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January 29 - February 4, 2025

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See Page 11



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Win-Win

East Lansing artist Susan Smith got creative when considering how to support City Pulse. She says:

“

For years, I have relied on City Pulse for local news – especially Rewind – and for events around town, so I decided to help put ink on the page. Time to stop being a free rider/reader! As I was searching who to call, I noticed a number of eye-catching ads. I am involved in several local art organizations and thought why not support the Pulse and the Lansing Women Artist Collective with an ad – a win win! Placing the ad for our art exhibit at the Okemos library was super easy, and the ad looks terrific. Thank you, City Pulse!



Check out the ART!

Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective, a small group of local women artists who exhibit work in local galleries, theaters, libraries and businesses to make it more accessible to the public for viewing and purchase. The artwork — watercolor, acrylic, collage, fiber, mixed media and photography — will be on display through February.



Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos.
Mon.-Fri.: 9am-8pm; Sat.: 9am-7pm; Sun: 12-6pm.
Phone: 517.347.2021

LWAC is also displaying artwork at the Robin Theater in REO Town and the Lansing Neighborhood Empowerment Center near Old Town.

**Would you like to do the same for your own favorite business or cause?
 Please contact Berl Schwartz at publisher@lansingcitypulse.com
 or **517-999-5061** to find out how.**

CityPULSE

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REO Town Clubhouse Ristorante opens for good



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"She Kills Monsters" full of delicious surprises



**PAGE
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New EL brunch spot gives nearby IHOP a run for its money

Cover art: Black ash basket by Sarah Turkey. Photo by Lawrence Cosentino

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BEWARE OF TLAs (THREE-LETTER ACRONYMS)

THE TACTIC:

MOST PEOPLE WON'T OPENLY SUPPORT WHITE SUPREMACY, BUT BY CONSTANTLY INVOKING SCARY-SOUNDING ACRONYMS, WE CAN BAN EVEN MODEST EFFORTS AT EQUALITY!



MAYBE IT'S TIME TO COME UP WITH SOME ACRONYMS FOR THEM.

ROB: Radical Oligarchic Billionaires



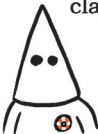
NIS: Nazis in Sportsjackets



CCD: Climate Crisis Deniers



KKK: Don't forget this classic!



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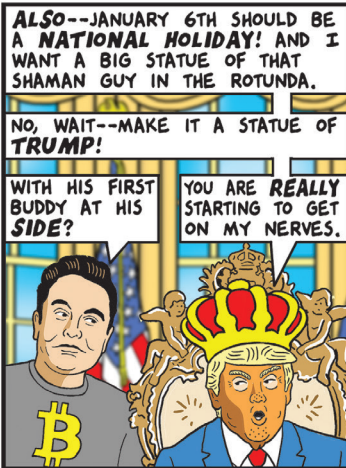
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Joshua Ramirez-Roberts

Like TR, childhood illness helped shape his public commitment

Severe asthma as a child helped shape Joshua Ramirez-Roberts' life.

"I was like a bubble baby, and I think that's how I first got into reading about news, history and politics," he said.

As he got older and learned to better manage his condition, Ramirez-Roberts started walking the local trails and learning more about native species and potential threats to Michigan's natural ecosystem. As his understanding of nature grew, so, too, did his concerns for the In that way, his story resembles that of Theodore Roosevelt, whose love for the environment similarly grew out of overcoming childhood asthma.

"It's called the windshield effect," he explained. "When you were a kid going on a road trip and you got all those bugs on your windshield. Now we don't have that anymore. Part of that is because of invasive species, and part of it is because of pesticides, industrial agricultural runoff and habitat loss. We are watching the erasure of millions of years of ecological history and losing what Michigan is and has been for a long time."

Ramirez-Roberts acted on his activism two years ago when at 24 he ran for a seat on the City Council in East Lansing, where he was born and raised. He was the youngest of eight candidates by more than two decades.

He was still splitting his time between his studies at Michigan State University and his membership on the city's University Student Commission, Community Development Advisory Committee and Bailey Community Association. While he finished out of the running with 948 votes, or 6.48%, he gained valuable experience for what looks to be a lifetime of public activism.

"I was going to a lot of city meetings and had these ideas and a vision for what I wanted to see. So, I decided I was just going to go for it. The worst that could happen was that I would lose," Ramirez-Roberts said.

He spent much of his campaign stressing the need for a major shift in East Lansing's downtown development philosophy. Having grown weary of expensive high-rise



Photo by Raymond Holt

Joshua Ramirez-Roberts on the Michigan State University campus overlooking the Red Cedar River.

apartments, he wanted to see the Council adopt a philosophy that supported building more affordable housing units and non-motorized transportation infrastructure, forward-thinking environmental planning and fostering a greater connection with the city's eastward cousin.

Despite his loss, Ramirez-Roberts has stayed active in city government. Now a member of East Lansing's Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, he was recognized for his involvement as one of five recipients of the city's Crystal Award last year. Handed out each year since 1988, the award recognizes residents who have "enhanced life in the City of East Lansing and made it a more welcoming and affirming place to live, work and do business."

After graduating in 2023, Ramirez-Roberts spent last year earning his teaching certification as a student history teacher at East Lansing High School. Since then, he's

pivoted to a job with Michigan's Technology, Management and Budget Department, due, in part, to the proximity it gives him to regional politics.

"With teaching, I found that I didn't have any extra time. I felt like I needed to be able to get more involved," he said.

Ramirez-Roberts' resume also includes a two-year stint as a legislative staffer for House Democrat Alex Garza of Wayne County from 2020 to 2022. His time at the Capitol proved to be formative.

"Between my work in the Legislature and this last lame-duck period, it became clear to me that the Michigan House of Representatives is really lacking in terms of professionalism. Getting to see that dysfunctionality up close made me realize that, while I still want to be involved in politics, I don't want to work for politicians. I want to be the one doing this myself," he said.

While he's not ruling out another run for City Council, he added that he's not ready to make a firm decision on his next move just yet.

"If there's the right opportunity for me to run for office again, I'm not going to wait. It's still something I care about and think I can make an impact on," Ramirez-Roberts said.

Until then, he intends to continue his

political engagement — especially on the environment.

Were he elected to the City Council, Ramirez-Roberts said he would look to other cities with full-time environmental staff members, including Meridian Township, as a roadmap for East Lansing.

"We've hired consultants who give a talk or two for \$60,000. We could have used that on a full-time, invasive species expert or to house three homeless people for a year. There's really so many other things that money could be spent on," Ramirez-Roberts said.

His disdain for big money in politics extended to his 2023 campaign, which he said netted him "more votes than dollars spent."

"I didn't want to be beholden to anyone during that election, especially with the ethics concerns around town at the time. So, I didn't fundraise at all. I spent 900 bucks total, didn't run any ads and literally just got signs and fliers. Mailers were too expensive, so I would just go door-to-door every night from 5:30 p.m. to sunset," he said.

If he ran again, he admitted he'd probably fundraise a little more. However, he doesn't regret his decision to forego that process in his rookie campaign.

"Right now, the most radical thing you can do is go and talk to your neighbor. We're all so isolated in our own bubble, and I felt like the best solution for me at the time was just to get out there and meet people in the community," Ramirez-Roberts said. "If I just sat there and only listened to my own opinions in my echo chamber all day, I would get out of touch pretty quickly."

Ramirez-Roberts hopes to see other younger candidates enter the fold.

"My first run was definitely an 'ignorance is bliss' type of deal, and I've learned a lot since then," he said. "I was never not going to start young, because there are a lot of benefits to not being beholden to traditional politics in America today. If I think I can help, that's absolutely what I'm going to do."

TYLER SCHNEIDER

PEOPLE

An occasional series of profiles on Greater Lansing residents.

Have a suggestion? Email it to publisher@lansingcitypulse.com.

Brixie, Lansing boxed out of House Appropriations post

Greater Lansing scored a coup in the state Legislature last term when the chairs of both the House and Senate Appropriations committees were local.

After years of being an afterthought in the appropriations process, Lansing and the surrounding area were fortunate to be at the top of the pile with Sarah Anthony, D-Lansing, in the Senate and Angela Witwer, D-Delta Township, in the House. Greater Lansing scored \$130 million in special requests in 2023 alone.

This time, that's not the case.

Anthony is staying as the lead budget person in the Senate, where Democrats remain in the majority.



Julie Brixie



Angela Witwer

However, the Republicans took control of the House, costing Democrats the post that Angela Witwer of Delta Township had been filling. The new speaker's pick is from Livingston County.

There was hope that a Democrat from the Greater Lansing delegation would be named minority vice chair. That didn't happen either, but that was not because of a lack of interest.

At the front of the line was Rep. Julie Brixie, D-Okemos. She made it known in questionnaires circulated by House Speaker Matt Hall and Democratic Leader Ranjeev Puri that

she wanted to be Appropriations minority vice chair.

On paper, her resumé would seem to

rise to the top.

Elected to her fourth term in the state House, no Democrat has more experience on the committee than Brixie. Before her state House service, she was Meridian Township's elected treasurer for 10 years. Before that, she was a two-term trustee on the Meridian Township board.

"I believe my decades of budget experience can be an asset," Brixie said.

Early in the appointment process, Brixie's name was floated as minority vice chair behind closed doors by Democratic staff. Numerous sources say that the message sent back by Hall and the Republican majority was clear: No.

Several years ago, Brixie was outspoken in her criticism of conservative Rep. Matt Maddock when he proposed selling the Blue Water Bridge and a pair of state-owned airports in Southeast Michigan.

She went public with the legal and practical reasons neither proposal would make the state much, if any, money. The two proposals were quietly shelved, and Republicans were agitated that Brixie had so deftly shut the door on a pair of their ideas.

If she were put in the minority vice chair role, what would Republicans expect? Likely more of the same. Brixie would have no problem doing what good Appropriations minority vice chairs do: put up seemingly logical amendments and force the majority to take bad votes against them in the appropriations process.

In short, Brixie would have been a pain in the rear.

Realizing that Brixie was a no-go, Puri

and the House Democrats' Committee on Committee's process suggested Rep. Will Snyder, D-Muskegon, a more traditional Democrat who doesn't have Brixie's overtly progressive and rabble-rousing reputation.

But by then, Hall had decided on Rep. Alabas Farhat, D-Dearborn, a now-second term member who, at age 24, has quickly become a favorite in Lansing as a legislator beyond his years in making legislation happen.

When Witwer made it clear she didn't care which committee assignments she got, Farhat made a hard push for Appropriations minority vice chair. Hall figured he could work with Farhat and picked him.

So, did Hall, in effect, punish the Democrats by not appointing Brixie?

Asked this question, Brixie responded, "I'm unwilling to speculate if Speaker Hall is punishing Democratic House members. However, having served on the Committee on Committees, I can say that Leader Puri led the most transparent committee assignments of the four terms I've been in the Legislature."

Puri recommended Brixie for vice chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Medicaid and Behavioral Health, which oversees an enormous state budget.

Whether Speaker Hall puts her there is still to be determined.

"I'm hopeful that I'll be assigned to my other priorities, and I look forward to working together with Republicans in that role," she said. "I am eager to roll up my sleeves and get to work on the budget."

— KYLE MELINN (MIRS News Service)

Early Notice and Public Review of a Proposed Activity in a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard Designated Floodplain

This is to give notice that the City of East Lansing under 24 CFR Part 58 has determined that the following proposed action under the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program (B-24-MC-260024) is located in the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard (FFRMS) floodplain, and the City of East Lansing will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action within the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988, as amended by Executive Order 13690, in accordance with HUD regulations at 24 CFR 55.20 in Subpart C Procedures for Making Determinations on Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands. The proposed project location is Emerson Park (1135 Arbor Dr, East Lansing, MI 48823, Ingham County). The extent of the FFRMS floodplain was determined using a freeboard value approach. The Emerson Park Improvement Project – Phase III will install a new accessible 4-foot concrete walkway, a small playground amenity with permeable safety surfacing, and several native plantings at Emerson Park, which is a 2.7-acre park in East Lansing's low-to moderate-income Red Cedar Neighborhood. None of the proposed site work at Emerson Park will be within the small, approximately 0.2-acre area on the northwest corner of the park that is within the FFRMS floodplain. Although the City of East Lansing anticipates that this project will have no impact on the FFRMS floodplain, staff will nonetheless investigate the natural and beneficial functions of the floodplain and ensure any mitigation measures necessary are put into place as part of its environmental review process.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in the floodplain and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate project impacts on the floodplain. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about the floodplain can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplains, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Written comments must be received by the City of East Lansing at the following address on or before February 14, 2025: City of East Lansing, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, ATT: Matt Apostle, Community and Economic Development Specialist. A full description of the project may also be reviewed from 8AM-12PM or 1PM-5PM, Monday-Friday at the address listed above as well as online at <https://www.cityofeastlansing.com/2458/Active-Public-Notices>. Comments may also be submitted via email at mapostle@cityofeastlansing.com. The City of East Lansing's Certifying Officer is Robert Belleman, City Manager.

Amy Gordon
Interim City Clerk

Dated: January 29, 2025
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#25-027

Eagle Township, Clinton County Board Meeting Synopsis

January 16, 2024, at 6:00 pm - Present: Supervisor Stroud, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Treasurer C. Hoppes, Trustee Strahle and 13 citizens. Absent: Trustee M. Hoppes.

Board Actions:

- 1) Approved bills for January, 2025.
- 2) Approved resolution 01-16-2025-01 to Amend Interim Zoning Ordinance for Vehicle Dealerships and Repairs.
- 3) Approved a township email address be added for the maintenance person.
- 4) Accepted resignation of Trustee Strahle effective February 28, 2025.
- 5) Approved posting of Trustee opening and special meeting for interviews.
- 6) Approved resolution 01-16-2025-02 to Amend Poverty Exemption Application Instructions and Policy.
- 7) Approved resolution 01-16-2025-03 to Adopt 2025 Federal Poverty Exemption Guidelines.
- 8) Rejected rental of chairs outside the township hall.
- 9) Approved maintenance person to bevel cement edge on steps of hall.
- 10) Approved budget amendments.

A complete copy of the minutes is available by contacting Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Clerk. Next regular meeting of the Eagle Township Board is February 20, 2025, at 6 pm at Eagle Township Hall, 14318 Michigan St, Eagle, MI. See www.eagletownshipmi.gov for latest updates.

Prepared by: Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Eagle Township Clerk
Approved by: Troy Stroud, Eagle Township Supervisor

CP#25-021

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



The city of Lansing has denied that former wastewater treatment plant employees Kenneth Davis and Joshua Brown faced a racially hostile work environment, as they alleged in a federal lawsuit. Davis and Brown resigned in 2021 “to escape the racially hostile and retaliatory work environment” that included comments about the Ku Klux Klan, they said. While the city denied the racial discrimination and a retaliatory work environment claim, it admitted in its response to the court that plant supervisor Scott Kelosky made comments about the KKK around March 2020 during a conversation with Davis and another employee.

The Professional Employees Council of Sparrow Hospital-Michigan Nurses Association approved its three-year contract with U-M Health Sparrow, with 95% of its 2,000 members supporting the new deal. The contract runs through Oct. 30, 2027. “A great agreement for our members is a win for all of us,” said union negotiating team co-chair Leah Rasch. “It will help make sure Sparrow can attract and keep enough nurses and health care workers to take excellent care of our community.”



The Lansing School District denied claims former Everett High School teacher Danelle Hovenkamp made in a lawsuit regarding its handling of accommodations for students with disabilities. The district denied that it failed to address issues regarding the Individualized Education Program accommodations. It said that “to the extent any student experiences academic or behavioral difficulties, those issues are addressed in a timely and appropriate manner.” Hovenkamp named the district, its Board of Education and Everett principal Amy Boyles as defendants in the suit. The district also denied Hovenkamp’s claims that it retaliated against her after she filed a complaint with the U.S. Education Department’s Office of Civil Rights.

MSU Athletics had a budget deficit of more than \$16.7 million in the 2023-’24 fiscal year, documents provided to the Detroit Free Press and USA TODAY Network via the Michigan Freedom of Information Act said. It was the fourth time in five years that the department has operated at a financial loss, with a debt of \$91 million. It issued severance payments of \$3,854,791 to former football staffers after firing Mel Tucker with cause during the 2023 season and \$585,071 to former women’s basketball employees following Suzy Merchant’s retirement in March 2023.



The Delta Township Board of Trustees appointed Fonda Brewer as supervisor, replacing Ken Fletcher, who resigned after being charged with accosting a child for immoral purposes and using a computer to commit a crime.



He received 89% of the vote in the November election but didn’t take the oath of office. Brewer was appointed by a 4-2 vote, receiving support from Karen Mojica, Beth Bowen, Dennis Fedewa and herself. Trustee Andrea Cascarilla and Clerk Mary Clark voted no because they disagreed with the process, Clark said. She will serve through the 2026 midterm elections. Township Manager Brian Reed said the board will discuss filling Brewer’s trustee seat in February. Brewer was a manager with the Michigan Education Special Services Association before retiring in 2015.

East Lansing police are seeking tips about the assault of Caleb Alan Sherman of Fowlerville, 20, who died Thursday at U-M Health-Sparrow after being assaulted in the 300 block of East Grand River Ave. Jan. 18. Police said they would ask the Ingham County Prosecutor’s Office to authorize charges against a suspect whose name, age and gender were not released. Sherman’s family has a GoFundMe page, which has raised more than \$40,000.



The Capital Area Transportation Authority has launched a pilot program, Rydz, an on-demand ride service with five Chrysler Pacifica vans funded by state grants. It’s intended for the “last-mile, first-mile” stretch of a journey, including loops in areas previously without service between MSU and the Capital Region International Airport in DeWitt Township and from downtown to a Delta Township region primarily between or near interstates 496, 69 and 96. The Delta Township route offers transportation to warehouse and factory jobs, including Amazon’s warehouse, which is several miles from CATA’s nearest Delta Township stop. Rydz service is free through Feb. 27. For more info, visit <https://www.cata.org/Rider-Information/Microtransit>.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources officials are trying to determine whether geese in a pond in Williamston died from a virus such as highly pathogenic bird flu. Officials collected two of the dozen geese for testing at MSU’s veterinary diagnostic testing lab. If any samples test positive for the H5N1 virus, officials will send them to a federal lab in Iowa for confirmation.



Michigan lottery officials said a 66-year-old Clinton County woman, who has remained anonymous, won \$1 million in the Major Cashword scratch-off game. She purchased the winning ticket at Ox’s Smoked Meats in Westphalia while buying others as Christmas gifts for family members. She plans to use her winnings for a few trips and save the rest.



2217 S Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing

This 478 square-foot, two-bed, one-bath home off Pennsylvania Avenue has been red-tagged by the city since November 2023. The owner, Grand Rapids-based BC Investing LLC, bought it from Kurt Boegner in July 2021. They also acquired 24 other properties in Lansing that same year, according to Ingham County Treasurer Alan Fox, and still own 11 of those today. Fox said they owe \$3,543.88 in delinquent taxes, including \$1,312 in city trash charges, “all from 2023.” The Assessor’s Office also sent a followup letter to the owner in March citing a ‘failure to comply’ with orders to make it safe. Fox noted that Boegner, who bought the property in 2006, “had no issues paying taxes and did not run up code charges” before selling it. The home, built in 1925, carries an assessed value of \$25,100. Efforts to reach 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.



CITY OF EAST LANSING SUMMARY
OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1542

On January 21, 2025, the East Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of East Lansing, Michigan, to amend Chapter 20. The amendments included removal of the language referring to the design assistance team as one does not exist; removal of the requirement for owner disclosures; update the element of review such that if something is not visible from the road, the commission has no review authority; adding the term “original siding” for consideration of siding substitutions as well as typographical corrections. In addition, the staff issuance policy was updated to strengthen the specifications of each item that may be administratively issued to allow for staff to issue Certificates of Appropriateness when matters such as windows, roofing, gutters and downspouts meet the specified criteria in the policy.

Effective date: Pursuant to Charter Section 6.3, Upon publication

Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk’s Office, 1st Floor, City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan

Amy Gordon
East Lansing Interim City Clerk

CP#25-024

CITY OF EAST LANSING, INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES
MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of East Lansing Board of Review will conduct its organizational meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Court/Council Conference Room of City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823.

2025 Tentative Factors:	
Commercial Real Property	1.00000
Industrial Real Property	1.00000
Residential Real Property	1.00000
Personal Property	1.00000

The Board of Review will meet for assessment appeals in the Court/Council Conference Room of City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 on the following dates:

Monday, March 10, 2025: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Tuesday, March 11, 2025: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Written appeals must be received by 5:00 p.m. on March 11, 2025. For an appointment, call Marti Townsend (mtownse@cityofeastlansing.com) at 517-319-6880 by 1:00 p.m. on March 11, 2025.

CP#25-016

COUNTY OF INGHAM
2024/2025 TENTATIVE RATIOS AND TENTATIVE FACTORS
PREPARED BY DEPARTMENT OF EQUALIZATION

Unit	Real Property												Personal Property	
	Agricultural		Commercial		Industrial		Residential		Timber-Cutover		Developmental		All Classes	
	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor	Ratio	Factor
ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP	50.64	0.9874	54.93	0.9103	49.87	1.0000	46.77	1.0691	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	50.80	0.9843	46.60	1.0730	48.25	1.0363	47.00	1.0638	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP	49.58	1.0000	47.41	1.0546	48.56	1.0297	48.11	1.0393	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP	49.49	1.0000	45.83	1.0910	47.53	1.0520	46.54	1.0744	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
INGHAM TOWNSHIP	44.81	1.1158	49.88	1.0000	NC	NC	46.97	1.0645	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
LANSING CHARTER TOWN- SHIP	NC	NC	49.44	1.0000	49.25	1.0000	46.69	1.0709	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
LEROY TOWNSHIP	43.88	1.1395	48.31	1.0350	46.52	1.0748	48.16	1.0382	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
LESLIE TOWNSHIP	50.70	0.9862	46.94	1.0652	49.97	1.0000	44.48	1.1241	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
LOCKE TOWNSHIP	51.72	0.9668	48.11	1.0393	50.61	0.9879	49.34	1.0000	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
MERIDIAN CHARTER TOWN- SHIP	NC	NC	47.29	1.0573	48.64	1.0280	46.48	1.0757	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
ONONDAGA TOWNSHIP	52.75	0.9479	44.95	1.1124	47.92	1.0434	47.66	1.0491	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP	47.45	1.0537	47.64	1.0495	48.86	1.0233	48.83	1.0240	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
VEVAY TOWNSHIP	54.87	0.9113	45.25	1.1050	48.99	1.0206	46.50	1.0753	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP	41.48	1.2054	47.21	1.0591	49.75	1.0000	47.10	1.0616	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP	47.10	1.0616	43.37	1.1529	47.15	1.0605	48.53	1.0303	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP	50.25	0.9950	46.72	1.0702	49.68	1.0000	46.88	1.0666	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
CITY OF EAST LANSING	NC	NC	49.39	1.0000	48.76	1.0254	46.54	1.0744	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
CITY OF LANSING	NC	NC	47.45	1.0537	46.56	1.0739	44.52	1.1231	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
CITY OF LESLIE	NC	NC	50.73	0.9856	49.32	1.0138	45.37	1.1021	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
CITY OF MASON	NC	NC	46.24	1.0813	49.03	1.0000	47.33	1.0564	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000
CITY OF WILLIAMSTON	55.10	0.9074	49.46	1.0000	48.99	1.0206	46.20	1.0823	NC	NC	NC	NC	50.00	1.0000

These Tentative Ratios and Estimated Factors are published in compliance with PA 165 of 1971 [MCL 211.34a(1)]. These figures are temporary in character and are intended to be informative in nature as of the third Monday in February. Local assessing units and board of review activities may significantly change the tentative figures. Finalized Ratios and Factors will result from the activity of the local units and through Equalization procedures. The recommended Tentative Ratios and Estimated Factors shall not prejudice the Equalization procedures of Ingham County or the State of Michigan.

Rosemary Anger MMAO GISP, Director
Ingham County Department of Equalization/Tax Mapping

CP#25-022

Stick with a resolution to loathe Trump

By DEDRIA HUMPHRIES BARKER

Let's not tire too quickly of our New Year's resolutions for 2025: Lose 10 pounds. Go to the gym. Loathe Trump.

Don't be like 94% of Americans who in January put their resolutions aside. Rather, hold on to that despicable feeling because Trump deserves it. He is distrustful and irresponsible, a cheat. He talks so bad about our country, blames others and threatens cruelty. So much so, that at his inaugural prayer service at the National Cathedral, Episcopal Bishop Marianne Edgar Budde of Washington, D.C., pleaded with him to "have mercy."

"Millions have put their trust in you. ... In the name of our God, I ask you to have mercy upon the people in our country who are scared now."

I am Episcopalian. Even as I risk be-

ing hard-hearted in asking those who hate Trump to keep on with it, I was proud of Budde's plea. That woman is a realist.

Budde recognizes Trump's enormous power as POTUS. She knows that people, especially the LGBTQ and undocumented, whom he has threatened, live or die on his word or whim, through police actions and law. If he fails to grant them mercy, there will be abundant suffering in our land and perhaps even the countries of Panama and Greenland.

He says the U.S. will benefit from the vast store of oil under Greenland, but I can't help wondering what's really going on? What sleight of hand is this? Who is really benefiting? I know he can't be trusted. He's a convicted felon, and while a lot of Black men are, some in the process gained

one thing he lacks: humility.

Greenland says they don't want to be Americans, and who would these days? Singlehandedly, Trump is changing the U.S. character and image as heroes — a role won in World War II — to the world's tormenter.

The division of the American spirit raised its lethal head again Jan. 20 when Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a federal holiday, and Inauguration Day both fell on that date.

Black people were especially offended. Their idea was to sit out the inauguration by not turning the channel there and therefore denying Trump the ratings he so loves. Focus on civil rights programs, said the many texts I received from friends who have been hating on Trump since Nov. 5, 2024, and earlier.

Other people went to the annual MLK Holiday luncheon at the Lansing Civic Center. That was their norm, though an electrical fire in the ceiling required a frustrating evacuation.

God interfered with me like that too, somehow switching the car radio — twice — from one NPR station broadcasting King's speeches to the another that was broadcasting the inauguration live. Still, those who love King can hardly love Trump. Keep that up in 2025.

As a journalist, I need to know, and watch, so when at the gym, I found the screens offering one of two choices: watch the changing of the American guard or ESPN. That was a dilemma. Football has been a pain since the Lions' playoff loss.

I was peddling and taking in the Capitol Rotunda scene of President Biden sitting there, showing off his cultivation after 50 years of politics, as Trump trashed him and his administration.

I have never had a moment when I longed for the seventh POTUS, Andrew Jackson, except for more 20-dollar bills where his picture appears. Jackson, a Democrat, was known to be ready to throw down on his opponents, political or otherwise.

At that moment, I wanted Jackson in Biden's chair, so he could jump up and go upside DJT's head.

Trump's view, if not his mind, is imbalanced. The Biden-Harris team scored solid accomplishments, not the least with the pandemic. Though people I know who know Trump say he has some grace, he fails to show it to us. Dan Miller, the Lions radio

broadcaster with a clear bias, displays more grace. He ends every game broadcast imagining that the opposing teams meet midfield, shake hands and say to each other, "Job well done." "Job better done." If Miller was able to sustain that spirit year after year until

Dan Campbell arrived, so can a person who loathes Trump.

With a husband like him, no wonder the once and present First Lady Melania looks so sour all the time. Along with a lot of viewers, did she, at his proudest scowling moment, roll her eyes, or give him the side eye? Who knows? Her hat set so low on her forehead the brim shielded most of her face and blocked his kisses. Be like Melania and remember on anniversary after anniversary that DJT is not a loving man.

Now is the time to join the American elite who hold on to their resolutions. That's just 6%, Forbes magazine reported. Remember your resolution to hold to decent values, which evade Trump and his fault-finding ways and nasty ideas. Go after that new you.

A collective American self-esteem that is based on hating others, finding fault, blaming, kicking people when they are down, and zero tolerance, carries a cost. It's bad karma. Time will come when we suffer wholesome hate, fault, blaming, and get stomped.

Holding a standard for leadership can only improve the United States. Remember that DJT is a proven, and convicted, shifty, shady, distrustful bad actor. We deserve better.

(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 the last Wednesday of each month.)



Opinion



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Community Development Advisory Committee on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 6:00PM, at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823:

A public hearing will be held on the Community Development Advisory Committee's budget recommendation for East Lansing's FY2026 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

A staff report (Agenda Item Report) for this public hearing will be published on the City's website the Friday before the meeting. To locate staff reports, please visit the City's public meeting portal at <https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/> and select the meeting date. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to mapostle@cityofeastlansing.com, or by mail to: Community Development Advisory Committee, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.

For more information on the agenda item listed above, please contact:

Matt Apostle, Community and Economic Development Specialist
517-319-6859 / mapostle@cityofeastlansing.com
<https://cityofeastlansing.civicweb.net/Portal/>

Materials related to this recommendation are available to review at the Department of Planning, Building, and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 between the hours of 8:00am and 5:00pm, or online at <https://www.cityofeastlansing.com/2243/Community-Development-Advisory-Committee>.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services must contact the East Lansing Department of Planning, Building, and Development, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, (517) 319-6859 (TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777) or via email at mapostle@cityofeastlansing.com.

This notice is posted in compliance with P.A. 267 of 1976 as amended (Open Meetings Act), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and published in compliance with the City of East Lansing's CDBG Citizen Participation Plan.

Amy Gordon
Interim City Clerk

Dated: January 29, 2025
East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#25-029

LET'S BOOGIE! Bob Baldori & David Small



Dread. And then what?

Anyone who doesn't think Jan. 20, 2025, was the darkest day in the history of the American experiment in democracy — and an interruption if not the end of it — is not in touch with the real world.

What we are enduring is going to be like four years of experimental chemotherapy, 100% guaranteed not to work.

The U.S. is experiencing a massive takeover by a collection of avaricious criminal anarchists and miscreants of essentially all the centers of power. And information. Their intent is to destroy the fundamental premise of the founders, and they are going at it with an unscrupulous vengeance. The United States no longer exists as a functioning democracy.

The horror of the new regime is unfolding daily, and the enormity of it is being articulated and documented by a host of brilliant pundits, from substack bloggers like Thom Hartmann, Robert Reich, Mary Trump, Michael Dukasy, et al., to insightful journalists writing in a respected publication like The New Yorker and The Atlantic.

What I don't see anywhere is a coherent plan of action to do something about it. The feckless Democrats have not yet produced a leader with anything close to the backbone or rhetorical underpinnings to handle the relentless and ruthless MAGA clown show. And the Dems continue to engage in the "circular firing squad," pointing at each other instead of focusing on the real problem. There seems to be very little recognition of the essential element of the takeover — that is, the complete takeover of the information system by wingnut propagandists.

As Michael Tomasky repeatedly points out, the real reason Bozo won has very little to do with tweaking the Dems' message or adjusting talking points or "listening" to the electorate. The elephant in the living room continues to evade recognition by Bozo's opposition. They need to go back and study Jefferson and the rest of the founders, who repeatedly emphasized a critical element of democracy: a well-informed electorate. What we now have is an electorate with a significant demographic that is clinically delusional — they believe things contrary to readily ascertainable facts. See DSM-5, Delusional. That does not make them stupid. That does not make them crazy. This observation is not in the least bit patronizing. It is a simple statement of fact.

You will never solve the problem if you can't define it correctly.

(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.)

Who's most excited by the news that Sen. Gary Peters is bowing out?

Well, we weren't expecting this one. U.S. Sen. Gary Peters pulled a surprise on Michigan Tuesday, announcing that he's retiring well before you'd think his time had come.

Peters turns 68 in 2026. He'd probably rather spend time with his new grandchild in California than hang out in Washington dialing for dollars or keeping a breakneck campaign schedule.

Such retirement announcements are not that uncommon in Michigan. Debbie Stabenow was 74 when she hung it up. Don Riegle was 57, but he had other issues. Carl Levin was 80, but tomorrow isn't guaranteed for anyone.

Ten Michigan U.S. senators died in office, and Peters clearly doesn't want to make it 11.

While unexpected, the announcement gives politicians on both sides of the political spectrum a new golden ring to chase. That's why I say the people most happy with Peters' announcement are:

1. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. Stick with me on this.

Obviously, she's not going to run for the U.S. Senate, but "Mayor" Pete Buttigieg would be foolish if he didn't. Some were pushing Buttigieg to run for governor, now that he's out of a job with Donald Trump in charge. He wasn't completely sold on the idea.

Washington is more Buttigieg's speed. A U.S. Senate seat gives the 43-year-old a new place to serve on the national stage. He'll be in prime position for his presidential run whenever that happens. It probably won't be 2028.

Win or lose, the odds of Buttigieg transitioning from a 2026 U.S. Senate campaign to a 2028 presidential campaign are long.

This, by extension, improves Whitmer's national aspirations in 2028.

2. Jocelyn Benson. Phew, that was close. If Buttigieg were to run for the gubernatorial nomination, Benson would be in real trouble. Early polling on a hypothetical race between the two done by Steve Mitchell had Mayor Pete at 38% and Benson at 18%.

Yeah, some complain that Buttigieg is not a native Michigander. Others say he's a carpetbagger. Nobody cares. People like this guy; if he's on the ballot, he's a force. At this point, Benson

becomes the undisputed frontrunner for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination.

3. Aric Nesbitt. On the Republican side, Senate Minority Leader Nesbitt got everyone's attention this month when, three days after he announced his intention to run for governor, he said he'd already raised \$1 million. Talk about letting the air out of the balloon for other semi-serious GOP hopefuls.

The most heavily rumored alternative was U.S. Rep. John James, the ambitious two-term congressman.

With Peters' U.S. Senate seat suddenly open, James has a new rung to grasp, having overachieved against Stabenow in 2018 and Peters in 2020. Now, Nesbitt has former Attorney General Mike Cox and businessman Perry Johnson to worry about. Cox hasn't been on a ballot in 15 years, and Johnson is 0-for-2 in getting on a ballot.

4. Tudor Dixon and Kevin Rinke. With the West Michigan money apparently going to Nesbitt for governor, Dixon, from the Muskegon area, was a political hopeful without a race until now. Theoretically, she could still run for governor, but without DeVos money, she'll struggle.

Do the DeVos folks see her as an option for the U.S. Senate? She's got a second chance, at least.

Rinke is in a similar situation in that he has a new option to consider. If James ends up running for the U.S. Senate, Rinke may want to go back and give running for governor a try, even though getting people to like him should be his top priority.

5. Gary Peters. When you're 68, don't you want to retire? From his time in the state Legislature, the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate, Peters has plenty of retirement income before we even get to what he socked away as a private-sector financial consultant.

Peters is leaving as one of the most effective lawmakers we've seen in D.C., having passed more bills in his six years in the Senate than colleagues with tenures three times as long. Kudos to him for retiring on top. It makes us all dream that we can do the same.

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



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

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FEBRUARY 8 | 7:30 PM | LANSINGSYMPHONY.ORG

ARTS & CULTURE

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Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

"Summer Harvest," a 2023 watercolor by Anishinaabe artist Jamie John of Traverse City, is on display at the MSU Broad Art Museum as part of the new exhibition "Farmland: Food, Justice and Sovereignty," which runs through July 27.

Bountiful basket at the Broad

'Farmland' serves up a cornucopia of art, history and food

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Don't let the lounging cows give you a false sense of security. "Farmland: Food, Justice and Sovereignty," a major new exhibit on view at the Michigan State University Broad Art Museum through July 27, is packed with images of barns, potatoes, carrots, colorfully clad gardeners and such, but it's no county fair corn fest.

A rich bounty of old and new art, along with historic photos and documents from the MSU Museum, delves into the mixed legacy of land grabs, unequal access to resources, food commodification and other awkward threads that dangle from the folksy, Lincolnesque tapestry of MSU's land grant history.

It's a bold show, especially at a time when advocacy for social justice is being tarred left and right, and the tangled roots of the past are being plowed under from coast to coast to sow a corn-syrupy MAGA monoculture.

Is the Broad biting the land grant hand that feeds it? There may be a nibble here and there, but it's more accurate to say that "Farmland" feeds the mind that beholds it — not only by serving up a visual feast but also by serving up food for thought on how and why land and food are sliced and diced, and who gets a seat at the table.

Hyperlocal

Many recent exhibits at the Broad have enlisted collaborators from the mid-Michigan community and focused on local concerns, but "Farmland" may be the most local yet, with more than 70 community organizations, farms, archivists and artists involved.

"Harvest," a rich canvas painted in burnished browns and blacks by Lansing artist Julian Van Dyke, glows darkly from a gorgeous wall of

images devoted to food production. (It's also fun to see Van Dyke's name on the exhibit's artist list, next to Andy Warhol's.)

As soon as you enter the first- and second-floor lobbies, huge blown-up photos immerse you in the early landscape of Michigan Agricultural College, the predecessor to MSU, circa 1913.

This is as local as it gets. It feels like a lost world of dirt roads, barns and horse-drawn vehicles, but it's the very land you're standing on.

"I'm not trying to do a history exhibition," Broad assistant curator Dalina A. Perdomo Álvarez said. "I'm not a food expert or an agriculture expert. I work with art. But I do start with the agricultural story, and there's history peppered throughout."

Combing through the Broad and MSU Museum collections, Álvarez and former Broad associate curator Teresa Fankhänel, co-curator of "Farmland," unearthed a wealth of images and objects that tell

See Farmland, Page 12

"Farmland: Food, Justice and Sovereignty"

Through July 27
10 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday
MSU Broad Art Museum
547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing
(517) 884-4800
broadmuseum.msu.edu



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Broad assistant curator Dalina A. Perdomo Álvarez (pictured) co-curated the “Farmland” exhibit with former associate curator Teresa Fankhänel.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

A table in the second-floor gallery invites patrons to interact with dishes that ask questions about food and farming, with the answers (or prompts to further thought) underneath.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Tiny harvesters wrangle veggies almost as large as themselves in “Cosecha de Zanahoria” (“Harvest of Carrots”), a 1987 fabric and appliqué work by the Huamani de la Cruz family.

Farmland

from page 11

story from multiple angles. The visual feast is augmented by new art commissioned especially for the show.

“A specialist will ask, ‘Are you telling a story about food or farming or agriculture?’ I’m telling a story that ties it all together,” Álvarez said.

If you want that story in a nutshell, look no further than the familiar block letters used in the logo for the exhibit. They’re identical to the ones used in the famous “Hollywoodland” sign perched in the Hollywood Hills. (The “land” was removed in 1949.)

The message is clear. In Farmland, as in Hollywood, things are never what they seem.

The first painting the viewer sees upon entering the gallery is a serene image of grazing cat-

tle, Mathias Joseph Alten’s 1914 canvas “Michigan Pasture with Cows.”

It’s a sly opening gambit. A vintage photo of roaming American bison, positioned next to the cattle, reminds the viewer that bison were all but wiped out by the end of the 19th century, even as European settlers imported non-native livestock that changed the face of the land they grabbed.

The idea that the land was just sitting there, unoccupied and waiting to be farmed, is one of several illusions Álvarez and her colleagues seek to dispel.

“There’s this idea of the expanse of American land that’s just there for you to use, that there were no people here before,” Álvarez said.

John S. Coppin’s lush 1954 pastel drawing of pioneering MSU botanist William J. Beal, surrounded by students in a sunset-hued garden, evokes warm feelings for the school’s agricultural heritage, but it comes with a caveat. Contrary to a plaque that stood for years in the eponymous Beal Botanical Garden, Beal was not the first person to hybridize maize (corn). North American Indigenous peoples developed maize from teosinte, a wild grass. (The error was corrected on the plaque in the garden.)

Warhol and peas

It takes a bit of lingering and rumination to connect the many dots embedded in “Farmland.” One intriguing swath of wall space brings together a crazy quilt of etchings, prints and political cartoons by artists as diverse as Thomas Nast, Francisco Goya and Sue Coe, most of them critiquing the excesses of 20th-century food production. A 1990 print by Coe depicts a blob man with a huge mouth devouring in one go the average American’s food intake over a decade: “144 fishes, 185 chickens, 8 turkeys, 7 pigs, 1 lamb, 2 cows.” A tiny print depicting a can of Campbell’s wonton soup (by Warhol, of course) speaks volumes on food commodification and cultural homogenization in the 20th century.

One unusual case contains 30 absurdly specialized modern kitchen tools, including a chestnut clip, a potato spiralizer and a butter curler. All of them, according to the information provided, do things an ordinary kitchen knife can do.

The display dramatizes how food production and consumption have strayed from their simple roots and raises the point that specialized tools like these encourage the production of uniformly

sized, mass-market produce. As a bonus, it also sorts out the two kinds of people who live in this world: those who will sigh in disapproval at all the capitalist excess and those who will look at the gadgets, watch the accompanying video and say, “Wow, I need to get one of those.”

A stark contrast to the outrageous kitchen gadgets is provided by a centuries-old black-ash wood splitter, used to make baskets, from the Niishode (Two Hearts) Indigenous Art Collective. The splitter was given to the collective by a Saginaw Chippewa elder, who inherited it from his father.

The elegant, almost devotional-looking tool, in the shape of an elongated “A,” sang out to Broad interim director Steven Bridges when he made a pass through the exhibit before it opened on Jan. 18.

“For me, it has this incredible aura, this presence — the number of hands, the number of baskets, the number of trees that have passed through it,” Bridges said. “The more people can slow down and take in the presence of these objects, the histories they embody — there’s powerful lessons and information to be gained there.”

The exhibit also includes three documentary films, produced by MSU’s College of Communication Arts and Sciences, on urban farming in Flint.

“They’re incredibly captivating and well done,” Bridges said. “I hope people take the time to watch and listen to them.”

Bridges credited Álvarez and Fankhänel for weaving such a generous basket of collaborators from the community, inviting them to participate in the exhibit and “building a community around this work.”

“In the old days, museums were ivory towers removed from these wider engagements,” Bridges said. “We’ve really shifted our working process, not only speaking to our audiences but in-



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Imani Badillo of SPACES art gallery in Cleveland joined a discussion Saturday (Jan. 25) at the Broad about Ohio-based farmers who are removing chemical fertilizers from their farming methods. A series of talks by local farmers, artists and other exhibit partners will continue through July.

“Three Sisters,” Boehning, celebr squash) practice by Haudenosau



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Artist Mila Lynn’s second-floor panorama depicts a young urban gardener confronting the asphalt dragon of the Interstate 496 freeway, which wiped out a thriving Black neighborhood in Lansing.

cluding them in the process of making the exhibition.”

Serious and silly

“Farmland” reaches outside MSU to follow the threads of food production and land-use questions into the Greater Lansing community. Among the many local collaborators enlisted by the curators is the Justice League of Greater Lansing, a grassroots group working with local churches to increase wealth equity for African Americans in Greater Lansing by building an endowment fund for scholarships, business startups and home ownership.

The legacy of land-use choices that disadvantaged African Americans in Lansing is dramatized by a large, three-dimensional piece by artist Mila Lynn depicting the crosstown Interstate 496 freeway as a dragon snaking through a once-thriving Black neighborhood. The freeway comes to life,

swatting homes into the air left and right, as a young girl with a wagonload of vegetables confronts the monster.

A vintage photograph from another collaborator, the Historical Society of Greater Lansing, shows a father and daughter from the I-496 area carrying a giant cabbage grown in the area that was destroyed. Other photos from the historical society depict sugar-beet farming and processing in north Lansing in the early 20th century. Nearby is a display celebrating centennial farms that are adopting sustainable farming practices, like Zeeb Farms in DeWitt, another local collaborator on the exhibit.

Some of the artifacts on view are just plain fun. A custom-made, one-of-a-kind box displays dozens of bird eggs, from huge specimens of rhea, ostrich and emu eggs the size of soccer balls to tiny finch eggs no larger than your thumbnail.

While combing through the MSU



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

A potato storage barn is one of several detailed miniature structures built under the auspices of the Public Works Administration in the mid-20th century.

Museum collection, Álvarez found two strange and wonderful prints, apparently dating from the middle of the 20th century, in pristine condition. Produced under the aegis of the International Harvester Co., they depict mechanized implements with Art Deco features and streamlined styling that shout “farm of the future,” as it was imagined 75 years ago.

“They’re kind of comical,” Álvarez said. “Nothing wrong with silly. I like silly.”

Born in Puerto Rico, Álvarez has been working at the Broad for four years. She’s familiar with the Midwest, having lived in Chicago and Iowa.

“The Midwest inspired this exhibition,” she said. “It was kind of inevitable for me.”

As an undergrad, she attended another land (and sea) grant university, the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez.

“It was also originally an agricultural and mechanical arts college, same as

MSU,” she said. “I can relate a lot to MSU, even though I later went to the University of Iowa.”

Her personal and family background in Puerto Rico shaped her interest in agriculture and food production.

“We have such a rich agricultural history, but we have a big problem with food distribution,” she said. “Because of the Jones Act, all food that goes to Puerto Rico has to go through a U.S. port first, which is Florida.”

The protectionist act places many other costly restrictions on shipments of goods to Puerto Rico.

“That causes our food to be very expensive and not as fresh, and we don’t have as much control over our agricultural production,” Álvarez said. “I also come from families that have farms. So, there’s a lot there that inspires all this.”



Courtesy MSU Broad Art Museum

a clay sculpture by Tammy Tarbell—rates the “three sisters” (corn, beans and squash) and companion gardening first developed by Native American communities in the Great Lakes region.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

A 1990 print by Sue Coe graphically depicts the average American’s food intake over a decade.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Abraham Rattner’s 1955 canvas “Potato Farmscape with Figure #5” glows with September sunshine.



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CityPULSE

Matthew Fletcher's new short-story collection is clever, funny and heartbreaking

By BILL CASTANIER

East Lansing author and law Professor Matthew Fletcher has taken bits and pieces from his life and consolidated them into his first collection of short stories, "Stick Houses," which he hit out of the park.

Fletcher, a member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, is a noted expert on Indigenous law and has been a professor at the University of Michigan since 2022. Prior to that, he taught at Michigan State University for 16 years.

His new book, published by MSU Press, contains 12 short stories that revolve around modern Indigenous culture and involve themes like land loss, alcoholism, reservation life and intergenerational trauma resulting from families being broken up. Fletcher observed many of these things happening to his own family and friends and deftly worked them into his clever, funny and often heartbreaking collection.

The title of the book even has a backstory. In his preface, Fletcher tells how

his mother, who worked at Grand Valley State University, would be approached by well-meaning researchers who would ask her where she grew up and what kind of homes she lived in. He writes: "They wanted her to answer wigwams and teepees. She would tell them every time they lived in 'stick houses.' Indians living in stick houses didn't fit a narrative these researchers wanted to believe. It appears."

Dispelling longstanding narratives like this is something Fletcher does well without being heavy handed. In fact, he does it with aplomb and humor.

"Knuckle Curve," his tale of a high school baseball team, is a gem of a sports story laced with some biting incidents experienced by the three Native Americans on the team. The author resurrected some of the stories from his days playing backyard Wiffle ball and high school baseball.

In "Truck Stop," he writes about George, a lawyer like himself who's in search of his lost daughter. George flies to North Dakota to meet with a young woman he believes to be her. The story is set in a typical expressway truck stop and will tug at your heart.

Fletcher's stories often contain tales of the loss of family members who were sent to Indian boarding schools like the notorious Mount Pleasant Indian Industrial Boarding School or Holy Childhood of Jesus School in Harbor Springs. It seems every Native American family had at least one of those breathtaking losses.

Fletcher's great-aunts were snatched and sent to an Indian school; his grandmother only escaped the same fate because she had tuberculosis.

The author said he grew up in a traditional family with two parents, but he calls that "the eye of the hurricane."

"All around us, folks were going to prison, being adopted out, there were suicides and addiction," he said.

One of Fletcher's most ambitious short stories is "An Iranian in De Gaulle," which is based on the phantasmagoric and somewhat well-known story of Mehran Karimi Nasseri, who took up residence in France's Charles de Gaulle Airport for 18 years after allegedly losing his papers. Nasseri's plight was the topic of numerous documentaries and the movie "The Terminal," starring Tom Hanks.

Fletcher, who was at the airport during Nasseri's residence, deftly recreates conversations between Nasseri and airport goers and occasionally slips Indigenous stories into the tale.

Fletcher's short stories were written over decades, and when he resurrected

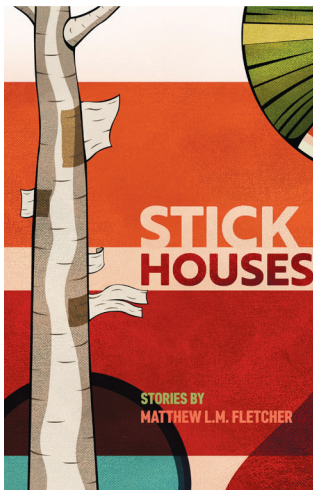
them to polish them for publication, he said he "didn't recognize the person I was when I wrote them."

"I started them when I was 25 and had just graduated from law school, and I wanted to be a creative," he said.

Fletcher said he has two more writing projects underway.

"I'm always writing," he said.

One is a novel set on a campus with a law school and is seriously dystopian. The other is a graphic novel centered around the wendigo, a horrific cannibalistic creature of Native mythology that roams the world, and a teen warrior girl who is sent out to destroy it.



Courtesy photo

Author and University of Michigan law Professor Matthew Fletcher, a member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, said that much of what goes on in his new collection of short stories, "Stick Houses," happened to him or someone he knows. The stories revolve around modern Indigenous culture and involve themes like land loss, alcoholism, reservation life and intergenerational trauma resulting from families being broken up.

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Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“1, 2, 3, 4” -- see the first words of the starred clues’ answers.
by Matt Jones
© 2025 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
- Sioux Falls st.
 - Buddy
 - Sailboat pole
 - Winery city in California’s Inland Empire
 - Scottish inlets
 - “Yeah, that makes sense”
 - Cat or goat breed
 - “Children of the Albatross” author Anaïs
 - *Officially kick off, like a host country’s leader at the Olympics
 - Lump of goo
 - The E of QED
 - ___ XING (road sign)
 - In a grave manner, on sheet music
 - False pretense
 - 2024 character that got Ariana Grande her first Oscar nomination
 - “By gosh!”
 - ***2001” subtitle
 - Queue before V
 - “Oh, come on!”
 - Actor Ricci of “28 Days Later” and “Vendetta”
 - Flaky Viennese pastry
 - Ram’s mate
 - Bird’s bill
 - On the level
 - *Portable storage devices
 - “___ Poetica”
 - How neglected

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		

- things go
- *1983 Matthew Broderick movie with the quote “The only winning move is not to play”
 - Covered with ice and rain
 - Netflix competition series hosted by Mikey Day
 - “Benevolent” fraternal order
 - Perceive
 - Ivan or Nicholas, e.g.
- DOWN
- Wasp wounds
 - Corrupt
 - “Für Elise” key signature
 - Beer barrel
 - Not watered-down
 - Actor Guinness
 - Big spoon
 - Former Secretary of Transportation Norman
 - 2012 Ben Affleck film
 - Obstruction
 - Like some weekends
 - Bovine mouthful
 - Somali-born Olympic gold medalist track athlete Mo
 - Made smooth, in a way
 - Places to play pinball
 - Rapper whose posthumous final album was 2000’s “Yeeeah Baby”
 - Suffix after Motor or pay
 - [Not my mistake]
 - Low film rating
 - Close once more
 - Play-___ (modeling clay)
 - Comprehensively
 - Crumbly topping
 - “You ain’t seen nothin’ ___”
 - Kazakhstan, once
 - “Gone With the Wind” character
 - Butler and “Good Mythical Morning” cohost McLaughlin, for two
 - Former Brooklyn field
 - Rough Riders nickname
 - Some Tony nominees
 - “I did it!”
 - Second-rate
 - Fuzzy fruits
 - Subservient
 - Bud holder
 - New York canal
 - “___ Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band”
 - “Hamlet” division

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Answers on page 20

SUDOKU

Beginner

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

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

Jan. 29-Feb. 4, 2025

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In medieval Europe, beekeepers made formal reports to their hives of significant events in the human world, like births, deaths, marriages and departures. They believed the bees needed to be continually informed to ensure robust honey production. The practice was called “telling the bees.” Let’s make this an inspiring story for you in the coming weeks, Aries. I invite you to keep your community fully apprised of what’s happening in your life. Proceed on the assumption that sharing your plans and changes with others will generate harmony and support. Like the beekeepers, you may discover that keeping your community in the loop will strengthen your bonds and sweeten your endeavors.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A regular guy named Jesse Ronnebaum bought an old painting at a yard sale for 50 cents. For the next 10 years, it hung on the wall in his living room. Then he noticed a dim inscription on the painting that suggested it may be more valuable than he realized. Consulting an art dealer, he discovered it was an unusual composition that featured the work of seven prominent artists — and was worth a lot of money. Ronnebaum said, “Years of struggling, barely making bills, and the whole time there’s \$50,000 hanging over my head, literally.” I am predicting metaphorically comparable events will unfold in your life during the coming months, Taurus. Hidden value will no longer be hidden. You will potentize neglected sources of wealth and finally recognize subtle treasures.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In Namibia’s arid grasslands, fairy circles periodically emerge. They are highly regular rings of bare land encompassed by vegetation. What causes them? Supernatural entities, as believed by the local people? Sand termites or hydrogen-loving microbes, according to a few scientists? No definitive explanation has emerged yet. I love that! I cherish mysteries that thwart attempts at rational explanation. In accordance with astrological omens, Gemini, I invite you to specialize in tantalizing and unsolvable enigmas in the coming weeks. Your soul needs rich doses of provocative riddles, mysterious truths and fun puzzles. Exult in the liberating declaration, “I don’t know!”

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Wherever you wander, be alert for signals that remind you of who you used to be. This will stimulate your creative speculation about who you want to evolve into during the next few years. As you ruminate about your history, you will get inspiration about who you want to become. The past will speak vividly in ways that hint at your best possible future. So, welcome clues from people who are no longer alive. Be receptive to old allies and influences that are no longer a central part of your world.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): “Crown shyness” is a phenomenon seen among some trees, like lodgepole pines. In forests, they grow big and strong and tall yet avoid touching each other at their tops. This creates canopies full of pronounced gaps. What causes this curious phenomenon? First, if branches don’t brush up against each other, harmful insects find it harder to spread from tree to tree. Second, when winds blow, branches are less likely to collide with each other and cause damage. There’s a third benefit: More sunlight penetrates to the forest floor, nourishing animals and other plants. I propose that you adopt crown shyness as a metaphor for your use, Leo. Express your beauty to the max — be bold and vivid and radiant — but also provide plenty of space for your allies to shine. Be your authentically amazing self, but create boundaries that allow others to be their amazing selves.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Some astrologers assert that you Virgos suffer from an ambition deficit. They authoritatively assert that a fiery aspiration to achieve greatness never burns hot within you. But in the coming months, I will work to show you a different perspective. Let’s start now: Many of you Virgos are highly skilled at being self-sufficient.

But sometimes, this natural strength warps into a hesitancy to ask for help and support, and that can diminish your ability to fulfill your ambitions. My goal will be to celebrate and nurture your self-sufficiency even as I coach you to be dynamic about gathering all the assistance you can.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Life is not fair. In the coming days, you will be odd proof of this fact. That’s because you are likely to be the beneficiary of uncommon luck. The only kind of karma that will be operating in your vicinity will be good karma. X factors and wild cards will be more available to you than usual. Your timing will be impeccable, and your intuition will be extra incisive. You may even be tempted to theorize that life is conspiring to bring you an extra supply of meaningful experiences. Here’s the clincher: If anyone in your sphere is prone to feeling envy because you’re flourishing, your charm will defuse it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Here are three questions to ruminate on: 1. What resources are you afraid you will run out of or squander? 2. What if your fear of running out or squandering these resources obstructs your ability to understand what you need to know and do so that you won’t run out or squander them? 3. How can you dissolve the fear and feel confident that the necessary resources will keep steadily flowing in and you will use them well?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Most stars have at least one companion star, sometimes two. Our sun, which is all alone, is in the minority. Astronomers have found evidence that our home star once had a companion but lost it. Is there any chance of this situation changing in the future? Might our sun eventually link up with a new compatriot? It’s not likely. But in contrast to our sun’s fate, I suspect that 2025 will offer you a significant diminishment in your personal loneliness quotient. If you crave more camaraderie and togetherness, the coming months will be a favorable time to seek them out. Your meditation question: What’s the opposite of loneliness?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In the coming weeks, your authenticity will be your greatest strength. The more genuine and honest you are, the more life will reward you. Be alert for situations that may seem to demand camouflage when, in fact, they will ultimately reward your complete transparency. You will be most powerful and attractive as you allow yourself to be fully seen. You can even use your vulnerability to your advantage. Be openly, clearly, unabashedly yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): As I envision your life in the coming weeks, I am moved to compare you to certain birds. First, there will be similarities between you and the many species that can literally perceive Earth’s magnetic fields, seeing them as patterns of shadow and light overlaid on their regular vision. You, too, will have an uncanny multi-dimensional awareness that helps guide your travels. Second, Aquarius, you will be like the migrating songbirds that recalibrate their internal compass every day when the sun sets. In other words, you will make steady efforts to ensure that your magical ways of knowing are grounded in earthy rhythms.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In some Polynesian cultures, there is a belief that one’s mistakes, including excessive anger, can cause physical sickness. Hawaiians traditionally have employed a ritual remedy for such ills called ho’oponopono. It includes acts of atonement, forgiveness and correction. It may even involve a prayer conference where all the people involved talk about their mutual problems with respect and compassion, seeking solutions and restitution. The coming weeks will be a fantastically favorable time for you to carry out your own version of ho’oponopono, Pisces.

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, Jan. 29

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

"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.

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

Anti-Inauguration Light Brigade Event - Members of Indivisible Michigan 7 will gather on the pedestrian bridge over Grand River near North Fairview to share a message of solidarity. Our democracy is under threat, but we won't yield to fascism. 5:45-6:45 p.m. For more information, email indivisiblemichigan7@gmail.com.

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.

Bookend Gallery: "Eras of Women in U.S. History" - The Quilting Divas have created a bold display that details the various eras of the fight for women's rights in the U.S., starting in 1849. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Code Club - Learn to make websites, apps, animations and more! No coding experience necessary. Grades 3+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Diabetes PATH - Six-week workshop designed to help individuals with diabetes or pre-diabetes improve their health and feel better. 1 p.m. Delta Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

"Farmland: Food, Justice and Sovereignty" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall food court through April. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian50plus.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.

January Grand River Connection: UrbanBeat (Old Town) - Network and connect with other young professionals. 5-7 p.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing. lansing501.com.

Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle, hosted by Starlight Entertainment - 7:30-11 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.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.

Meridian Historical Village Speaker Series - Bill Krieger, president of VeteransArchives.org, discusses the importance of preserving the history of our nation's heroes in their words and voices. 2 p.m. Village Chapel, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridianhistoricalvillage.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.

Performance: Brenda Torres-Figueroa - Join Puerto Rico-born, Chicago-based artist Brenda Torres-Figueroa for a performance inspired by diaspora, survival and the legacies of Afro-Puerto Rican women. 6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Pop-up Dinner at Red Haven - Celebrate the Lunar New Year with a vibrant four-course feast. Each dish draws inspiration from Pan-Asian New Year traditions that symbolize prosperity, health and happiness. Doors 6 p.m., dinner 6:30 p.m. 4480 Hagadorn Road, Okemos. eatredhaven.com.

Snowfolk Showcase - Visit South Washington Square in downtown Lansing through Feb. 1 to marvel at one-of-a-kind snowfolk creations that represent local businesses! Cast your vote for the most creative snowfolk to win fabulous downtown Lansing prizes! For more information, visit downtownlansing.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.

Time for Three - This Grammy and Emmy-winning ensemble of strings and vocals merges classical, pop, Americana and singer-songwriter styles in its repertoire. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Viking Warrior Societies - Join Swordsmanship Museum and Academy historian Jerry Berg as he leads us back a millennium to explore the warrior societies of the Vikings! Ages 16+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Walk with Ease - Free exercise program that can reduce pain and improve overall health. 11:15 a.m. Lansing Mall, 5330 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Wheel of the Year: Imbolc and Great Work - 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.

Mid-Winter Singing Festival

7:30-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31
Noon-3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1
University Lutheran Church
1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing

One of its most beloved events, the Ten Pound Fiddle's annual Mid-Winter Singing Festival returns this weekend at the concert series' new home base, University Lutheran Church in East Lansing.

The festival will kick off 7:30 p.m. Friday (Jan. 31) with a community sing led by St. Paul, Minnesota-based pianist and accordionist Dan Chouinard. The leader of monthly group sings in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Chouinard has also created and hosted numerous music and history variety shows for Minnesota Public Radio and Twin Cities Public Television. He's recorded with the late violinist and mandolinist Peter Ostroushko, folk and jazz singer Prudence Johnson, classical and opera vocalist Maria Jette and many others. He's also the founder of the classic-country band Lush Country, which comprises veteran performers of the radio program "Prairie Home Companion," for which he was a guest accompanist.

The singalong will feature a variety of music from the Great American Songbook, with Chouinard providing accompaniment. Participants are invited to "sit back, relax, sing any part you dream up and make a gorgeous sound with hundreds of other voices."

Saturday's schedule will begin at noon with another community sing, led by banjoist, singer and Ten Pound Fiddle booking manager Sally Potter and friends. This event will feature songs from "the two books that have sustained the community singing movement," according to the Fiddle: "Rise Up Singing" and "Rise Again." Selections include songs made popular by the late folk and blues musician Josh White Jr. and the late Peter Yarrow of folk group Peter, Paul and Mary.

Chouinard will lead a "Best of the Movies" singalong at 1:15 p.m., featuring selections such as "Cabaret," "I Could Have Danced all Night" and "Singin' in the Rain."

The festival will be capped by a folk song jam-along at 2:30 p.m., led by Lori Fithian and Jean Chorazyczewski. There will be more than 300 songs to choose from, spanning genres and decades. Guests can sing along to the songs or play along on acoustic instruments they bring.

Lyrics will be provided for all participants at each event. Tickets to Friday's community sing are \$20 for the public, \$18 for Fiddle members and \$5 for students. All-access wristbands for Saturday's events are free for students and \$20 for non-students. Both are available at tenpoundfiddle.org.



Thursday, Jan. 30

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

Aaron Johnson at Dublin Square - 9 p.m. 327 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-2222. facebook.com/@dublinsquare.

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

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

Al-Anon Meeting - 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.

Bookend Gallery: "Eras of Women in U.S. History" - The Quilting Divas have created a bold display that details the various eras of the fight for women's rights in the U.S., starting in 1849. Noon-6 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

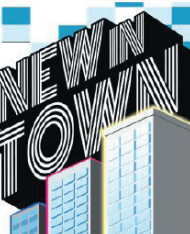
College Night at Lansing Shuffle - Free shuffleboard with student ID, half off well drinks, \$5 pitchers. 7-11 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.com.

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

REO Town Clubhouse reopens with Italian favorites and an Art Deco vibe

By STEVE UNDERWOOD

Fifteen days after issues with its point-of-sale system forced a temporary closure, the new REO Town Clubhouse Ristorante reopened Tuesday (Jan. 28) with gusto — and a large and appreciative lunchtime crowd.



REO Town Clubhouse Ristorante

1314 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday, Sunday
11 a.m.-midnight
Friday-Saturday
(517) 698-9700
reotownclubhouse.net

Owned by couple Bruce and Desirea Kring, REO Town Clubhouse opened its doors on Jan. 8 in the 12,000-square-foot building at 1314 S. Washington Ave. that previously housed Ellison Brewery and Event Space. Then, on Jan. 13, the management team posted a message on Facebook announcing the restaurant's closure, not only citing the point-of-sale issues but also that they would be “dedicating our

efforts to staff training and menu evaluation to ensure we continue to provide you with the best guest experience possible.”

“We’ve been homing in on how we want to approach the customer,” general manager Sean McCarthy said. “We might not have gotten quite the training we wanted for our staff before our earlier opening, but we were able to cover that in the two weeks we were waiting for the POS system to be installed.

He added that “the concept didn’t change at all — it was just a matter of fine-tuning from the feedback we got from the public.”

McCarthy said REO Town Clubhouse’s concept, described on its website



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

General manager Sean McCarthy poses behind the bar at the new REO Town Clubhouse, which reopened its restaurant Tuesday (Jan. 28) after issues with its point-of-sale system forced a 15-day closure.

as a “unique blend of authentic Italian cuisine, vibrant entertainment and stylish event space,” came from the building’s “Art Deco feel.”

He added that the Krings wanted to create a supper club type of environment.

“We’re kind of bringing back the 1930s prohibition time. They like that



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

REO Town Clubhouse Ristorante offers “homey Italian food” like Neapolitan-style pizzas and “and stick-to-your-ribs-good pasta dishes,” McCarthy said.

era. We named a lot of our drinks after gangsters,” he said.

When customers walk in the door, they’ll immediately notice the 72-seat, eight-table billiards hall to the right and the 90-seat dining room and full-service bar to the left. Bruce Kring is an avid pool player, McCarthy said, and

See REO Town Clubhouse, Page 18

Events

from page 16

Duke Charelle - Charelle and his band, comprising former members of music collective Parliament-Funkadelic, blend R&B, rock and psychedelic sounds. Stay for a funky jam session after the show! Doors 5 p.m., show 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

“Farmland: Food, Justice and Sovereignty” - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Grand Ledge Community Read - Join community members in reading and discussing “Firekeeper’s Daughter,” by Angeline Boulley. 7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

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

MSU Women’s Basketball vs. University of Oregon - 6 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/womens-basketball.

Puerto Rican Montage - Learn more about Puerto Rican diasporic experiences and film language at this Broad Underground event. We’ll watch and discuss “Diálogo con el Che,” “Dilema I: Burundanga Boricua” and “el mar editado.” 7 p.m. Wells Hall, 619 Red Cedar Road, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

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.

Spirit of Michigan Chorus Rehearsal - We’re an inclusive community of women who sing a cappella

in the barbershop style. We welcome all levels of musical experience. 6:45 p.m. Church of the Nazarene, 4851 Holt Road, Holt. spiritofmichigan-chorus.com.

Thursday Night Open Forge - Try your hand at blacksmithing and create your own metal masterpieces! 6-9 p.m. Artfire Michigan, 4567 Churchill Road, Leslie. artfiremichigan.com.

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

“Work It Out Wombats”: Create, Test, Improve - Join us for some problem-solving fun with the Work It Out Wombats. Over the three-week program, we’ll do hands-on activities, watch “Wombats” videos and listen to stories to learn computational thinking skills. Ages 4-6. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Friday, Jan. 31

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

Bookend Gallery: “Eras of Women in U.S. History” - The Quilting Divas have created a bold display that details the various eras of the fight for women’s rights in the U.S., starting in 1849. Noon-4 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library’s Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

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MOMIX: “Alice”

7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31
Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing

MOMIX, a company of dancer-illusionists based in Connecticut, will bring its nationally touring stage show “Alice” to the Wharton Center 7:30 p.m. Friday (Jan. 31). The surrealist show, blending illusion, acrobatics, magic and whimsy, is inspired by Lewis Carroll’s “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.” Promising “visual splendor and stunning creative choreography,” audiences are invited to embark on “a mind-bending adventure as Alice encounters time-honored characters, including the Caterpillar, a lobster quadrille, white rabbits, a mad Queen of Hearts and a variety of other surprises.”

“I don’t intend to retell the whole Alice story,” founder and director Moses Pendleton writes on MOMIX’s website, “but to use it as a taking-off point for invention. I want to take this show into places we haven’t been before in terms of the fusion of dancing, lighting, music, costumes and projected imagery.”

The show runs for an hour and 45 minutes, with a 20-minute intermission. Tickets are \$19 for students and \$25 to \$66 for the public. They’re available at the Wharton Center Ticket Office, online at whartoncenter.com or by calling (517) 432-3000. For more information on MOMIX, visit momix.com.

Events

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Country Night at Lansing Shuffle - Enjoy line dance instruction from 8-9 p.m., followed by modern country music playing until midnight! We'll have drink specials all night. No cover! 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansingshuffle.com.

Craft Club - Make a Valentine's Day mailbox! Grades 4-12. Registration req. 4 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

"Farmland: Food, Justice and Sovereignty" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall food court through April. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Lansing Parks and Recreation Travelogue Series: Poland - In September, Ava George and her husband rented a car and explored the backroads and villages of Poland, learning a little history along the way. 7 p.m. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. lansingmi.gov/985/Travelogue.

Last One Out at Summerlands Brewing Co. - 7:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlands-brewing.

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

Pop-Up Dinner at Red Haven - Experience the flavors of Scotland at our Highland Harvest Dinner; a celebration of Scottish foods and wild game. Doors 6:30 p.m., dinner 7 p.m. 4480 Hagadorn Road, Okemos. eatredhaven.com.

The Reason You Came at Mash Bar - 9 p.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

Sassiety - Featuring a classically trained keyboardist, a young jazz-guitar virtuoso, a drummer who made a career playing in "girl bands" and a stylish

bassist with a showband history, Sassiety brings unmatched harmonies and an energetic mix of music, all with a touch of sass! Doors 5 p.m., show 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

TGIF Honolulu Blue Dance Party - Give thanks for a great Detroit Lions season by wearing Lions apparel. Doors open at 7 p.m., line dance lesson at 7:15 p.m., dance 8 p.m.-midnight. Dinner buffet provided, free refills on soft drinks, cash/credit bar. Eagle Eye Golf & Banquet Center, 15500 Chandler Road, Bath. tgifdance.com.

Saturday, Feb. 1

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

2025 Imbolc Ritual - Join us in person or on Zoom as we set our intentions and goals for 2025 in our Imbolc ritual. Following the ritual will be a shared feast and a teacup raffle drawing. 4 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Art Speaks: Reparations Reframed - What can art teach us about justice? Collaborators from the Justice League of Greater Lansing will discuss their contributions to the exhibition "Farmland: Food, Justice, and Sovereignty." 6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Black Barn Band at the Irish Pub - 8 p.m. 1910 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. 517-253-8713. facebook.com/IrishPubLansing.

Blue Avenue Delegates - Join us for an unforgettable night with the Blue Avenue Delegates, one of Michigan's finest blues bands! Doors 5 p.m., show 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Family Day: GROW - Can art grow food? Build a sculpture where a seed can sprout, inspired by the exhibition "Farmland: Food, Justice, and Sovereignty." 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

See Events, Page 19

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REO Town Clubhouse

from page 17

wanted to fill a void for a high-end parlor. The pool hall remained open during the two-week closure of the restaurant.

Meanwhile, the second floor houses a versatile, 150-person-capacity event space that will soon be home to entertainment such as dueling (or solo) piano players, live jazz and other performances. The space is also available to rent for weddings and other large gatherings.

McCarthy said the restaurant's old-school Italian menu was inspired by "trying to fill a void where we lost Emil's and DeLuca's with homey Italian food — Neapolitan-style pizzas and stick-to-your-ribs-good pasta dishes."

What have been the restaurant's most popular menu items so far? McCarthy said the pizzas lead the way, but dinner entrées like the baked mahi-mahi with

Mediterranean citrus sauce aren't far behind. The five-layer "stacked" lasagna, meatballs and pasta have also been a hit. The fried shrimp served in garlic Calabrian butter has become a well-loved appetizer.

McCarthy said the Krings, who also own Gravy Smokehouse & BBQ in Holt, had a balance in mind when they decided to launch REO Town Clubhouse.

"Gravity is a little more relaxed, and this is more upscale," he said. "Everybody likes to go out for a nice dinner once in a while."



Raymond Holt for City Pulse

John "Slim" Whaley of Lansing takes advantage of REO Town Clubhouse's eight-table billiards hall.

ABANDONED VEHICLE SALE LANSING MI	WINNER OF THE BID WILL BE CONTACTED BY 2PM 2/27/25	VEHICLE MUST THEN BE REMOVED BY 5PM 2/28/25
NORTHSIDE SERVICE 226 RUSSELL ST LANSING, MI 48906 517-487-5921	WINNER MUST THEN GO TO CORRESPONDING POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR TITLING INFORMATION FOR THE VEHICLE BEFORE VEHICLE CAN BE REMOVED FROM NORTHSIDE SERVICE.	Vehicles up for Auction 2016 GMC Acadia 2013 Ford F-150 2012 Chevrolet Traverse 2012 Land Rover Range Rover 2012 Kia Forte 2010 Toyota Camry 2008 Saturn Vue 2007 Toyota Camry 2000 Ford E-350 CP#25-032
ALL SEALED BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN THE OFFICE OF NORTHSIDE SERVICE BY 1PM 2/27/25		

Get your fantasy role-playing fix with Ixion's 'She Kills Monsters'

By **DANA DEMINK**

As Ixion Ensemble Theatre celebrates its 10th season, the choice to rehash a previously staged show from its 2015-'16 season, Qui Nguyen's "She Kills Monsters," has me wondering if artistic director Jeff Croff might be resting on his laurels. However, on second thought, if Ixion's mission is to bring "interesting and new voices to the Lansing theater scene," given the nation's uneven and uncertain progress toward LGBTQ+ equality, perhaps a retelling of this dramedy is prescient.

"She Kills Monsters" debuted off-off-Broadway at New York City's Flea Theater in 2011. It was later picked up by the notable Steppenwolf Theatre Co. in Chicago in 2013. Given the ages of the main characters and the themes of sexual identity and being true to oneself, the production has been staged close to 1,000 times, primarily by high schools and colleges.

In 2021 and 2024, respectively, high schools in Ohio and Wisconsin were prohibited from performing the play because of the sexual orientation of the

characters. At Hillsboro High School in southern Ohio, a GoFundMe campaign raised enough funds to stage the production independently of the high school after the superintendent shut it down because "one of the characters *might* be gay." Given the way things are going, hell yes, Ixion, put this play in your regular rotation.

"She Kills Monsters" is the story of a young woman, Agnes, who loses her family in a car crash — most notably her younger sister, Tilly. Agnes, bound by normalcy and mainstream pop culture, is a first-year high school teacher in a

long-term heterosexual relationship that seems to have stalled out. As she begins to pack up her parents' home, she notices a Dungeons & Dragons module authored by Tilly. She realizes that she never really knew Tilly and decides to relaunch the game to better understand her

sister's world. As Agnes gets more involved in the quest, the fantasy world and reality collide, and she makes some

important realizations about Tilly and herself.

Staged at Sycamore Creek Church's Eastwood campus, Ixion's second run of "She Kills Monsters" is enjoyable. Even the freshly baked cookies in the lobby are a delicious surprise. While the strength of the play justifiably rests on the clever and amusing script, which pays homage to '90s pop culture, Ixion has dialed in some important visual elements. The live-action role-playing costumes, envisioned by Sadonna Croff and Molly Rebeck, are sexy and well constructed. The Evil Gabbie and Evil Tina costumes, redolent of vintage showgirl apparel, give a creepy Louise Brooks (or Liza Minnelli in "Cabaret") vibe. The multi-headed handheld dragon is well choreographed and visually attractive thanks to choreographers Tobin Bates and Miranda Hartmann and properties crew Holly Sleight-Engler and Henry Hodder.

Sprightly performances by Betz Lund as guidance counselor Vera, Logan Natvig as demon Oreus, Kelsey Renfro as



Photo by Ixion Ensemble

From left: Kat Paloyan as Kaliope Darkwalker, Neysa Nohara as Tilly Evans and Theory Grande-Cassell as Lilith Morningstar in Ixion Ensemble Theatre's production of "She Kills Monsters," by Qui Nguyen.

Evil Tina and Isabella Croff in dual roles as Evil Gabbie and hilarious, homicidal fairy Farrah made up for timing lags and drags, as well as bumps and scrapes backstage that left the audience wondering if something unfortunate had happened to one of the cast members or production crew. Hopefully, Ixion will work out these glitches by the second week of performances. Luckily for us, the cookies made up for it.



Review

"She Kills Monsters"

Jan. 31-Feb. 2
7 p.m. Friday-Saturday
3 p.m. Sunday
Stage One at Sycamore Creek
Eastwood
2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing
our.show/shekillsmonstersixion

Events

from page 18

"Farmland: Food, Justice and Sovereignty" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

"Harriet" Film Showing - In celebration of Black History Month, join us for a screening of the 2019 film "Harriet," a biographical drama about abolitionist Harriet Tubman. Noon. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

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

Piano Concert, featuring Ye-Eun Hyun - Hyun, a pianist from South Korea, is pursuing a doctorate under Professor Deborah Moriarty at MSU. Her performance career has taken her to renowned venues across the globe. 3 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lansingcentralumc.net.

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.

Take Your Child to the Library Day - We'll have children's activities all day, including our Early Childhood/Preschool Fair from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Pick up a craft or STEAM kits (while supplies last), play with our Manipulative Table, make up a "GLAD-Lib," hunt for "Hidden Hearts" and more!

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Tiger and Dragon Kenpo Martial Arts Training - Based on a variety of martial arts systems, tiger and dragon kenpo is designed to develop self-confidence in the warrior. 1 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaver-softheweb.org.

Sunday, Feb. 2

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


Carillon Recital: Lunar New Year - Carillonists Jon Lehrer, Laurie Harkema and special guests highlight selections reflecting Asian cultures and traditions. Free and open to the public. 2 p.m. Beaumont Tower, 375 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. Noon-6 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Chinese New Year Celebration - The Greater Lansing Chinese Association and Meridian Township will co-host the annual Chinese New Year Celebration at the Meridian Mall, featuring a parade, music, dancing, singing, games and more. 1-4 p.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian.mi.us.


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

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Drag with Purpose: A Sober Drag Bingo Show

Friday, Jan. 31
7 p.m.
Copper Moon
1247 Center St., Lansing

Michigan drag troupe Kuntz Kittens, comprising veteran performers Yolanda Del Fierce, Reba Rose Rau, Monique Madison and Benjamin Violet, will bring their glitz, glam and camp to Lansing 7 p.m. Friday for a drag bingo event at Copper Moon event space in Old Town. The event will feature a drag show, bingo games with prizes, meet-and-greets with the performers and complimentary snacks. As it's a sober show, mocktails will be available for purchase. Funds raised will benefit AYA Youth Collective, which provides housing, resources and community for LGBTQ+ youth in need. Tickets are \$25 and are available at momomadison.ticketleap.com/drag-with-purpose. Each ticket holder will receive \$10 gift certificates to the Craft Bar and Grace Boutique in Old Town, as well as a \$5 off \$20 coupon to use at Bad Annie's Swearly Goods.

struments or borrow one! 2-4 p.m. Bath Community Center, 5959 Park Lake Road, Bath. facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

"Goodnight Moon" and "The Runaway Bunny" - Staged by the Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia, two tales featuring endearing rabbit characters and dream-like imagery will infuse young audience members with a reassuring sense of security. 1:30 and 4 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

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

Ingham Festival Chorale Rehearsal - The chorale invites you to sing. Membership fee is \$60 and includes all music. No audition necessary. 2-3:30 p.m. University United Methodist Church, 1120 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/inghamfestivalchoralemi.

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.

Let's Dance! Intro to Square Dance - Learn the basics of square dance in a friendly, relaxed, judgment-free atmosphere. Wear comfortable shoes and clothes you can move in. All ages. Free. 1:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Lunar New Year Celebration Concert - MSU artists and guest performers showcase works by composers of Asian descent, concluding with a reception for attendees. 3 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

MSU Wrestling vs. PennWest Clarion - 1 p.m. Jenison Field House, 223 Kalamazoo St., East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/wrestling.

Simone Ranes: Healing Salts - Simone Ranes of Williamston Wellness will speak on the healing power of salts. Salt lamps and other items will be available for purchase. 11 a.m. The Light House Chapel, 1501 Windsor St., Lansing. For more information, call 517-712-2622.

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

Xochitlo Conuco Ancestors Garden Mural - Artist Theresa Rosado invites the public for a drop-in session to paint portions of her 30-foot ethnographic teaching mural. No registration required, all ages welcome. 1-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado Galeria & Cultural Center, 204 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/casaderosado.

Monday, Feb. 3

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

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

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

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

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

Crafty Story Time - Preschool-aged children and their caregivers can enjoy fun activities, stories and a craft. 11 a.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Fiber Circle - Knitters, crocheters and stitchers of all ages and skill levels welcome. Although formal instruction isn't provided, attendees assist each other with techniques and skills. 6 p.m. 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

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

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at the Meridian Mall food court through April. 9-10 a.m. 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

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

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

Musicue 21 - MSU's contemporary music ensemble performs works that examine isolation, technology and the passing of time. 7:30 p.m. Murray Hall, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

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.

"The Untethered Soul" Zoom Book Study, with Kathi Frederick - "The Untethered Soul" embraces non-judgment, allowing ourselves and others to be as we are without imposing expectations or labels. 1:30 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Tuesday, Feb. 4

18th Annual MSUFCU Student Art Exhibit - Artists from mid-Michigan high schools showcase their work, hoping to earn votes from the public and a group of judges. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. MSUFCU Headquarters Building 1, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. msufcuart.com.

"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.

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

Events

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Family Brunch & Lunch at Lansing Shuffle - Featuring free shuffleboard for kids, video game tournaments, cornhole, giant Jenga and two-for-\$10 mimosas. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansing-shuffle.com.

"Farmland: Food, Justice and Sovereignty" - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

First Start Sunday - Monthly blacksmithing workshop for beginners, featuring a shop tour, lessons on safety and technique, and a take-home project. 1-4 p.m. Artfire Michigan, 4567 Churchill Road, Leslie. artfiremichigan.com.

GLAD Drum Circle - Free, family-friendly event for all experience levels. Bring your own percussion in-

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 15

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From Pg. 15

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www.maximaids.net

Events

from page 20

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

Beginning West Coast Swing Group Dance Class - Eight-week class. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. uofmhealthsparrow.org/our-hospitals-services/michigan-athletic-club.

Check Out the Art! - Beat the winter blues with a visit to Okemos Library's Event Room to see unique and interesting artwork by members of the Lansing Women Artists Collective. 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. cadl.org/about/our-locations/okemos.

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.

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

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.

Manifest Your Dreams: A Guided Journey to Your Highest Self - Through guided meditation and breathwork, connect with your inner self and gain clarity on your goals. 5:30 p.m. Mahabir Wellness, 1640 Haslett Road, Suite 100, Haslett. facebook.com/MahabirWellness.

OTCA Annual Meeting - Join us to celebrate another fantastic year in Old Town. We'll give thanks to our wonderful volunteers, present awards and more. OTCA members will vote in our board election. There will be free food, a cash bar and a raffle. Free. 6-9 p.m. Urban-Beat, 1213 Turner St., Old Town. iloveoldtown.org.

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

Savvy Caregiver Program - Are you caring for a loved one with memory loss? Attend a six-week workshop to learn how to reduce caregiving stress! 2-4 p.m. Virtual — to register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

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

Wind Symphony - The MSU Wind Symphony performs "Celebration," by Gao Hong; "Symphony in B-flat," by Paul Hindemith; "Concerto for Trombone and Wind Ensemble," by David Maslanka; and "Old American Songs," by Aaron Copland. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.



Simone Ranes of Williamston Wellness will be speaking on "The Healing Power of Salts," at The Light House Chapel, 1501 Windsor St., Lansing, on Sun., Feb. 2 at 11 a.m. Salt lamps and other items available for purchase. Info: 517-712-2622.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Decedent's Trust. Robert E. DeVinney Revocable Living Trust Agreement, dated Dec. 27, 1999. Date of Birth: Sept. 17, 1924. The decedent, Robert Earl DeVinney, died Dec. 23, 2024. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the decedent and the trust described below will be forever barred unless presented to the Joint Successor Trustees: Jill L. Walker, 2334 West Willow St., Lansing, MI 48917, 517-881-8955; and Robert S. Divinney, 130 Melladee Lane, Morrice, MI 48857, 517-881-1696, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 1/29/2025.

CP#25-028

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT, INGHAM COUNTY, NOTICE TO CREDITORS, Decedent's Estate, Case No. 24-215-DE. Estate of Karen Aagaard Abramczyk – Date of Birth: 10/19/1934. NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Karen Aagaard Abramczyk, died 03/23/2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Linda K. Edgar, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 West Kalamazoo Ave., Lansing, MI 48933, 517-483-6300, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice, 01/29/2025. Personal representative: Linda K. Edgar, 214 S. Clemens Ave., Lansing, MI 48912, 517-507-1932.

CP#25-023

CITY OF EAST LANSING SUMMARY
OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1539

On January 21, 2025, the East Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of East Lansing, Michigan, to amend the zoning map by rezoning 743, 755, and 765 Grove Street from R-2 (Medium-Density Single-Family Residential) to RM-32 (City Center Multiple-Family Residential), conditioned on the future approval via site plan review procedures of a multi-family residential building with up to 48 bedrooms across five or more dwelling units, each with four or fewer bedrooms, and associated parking.

Effective date: Pursuant to Section 50-31(c) of the City of East Lansing Code of Ordinances, seven days after publication.

Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk's Office, 1st Floor, City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

Amy Gordon
East Lansing Interim City Clerk

CP#25-026

CITY OF EAST LANSING SUMMARY
OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1539

On January 21, 2025, the East Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of East Lansing, Michigan, to amend the zoning map by rezoning a vacant parcel (PN 19-20-10-31-300-015), adjacent to and to be combined with 16647 Chandler Rd., from Bath Township D* (Development) to East Lansing OIP (Office Industrial Park).

Effective date: Pursuant to Section 50-31(c) of the City of East Lansing Code of Ordinances, seven days after publication.

Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk's Office, 1st Floor, City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

Amy Gordon
East Lansing Interim City Clerk

CP#25-025

EST. 1842
MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY
LEGAL AD NOTICE: ORDINANCE 2025-02
YOUTH COMMISSION ESTABLISHMENT

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
Zoning Amendment #2025-02 (Youth Commission Establishment)

The Township Board at its regular meeting on January 21, 2025 approved for final adoption Ordinance 2025-02, an Ordinance amending the code of the charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County to establish a Youth Commission.

A complete copy of the amendment may be viewed at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198 (phone 517.853.4560), between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Angela Demas
Township Clerk

CP#25-030

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CityPULSE

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Breaking: The Morning Post is a great new option for MSU's breakfast crowd

By COURTNEY BOWERMAN

It's a good thing the Morning Post has finally opened in East Lansing because now that students are back at Michigan State University for the season, the city can always use another breakfast/brunch spot to cater to them. Many other restaurants have come and gone from the corner unit at 1351 E. Grand River Ave. in the past several years, but judging by how busy the place was when my family and I went, the Morning Post just might break that unlucky streak.

The interior is rather small since the Morning Post technically shares the space with the incoming seafood restaurant and chop-house D'Nulfos. The layout feels similar to other brunch eateries like Anna's House and Bobcat Bonnie's. Yet, unlike those restaurants, the Morning Post has a very distinct newspaper theme. Walls are covered with

duplicate newsprint pages, and the menu layout is styled after your average morning edition. Being a journalism major, I found it charming.

Since this is a breakfast/brunch spot, the entrees mostly consist of custom-made omelets, bowls, pancakes, egg sandwiches, wraps and toast. Although there's bar seating, students looking for morning cocktails will have to settle for juice or coffee until the restaurant obtains a liquor license. Don't fret, cocktail lovers, I'm sure it will be very soon.

While my family got omelets, I decided to try the Post wrap. It was sort of like a breakfast burrito: crumbled turkey sausage, scrambled eggs, cheese and diced potatoes in a flour tortilla. Like most of the dishes, it was served with a side of Post potatoes, which were the same ones as in

smoky taste has always been too strong for me. However, since it was turkey sausage, I decided to make an exception and give it a try. Thankfully, the sausage pieces were so small that I hardly noticed them. The eggs were well cooked, the cheese was properly melted, and the potatoes gave it a nice crunch. It was everything I like in a breakfast wrap.

The Post potatoes were a mix of russet and sweet potatoes, but most of them were russet. My dad opted for a side of hash browns. I can't blame him — I wasn't thrilled with the Post potatoes either. Even though they were hot and crispy, they were too tiny for my liking. The sweet potato pieces, in particular, were so small that they were practically crumbs.

Despite that hang-up, we all enjoyed our brunch at the Morning Post. With its fast and friendly service, it's a great new option for the MSU breakfast crowd. And it very well might give the nearby IHOP a run for its money.



Courtney Bowerman for City Pulse

Reminiscent of a breakfast burrito, the eponymous Post wrap at the Morning Post, a new breakfast/brunch spot in East Lansing, contains crumbled turkey sausage, scrambled eggs, diced potatoes and cheese, all wrapped in a flour tortilla and served with a side of Post potatoes.



Post wrap
\$13

The Morning Post
1351 E. Grand River Ave.,
East Lansing
8 a.m.-2 p.m. daily
(517) 483-2759
themorningpostel.com

the wrap.

To tell the truth, I don't like sausage. It isn't only because I don't eat red meat; the

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

TOP 5 BURGERS

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2024 Top of the Town contest. Bon appétit!

1. Crunchy's

Watering hole in old-school digs famous for burgers, buckets of beer and karaoke
254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
(517) 351-2506
crunchyseastlansing.com

11 a.m.-midnight Sunday-Wednesday

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

2. Dagwood's Tavern & Grill

Relaxed American eatery featuring handcrafted burgers and grill fare, plus sports on TV

2803 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing

(517) 374-0390
dagwoodstavern.com
11 a.m.-11 p.m. daily

3. South Riley Grocery, Tavern & Grill

Casual, off-the-beaten-path bar and grill serving burgers, gizzards and pizza
10777 Francis Road, DeWitt
(517) 669-3142

Noon-9 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday

Noon-10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday

Noon-6 p.m. Sunday

4. The Peanut Barrel

American bar and grill offering burgers, sandwiches, beer and a scenic outdoor patio
521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing

(517) 351-0608

peanutbarrel.com

11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday-Thursday

11 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday

5. Weston's Kewpee Sandwich Shop

1920s diner with a collection of antique Kewpie dolls serving burgers, homemade root beer and shakes

118 S. Washington Square, Lansing

(517) 482-8049

westonskewpee.com

10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday

10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday

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A tasty starter perfect for the big game

From METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Each year, the Super Bowl is one of the most-watched television broadcasts across the globe. It might not kick off until early evening in the eastern United States, but the day's festivities typically begin much earlier than that.

Super Bowl parties bring people from all walks of life together. Football fans mingle with non-fans who are more anxious to see the famed advertisements than they are the big game. But one thing all Super Bowl viewers can enjoy together is the food.

The focus of Super Bowl Sunday fare is not often entrées but rather the bevy of snacks and starters people can enjoy in small doses throughout the game. This recipe for beer-braised meatballs from "Cooking with Beer," by the editors at Publications International Ltd., is sure to be a hit at your Super Bowl gathering.

Beer-braised meatballs
Makes 20 meatballs
1 pound ground beef
1/2 cup seasoned breadcrumbs
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
Two eggs, lightly beaten
1/3 cup finely chopped onion
Two cloves garlic, minced
Salt and black pepper
One bottle (12 ounces) light-colored beer, such as a lager
1 1/2 cups tomato sauce
1 cup ketchup
2 tablespoons tomato paste
1/2 cup packed brown sugar

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Line a broiler pan with foil and spray the rack with nonstick cooking spray.

Combine the beef, breadcrumbs, cheese, eggs, onion, garlic, salt and pepper in a large bowl and mix together. Shape the mixture into 1-inch balls. Place the meatballs on the prepared rack. Bake for 10 minutes or until browned.

Bring the beer, tomato sauce, ketchup,



Metro Creative Connection

Super Bowl parties bring people from all walks of life together, from avid NFL fans to non-fans who are just there to mingle and watch the advertisements, but one thing all guests can enjoy is the food.

tomato paste and brown sugar to a boil in a Dutch oven. Add the meatballs and reduce the heat to medium-low. Cover and simmer for 20 to 30 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the meatballs are cooked through.

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Hours: Mon-Sat 8am-9pm
Sun 10am-7pm

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1/2-1/31

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<small>Save up to \$14</small> 14/\$14 <small>INDOOR TRIM PURE OPTIONS, BAMN, NURA</small>	<small>Save up to \$6</small> 10/\$19 <small>WOLVERINE EXTRACTS, REDEMPTION(1G) TRAP HOUSE, TOP SMOKE, PAUL BUNYAN, THE FACTORY TOTAL HEALTH COLLECTIVE</small>	<small>Save up to \$41</small> 10/\$39 <small>PRO GRO, HIGH GRADE, TERPLE GANG</small>	B2G1 <small>GOLDKINE, HIGGS</small>

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