.org.

Beginning Salsa Group Dance Class - Eight-week class. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800.

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/summerlands-brewing.

Blue Mondays - Jazz Bassist John Clayton performs. Light refreshments will be provided. Doors 5 p.m., show 6 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 2, 3899 Coolidge Road, East Lansing. msufcu.org/bluemondays.

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.

Crafty Story Time - Preschool-aged children and their caregivers can enjoy fun activities,

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MERIDIAN

TOWNSHIP

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY

LEGAL AD NOTICE: VARIANCE REQUEST 24-12

6499 HEATHFIELD DR.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2024

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN

LEGAL NOTICE

Variance Request 24-12

6499 Heathfield Drive

Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, December 18, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 (phone 517.853.4560) to hear all persons interested in a variance request from Maya Murshak & Steven Parks. The applicant is proposing to construct a single family home within the front yard setback and grading within the wetland setback along with a deck that encroach into the wetland setback at 6499 Heathfield Drive. The subject site is zoned RAA, Single Family.

Information may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to chapman@meridian.mi.us, or at the public hearing.

Angela Demas
Township Clerk

CP#24-749

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Events

from page 29

“A Joyful Line” - Dorothy Hughes Engelman exhibits her original zentangle-inspired art at the Okemos Library through Dec. 31. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Al-Anon Meeting - 9 a.m. Alano Club South, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. cmialanon.org.

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

Alex Anest Trio - Set features original tunes as well as works by the likes of Duke Pearson, Emily Remler and Herbie Hancock. Lineup includes Jim Alfredson on organ and Jeff Shoup on drums. 7 p.m. Moriarty’s Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. anestmusic.com.

Beginning American-Style Rhumba Group Dance Class - Eight-week class. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800.

Giving Tuesday Play-A-Thon - Featuring staged readings of three plays: a surprise adaptation of a classic mystery at 11 a.m., John Logan’s “Red” at 3 p.m. and Kristin Stewart’s “It’s Just Walking”

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at 7 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.org.

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

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.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Fall Art Show - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

MSU Mosaic and Singing Spartans - Two choral ensembles perform a variety of gems from around the world, both historical and contemporary. 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

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.

“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.

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. capitalcitytoastmasters.toastmastersclubs.org.

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

Wednesday, Dec. 4

“A Course of Love” Zoom Discussion Group, with Lucille Olson and Bill Dietrich - Group reads a section of the book each week and discusses the insightful ideas. 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

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.

“A Joyful Line” - Dorothy Hughes Engelman exhibits her zentangle-inspired art at the Okemos Library through Dec. 31. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Al-Anon Meeting - 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. cmialanon.org.

Beginning Ballet for Adults - 6:45 p.m. The Studio Performing Arts Center, 5015 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. 517-336-4088. dancesingact.com.

Beginning Tap Dance for Teens & Adults - 7:45 p.m. The Studio Performing Arts Center, 5015 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. 517-336-4088. dancesingact.com.

Broad Underground: Video Art Class Projects - MSU Department of Art, Art History, and Design students present their final video art class projects! 7 p.m. (SCENE) Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

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.

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.

Lansing Live Open Stage Night - Whether you’re

experienced or just starting out, the stage is open to all. Not a performer? Enjoy dinner, drinks and live music. No cover, all ages welcome. 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

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.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild Fall Art Show - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mindfulness Meditation in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition - All are welcome to join our weekly practice! 7-9 p.m. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. lamcsangha.wordpress.com.

MSU Concert Band and Campus Band - Program includes “Feather,” by Danielle Fisher; “Fantasy on American Sailing Songs,” by Clare Grundman; “Bullets and Bayonets,” by John Philip Sousa; and more. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Perler Beads - Explore and create with colorful Perler beads! Choose from many patterns or create your own. Use string or magnets to turn your creations into decorations. Ages 6+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

Weaving the Web: Astrology - 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. weaversoftheweb.org.

Thursday, Dec. 5


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.

“A Joyful Line” - Dorothy Hughes Engelman exhibits her original zentangle-inspired art at the Okemos Library through Dec. 31. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Al-Anon Meeting - 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.



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From Pg. 27

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SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 27

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1	6	2	3	8	4	5	9	7
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Golden Harvest boasts the best basic breakfast

By LIZY FERGUSON

I'm generally against the slang use of the word "basic" to mean devoid of interest or nuance and, for all intents and purposes, lame. When referring to food, I think synonyms such as "fundamental" or "essential" are more fitting. My recent breakfast at Golden Harvest was proof of this point.

Golden Harvest is a legendary Lansing fixture that experienced some turbulence in the past but is still going strong, serving up delicious and captivating breakfast concoctions. The restaurant's notorious wait time is a consideration if you have somewhere urgent to be, but when you see, in the totally open kitchen, the love and care the cooks put into each plate, you might be ready to consider slowing down and enjoying a crossword or a conversation.

It's worth it. Amid the vivid and eclectic atmosphere that's like a really cozy, punk-rock Bennigan's (stuff on every inch of the walls and Beastie Boys blasting from the sound system), the always-changing menu is no different, with about 10 options to choose from written up on whiteboards, each priced at \$15. There's Cap'n Crunch-coated French toast, a breakfast burrito that I've loved for 20 years and specials like an omelet with butternut squash and pesto.

With all this pulling me in different directions, I couldn't deny that I was in the mood for bacon and eggs, so the Big Basic it was. Though it was a simple plate, a very traditional three eggs, bacon, sausage, potatoes and toast, they were the best versions of those

five things I've had in a restaurant in a long time.

I got the eggs over medium and they were cooked perfectly, with deep-yellow, runny yolks that were perfect for coating my toast, big pieces of sourdough that actually tasted like sourdough. The yolks also served as a kind of gravy for the potatoes. Oh, the potatoes! The diced redskins were crispy, slightly charred in places and seasoned to the gods with garlic and paprika. The bacon was thick-cut and of a quality you don't often see in a diner, and the sausage patties were savory beyond belief.

Everything was eminently satisfying. I demolished my huge plate because it was just that good and thought of the



Lizy Ferguson for City Pulse

Amid an always-changing menu of delicious and captivating concoctions, Golden Harvest's Big Basic breakfast is simple but spectacular.

meal fondly in the days after. If you're in the mood for something special in the breakfast department, know that the lore of Golden Harvest being the best is well earned and still in full effect.

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