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Star-Spangled Gaslight

A nation that lets children go hungry to feed billionaires has forfeited the right to call itself free

They taught me America was a lighthouse — whitewashed, beaming and forever fixed on virtue. We pledged allegiance like an incantation, hummed the Star-Spangled Banner until it blurred into background music, and believed the Founders were a choir of saints who stitched liberty into the fabric of the nation.

At forty, after decades of patriotic catechism, I swallowed the blue pill and woke up in a country where the light is actually a spotlight: It glares down on a stage for those who perform loyalty to power and throws the rest into shadow.

You don't need a history professor to tell you that the textbooks lied by omission. Slavery wasn't a "blip." It was a foundational industry of terror — beatings, rape, torture, and the legal codification of humans as property — and the legacy of that system is a hundred generational echoes of inequality. Reconstruction wasn't a tidy reset. It was a furious, unfinished argument that white supremacy decided to keep winning by other means: terror, disenfranchisement, and the slow, steady mythmaking of who was "deserving."

We were taught the myths because they're useful. They keep a certain class comfortable. They make other people invisible.

Today's freedom smells faintly of deregulation and tax breaks. We are told liberty is being able to bid on privatized prisons, or that democracy means voting on which billionaire gets another yacht. Masked men in plain clothes kidnap people who happen to be brown — and the legal gymnastics that shrink due process into a press release are performed with the solemnity of ritual. We bomb, detain, deport, and litigate with a kind of bureaucratic efficiency that would impress any corporation trying to optimize human suffering into a spreadsheet.

And now, as the government teeters in this needless shutdown, the same lawmakers who preach about "family values" are perfectly content to let actual families go hungry. SNAP benefits — the difference between a child eating dinner or not — are set to expire. But rather than fund the program, the GOP would rather starve the poor to keep up the fiction that Democrats caused the stalemate.

Their excuse? Migrants are supposedly draining the system through free healthcare. Except that's a lie. The only "benefits" undocumented people can receive are emergency medical visits, a fraction of a fraction of national healthcare spending.

The real reason Republicans won't budge is simple: They're saving their budget oxygen to finance more tax cuts for the rich. Starve a kid, feed a donor — that's the modern moral order.

It's not policy anymore; it's punishment. The cruelty is the point, and the justifications are as hollow as the men repeating them. Let's name them — because euphemism is the refuge of cowards.

Donald Trump has turned loyalty into a corporate rewards program for cronies: show fealty, get access; show dissent, get audited or indicted. Stephen Miller, the chief architect of cruelty, still wanders the halls of influence like a ghost who thinks he built the house. Pam Bondi parlayed state office into a national platform for vengeance, a courier of political mercy and selective memory.

Mike Johnson, sanctimonious and spineless, treats governance like a sermon and budgeting like a hostage negotiation. The GOP's version of leadership is equal parts hypocrisy and performance art — a morality play without morality. JD Vance, once a cautionary tale about poverty, now reads like a how-to manual on selling populism to the wealthy. And Peter Thiel, that silicon oracle of selfishness, funds futures where privilege is algorithmically preserved. They call it capitalism; I call it the aristocracy 2.0 — same greed, better Wi-Fi.

This is the Republican Renaissance: a glorious rebirth of oligarchy, rebranded as "freedom." Hearings are theater. Investigations are threats. "Accountability" is a word they use when someone else is supposed to be held responsible. The villains wear expensive suits and talk endlessly about "personal responsibility" — while building systems that guarantee they'll never face any.

Once a functioning political party, the GOP now resembles a scavenger's guild for the morally bankrupt: take what you can, blame somebody else, and if the Constitution gets in the way, find a friendly judge to neuter it.

And the grifters! They're everywhere. They host primetime shows, run PACs, churn out podcasts, and pretend outrage is patriotism. They perform fury for a paycheck, weaponize grievance, and cash out while the rest of us pick through the rubble. It's the oldest hustle in the book: convince working Americans that their enemies are the poor, the immigrant, the protester, or the teacher — anyone except the billionaires writing the checks.

If you ask me, "Is this freedom?" it's a rhetorical question with a lead-pencil answer: no. This isn't freedom — it's feudalism with better branding. The average American is squeezed dry: healthcare rationed, wages stagnant, schools underfunded, infrastructure crumbling. The myth that prosperity trickles down is a bedtime story for the desperate; in truth, wealth gushes upward, pumped like oil into offshore accounts and campaign coffers.

There is honor in selflessness. There is nobility in the small acts that make life worth living: helping a neighbor, teaching a child, resisting the ease of cynicism. But honor has been privatized too. It now comes with a retainer and a nondisclosure agreement. Those who could push back either grift, capitulate, or pretend the rot is just a "phase." History will not be kind to collaborators.

I want to see the future, too. But absent prophecy, I'll settle for the hope that memory is long and justice eventually stops being elective. A hundred years from now, I hope the ledger is open: the grifters remembered as grifters, the sycophants cataloged, and the architects of cruelty relegated to footnotes with judgment rather than applause. If any of them escape conviction, let history convict them in the only court that matters: truth.

Until then, I'll keep reciting the Pledge if I must — but I'll do it with my eyes open. I'll sing the anthem if it helps me remember what ideals were promised, even if they were always promises paid for by other people's labor. Patriotism isn't about bowing to whoever holds power; it's about calling power out when it forgets the country it supposedly serves.

Call me unpatriotic if you like. I prefer accountable.

Let's drop the pretense. This isn't governance, it's sanctioned neglect. The same cowards who call themselves "pro-life" are perfectly content to watch children starve if it means scoring political points with the puppet master Russell Vought. They don't serve the people — they feed on them. Every lapsed SNAP benefit, every empty refrigerator, every hungry kid is a deliberate act of cruelty, and it will hurt people in their own base. This isn't incompetence — it's malice in a suit and tie. And when they tell you it's the other side's fault, remember: Their hunger for power has always outweighed your child's hunger for food.

Open the government. Swear in Adelita Grijalva. Release the Epstein files.

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POLITICS



AxMiTax signatures may not cut it

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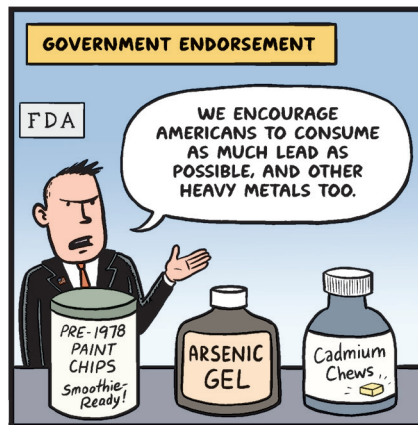
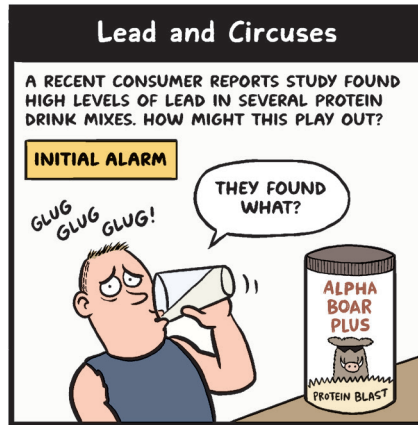
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Good Truckin' Diner expands to The Other Side

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Cover illustration by Dennis Preston



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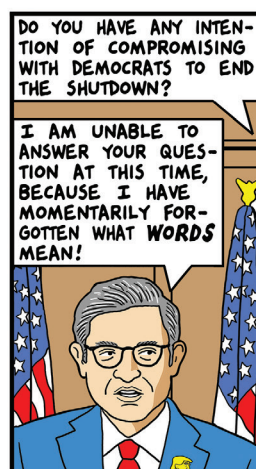
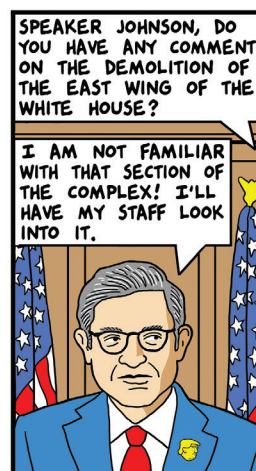
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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Proposed downtown data center focused on sustainability

Expert: If we are committed to data centers, heat donation is a better way

The heat flowing through 10 miles of pipe underneath downtown Lansing is generated by natural gas.

But come 2027, Lansing Board of Water and Light customers downtown may be getting their heat from a novel source: Racks of computers lining a new data center in the city's stadium district.

U.K.-based data center builders Deep Green are partnering with Lansing's BWL and proposing a 24-megawatt data center at the intersection of Kalamazoo and South Cedar streets, which could begin construction in March 2026 if approved, differs from most other data centers not just because of its smaller size and being deep inside a city, but because the heat it generates would go to the BWL.

That's a win-win for Lansing, said Deep Green founder and CEO Mark Lee and BWL General Manager Dick Peffley, at a news conference Monday.

"A lot of data centers spend an incredible amount of money cooling their process," Peffley said. "Well, we need heat — that's what keeps our downtown heating customers happy — and they want to get rid of it, so this is the perfect marriage."

Environmental and energy concerns around data centers have been growing along with the buildings themselves as the AI technologies continue to evolve. Consulting firm McKinsey & Company predicted in April that data centers equipped to handle AI processing would require over \$5 trillion in investment by 2030. The U.S. Energy Information Administration said in June that data centers would push U.S. energy consumption to record highs.

But despite having by far the most data centers in the world, the U.S. has lagged behind the U.K. and Europe in finding uses for the excess heat that all those AI queries are generating. In Sweden, for instance, Microsoft is building a data center region expected to heat an entire large city. In the US, a Biden-era executive order to expand research into data center heat reuse



A projection of Deep Green's planned data center at Kalamazoo and S. Cedar streets, which was designed by local architecture firm C2AE. Heat generated by the data center will be donated to the Lansing Board of Water and Light.

was overturned this year by President Trump.

It should come as no surprise, then, that a U.K.-based company is leading the charge to bring sustainable data centers to Michigan. And it's the BWL that made the city a perfect fit.

"We approached a number of sites across the U.S., and in BWL we found a partner that was both willing to be innovative in the way it thinks about power provision, which is extremely important to us, but was also willing to be innovative about putting a data center into its existing key network," Lee said.

The project could save the BWL around \$1.1 million because the center would donate its excess heat generated by the center and Peffley said it would additionally offset about a quarter of the fuel the BWL burns for its heating customers and could minimize future rate increases by reducing expenses.

He also said Deep Green will pay for all infrastructure upgrades necessary to implement the heat-reuse program, keeping customers off the hook for those costs.

The Lansing project will be the Deep Green's sixth and largest yet, according to its website, but it still pales in comparison to the massive data

operations making headlines elsewhere. The footprint will be less than an acre, compared to the 250-acre project causing controversy in Saline Township, and will use 24 megawatts compared to the Saline project's 1,400 megawatts.

Peffley said that energy usage would have been "considerably higher" if Deep Green had to dispose of the heat itself, making the relationship symbiotic.

Emma Bostwick, vice president of business attraction for the Lansing Economic Area Partnership, said the project was a major win for Lansing on an international scale.

"We are competing internationally, and we've won this project as the first flagship for America," she said.

Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Tim Daman said he was excited to see "high-tech economic activity" along what is currently a parking lot.

The project will be more efficient than traditional data centers, according to Lee, citing a projected power usage effectiveness (PUE) between 1.03-1.17. A low PUE, a ratio of power used by a data center to energy delivered to computing equipment, signals high efficiency. Data centers average around 1.8, according to the National

Renewable Energy Laboratory.

Lee said there would be an estimated 35 or more construction jobs and the new architecture of the building was designed by local firm C2AE.

Doug Bessette is an associate professor in Michigan State University's department of community sustainability. He studies community support and opposition to large-scale renewable energy projects, and said concerns around data centers have been "a natural extension" of that work.

His feelings on the project are mixed.

"If you're going to assume that we need to continue to build data centers because we want to pursue AI and cloud computing and cloud storage, this is the way I would recommend we do it," he said.

He described Deep Green's perspective toward AI and cloud computing as "fatalistic," saying the company seems to believe the continued demand for data centers is inevitable. If that's the case, then recapturing and reusing the heat is the best path forward, Bessette said, but he doesn't share that view.

Bessette said he is nervous about both the potential risks of AI technologies themselves and their climate and energy impacts, so he doesn't want to wholeheartedly support advancements in data center technology in any form.

"But if you think this is the way we're going, then I would rather the data centers be built the way Deep Green has proposed this one," he said.

He said he likes the project's smaller scale and integration into an urban area, where it will generate tax revenue and keep the costs and benefits in the eyes of people actually using the center.

But he also said the sustainability focus is somewhat misleading.

"A data center will never be sustainable," he said. "It will always require more energy to run than it could ever produce. So they're arguing that it's sustainable because it's almost carbon-neutral and they're producing

See Data center, Page 6

South side redevelopment is a Lansing success story

When large-scale developments are announced in Lansing, it's common to see a laundry list of development tools used to get the projects off the ground. Grants, tax abatements and other incentives for revitalization projects, like brownfield redevelopment plans, are familiar tools in the hands of larger developers.

But emerging developers often lack the experience to know how to apply for such programs, if they even know about them.

That's what made last week's announcement by residents Melissa White and James Denning so impressive: They have received more than \$1.3 million in financial assistance to redevelop a blighted South Lansing strip mall. The project includes a \$1 million award from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's Revitalization and Placemaking 2.0 program, Brownfield tax increment financing totaling over \$380,000, and \$30,000 from the city of Lansing's

facade improvement program.

Their development could show off the city's efforts to support emerging developers. The tools White and Denning used have technically been available to small developers since their inception, Mayor Andy Schor said, but haven't always been accessible to people.

"The tools are out there for everyone, but not everybody understands them," he said. "Not everybody can hire a consultant and pay a lot of money for someone to figure out how to utilize the tools best."

He said supporting emerging developers was a common thread when the city held public meetings to decide where to direct COVID relief funds.

"One of the things we heard was, 'Let's teach emerging developers how to utilize the tools in the toolbox in order to get the work done,'" he said. "Let's teach them what a capital stack is and how to do a brownfield, let's teach them all the different terms and how to get financing' So, that's what we've been doing."

The Lansing Economic Development Corporation has been instrumental in that process, said Schor, White and 3rd Ward Councilmember Adam Hussain.

White and Denning were inaugural graduates from the LEDC's Supporting Empowered Emerging Developers

(SEED) Academy, a free class on real estate development. They were connected by Brian McGrain, then the city's planning and economic development director, to the LEDC, where they learned the property would likely be eligible for the brownfield or Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act programs. Karl Dorshimer, then the LEDC's director, educated them on the differences and even stood up for them when the funding was in danger, White said.

"Karl did a lot of advocating for us," she said.

That assistance will help transform 820 W. Miller, formerly a City Pulse eyesore of the week, into a functional strip mall with an improved facade, space for multiple local businesses and an event space.

White said she couldn't have done it without the help.

"We were not aware of any of the programs at all when we purchased the building," she said. "I don't think we would have been able to get where we are currently."

Hussain, whose ward includes the development, said it was exciting to see brownfield, OPRA and other tax incentives being used to attract new investment in historic urban cores where

pre-existing properties were blighted, which he said was their original purpose.

"What we've seen is the kind of savvy, well-established developers who tend to invest in downtown or historic core areas, that know how to leverage these tools, typically approaching local EDCs," he said.

"What we haven't done as good of a job at is working to support some of our emerging developers, small business owners and smaller entrepreneurs that are more likely to invest in those corridors and districts outside of downtown. I don't think we've done a good job at engaging them, and frankly a lot of them just don't know these things exist."

White said she had been skeptical of the city and of Schor after seeing major developments downtown without investment in other areas, but isn't anymore.

"I always wondered, 'Why is everything going downtown? Why is everything being taken from the south side?'" she said. "Why are we not pouring money into the hood, into these underserved communities that could thrive?"

But when he found out, he didn't shut the door on me at all."

White and Denning expect the property to be online in early 2027.

— LEO V. KAPLAN

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Data center

from page 5

heat the BWL needs anyway — well, yeah, but you also have to power the data center."

Peffley said the BWL has the surplus energy to power the center.

Asked why he thought a project more familiar to Europeans will work in the U.S., Lee said, "It's the right thing to do."

"It seems entirely logical for us to be reusing the heat that we produce from

our servers and our computer capacity to actually decarbonize the heat networks that we operate within," he said. "So it is the right thing to do, and that is absolutely the starting premise that we work from."

— LEO V. KAPLAN



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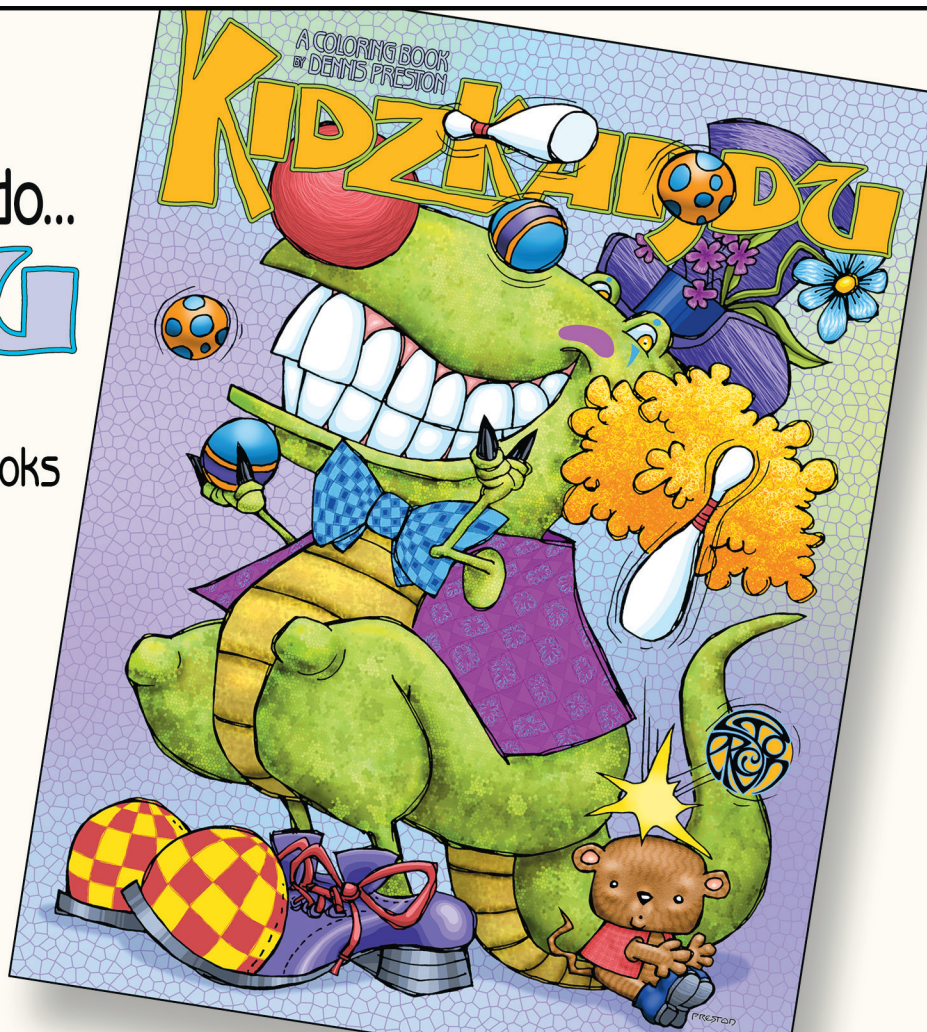
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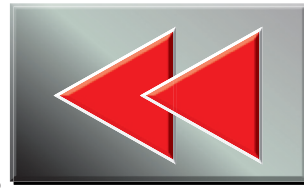
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REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

COMPILED BY STEVE UNDERWOOD FROM LOCAL NEWS SOURCES



Lonnie Smith of Okemos, 21, and Mason Woods of East Lansing, 22 -- pepper-sprayed and arrested Aug. 24 by East Lansing Police -- plan to file a federal lawsuit Thursday accusing law enforcement of "false arrest, excessive force, abuse of au-

thority, and violations of constitutional rights." Jack Rucker of Nova Law in Lansing said the suit will allege seven counts against the City of East Lansing, Police Chief Jen Brown and two officers. The incident, in which the ELPD accused Smith and Woods of disorderly conduct fighting, took place Aug. 24 in front of Dave's Hot Chicken in East Lansing.

The MSU Board of Trustees voted Friday to remove the word "diversity" from the title of Jabbar Bennett, a vice president who previously served as vice president and chief diversity officer for the university. He is now considered to be vice president and chief inclusion officer. The board passed the change 6-1, with Trustee Rema Vassar, D-Detroit, voting no, and Trustee Dennis Denno, D-East Lansing, abstaining. "I'm just really tired of running away from the word diversity," Denno told the Lansing State Journal. President Donald Trump's administration has eliminated funding for research projects at MSU that could have been seen as promoting diversity, equity and inclusion.



The Board also approved a 1.5% pay raise for President Kevin Guskiewicz, even though the university has suffered months of funding cuts and the loss of 99 positions. Guskiewicz is now making a base salary of \$1,029,210. MSU spokesperson Amber McCann said the increase was in line with scheduled pay increases for the university's executive management. The Board honored 12 MSU graduates with the Board of Trustees Award for achieving a perfect 4.0 GPA.

The group included Kera D. Thompson of Holt, who earned a bachelor's in environmental studies and sustainability from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and Abigail J. Atkinson of Laingsburg, who earned a bachelor's in kinesiology from the College of Education.

A fire at a home on the 1500 block of North High Street in Lansing killed a 62-year-old woman and injured another on Monday. Lansing Fire Marshal Jared Nisch said careless smoking caused the blaze. Fire officials found the deceased woman in a first-floor bedroom where the fire is believed to have started. Another resident was taken to UM Health-Sparrow and treated for smoke inhalation. Officials did not release the names of the victims, and the event remains under investigation.



Ingham County Circuit Judge Wanda Stokes sentenced Lansing teenager Marcell Keshawn Marshall to 20 to 41 years in prison last Wednesday for the near-fatal shooting of two 16-year-old boys in September 2024 near Riddle Elemen-



tary School in Lansing. Marshall, 18 now and 17 at the time of the shooting, was convicted of two counts of assault with intent to murder and the mandatory two years for felony firearm possession. The victims were Sexton High School students walking to a bus stop on West Allegan Street. Lansing police said the shooting happened after someone made an accusation of theft.

Workers delivered a 68-foot spruce to the Capitol on Saturday that will serve as Michigan's 2025 state Christmas tree. The Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget said the state's 39th official Christmas tree was donated by Sault Ste. Marie resident Linda Ried in honor of her grandparents, Lawrence and Nettie Richey. The tree was transported by the DTMB's Christmas tree crew, the Michigan Association of Timbermen and the Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association. The tree-lighting ceremony will take place on Friday, Nov. 21, during the 41st annual Silver Bells in the City celebration.



Lansing Mayor Andy Schor announced Tuesday that the city would donate \$10,000 to the Greater Lansing Food Bank, helping provide food assistance to families affected by ongoing federal funding delays. The charity estimated the donation

would help 200 families. "So many Lansing families rely on supplemental food assistance through the SNAP program," Schor said, in a statement. "Until the federal government releases all emergency funding as ordered, or the government shutdown ends, my administration will work with connecting Lansing residents to available resources."

The Michigan Attorney General's office and the FaithFirst Foundation reached a settlement that will allow the charity to continue operating after it was sued by the AG's office following the embezzlement of more than \$500,000 by retired priest David Rosenberg while acting as a FaithFirst agent. A Clinton County jury had convicted Rosenberg on eight felony counts, including three for embezzlement from a vulnerable adult, in a case the AG's office prosecuted. The AG tried to shut down the charity after suing it in Ingham County Circuit Court, saying the money Rosenberg stole went to FaithFirst. Rosenberg was the director of the Diocese of Lansing's St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt, a 95-acre property that includes apartments for retired priests, between 2015 and 2021.



SORE OF THE WEEK



906 Prospect St., Lansing

A red-tagged property at 906 Prospect St. has extensive damage, including parts of the roof that are caved in.

The home's three-car detached garage roof is in even worse shape, with most of it gone, unlike just a room or two in the house itself.

The property is one of four scheduled to go before a Lansing city make-safe-or-demolish hearing on Nov. 10.

The Prospect Street home was red-tagged on Aug. 2, said Scott Bean, a spokesperson for the mayor's office.

It was cited for severe roof damage, with significant siding damage in some areas.

City Council members agreed during an Oct. 27 meeting to send the Prospect home and three others forward to the make-safe-or-demolish hearings, which would either force homeowners to make improvements or allow for the home to be leveled.

The other homes are 5210 S. Washington, 6255 Marywood Ave., and 509 Baker St.

The South Washington home was added to the red-tag list in June 2024 and cited for structural unsoundness.

The Marywood Avenue home was added to the red tag list in July 2022 and was further damaged in a severe February 2025 fire.

The Baker Street home was added to the red tag list in June 2023 for fire damage.

— MIKE ELLIS



"Eyesore of the Week" is our biweekly 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.

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You are invited to an extraordinary evening with author Todd Goddard

TODD GODDARD
DEVOURING TIME
Jim Harrison, a Writer's Life

Mr. Goddard will be interviewed by Leslie McRoberts, Director of the MSU Special Collections

Thursday, November 13, 2025 - 7pm

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER LANSING

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
FOR TIERED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Date of Publication: November 5, 2025
City of Lansing
316 N Capitol Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 483-4040

On or after November 25, 2025, the City of Lansing, MI will submit a request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-383) as amended and HOME Investment Partnerships Programs under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C 12701), to undertake the following projects:

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: Community Development Block Grant

Purpose: The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides funding for community revitalization purposes and activities must meet at least one of the three National Objectives: Benefit to persons of low and moderate income, elimination of slum and blight, urgent community need.

Location: The City of Lansing.

The activity/activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i) and 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(1). An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at : City of Lansing – Department of Economic Development and Planning 316 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI 48933, www.lansingmi.gov/development and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 A.M to 4:30 P.M. or at <https://cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmental-reviews>

Project/Program Description:

Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation

Loans and grants for rehabilitation and Emergency repair of owner-occupied housing units through city sponsored programs, and rehabilitation in conjunction with affordable housing efforts sponsored by nonprofit housing corporations, public and private developers, and other state and federal agencies, as well as lead hazard reduction, emergency housing rehabilitation, technical assistance to nonprofit housing corporations, ADA ramps and hazard remediation.

Proposed funding amount: \$1,079,501

Rental Unit Rehabilitation

Includes loans and grants for rehabilitation of rental housing units through city sponsored programs. Includes funds to meet healthy housing standards and/or lead hazard reduction regulations in rehabilitated structures.

Proposed funding amount: \$515,343

Blight Removal

Includes acquisition, maintenance and security of properties acquired through programs, and activities related to acquisition, disposition, relocation, and clearance of dilapidated and blighted structures. Funds may also be used to acquire and clear properties in the flood plain. Includes staff time associated with this activity.

Proposed funding amount: \$100,000.00

Level of Environmental Review Citation:

- Homeowner Housing Rehabilitation** - 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i)
- Rental Unit Rehabilitation** - 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i)
- Blight Removal** - 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(1)

Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known.

Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site-specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:

Floodplain Management
Historic Preservation

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any):

Floodplain Management - There are no proposed projects in the flood plain. However, floodplain information will be evaluated on a site-specific basis. All activities will be mapped on FEMA-FIRMs and each site will be compared to determine if property is in the floodplain. If so, an 8-step process will be completed to evaluate practicable mitigation measures.

Historic Preservation - The City refers properties that are greater than 50 years old to State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for their review in determining its historical significance and follows SHPOs recommendation. Each site-specific project will be evaluated to determine its historical significance.

Estimated Project Cost: The estimated cost of projects is \$1,694,844 as indicated above.

**. NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND NOTICE OF INTENT
TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
PROJECTS**

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: HOME Investment Partnerships.

Purpose: The HOME program provides funding for down payment assistance, new construction, and housing rehabilitation.

Location: The City of Lansing.

The activity/activities proposed are environmental assessments under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(4)(i)/24 CFR 58.36. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at: City of Lansing – Department of Economic Development and Planning 316 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI 48933, www.lansingmi.gov/development and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 A.M to 4:30 P.M. or at <https://cpd.hud.gov/cpd-public/environmental-reviews>.

Project/Program Description: .

Homeowner Housing Construction and Homebuyer Repairs

Includes funds for loans and grants for housing construction and rehabilitation with non-profit and for-profit developers, including CHDOs. HOME funds allocated for housing developed in partnership with the city, including Supportive Housing Program (SHP) and Acquisition, Development and Resale (ADR) activities. Projects may include new construction and rehabilitation activities with non-profit and for-profit developers, including CHDOs. Funds may be used for staff time associated with these activities.

Proposed funding amount: \$539,454.44

CHDO Set-aside (15% minimum required)

Reserved for housing developed, sponsored or owned by CHDOs in partnership with the city.

Proposed funding amount: \$ 98,090.48

Tier 2 site specific reviews will be completed for those laws and authorities not addressed in the tier 1 broad review for each address under this program when addresses become known.

Level of Environmental Review Citation:

Death has come for the AxMiTax ballot initiative

The AxMiTax ballot initiative to put a property tax elimination proposal before voters in 2026 is taking on water.

Circulators have run through the 180-day window during which they needed to collect the 446,198 valid signatures to get the initiative on the ballot.

Karla Wagner's group has already extended their deadline to collect signatures three times, which means they'll need to collect between 40,000 and 60,000 signatures a week to replace the ones that are older than 180 days while adding to that total.

It's got no chance.

The idea sounded good on its face.

I mean, who loves paying their property taxes? If you're buying a new home, the big bump you see in property taxes can be jarring.

But like many things in today's political environment, something that sounds so overly simple tends to be too complex to be practical.

Property taxes generate between \$17 billion and \$19 billion in revenue for Michigan's local governments. That's local police, fire, parks, public health services, etc. They also account for about 15% of each local school district's budget.

AxMiTax had a plan to make up the money. Eliminate the waste, fraud and abuse in the system. Make some cuts. The people in charge will figure out the rest.

Uh, yeah.

Here's the rest: According to the Tax Foundation, replacing lost property tax with only a higher income tax would mean jacking up Michigan's flat 4.25 percent rate to 11.93 percent.

In some counties, where jobs are scarce but vacation property is not, residents would see a 73 percent net tax reduction. But in Ionia County, where many commuters live, residents would see a 34 percent tax increase. Oakland County residents would see a 25 percent net tax increase.

A higher sales tax, you ask?

The Tax Foundation didn't even attempt the calculation, concluding that there's "no feasible sales tax rate by which an agricultural county or a bedroom community could replace its property tax revenue."

Wagner could have attempted to



cook up a feasible property tax cut plan. But the West Michigan real estate agent decided to run for governor, too.

Responding to the chorus of people excited about her vigor to fly to the sun with wax wings, Wagner decided to collect signatures for a gubernatorial bid at the same time as AxMiTax.

It should be a surprise to nobody that the wax melted, and she's now hurtling back to earth.

The pissed-off people struggling with their property taxes aren't enough to pull something this monumental off.

It's enough to spring Republican office-seekers into action, though.

Longshot GOP gubernatorial candidates are talking about eliminating property taxes as their top priority.

The more realistic gubernatorial candidates are being more nuanced or vague about what can realistically be done about property taxes.

One idea is to put all new millage proposals or renewals on the November general election ballot, rather than "sneaking" potentially hefty tax increases onto off-year August or May ballots.

Mike Cox said he's open to other proposals to give homeowners over age 70, small farmers, and other homeowners a property tax break on their primary residence.

Tom Leonard wants to prevent the property tax "cap" from being reset when a home is sold and would cap any increase at 5 percent.

House Speaker Matt Hall said he's not supportive of getting rid of all property taxes, but he's putting reform on his agenda.

Does any of this catch fire? With a Republican trifecta in 2027, I suppose it's possible.

But even conservative Republicans realize that cutting taxes is squeezing a balloon. You press hard on one side, and the other side expands.

Remember the last time Michigan cut its property taxes? Our sales tax went from 4 to 6 percent after much consternation and a statewide ballot question.

That's not going to stop Republicans from campaigning on cutting more taxes.

They know. A deep tax rate cut is completely impractical. Ginning up voters on the issue is quite the opposite.

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

CP#25-355, From page 10

Homeowner Housing Construction and Homebuyer Repairs - 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(4)(i)/24 CFR 58.36

CHDO Set-aside (15% minimum required) - 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(4)(i)/ 24 CFR 58.36

Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site-specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:

Historic Preservation

Noise Abatement and Control

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any):

Historic Preservation – Each proposed project will require a Section 106 National Historic Preservation Review

Noise Abatement and Control – Each site-specific new construction activity will be reviewed for noise.

Please note that there is no proposed new construction in the floodplain. However, if a proposed new construction is located in the floodplain, the 8-step process for floodplain properties will be completed to evaluate practical mitigation measures.

Estimated Project Cost: The estimated cost of projects is \$637,544.92 as indicated above.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Lansing Department of Economic Development and Planning, 316 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI 48933, www.lansingmi.gov/development or e-mail to doris.witherspoon@lansingmi.gov. Attn: Doris Witherspoon, Senior Planner. All comments received by November 24, 2025, will be considered by the City of Lansing prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City of Lansing certifies to HUD that Andy Schor, Certifying Officer, in his capacity as Mayor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Lansing to use HUD program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD will consider objections to its release of fund and the RE's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Lansing; (b) the City of Lansing has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development –Detroit Field Office, Keith E. Hernandez, Director, Community Planning and Development at 477 Michigan Ave., Suite 1600, Detroit, MI 48226 or DetroitCPD@hud.gov. Potential objectors should contact HUD to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Andy Schor, Mayor, City of Lansing, MI, Certifying Officer

CP#25-355

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE INGHAM COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

In re: Petition of Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority for Expedited Quiet Title and Foreclosure of Certain Parcels of Real Property

Case No. 25- 5771- CH

Hon. Rosemarie E. Aquilina

Timothy M. Perrone (P37940)
COHL, STOKER & TOSKEY, P.C.
Attorneys for Petitioner
601 N. Capitol Ave.
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 372-9000

NOTICE OF HEARING

To: Chad J. Devries, Estate of Michael J. Mandeville, Wesley Patrick Mandeville, Kevin Patrick Mandeville, Denice M. Ballard, Estate of Tamara D. Hicks-Syron, Todd Hicks, and all persons having an interest in the subject properties listed in Exhibit A

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing on the Petition of Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority for Expedited Quiet Title and Foreclosure of Certain Parcels of Real Property shall be held before the Honorable Rosemarie E. Aquilina, Ingham County Circuit Judge, at the Veterans Memorial Courthouse, 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933, on **Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 2:30 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard.

This Notice pertains to the real property located in the City of Lansing, County of Ingham, State of Michigan, as set forth in Exhibit A.

Notice of Pending Expedited Quiet Title and Foreclosure Action (Form 4329) for each of the subject properties was recorded with the Ingham County Register of Deeds on October 22, 2025

Judgment of the Court after this hearing may result in title to the property vesting in the Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority, 3024 N. Turner St., Lansing, MI 48906 – Telephone (517) 267-5221.

Any persons with information regarding the owner or prior owner of the subject properties are requested to contact the Land Bank.

Any rights of redemption and any ownership interest in the subject properties may be extinguished by the judgment of the Court.

Any person with a property interest in the subject properties may lose his or her interest, if any, as a result of the quiet title and foreclosure hearing.

THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THE INGHAM COUNTY LAND BANK FAST TRACK AUTHORITY AND IS SUBJECT TO AN EXPEDITED QUIET TITLE AND FORECLOSURE ACTION. PERSONS WITH INFORMATION REGARDING THE PRIOR OWNER OF THE PROPERTY ARE REQUESTED TO CONTACT THE LAND BANK FAST TRACK AUTHORITY AT 3024 N. TURNER ST., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48906, TELEPHONE (517) 267-5221.

Respectfully submitted,
COHL, STOKER & TOSKEY, P.C.

Date: October 23, 2025

/s/ Timothy M. Perrone

Timothy M. Perrone (P37940)
Attorney for Petitioner
601 N. Capitol Ave.
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 372-9000

EXHIBIT A

Individual parcels of property located in the City of Lansing, County of Ingham, State of Michigan, legally described as:

1. North 30.55 feet, Lot 130, Torrance Farm Addition, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, Ingham County Records.
Parcel ID #33-01-01-21-484-095
Commonly known as.1814 Bailey St., Lansing, MI 48910

2. Lot 5, Block 6, Manufacturer’s Addition No. 2, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, Liber 5 of Plats, Page 45, Ingham County Records.
Parcel ID #33-01-01-22-129-131
Commonly known as 1239 Climax St., Lansing, MI 48912

3. East 97.5 feet, Lot 21, Block 9, Manufacturer’s Addition No. 2, Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof, Ingham County Records.
Parcel ID #33-01-01-22-131-211
Commonly known as 1006 Parker St., Lansing, MI 48912

CP#25-359

CITY OF LANSING
SUMMARY OF
ADOPTED ORDINANCE #1343

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan to amend the Lansing Codified Ordinances, Chapter 206, Purchasing Contracts and Sales, specifically Sections 206.01, 206.02, 206.03, 206.05, 206.6, 206.07, and 206.16, to increase the dollar amount threshold for competitive bidding and related purchasing requirements, to reflect inflation since 1994, and to provide for annual modification of the threshold in accordance with the Consumer Price Index.

Effective date:

Upon publication

Notice:

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

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

CP#25-356

CITY OF GRAND LEDGE
ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE

At its regular meeting on Monday, 27 October 2025, the City Council adopted Ordinance #616, amending the Zoning District Map referred to in City Code Chapter 46 – Zoning, Article IV – Zoning Districts and Map, Section 46-94 – Zoning District Map, to rezone the northwest 78 feet by 212 feet of Parcel #400-013-100-020-03 from R-HD, Multiple Family Residential District to B-1 Highway Service District. The full text of the ordinance is available on the City’s website at www.cityofgrandledge.com and at the City Clerk’s office, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, Michigan, between 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.
Gregory Newman, City Clerk

CP#25-354

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING
NOTICE OF POSTED MEETING MINUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all meeting minutes for the Charter Township of Lansing are posted to and available on the Township’s website at www.lansingtwpmi.gov. Meeting minutes may also be obtained by emailing clerk@lansingtwpmi.gov.

Meeting minutes are also posted in, and available for inspection at, the office of the Township Clerk (located at 3209 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan) during normal business hours.

Cortney Lightheart, Clerk
Maggie Sanders, Supervisor

CP#25-289

CITY OF GRAND LEDGE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Grand Ledge Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing during its regular meeting at 7:00 p.m., on Thursday, 20 November 2025, to consider and receive public input on a request for a variance to permit the construction of 7, 5-unit, 185 foot long multiple family residential buildings at 5776 E. Saginaw Highway and the adjoining vacant parcel (parcel #: 030-13-200-040-00 & 030-13-200-062-015). Zoning Ordinance, Article XVI restricts the length of multiple family residential buildings to 180 feet. All information related to the proposed variance is available for review on the City’s website at www.cityofgrandledge.com and at the City Clerk’s office, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge, Michigan, between 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge MI 48837, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, as amended, and will also be livestreamed via Zoom for informational purposes only. The online stream can be accessed at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82780211366, phone one-tap: +16468769923,,82780211366# (New York), +16469313860,,82780211366, via audio at +1 646 876 9923 (New York), +1 646 931 3860, +1 301 715 8592 (Washington DC), +1 305 224 1968, +1 309 205 3325, +1 312 626 6799 (Chicago), +1 689 278 1000, +1 719 359 4580, +1 253 205 0468, +1 253 215 8782 (Tacoma), +1 346 248 7799 (Houston), +1 360 209 5623, +1 386 347 5053, +1 408 638 0968 (San Jose), +1 507 473 4847, +1 564 217 2000, +1 669 444 9171, +1 669 900 6833 (San Jose) Webinar ID: 827 8021 1366, international numbers available: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82780211366

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

Gregory Newman, City Clerk

CP#25-358



Like aging rock stars, the 2025 City Pulse + WKAR TOTT is back for a final round

If you're a fan of aging, 75yo+ classic rock stars like Stevie Nicks and Robert Plant - depicted on two wonderful cover illustrations by Dennis Preston - then you know this: Just when you think they've made their last album or performed their last concert, they resurface for one more tour, one more show or one more recording.

Similarly, if you thought the 18th Annual City Pulse + WKAR Top of the Town Contest had finished last month, guess again!

We're back with the Top Five round, revealing who were chosen by you as Greater Lansing's best bars - and restaurants, hangouts, services, shops, salons and dispensaries, rock bands and other local artists and so much more - and giving you the golden opportunity to vote for the winner!

As Nicks (and Lindsey Buckingham) sing on the cover: "You can vote your own wayyy!"

Let's recap the first round, held last

month: Nearly 1,200 of you created more than 2,300 nominations and cast almost 26,000 votes. In these pages you will see who emerged as the top five in each of 250 categories spread across 8 groups: Bars, Cannabis, Dining, Hangouts, Local Arts, Services, Shopping and Whatever (which includes some fun, off-beat choices).

Now it's time to vote again; you can do it at lansingcitypulse.com.

Just go to our home page and click on the red banner near the top that reads, "Top 5 - Click Here to Vote Now!"

You can stop and return to complete your ballot at any time, as long as it's by 11:59 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18.

This contest, celebrating the rock stars and of course our Greater Lansing "classic" and newcomer favorites, reaches its grand finale with the announcement of the winners in our Dec. 3 issue!

Who will be YOUR rock stars in Greater Lansing?

Who will capture the title of Best

Breakfast, Best Sushi or Best Dive Bar? Or Best Barber Shop, Best Local Concert Series and Best New Business? How about Best Dentist Office, Best Auto Repair Shop and ... Worst Pot-hole?

And of course, you get to vote on Best Rock Star 75+, too, which features Nicks, Bob Dylan, Mick Jagger, Paul McCartney and others who made the cut.

It's all up to you, Greater Lansing! Time to vote your own way!

A few more instructions: When you go to vote on the site, you will be asked to reply to a confirmation email about whether you're returning to vote or doing so for the first time. That's to keep out bots and spammers and keep the contest legit.

To begin voting, select any category and follow the prompts. All votes are submitted automatically; there's no second submission screen. You can always log out of your session and resume vot-

ing later.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Underwood at (517) 999-6704 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays) or steve@lansingcitypulse.com. You can also send us your list of votes via snail mail to Steve Underwood at City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing 48912.

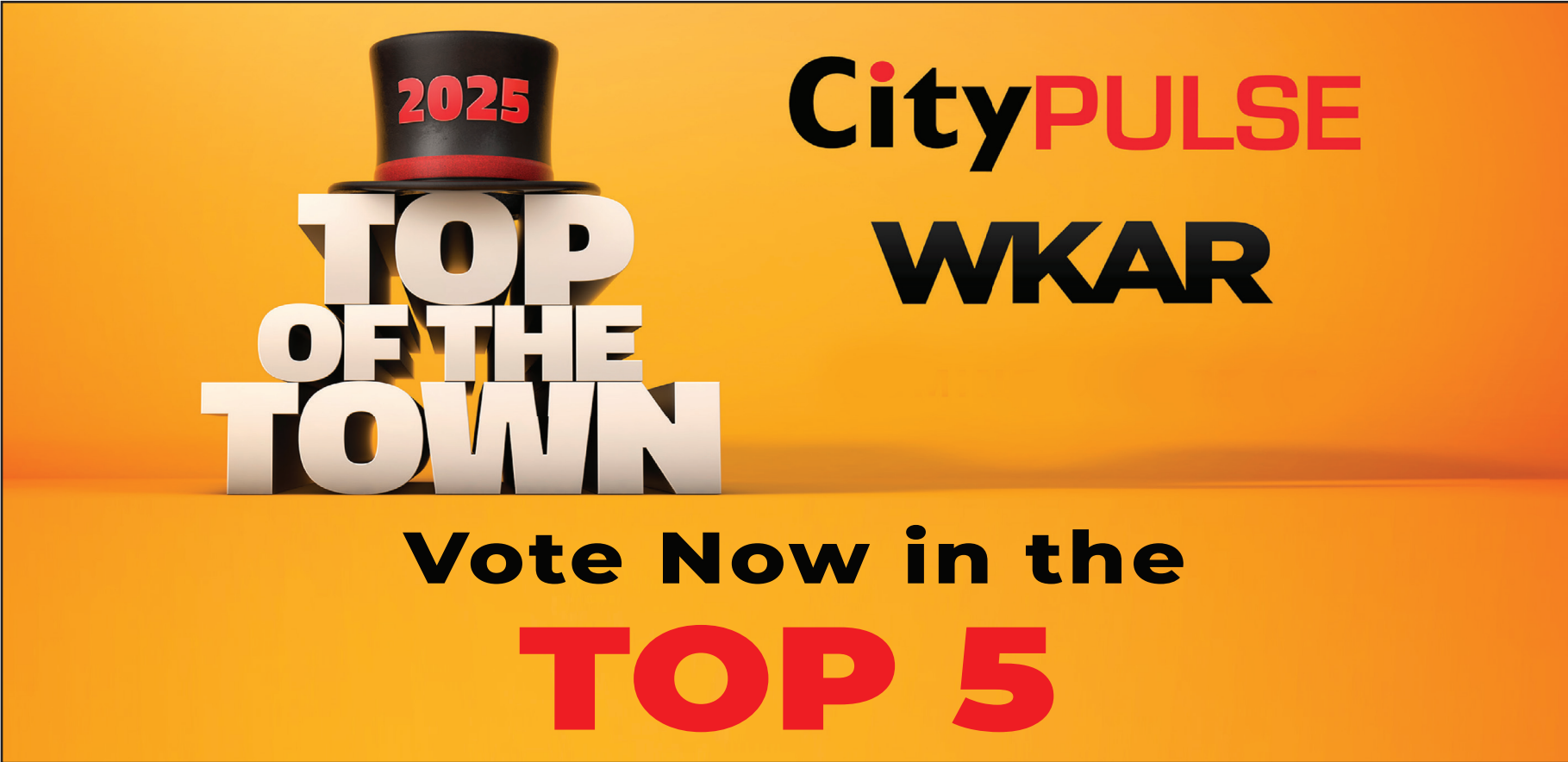
Everyone who votes in EVERY category in each round will be entered into a drawing for prizes from some of our winners.

Also, when you go to vote, be sure to sign up for our newsletters and join more than 17,000 subscribers who receive our news and events updates regularly.

Top of the Town is THE platform in Greater Lansing to vote for the best of the best!

Thanks so much to our partners at RevFluent and Friends2Follow, and to Dennis Preston for his outstanding artwork on the cover and within this story!

— STEVE UNDERWOOD



CityPULSE



WKAR



BAR

Best Bar Food

- Art's Pub
- Crunchy's
- Dagwood's Tavern & Grill
- Meat BBQ
- Tippy Nickel Bar & Grille

Best Cocktails

- American Fifth Spirits
- EnVie
- One North Kitchen & Bar – West Saginaw
- Stober's Bar
- The Avenue Cafe
- Tippy Nickel Bar & Grille

Best Dance Bar

- Lansing Shuffle
- Nuthouse Sports Grill
- The Avenue Cafe
- The Wooden Nickel II
- UrbanBeat

Best Dive Bar

- B & I Bar
- Dagwood's Tavern & Grill
- Harry's Place
- Stober's Bar
- The Avenue Cafe

Best Happy Hour

- Cask & Co. Kitchen & Bar
- Sidecar Slider Bar
- Stober's Bar
- The Avenue Cafe
- Zoobie's Old Town Tavern

Best Jam Night

- Moriarty's Pub
- Stober's Bar
- The Avenue Cafe
- UrbanBeat

Best Karaoke

- Crunchy's
- Darb's Crystal Bar
- Sir Pizza – Old Town
- The Avenue Cafe
- The Wooden Nickel II

Best Lansing-Area Brewery

- BAD Brewing Co.
- EagleMonk Pub and Brewery
- Lansing Brewing Co.
- Ozone's Brewhouse
- Sleepwalker Spirits and Ale

Best Lansing-Area Distillery

- American Fifth Spirits
- Ellison Brewery and Spirits
- MichiGrain Distillery
- Red Cedar Spirits
- Sanctuary Spirits

Best Margarita

- Barrio East Lansing
- El Azteco East Lansing
- Fiesta Charra
- Pablo's Mexican Restaurant Eastside
- Tippy Nickel Bar & Grille

Best Mocktails

- Blue Owl Coffee – Old Town
- Constellation Cat Cafe
- EnVie
- One North Kitchen & Bar
- The Avenue Cafe
- Tippy Nickel Bar & Grille

Best Neighborhood Bar

- Dagwood's Tavern & Grill
- Harry's Place
- REO Town Pub
- The Peanut Barrel
- The Wooden Nickel II
- Tippy Nickel Bar & Grille

Best Pub/Tavern

- Crunchy's
- REO Town Pub
- Stober's Bar
- The Irish Pub
- The Peanut Barrel

Best Spartan Sports Hangout

- Crunchy's
- Dagwood's Tavern & Grill
- Harrison Roadhouse
- Meat BBQ
- One North Kitchen & Bar

Best Sports Bar

- Crunchy's

- Frank's Press Box
- Nuthouse Sports Grill
- One North Kitchen & Bar – East Lansing
- Reno's North Sports Bar



CANNABIS

Best CBD Store/Boutique

- Bazonzoes Provisioning
- Canna Plug
- House Of Dank
- JARS Cannabis – Lansing

Best Cannabis Flower – Hybrid

- Detroit Zoo || LIV Cannabis
- Lemon Cherry Z || High Society Weed Dispensary
- Clout King Peanut Butter & Terdz || Pleasantrees East Lansing
- Popz 41 || Bowhouse
- Wedding Cake || Pro Gro by Pure Options

Best Cannabis Flower – Indica

- Garlic Breath || Pro Gro by Pure Options
- Insano Cake || Cannaisseur Provisioning Center
- Pink Permanent Marker || Bowhouse
- Terpenstein Dank Dawg || Pleasantrees East Lansing

Best Cannabis Flower – Sativa

- Twisted Trees || Cannaisseur Provisioning Center
- Lunar Lemon || Pro Gro by Pure Options
- Gary Payton || Sapura Recreational Weed Store Lansing

Best Cannabis Growing Brand

- Bowhouse
- Pleasantrees East Lansing
- Pro Gro by Pure Options

Best Distillate Cartridge

- Bowhouse || Bowhouse
- LightSky Farms || Cannaisseur Provisioning Center
- Guava Sherb || Bowhouse
- Cherry Fizz || Sapura Recreational Weed Store Lansing

Best Gummy Edible (Cannabis)

- BAMN 200mg || Pure Options
- Information Entropy rosin gummies || Cannaisseur Provisioning Center
- Cherry Fizz || Sapura Recreational Weed Store Lansing

Best Indoor Grow Shop

- Indoor Grow Supply
- Pure Options – Midtown

Best Marijuana Provisioning Center

- Herbana
- Homegrown Cannabis Co.
- Pure Options – Frandor
- Pure Options – Midtown
- Pure Options – South Lansing

Best Non-Gummy Edible (Cannabis)

- Levitate || Herbana Dispensary
- Last Bites || Homegrown Cannabis Co.
- Potpots || Lion Labs

Best Non-Solvent Concentrate (Cannabis)

- Brainwash Solventless || Bazonzoes Provisioning
- Bowhouse || Bowhouse
- Element || Lion Labs
- Strawberry Jelly 1g live rosin || Pure Options – Midtown

Best Solvent Concentrate (Cannabis)

- Death Star || Bowhouse
- Element || Lion Labs

Best Topical

- True Health Cryotherapy || Bazonzoes
- Proper Jaguar Balm || Herbana

CityPULSE

2025
TOP
OF THE
TOWN

WKAR

Top 5

from page 14



DINING

- Best BBQ**
 - Capital City BBQ
 - Meat BBQ
 - Saddleback BBQ REO Town
 - The King of the Grill Express
 - The Smoke N’ Pig BBQ
- Best BBQ Sauce**
 - Gravity Smokehouse Brew & Que
 - Meat BBQ
 - Saddleback BBQ REO Town
 - The Smoke N’ Pig BBQ
- Best Bagels**
 - Big Apple Bagels
 - Bruegger’s Bagels
 - Flour Child Bakery
 - New Daily Bagel
 - The Good Bake Bagel Kitchen
- Best Bakery**
 - Bake N’ Cakes
 - Flour Child Bakery
 - Groovy Donuts
 - Quality Dairy – East Michigan
 - Sweetie-licious
- Best Baklava**
 - Aladdin’s Restaurant
 - Bell’s Greek Pizza
 - Bread Bites Mediterranean
 - Jerusalem Bakery
 - Woody’s Oasis
- Best Breakfast**
 - Fleetwood Diner
- Best Brunch**
 - Good Truckin’ Diner
 - One North Kitchen & Bar – West Saginaw
 - Soup Spoon Café
 - That New Place
 - The People’s Kitchen
- Best Bubble Tea**
 - Bento Kitchen Cravings
 - Feng Cha
 - Gong Cha
 - Koala Bakery & Cafe
 - MOMO Tea
- Best Buffet**
 - Asian Buffet
 - Hibachi Grill & Sushi Buffet
 - IPOT | Hot Pot, BBQ & Sushi
 - One North Kitchen & Bar – West Saginaw
 - Westlund’s Apple Market
- Best Burger**
 - Crunchy’s
 - Dagwood’s Tavern & Grill
 - Kewpee Sandwich Shoppe
 - LeRoy’s Classic Bar & Grill
 - The Peanut Barrel
- Best Chicken Strips/Tenders**
 - Cheddar’s Scratch Kitchen
 - Crack Chicken
 - Dave’s Hot Chicken
 - Olympic Broil
 - Raising Cane’s Chicken Fingers
- Best Chinese Restaurant**
 - Apple Jade
 - Charlie Kang’s
 - Chen’s Restaurant
 - Everyday Authentic Chinese Cuisine
 - Little Panda Chinese Restaurant
- Best Cider**
 - Boss Cider
 - Country Mill Farms
 - Phillips Cider Bar and Market
 - Quality Dairy Co.
 - Uncle John’s Cider Mill
- Best Coney Dog**
 - JJ’s Dog House
 - Leo’s Coney Island
 - Nip N Sip Drive In
 - Olympic Broil
 - Sparty’s Coney Island
- Best Crab Legs**
 - King Ocean Crab
 - The Tangy Crab
- Best Cupcake**
 - Bake N’ Cakes
 - Flour Child Bakery
 - Nothing Bundt Cakes
 - Sugar Shack
 - Sweetie-licious
- Best Deli**
 - Barnhill’s Westside Deli
 - Jersey Giant Subs
 - Monticello’s Market & Butcher Block
 - Stateside Deli
 - Westlund’s Apple Market
- Best Dessert**
 - Flour Child Bakery
 - Mr. Leslie’s Cheesecakes
 - MSU Dairy Store
 - Sweetie-licious
 - That New Place
- Best Diner**
 - Fleetwood Diner
 - Good Truckin’ Diner
 - Soup Spoon Café
 - Sparty’s Coney Island
 - That New Place
- Best Donuts**
 - Flour Child Bakery
 - Groovy Donuts
 - Phillips Cider Bar and Market
 - Quality Dairy Co.
 - Strange Matter Coffee – Eastside
 - Strange Matter Coffee – Downtown

See Top 5, Page 16

VOTE
FOR US
in the top 5!

- BEST BAR FOOD
- BEST KARAOKE
- BEST PUB/TAVERN
- BEST SPARTAN SPORTS HANGOUT
- BEST SPORTS BAR
- BEST TRIVIA NIGHT

- BEST BURGER
- BEST RESTAURANT BEER LIST
- BEST COMEDY NIGHT
- BEST HANGOUT FOR STUDENTS
- BEST PLACE TO PLAY PINBALL OR VIDEO GAMES

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WKAR

Top 5

from page 15

Best Drive-up location

- Culver's - Eastwood
- Nip N Sip Drive In
- Olympic Broil

Best Family-Friendly Restaurant

- Flour Child Bakery
- Meat BBQ
- One North Kitchen & Bar - East Lansing
- Piazzano's
- Texas Roadhouse

Best Fast Food

- Culver's - Eastwood
- Culver's - Okemos
- Fuel'd
- Nip N Sip Drive In
- Olympic Broil

Best Fish Fry

- Blue Gill Grill
- Crack Chicken
- Eastside Fish Fry & Grill
- Harry's Place
- The Old Bag Of Nails Pub

Best Food Truck

- El Oasis - Lansing
- Meat BBQ
- Ozone's Fire Food Truck
- Picnic
- Shove It Pizza
- Taquero Mucho

Best French Fries

- Cask & Co. Kitchen & Bar
- Dagwood's Tavern & Grill
- HopCat
- Meat BBQ
- The Cosmos

Best Greek Restaurant

- Athena's Diner
- Bell's Greek Pizza
- ChouPli Wood-Fired Kabob
- Niko's Taverna
- Woody's Oasis

Best Hibachi

- Hibachi Grill & Sushi Buffet
- Kaiyo Sushi
- Maru Sushi & Grill
- Ukai Hibachi Grill & Sushi Bar - Lansing

Best Ice Cream

- Arctic Corner
- Babe's Corner
- MSU Dairy Store
- Park Lake Creamery
- Quality Dairy Co.
- Tasty Twist

Best Indian Restaurant

- Grains Indian Cuisine
- Persis Indian Grill
- Sindhu Indian Cuisine
- Sree Saffron
- Swagath Indian Cuisine

Best Irish Restaurant

- Dublin Square
- Harry's Place
- Kelly's Downtown
- Moriarty's Pub
- The Irish Pub

Best Italian Restaurant

- Cugino's
- Falsetta's Casa Nova
- Piazzano's
- REO Town Clubhouse
- Tony M's Restaurant & Banquet Center
- Toscana Kitchen & Wine Market

Best Lasagna

- Bravo! Italian Kitchen
- Cugino's
- Falsetta's Casa Nova
- Piazzano's
- The Ugli Pi Co.

Best Late-Night Food

- Conrad's Grill
- Fleetwood Diner
- Ruckus Ramen
- Sidecar Slider Bar
- Taco Bell

Best Mediterranean Restaurant

- Aladdin's Restaurant
- ChouPli Wood-Fired Kabob
- Jerusalem Bakery
- Sultan's Restaurant - West Lansing
- Woody's Oasis

Best Mexican Restaurant (chain)

- Acapulco Mexican Grill - Lansing
- Barrio East Lansing
- Fiesta Charra - Lansing
- Fiesta Charra - East Lansing
- Los Tres Amigos Hacienda

Best Mexican Restaurant (non-chain)

- El Azteco East Lansing
- El Azteco Lansing
- Famous Taco
- Taqueria El Chaparrito
- Pablo's Mexican Restaurant Old Town

Best Nachos

- Art's Pub
- Buddies Pub & Grill
- El Azteco East Lansing
- El Azteco Lansing
- Meat BBQ

Best New Restaurant

- Art & Jake's Sports Bar & Grill
- Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant
- Grains Indian Cuisine

- That New Place
- The Morning Post

Best Olive Burger

- Dagwood's Tavern & Grill
- Kewpee Sandwich Shoppe
- LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill
- Olympic Broil
- The Peanut Barrel

Best Pancakes

- Cracker Barrel Old Country Store
- Golden Harvest
- Sophia's House of Pancakes
- Sparty's Coney Island
- The People's Kitchen

Best Pho

- Asia's Finest
- Capital City BBQ
- Cask & Co. Kitchen & Bar
- King Pho
- Pho 777 Okemos

Best Pizza

- Bell's Greek Pizza
- Jet's Pizza
- Klavon's Pizzeria & Pub
- Sleepwalker Spirits and Ale
- The Cosmos

Best Prime Rib

- Airport Tavern
- Henry's Place
- Piazzano's
- The English Inn
- The People's Kitchen
- Topsy Nickel Bar & Grille

Best Ramen

- Asia's Finest
- Bento Kitchen Cravings
- Ruckus Ramen
- The Avenue Cafe
- Uni Sushi and Ramen

Best Ranch Dressing

- Cottage Inn Pizza Downtown Lansing
- Horrocks Pizzeria
- Jet's Pizza
- One North Kitchen & Bar
- Tony M's Restaurant & Banquet Center

Best Restaurant Beer List

- Crunchy's
- Front 43 Neighborhood Pub
- HopCat

**Thank You
For The Support
In The Top 5
Vote For Us For Best Sushi!**



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WKAR

Top 5

from page 16

- Ozone’s Brewhouse
 - Zoobie’s Old Town Tavern
- Best Restaurant Wine List**
- Bowdie’s Chophouse
 - Cooper’s Hawk Winery & Restaurant
 - Dusty’s Cellar
 - EnVie
 - One North Kitchen & Bar – East Lansing
 - State Room Restaurant
- Best Restaurant for Seniors**
- Buddies Grill
 - Coral Gables
 - Meat BBQ
 - Olive Garden Italian Restaurant
 - Tavern 109
- Best Reuben**
- Dimes Brewhouse
 - Fleetwood Diner
 - Stateside Deli
 - The Irish Pub
 - The Rusty Mug Bar & Grill REO Town
- Best Salad**
- Babe’s Corner
 - Buddies Grill
 - El Azteco Lansing
 - Fuel’d
 - Leaf Salad Bar
 - Olive Garden Italian Restaurant
- Best Sandwich/Wrap**
- Babe’s Corner
 - Capital City BBQ
 - Jersey Giant Subs
 - Soup Spoon Café
 - That New Place
- Best Seafood Restaurant**
- Blue Gill Grill
 - Mitchell’s Fish Market
 - Red Lobster
 - The Old Bag Of Nails Pub
 - The Tangy Crab
- Best Signature Dish**
- Breakfast Pizza || Art’s Pub
 - Bulgogi Burrito || Bento Kitchen Cravings
 - EnVie Famous Bowl || EnVie
 - Garlic Chicken || Naing Myanmar Family Restaurant
 - Hippie Hash || Fleetwood Diner

- Meat Mountain || Meat BBQ
 - Quiche || That New Place
 - Really Good Fu@%ing Pancakes || The People’s Kitchen
- Best Soup**
- Charlie Kang’s
 - Corey’s Lounge
 - Horrocks Farm Market
 - Soup Spoon Café
 - That New Place
- Best Steak**
- Airport Tavern
 - Bowdie’s Chophouse
 - Capital Prime
 - Texas Roadhouse
 - Topsy Nickel Bar & Grille
- Best Sub Sandwich**
- Babe’s Corner
 - Firehouse Subs Downtown Lansing
 - Jersey Giant Subs
 - Jimmy John’s – Okemos
 - King Subs
- Best Sushi**
- AI Fusion Sushi & Grill
 - Maru Sushi & Grill
 - Sansu Sushi
 - Sushi Moto
 - Ukai Hibachi Grill & Sushi Bar

- Best Tacos**
- Barrio East Lansing
 - El Oasis
 - Fiesta Charra
 - Pablo’s Mexican Restaurant Old Town
 - Taqueria El Chaparrito
- Best Thai Restaurant**
- Bangkok House
 - Fortune House
 - Naing Myanmar Family Restaurant
 - Thai Princess
 - Thai Village
- Best Upscale Dining**
- Bowdie’s Chophouse
 - Capital Prime
 - Cooper’s Hawk Winery & Restaurant
 - EnVie
 - The English Inn
- Best Vegan/Gluten-Free Dessert**
- Flour Child Bakery
 - Groovy Donuts
 - Strange Matter Coffee Eastside
 - Veg Head

- VEG-N
- Best Vegetarian/Vegan Dish**
- Altu’s Ethiopian Cuisine
 - Babe’s Corner
 - Soup Spoon Café
 - That New Place
 - Veg Head
- Best Vegetarian/Vegan/Gluten-Free Restaurant**
- Altu’s Ethiopian Cuisine
 - Flour Child Bakery
 - Good Truckin’ Diner Old Town
 - That New Place
 - Veg Head
 - VEG-N
- Best Wings**
- Art’s Pub
 - Detroit Wing Co. – East Lansing
 - Leo’s Lodge
 - LeRoy’s Classic Bar & Grill
 - Meat BBQ
 - One North Kitchen & Bar – East Lansing
 - Wing Snob

HANGOUTS

- Best Biggby**
- Biggby Coffee – 2250 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing
 - Biggby Coffee – 1429 W. Saginaw St., East Lansing
 - Biggby Coffee – 1850 Cedar St., Holt
 - Biggby Coffee – 4756 Marsh Road, Okemos
 - Biggby Coffee – 13181 Schavey Road, DeWitt
- Best Bowling Alley**
- City Limits Mason
 - Pins and Pints
 - Royal Scot Golf & Bowl
 - Spare Time Entertainment Center
 - Zap Zone XL
- Best Cafe**
- Blue Owl Coffee
 - Constellation Cat Cafe
 - Soup Spoon Café
 - Strange Matter Downtown
 - That New Place

See Top 5, Page 18



**VOTE FOR US
IN THE TOP 5!**

- BEST BAR FOOD
- BEST NEIGHBORHOOD BAR
- BEST OLIVE BURGER
- BEST PUB/ TAVERN
- BEST BURGER
- BEST PATIO



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2025
TOP
OF THE
TOWN

WKAR

Top 5

from page 17

Best Coffee Shop (non-Biggby)

- 517 Coffee Co.
- 7 Brew Coffee
- Blue Owl Coffee
- Constellation Cat Cafe
- Strange Matter Eastside
- Strange Matter Downtown
- Toads

Best Comedy Night

- Crunchy's
- Mac's Bar
- Ozone's Brewhouse
- Pure Options Comedy Series at Grewal Hall

Best Corn Maze

- Andy T's Farm Market
- Bestmaze Corn Maze
- Choice Farm Market
- Uncle John's Cider Mill

Best Disc Golf Course

- Burchfield Park
- Grand Woods Park
- Trinity Church

Best Escape Room Venue

- Breakout Escape Rooms
- Challenges East Lansing
- Escapes Unlocked
- Frandor Shopping Center

Best Golf Course

- Eagle Eye Golf Club
- Forest Akers West Golf Course
- Groesbeck Golf Course
- Hawk Hollow Golf Course
- Royal Scot Golf & Bowl

Best Hangout Solo

- CADL - Downtown Lansing
- Constellation Cat Cafe
- Hooked
- Horrocks Beer Garden
- Old Town

Best Hangout for Seniors

- Constellation Cat Cafe
- Coral Gables
- Harry's Place
- Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge
- Horrocks Beer Garden

Best Hangout for Students

- Constellation Cat Cafe
- Crunchy's
- Dublin Square
- East Lansing Public Library
- Lansing Shuffle

Best LGBTQIA+ Friendly Hangout

- Constellation Cat Cafe
- Hooked
- Old Town
- Phillips Cider Bar and Market
- The Avenue Café

Best Library

- CADL - Downtown Lansing
- CADL - Foster
- CADL - Haslett
- CADL - South Lansing

- Delta Township District Library
- East Lansing Public Library

Best Local Attraction for Kids

- Impression 5 Science Center
- John Smoltz Strikeout Baseball Stadium
- MSU Dairy Store
- Preuss Pets
- Zap Zone XL

Best Movie Theatre

- Celebration Cinema
- NCG Cinema
- Regal Lansing Mall
- Studio C Meridian Mall
- Sun Theatre - Grand Ledge

Best Music Venue

- Grewal Hall at 224
- The Avenue Cafe
- The Robin Theatre
- UrbanBeat
- Wharton Center for Performing Arts

Best Nature Center

- Fenner Nature Center
- Harris Nature Center
- Woldumar Nature Center

Best Non-Bar or Restaurant Date

- Constellation Cat Cafe
- Jackson Field
- Old Town
- Potter Park Zoo
- Spartan Stadium

Best Patio

- Horrocks Beer Garden
- Lansing Shuffle
- One North Kitchen & Bar - West Saginaw
- The Peanut Barrel
- Zoobie's Old Town Tavern

Best Place to Play Pinball or Video Games

- Crunchy's
- High Caliber Karting and Entertainment
- Pinball Pete's
- The Avenue Cafe
- Zap Zone XL

Best Place to Shoot Pool

- Mayfair Bar
- Nuthouse Sports Grill
- REO Town Clubhouse
- The Avenue Cafe
- Zap Zone XL

Best Public Park

- Fitzgerald Park
- Hawk Island Park
- Hunter Park
- Lake Lansing Park North
- Lake Lansing Park South
- Patriarche Park

Best Sober Hangout

- Constellation Cat Cafe
- Hooked
- Meat BBQ
- Meridian Mall
- Potter Park Zoo
- Rooted Socialite

Best Trivia Night

- Crunchy's
- EagleMonk Pub and Brewery

- Harry's Place
- Lansing Shuffle
- Ozone's Brewhouse
- Piazzano's
- The Avenue Cafe



LOCAL ARTS

Best Blues Artist/Band

- Accuser of the Brethren
- Freddie Cunningham & the Johnny D Blues Band
- Lynn Callihan
- The Further Adventures of FatBoy and JiveTurkey

Best Choral Group

- Arts Chorale of Greater Lansing
- Capital Acapella
- LanSINGout Gay Chorus
- Sistrum
- Steiner Chorale

Best Country Artist/Band

- Deer & Elk
- Don Middlebrook
- Jessey Adams
- Kathy Ford Band
- Madison Olivia
- Rory Nevins

Best Cover Band

- Atomic Annie
- Black Barn Band
- Frog & the Beeftones
- Roadside Attraction
- Starfarm

Best Folk Artist/Band

- Abbey Hoffman
- Deer & Elk
- Rory Nevins
- The Dangling Participles
- Wild Honey Collective

Best Hip-Hop Artist/Group

- Big Sherm
- Ozay Moore
- Sean Mic
- Tony Thompson & Friends

Best Jazz Musician/Group

- 496 West
- 517 Funktet
- Arlene McDaniels
- Jeff Shoup Quartet
- MSU Professors of Jazz
- Phil Denny

Best Local Concert Series

- Lansing Symphony Orchestra
- Pure Options Concert Series
- Meridian Township Summer Concert Series
- Ten Pound Fiddle
- Tony M's Restaurant & Banquet Center

Best Local Theatre Organization

- Lebowsky Center for the Performing Arts
- Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.
- Riverwalk Theatre
- Wharton Center for Performing Arts
- Williamston Theatre

Best Mural

- Eastside Compost
- Lansing River Trail murals
- "Maagwed Mijjim: The One Who Provides" || Old Town
- Sycamore Creek Eastwood

Best Pottery Studio

- Art Unlimited
- Greater Lansing Potters' Guild
- Lee & Nancy Kronenberg
- REACH Studio Art Center
- Wheel House Studio

Best Public Art/Sculpture

- Austin Blair monument, State Capitol
- Big Penny, the Truck-Munching Bridge
- Doug DeLind's turtle at Harris Nature Center
- "Portrait of a Dreamer"
- "Where the Light Gets In," light installations on MSU campus

Best Rock Artist/Band

- Accuser of The Brethren
- Atomic Annie
- Frog & the Beeftones
- Jimmy Likes Pie
- School of Rock House Band

Best Rock Star Over 75 (Worldwide)

- Alice Cooper
- Bob Dylan
- Bob Seger
- Bruce Springsteen
- Elton John
- Mick Jagger
- Paul McCartney
- Stevie Nicks

SERVICE

Best Accounting/CPA Firm

- Fairchild, Lebel & Rice PC
- John E. Hunt, CPA
- Liberty Tax
- Okemos Tax
- Simplified Tax - Lansing

Best Appliance Repair

- Bill Leech Repair Service
- Dick's Appliance Service
- G & W Appliance
- J & J Appliance & Furniture

CityPULSE

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TOP OF THE TOWN

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- Lane’s Appliance Sales and Service

Best Audiologist/Hearing Firm

• Advanced Audiology DeWitt

• Advanced Audiology Haslett

• Audiology & Hearing Services

• MaryRose Hecksel Au.D.

• Mid-Michigan ENT

Best Auto Body Shop

• Auto Surgeon

• C&T Body Shop

• Craig’s Collision Center

• Driven Collision

• Frankie D’s Auto & Truck Repair

Best Auto Detailing Service

• A1 Detailing and Customs

• Finish Line Detailing and Coatings

• Great Lakes Detailing Co.

• KWIK Car Wash & Express Detailing

• Spot-Les

• Twissted Detail

Best Auto Repair Shop

• Doc’s Automotive

• Muffler Man Lansing

• Ryan’s Auto Care

• Scrib’s Autoworks

• Vision Tire and Auto

Best Bank

• Capitol National Bank – Lansing

• Comerica Bank – Lansing

• Dart Bank & Loan Center

• Fifth Third Bank – Grand Ledge

• Independent Bank

Best Barber Shop

• Douglas J Salon, Barber & Medspa

• East Side Barbershop

• Frandor Barbershop

• Jerry’s Hairport Barbershop

• Loyalty Barbershop

Best Bicycle Shop

• Denny’s Central Park Bicycles

• Eric’s Cycling & Fitness

• Lansing Bike Co-op

• Scooter’s Pro Cycle

• SPIN Bicycle Shop

Best Business IT Support Service

• Adna Technologies

- Advanced Communications & Data

• Knight Service Solutions

• PC Perfect

• Shumaker Technology Group

• Trouble Shooters Tech Support

• Z-Solutions

Best Car Wash

• Fast Eddie’s Car Wash and Oil Change

• KWIK Car Wash & Express Detailing

• Showroom Shine

• Tommy’s Express Car Wash

• WhiteWater Express Car Wash

Best Caterer/Catering Service

• Campbell’s Market Basket

• Graze Craze Charcuterie Boards & Boxes

• Meat BBQ

• Morton’s Fine Catering

• Saddleback BBQ Okemos

• Whole Foods Market

Best Cemetery

• DeepDale Memorial Gardens

• Evergreen Cemetery

• Mount Hope Cemetery

• St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery

Best Chiropractic Office

• Andrea L Herrst DC

• Creative Wellness

• Divine Spine Chiropractic Wellness

• Innate Chiropractic Center

• Rassel-Daigneault Holistic Health Center

• Truecare Chiropractic & Performance

• Waverly Chiropractic Center

Best Cleaning Service

• Dazzle Cleaning Service

• Domestic Divas Cleaning Services

• Maxi Maids

• My Neighbor’s Cleaning Service

• Tech Cleaning Consultants

Best Computer Repair Service

• Adna Technologies

• Capitol Macintosh

• Mac Men Computer & Phone

• Trouble Shooters Tech Support

• Z-Solutions

Best Credit Union

• CASE Credit Union – South Pennsylvania

• LAFCU

• Lake Trust Credit Union – East Lansing

• MSUFCU – Mount Hope

• MSUFCU – West Road

Best Dance Studio

• Ann’s School of Dance

• Happendance

• In Motion Dance Center

• Rock the Block Studio

• The Hive Dance Studio

Best Day Spa

• Douglas J Salon & Medspa

• Element Massage

• Onyx Moon

• Vada’s Day Spa and Salon

• Zoe Life Spa and Salon

Best Dentist Office

• Benjamin S. Jamo

• MB Dental Solutions

• Okemos Family Dentistry

• Portnoy and Tu Family Dentistry

• Schaefer Dental Group

Best Dog Training Business

• AnnaBelle’s Canine Station

• Dog Gone Fun

• Doggy Daycare & Spa

• K-9 Connection Dog Training

• Paw City Pet Care

Best Estate Sale Company

• Ancestors Estate Sales

• Kellie’s Estate Sales

• Lisa Ramont

• Richard Hornaday Estate Sales

• Tom & Jerry’s Estate Service

Best Facial

• Douglas J Salon & Medspa

• NECTAR body•face•skin

• Onyx Moon

• Rooted Radiance Aesthetics & Wellness

• Tres JoLee Beauty Bar

Best Financial Planner/Company

• David McNeilly

• Financial Independents, Inc.

• Grace Braatz–Opper – Modern Woodmen of America

• Smalley Investments

• The Scott Lewis Group

Best Funeral Home

• Estes–Leadley Greater Lansing Chapel

• Gorsline Runciman Funeral Homes – DeWitt

• Mills Funeral Home, Peters & Murray Chapel

• Palmer Bush & Jensen Family Funeral Homes Lansing Chapel

• Pray Funeral Home

Best Gym/Fitness Studio

• Court One Athletic Clubs

• Dreadnought Martial Arts

• Michigan Athletic Club

• Planet Fitness – West Saginaw

• State Of Fitness

• The Trainers Studio

• Westside Community YMCA

Best Hair Salon

• Bliss Hair Studio

• Douglas J Aveda Institute

• Douglas J Salon & Medspa

• New Style Salon

• The Artisan Company Salon

Best Heating/Cooling

• All Star Mechanical

• Applegate Home Comfort

• Cousins Heating and Cooling

• Hager Fox Heating & Air Conditioning

• Vredevoogd Heating & Cooling

Best Holistic Healing

• Creative Wellness

• Gemstone Hideaway Hut

• In Style Hair Studio
- Center of the Healing Arts

• Salon Bleu

Best Home Healthcare Company

• Bee at Home

• Rich’s Residential and Home Care Options

• Sparrow Home Care

• Stoneleigh Residence & Hospice of Lansing

Best Insurance Agency

• AAA Lansing

• Grace Braatz–Opper – Modern Woodmen of America

• Meemic Insurance – Winston Agency

• Nikolai Jump – Farmers Insurance

• Rathbun Insurance

• Trinesha Goebel – State Farm

Best Landscape Company

• Down to Earth

• LandMark Landscape

• Lawn Tech of Michigan

• R&D Landscape

• Snyder’s Landscape Design

• Superb Lawn Care & Snow Removal

• Turf Jockeys

Best Laser Hair Removal

• Douglas J Salon & Medspa

• Mirkin Electrology

• MSU Aesthetics & Laser Treatment Center

Best Law Firm

• Abood Law Firm

• Conklin Law Firm

• Foster Swift Collins & Smith

• Grewal Law

• Sinas Dramis Law Firm

• White Law
- See Top 5, Page 20
- 2025

TOP OF THE TOWN

CityPULSE

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• Best Holistic Healing

• Best Jewelry Store

• Best Metaphysical Store

• Best New Business

We love Gemstones & Crystals.

The energy they give off, the beauty they contain, and the joy & happiness that they give to others

1410 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing



Top 5

from page 19

- Best Local YouTube Channel
- Lansing State Journal
 - Mango the Quirky Cat
 - Q106

- WKAR Public Media

- Best Massage Studio
- Creative Wellness
 - Douglas J Salon & Medspa
 - Functional Mobility and Health
 - Health & Harmony Massage & Wellness Center
 - Zoe Life Spa and Salon

- Best Pharmacy (locally owned)
- Apothecary Shop
 - Central Pharmacy - Lansing
 - MSU Health Care Pharmacy
 - Sparrow Pharmacy Plus
 - Ware's Pharmacy

- Best Photography
- Ariniko Artistry
 - Autumn Luciano
 - Erica Jo Photography
 - Jena Hovey - McShane Photography
 - Lenon James Photography

- Best Plumbing Service
- A-OK Heating, Cooling & Plumbing
 - Aaron's Plumbing & Mechanical
 - Frook Plumbing & Mechanical
 - Jenks Plumbing & Heating
 - Michigan Plumbing
 - Titus Plumbing & Drain Cleaning

- Best Radio Station
- WHZZ 101.7
 - WJXQ 106.1
 - WDBM 88.9
 - WQTZ 92.1
 - WKAR 90.5

- Best Residential Remodeling Company
- Aldrich Cabinets and Millwork
 - Custom Built Design & Remodeling
 - Honey Home Interiors
 - K.Fedewa Builders
 - Odd Fellows Contracting
 - Tom McCarthy Builders

- Best Security Service
- Honey Home Interiors
 - Securitas Security Services USA

- Best Senior Care Facility
- Burcham Hills
 - Independence Village Grand Ledge
 - Red Cedar Lodge
 - The Willows at East Lansing
 - The Willows at Okemos

- Best Senior Living Community
- Burcham Hills
 - Ingham County Medical Care Facility
 - Independence Village Grand Ledge
 - The Willows at East Lansing

- Best Storage Unit Facility
- AC&E Rentals and Self Storage
 - Storage Sense - Lansing
 - U-Haul Moving & Storage - Waverly Road

- Best Tanning
- J2 Tanning Grand Ledge
 - Pacific Tan & Wellness - South Cedar

- Best Med Spa
- Aqua Body Lab
 - Douglas J Salon & Medspa
 - Massage & Wellness Store, Med Spa and Center
 - NECTAR body•face•skin
 - Solara Wellness Acupuncture & Holistic Health

- Best Moving Service
- College Hunks Hauling Junk and Moving - Lansing
 - Good Guys Moving & Services
 - Kingsley Moving Systems
 - Mr. BigStuff Labor & Moving
 - Two Men and a Truck

- Best Music Lessons
- Elderly Instruments
 - JoAnn Stampfly
 - Melanie Walker
 - Okemos Music Academy
 - School of Rock

- Best Nail Salon
- 90's Nails
 - Douglas J Salon & Medspa
 - J&L Nails
 - Jenny Nails
 - King Nails and Spa
 - Onyx Moon
 - Polished By Me
 - Polished Nail Salon

- Best News Source
- City Pulse
 - Michigan Public Radio Network
 - WILX-TV
 - WKAR Public Media
 - WLNS-TV

- Best Nonprofit Organization (local)
- Allen Neighborhood Center
 - Capital Area Humane Society
 - Constellation Cat Cafe
 - Ele's Place - Capital Region
 - Women's Center of Greater Lansing

- Best Pet Grooming
- Kelly's Pet Boutique East
 - Old Town Tails
 - Paw City Pet Care
 - Ruff Cuts Pet Grooming
 - Wag'N Tails Pet Resort

- Best Pet Rescue
- Capital Area Humane Society
 - Constellation Cat Cafe
 - Ingham County Animal Control and Shelter
 - Mitten Misfits Farm Sanctuary
 - Saved by Zade

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2025

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CityPULSE + WKAR

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See Top 5, Page 21

CityPULSE

2025

TOP OF THE TOWN

WKAR

Top 5

from page 20

- Pacific Tan & Wellness – Okemos
- Uptown Sun Co.

Best Tattoo Parlor

- Devils Day Tattoo
- Fish Ladder Tattoo Co.
- Ink Therapy Lansing
- Splash of Color Tattoo & Piercing Studio
- True Blue Tattoo Co.

Best Therapy/Therapist Service

- Here Comes the Sun Therapy and Wellness
- Origami Rehabilitation (Main)
- Rooted Counseling
- Spring Forest Counseling & Wellness
- Therapy Today Counseling and Consulting
- Wild Ferns Wellness

Best Towing Company

- H&H Mobil Towing
- Northside Service
- P.J.’s Towing

Best Veterinarian Service

- East Lansing Veterinary Clinic
- Evergreen Veterinary Clinic
- MSU Veterinary Medical Center
- Riverside Cat Hospital
- Schultz Veterinary Clinic
- Waverly Animal Hospital

Best Wedding Services

- All Grand Events + Floral
- Angry Talent Entertainment
- The Hidden Gem Event Venue
- The Northfork Estate
- Tunes By T

Best Wifi/Internet Service Provider

- Metronet Telecom
- T-Mobile
- Wow!
- Xfinity

Best Yoga Studio

- 3 Legged Dog Yoga + Strength Studio
- Clearly Fit
- East Lansing Hot Yoga
- Michigan Athletic Club
- Peoples Yoga Studio Lansing

- Yoga Connect Haslett
- Yoga State of Mind, Body & Soul



SHOPPING

Best Antique Shop

- Antiques Market of Williamston
- Kellie’s Estate Sales, Auction, Resale & Thrift
- Little Red Schoolhouse
- Maple Street Mall
- The Mega Mall

Best Art Gallery

- Broad Art Museum
- Katalyst Art Gallery & Gift Boutique
- Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art
- Nelson Gallery
- Saper Galleries and Custom Framing

Best Art Supply Store

- Dear Ollie & Co.
- Hobby Lobby
- Michaels
- Odd Nodd Art Supply

Best Auto Dealership

- Feldman Chevrolet Lansing
- Motorcarsonline.com Lansing
- Shaheen Chevrolet of Lansing
- Spartan Toyota
- Williams Subaru

Best Beer Selection in Retail Store

- (Oades) Big Ten Party Store West

- Horrocks Farm Market
- Mega-Bev
- Tom’s Party Store and Wine Shop

Best Bookstore (locally owned)

- Curious Book Shop
- Deadtime Stories
- Everybody Reads
- Hooked
- Schuler Books

Best Butcher Shop

- MEAT on the WEST Side
- Merindorf Meats
- Mert’s Specialty Meats
- Monticello’s Market & Butcher Block
- Westlund’s Apple Market

Best Candy Store

- Cravings Gourmet Popcorn
- Fabiano’s Candies
- Horrocks Farm Market
- Peanut Shop
- Rocket Fizz – East Lansing

Best Cheese Department

- Horrocks Farm Market
- MSU Dairy Store
- The Cheese Lady
- Whole Foods Market

Best Clothing Store (locally owned)

- Capital Hippie
- Craig Ryan Fine Clothing – Lansing
- Grace Boutique of Old Town
- Kositchek’s Menswear
- WalkWorthy Menswear

Best Farmers Market

- Allen Farmers Market
- Dimondale Farmers Market
- Holt Farmers Market
- Meridian Township Farmers Market
- East Lansing Farmers Market

Best Florist

- B/A Florist
- Horrocks Farm Market

See Top 5, Page 22

2025

TOP OF THE TOWN

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2025

TOP OF THE TOWN

CityPULSE WKAR

Veterinary Medical Center
College of Veterinary Medicine
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

CityPULSE



WKAR

Top 5

from page 21

- Hyacinth House
- The Botany Boutique
- Van Atta's Greenhouse & Flower Shop
- Where the Wild Things Bloom

Best Furniture Store

- Bradly's HG
- Bob's Discount Furniture and Mattress Store
- Dicker & Deal Furniture & More
- Off Skate Vintage
- Pilgrim House Furniture

Best Game Shop

- Evolution Games
- Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge
- Hoplite Games
- Summit Comics & Games
- The Gaming Cantina

Best Gardening Center

- Christians Greenhouse
- MSU Department of Horticulture
- Horrocks Farm Market
- Lansing Gardens
- Van Atta's Greenhouse & Flower Shop

Best Gas Station

- BJ's Gas Station
- Costco Gas Station
- Okemos Marathon
- Sam's Club Gas Station
- Speedway - East Michigan

Best Gift Shop

- Bad Annie's Sweary Goods
- Deadtime Stories
- Keans
- Odd Nodd Art Supply
- Old Town General Store

Best Grocery Store (locally owned)

- Campbell's Market Basket
- D&W Fresh Market
- Darrell's Market & Hardware
- Eastside Lansing Food Co-op
- Horrocks Farm Market

- Westlund's Apple Market
- Best Hardware Store
- Darrell's Market & Hardware
- Grand Ledge Ace Hardware
- Great Lakes Ace Hardware
- Harbor Freight
- Vet's Ace Hardware

Best Jewelry Store

- Becky Beauchine Kulka Diamonds and Fine Jewelry
- Gemstone Hideaway Hut
- H & H Jewelry Design
- Jean Jean Vintage
- Sweet Custom Jewelry

Best Lingerie Store

- Cirilla's
- Front Room Underfashions

Best Liquor Store

- (Oades) Big Ten Party Store West
- Darrell's Market & Hardware
- Hometown Liquor
- Mega-Bev
- Tom's Party Store and Wine Shop

Best Metaphysical Store

- Beyond A Dream
- Coyote Wisdom Bookstore
- Gemstone Hideaway Hut
- Oracle's Apothecary
- Triple Goddess Bookstore

Best Musical Instrument Store

- Elderly Instruments
- Marshall Music Co.
- Meridian Winds
- Music Instrument Swap
- Music Manor

Best Organic/Natural Market

- Better Health Market & Café - Frandor
- Clean Refillery
- Eastside Lansing Food Co-op
- Trader Joe's
- Whole Foods Market

Best Pet Store

- Feeders Pet Supply
- Fur Real Dog Snacks
- Pet Supplies Plus Lansing
- PetSmart
- Preuss Pets

Best Quality Dairy

- Quality Dairy, 111 W. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing
- Quality Dairy, 173 W. Maple St., Mason
- Quality Dairy, 804 Willow Hwy., Grand Ledge
- Quality Dairy, 2233 Cedar St., Holt
- Quality Dairy, 2400 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Best Record/CD Store

- Flat, Black & Circular
- Mi-Rural Records
- The Record Lounge
- Westlund's Apple Market

Best Sex Shop

- Cirilla's
- Club Tabu
- Deja Vu Love Boutique
- Metro Retro

Best Thrift or Consignment Store

- City Rescue Mission Uplift Thrift
- Needful Things Charlotte
- St Vincent De Paul Society and Thrift Store
- Thrift Witch
- Volunteers of America Thrift Store

Best Tire Store

- Adado Tire Center
- Belle Tire
- Discount Tire - Okemos
- Discount Tire - S. Pennsylvania
- Tasmanian Tire Co.

Best Used Car Dealership

- Dice Auto Sales
- Red Cedar Auto Sales
- Spartan Toyota
- Sundance Chevrolet
- Williams Subaru

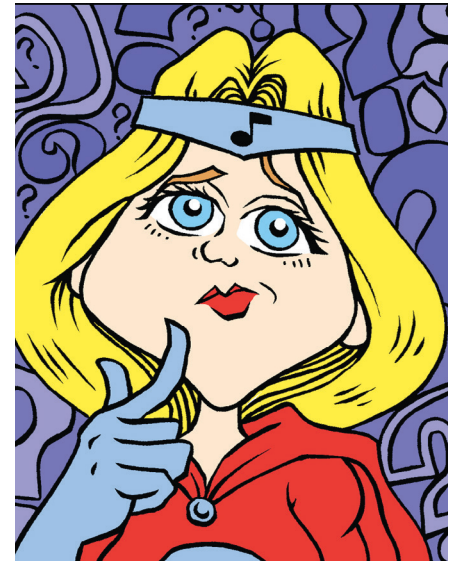
Best Vape Shop

- Mister-E's Vape Shop
- Puff Puff Tobacco - East Lansing
- Puff Puff Tobacco - Lansing
- Wild Bill's Tobacco - Lansing

Best Wine Shop

- Dusty's Cellar
- Horrocks Beer Garden

- On the Rocks Wine & Spirits
- Tom's Party Store and Wine Shop
- Vine & Brew



WHATEVER

Best Axe Throwing Venue

- High Caliber Karting and Entertainment
- Moriarty's Pub
- Zap Zone XL

Best Category We Didn't Think of

- Best Appetizer
- Best Community Contributor
- Best Handyman Services
- Best Pet Sitter
- Best STUPID - Lansing

Best Eye Candy Building

- Broad Art Museum
- Knapp's Centre
- Michigan State Capitol
- Preuss Pets
- Spartan Stadium

Best Facebook Group or Page (local)

- 517 Living Community
- Lansing Facts
- Lansing Foodies
- Not Your Mother's Networking Group
- STUPID - Lansing

Best High School

- East Lansing High School
- Eastern High School

See Top 5, Page 23

CityPULSE

2025
TOP
OF THE
TOWN

WKAR

Top 5

from page 22

- Everett High School
- Grand Ledge High School
- Lansing Catholic High School
- Okemos High School

- Best Historical Place
- Beaumont Tower
- Big Penny, the Truck-Munching Bridge
- Michigan State Capitol
- Old Town
- Turner-Dodge House

- Best Instagram Account (local)
- Old Town Lansing
- Avenue Lansing
- Elderly Instruments
- Lansing Facts
- Meat BBQ

- Best Local Art Festival
- A Festival of Oddities
- ArtFeast
- East Lansing Art Festival
- Old Town Krampusnacht
- Old Town ScrapFest

- Best Local Event/Festival
- A Festival of Oddities
- BluesFest
- East Lansing Art Festival
- Lansing Pride
- Old Town Krampusnacht

- Best New Business
- Dunk'd
- Gemstone Hideaway Hut
- GiantMouse Knives
- Phillips Cider Bar and Market
- The Cheese Lady

- Best Outdoor Adventure Venue
- Dimondale Canoe and Kayak
- Hawk Island Park
- Hiking the Ledges at Fitzgerald Park
- Lansing River Trail
- Uncle John's Cider Mill

- Best Place to Cry in Public
- Big Penny, the Truck-Munching Bridge
- Frandor parking lot
- Meat BBQ
- Sleepwalker Spirits and Ale

- Best Place to Find Quiet
- Constellation Cat Cafe
- Fenner Nature Center
- Hannah Park
- Legg Park
- That weird lighted waterfall by Marshall Music

- Best Place to Work
- Constellation Cat Cafe
- Lansing River Trail
- Michigan State University
- Paw City Pet Care
- Preuss Pets

- Best Shop Pet
- Dexter the office dog || Scrib's Autoworks
- Morrison and Hendrix || Deadtime Stories
- Pancake the stingray || Preuss Pets
- Winifred || Ruff Cuts Pet Grooming

- Best Staycation Hotel in Lansing
- Graduate East Lansing
- Hyatt House Lansing / University Area
- The English Inn
- Wild Goose Inn

- Best Vehicle Ever Made in Lansing
- Olds Delta 88
- Oldsmobile 442
- Oldsmobile 98
- REO Motors Speedwagon

- Chevy Traverse

- Best Wifi Spot
- CADL - Downtown Lansing
- Constellation Cat Cafe
- Flour Child Bakery
- Meat BBQ
- Starbucks - Canal Road

- Cleanest Public Restroom
- Capital Region International Airport
- Flour Child Bakery
- Meat BBQ
- MSUFCU - West Road
- Piazzano's

- In Memoriam: Businesses Lost
- Boom Boom Room
- Curvaceous Lingerie
- DeLuca's Restaurant
- October Moon
- Tantai

- Most Trustworthy Business
- Deadtime Stories
- Odd Nodd Art Supply
- Playmakers
- Preuss Pets
- Westlund's Apple Market

- Worst Eyesore
- Broad Museum
- Byrider on Cedar Sreet
- Garno Trump House on Michigan Avenue

- SkyVue Apartments
- Staples

- Worst Pothole (specific location)
- All of Kalamazoo Street
- All of Lathrop Street
- Corner of Jolly Road & Pennsylvania Avenue
- Grand River from Frandor heading west
- Lansing Township-owned portion of Michigan Avenue
- Mount Hope near Aurelius



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ARTS & CULTURE

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Full circle

Jazz patrons Gregg Hill and Lois Mummaw receive lifetime honors

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

There's a sweet moment in a jazz tune when the soloists have all had their say, the energy is reaching a peak, and the band roars back to reprise the "head."

There's no shortcut to that moment. You have to put in the time.

The Jazz Alliance of Mid-Michigan is closing in on a full-circle moment years in the making on Sunday (Nov. 9), as jazz patrons Gregg Hill and Lois Mummaw are named its 2025 lifetime honorees.

Behind the scenes, Hill and Mummaw have provided key financial support for the East Lansing Summer Solstice Jazz Festival, Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's Pub and many other events and venues. They also helped establish a scholarship fund that has helped more than 20 students launch musical careers.

Not so behind the scenes, their obvious love for each other — and for the music — has made them a conspicuous and joyful presence at hundreds of events, where they can be seen dancing, grooving and living the jazz life.

Sunday's event feels like a closing circle because JAMM itself, and the tradition of honoring an artist each year, was nurtured in their living room.

Nearly every JAMM lifetime honoree will perform, from Michigan State University Jazz Studies director and bassist Rodney Whitaker to veteran drummer Randy Gelispie and pianist Arlene McDaniel, along with a star-studded lineup that includes violinist Tia Imani Hanna, singer Twyla Birdsong and many more.

Drummer Jeff Shoup, impresario of Jazz Tuesdays, said Hill and Mummaw "have been a real positive force not only for jazz music, but live music in general."

"They're founding sponsors that



Courtesy photo

Gregg Hill and Lois Mummaw at the 2019 Summer Solstice Jazz Festival in East Lansing. The couple provides key financial support for the annual event.

have supported Jazz Tuesdays since Day One and were in attendance for nearly every show for the first several seasons," Shoup said. "I never imagined this thing would last eleven years, and they are a primary driver in keeping it going."

Hill and Mummaw led very different musical lives before they met at the 2006 Summer Solstice Jazz Festival.

"Gregg takes all the credit for turning me on to jazz, but it really didn't take much because I'm a music lover to the bottom of my soul," Mummaw said.

She grew up on Michigan's west shore and went to Benton Harbor High School, the same school legendary jazz pianist Gene Harris attended a generation earlier.

(A generation earlier, Mummaw's mother and Harris were reprimanded by their junior high school principal for dancing together.)

Dance was Mummaw's thing back then, and it still is.

She reluctantly learned how to play

the clarinet ("having to practice was painful") but happily started taking lessons in baton twirling and ballet at age 3.

"My way to appreciate music has always been to move to it," she said.

The comedian Sinbad (aka David Adkins) also went to Benton Harbor High. Mummaw recalls Adkins and his family coming over to her family's house on Sundays after church, where Adkins senior was pastor.

"We'd barbecue, play badminton and dance to James Brown records on the lawn," she said.

Mummaw's maternal grandmother, also named Lois, was a jazz pianist.

"She played the Shadowlands Ballroom at 19," Mummaw said. "Her nickname was 'Speed' because she played so fast."

Hill wonders if his wife's grandmother somehow planted the seeds for her late-in-life conversion to jazz, but Mummaw isn't so sure.

"Music was music to me," she said. "My parents weren't jazz fans, but my mom had the radio on all the time." She loved pop groups like Tommy James and the Shondells (from Niles, Michigan) and later picked up on '70s

groups like Led Zeppelin and Black Sabbath.

"You can really dance to that stuff," she said.

She moved to the Lansing area in 1988 after going through a difficult divorce from her first husband and worked multiple jobs as a single mom.

Free music festivals, including the Great Lakes Folk Festival, offered a welcome break.

"Outdoor music festivals are my favorite thing in the world," she said. "I don't care what kind of music. As long as I can dance, I'm good."

Her first all-jazz festival was the 1988 Summer Solstice Jazz Festival. She went with her son, Ben, who was in the East Lansing High School Jazz Band.

The 2006 festival led to a fateful encounter. Hill watched Mummaw dance but didn't talk to her, assuming she was married.

Fortunately, Mummaw and her son approached him after the set to thank him for being a festival sponsor. They swapped phone numbers and met again the next night, at The Green Door.

Mummaw was quickly sucked into Hill's world, which is easily summed up in three words: jazz, jazz, jazz.

He grew up in Midland, the son of a big-band fanatic. His parents took him to see Dizzy Gillespie, Duke Ellington and many other greats in the 1950s. He got a set of bongos at 14 and soon plunged into the beatnik world, beret, poetry and all. He soaked up the jazz scenes in New York, California and Detroit as a truck driver for 25 years and moved to Lansing in 1970 with his first wife, Gail, who died in 2000.

He had little time for music in the 1980s, with work and family taking precedence, but all that jazz was percolating in his brain. His composing muse began to surface when he quit his trucking gig and took lessons with Arlene McDaniel.

By now, Hill's book of tunes has

16th annual JAMM Tribute

Lois Mummaw and Gregg Hill

3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9

Friendship Baptist Church

2912 Pleasant Grove Road,
Lansing

jazzjamm.org

Jim Harrison in midlife: Fame becomes him

By **BILL CASTANIER**

This is the second installment of a three-part story on Todd Goddard's biography of Jim Harrison, leading up to Goddard's appearance at 7 p.m. Nov. 13 at the Library of Michigan. The event is free, and books will be available for purchase. Goddard will be interviewed by Leslie McRoberts, head of Michigan State University's Special Collections.

Todd Goddard's comprehensive and revealing — very revealing — biography of the late Jim Harrison, one of the nation's most famous contemporary writers, might be called “Devouring Time,” but parts are difficult to digest.

Readers learn about Harrison's immense talents, fueled by a singular genius and a seemingly photographic memory of everything he put his hands on, but also about his excesses with food, sex and drugs, which almost led to his ruination.

Bob Dattila, who was a close friend and contemporary of Harrison at Michigan State University and later became his agent, is quoted in the book as saying Harrison was the most intelligent man he ever met.

A similar observation was made by former MSU President Lou Anna Simon, who, while waiting in the Wharton Center green room with Harrison, Richard Ford and Tom McGuane, said, “I've never been in a room with three men who are as

smart as you are.”

Harrison's life was one big juxtaposition. Goddard chronicles how Harrison's growing fame in midlife often brought out the worst in him, along with the best. Harrison rubbed shoulders and shared drugs and deep conversations with the likes of Jack Nicholson, Marlon Brando, Edward Abbey, Richard Brautigan, Gary Snyder, Peter Matthiessen and Jessica Lange (with whom he had a documented affair), to name only a few.

Despite appearing rough and gruff, Goddard details numerous examples of Harrison's generosity and kindness. One takeaway from Goddard's book is that Harrison was as complex as his writing.

Goddard cites a 1980 letter from Harrison to fellow writer and close friend Tom McGuane in which he details his financial difficulties after blowing through a million dollars. He writes, “I'm absolutely broke with no prospects. Oh my god, how did it come to this — \$500 meals and \$200 whores.”

The highs and lows of Harrison's writing career are laid out clearly in Goddard's frank look at his life. Despite publishing books at a furious rate, such as “Farmer,” “Wolf,” “Warlock” and the novella “Legends of the Fall,” which cemented his fame, Harrison found himself writing for Hollywood dollars, chasing federal grants and borrowing \$25,000 from

Jack Nicholson.

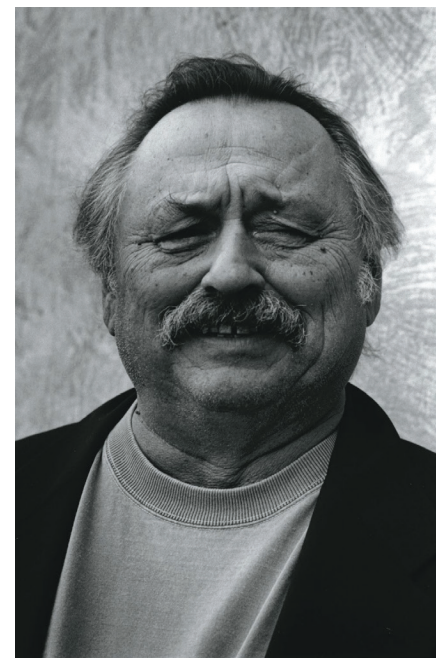
From Goddard's writing, we learn that Nicholson and Harrison became enamored with each other. The author provides numerous examples from Harrison's archives of how, despite his shortcomings, he drew people in and made lasting friendships.

Goddard also details the unwavering friendship between Harrison and Dan Gerber, another MSU acquaintance. Gerber would “loan” Harrison money and pay for Harrison and his wife to accompany him and his spouse to Africa. Denizens of the '60s especially will enjoy the stories Goddard brings to light about the literary magazine Sumac, which Harrison and Gerber founded.

Goddard also covers the raucous times Harrison and the “sporting club” (Guy de la Valdene, Tom McGuane, Jimmy Buffett and others) would spend in Key West, fishing carousing and snorting.

The book paints a vivid picture of Harrison as a flawed family man who would be away from home for a month at a time. However, he would always return to his spouse, Linda, and his daughters.

The book also details how much Harrison relied on Joyce Bahle, whom he hired after his success with “Legends of the Fall” to manage his literary and personal affairs, which were in terrible disorder. For years, the IRS was hounding him for back taxes. Bahle helped keep him on the



Courtesy photo

In his new biography of the late Jim Harrison (pictured), Todd Goddard chronicles how the writer's growing fame in midlife often brought out the worst in him, along with the best.

straight and narrow, or at least his definition of it.

We come to understand from the book that Bahle knew everything about Harrison's professional and personal life, but as his aide de camp, she was the most discreet assistant ever. She controlled everything from who could talk with him (outside his circle of close friends) to his daily schedule, with some exceptions, like his cross-country drives.

Full circle

from page 24

grown to over 200. Many of them have been recorded on a growing stack of CDs by Rodney Whitaker, trombonist Michael Dease, guitarist Randy Napoleon and other top stars, gaining national attention and glowing reviews in the jazz press.

Pianist Ron Newman, a longtime staple of Lansing's jazz scene, saw Hill soaking up the music at many gigs he played with his wife, singer Sunny Wilkinson.

“Apart from their financial support, Gregg and Lois are the ultimate lovers of jazz,” Newman said. “Once he started hanging with Lois, it was obvious she was also a keen listener. Musicians need listeners, and Gregg and Lois are the best.”

Hill's lifelong love of jazz clearly rubbed off on Mummaw, but he also

credits his wife for “loosening” him up, in more ways than one.

“I'm not a natural dancer,” he said. “She taught me how to actually dance.”

Mummaw felt that JAMM was dominated by jazz purists in its early years, with little regard for smooth jazz, fusion or other funk- and pop-leaning hybrid forms.

“Gregg couldn't break free of that influence,” she said. “I'm responsible for him loosening up what he calls jazz.”

Mummaw stepped down as president of JAMM two years ago, but she hopes the organization will continue to open its tent wider.

“I'm hoping for JAMM to be more open to different styles of jazz, and to more younger people, and to just make it more joyful to be part of this jazz society,” she said.

JAMM gave the jazz community a timely boost in 2009, when the economy was in free fall, gigs were drying

up and the MSU jazz studies program was still building its national reach and promotional muscle.

“The tradition of having a tribute is what we're most proud of,” Mummaw said. “That and the scholarships for high school kids.”

More than 20 local students have received JAMM scholarships. Many of them, such as 2015 recipient and keyboard wizard Clif Metcalf (also performing at Sunday's tribute), have gone on to launch successful musical careers.

Hill pushed the idea of a yearly tribute when pianist Sandy Izenson died in 2008. He hated the idea of Izenson “going into oblivion” without a word of recognition.

“I picked up the idea from New Orleans,” Hill said. “It doesn't matter how obscure you are there, if you're a DJ, what have you. If you contributed to the music scene, you're celebrated. Show him some love.”

Mummaw said she has planned 14 of the 16 JAMM tributes, drawing upon years of organizing experience as a restaurant worker (and owner) and volunteer youth coordinator at University Lutheran Church.

The tributes have produced some emotional moments and exceptional music. Hill and Mummaw agreed that two tributes to singers named Betty — Betty Joplin in 2015 and Betty Baxter in 2016 — stood out.

“They've all been good, but those two were especially moving, seeing a community form around these two great singers,” Hill said.

“Every honoree has said they didn't think it was going to be that big of a deal,” Mummaw said. “Afterwards, they say, ‘You usually don't hear stuff like this until you're dead, and then you don't hear it because you're dead.’”

She turned to her husband. “You'd better bring a stack of hankies, because it's going to get you bad.”

Family values

Q&A: Rocky Rodriguez of adrenachrome. talks Rodriguez Fest



Courtesy photos

Rodriguez Fest is a family-focused affair, featuring performances by Rocky Rodriguez's band, adrenachrome., as well as his sister, Rachel Rodriguez, and their father, Ray T. Rodriguez.

By RICH TUPICA

Rocky Rodriguez was barely out of high school when adrenachrome. started shaking basement walls. It was 1995, the tail end of grunge and the early days of nu-metal, and he was already carving out his own frequency: part hip-hop cadence, part metal snarl, part alt-rock melody. Raised on scuffed-up CDs by the likes of White Zombie, Snoop Dogg, Sepultura, Korn and Deftones, he built a sound that fused all the noise his generation loved and refused to pick a side.

Soon, adrenachrome. was packing local clubs with moshing kids, beer-soaked floors and maxed-out PAs. Then the amps went quiet. For nearly a decade, Rocky stepped back from the stage. That silence breaks Friday (Nov. 7) when adrenachrome. returns to play Rodriguez Fest, a full-circle family gig at Grewal Hall. The band will share the bill with Rocky's sister, Rachel Rodriguez, whose music blends her Latina roots with rock 'n' soul swagger.

"Her voice is like Janis Joplin or Tina Turner, very soulful with a little bit of rasp," Rocky said.

Their father, Ray Rodriguez, rounds out the lineup with songs from his new acoustic album, "Generaciones," a striking mix of traditional Mexican tunes.

"He's still got it. My dad's been doing this forever," Rocky said. "My dad sang 'The Star-Spangled Banner' for the 1984 Tigers during the World Series."

Also on the bill are Your Dad and

Shelby & Jake, with DJ Sizl spinning between sets. A diverse lineup, to say the least.

At 47, Rocky is plugged in again with a new adrenachrome. lineup and ready to see if lightning can strike twice. He spoke with City Pulse about growing up in the woods of Ovid, his days opening concerts for Sevendust and Hed PE, and relighting the spark that started it all.

Back in the late '90s and early 2000s, adrenachrome. had a big following among the Deftones and Korn crowd. How'd that happen?

We were early on that sound. The Korn, Deftones thing was happening already out in California, and I was on it right away. That's just what I was attracted to at that time.

I was the kid who grew up listening to Pantera and Snoop Dogg. So, it just made sense for me to try to do something I could do.

But even before the band was happening, I was a kid who was involved in lots of stuff: sports, acting, student council and playing trumpet in band. Being involved in lots of different social groups really helped. And the sound was a hybrid of all things. I think our late-'90s generation was the first to like Korn, The Prodigy and the Dave Matthews Band all at the same time.

What was your first big adrenachrome. show?

It was this battle of the bands at

the Small Planet, probably in late '97, maybe early '98. Another local band on the show was Uncle Slarvy. We ended up winning it.

That's when everybody showed up. It was surprising. It was literally our first show, and we lived in Ovid. East Lansing and Ovid are far apart — you might as well be talking about Detroit if you're from Ovid. And, at the time, everybody else in the band was like 14 and 15. I had just graduated from high school. I had to pay the Small Planet's door guy to let my bandmates play the show. So, for us to win and immediately jump into a college-type circuit was amazing. That, combined with hitting the streets and giving demos out everywhere we went. All that effort paid off.

What was a high point?

We were fortunate enough to have waves. We won that battle of the bands. Then we started packing the Silver Dollar and Small Planet. And then all those clubs closed down, and that's when we started playing other types of venues, like The Barn in Pompeii, the VFW hall in St. Johns or basement college parties. We just had to do whatever it took to make it happen when Lansing didn't have the Small Planet or the Silver Dollar. And then the Temple Club opened, and that was our next peak, when we started blowing out shows.

You gigged a lot with E Backwards E, another successful local band from that era. What was that relationship like?

That whole allied peer group was definitely helpful to us. Every time they elevated their songwriting, it

made us want to do the same thing. In our little world, we were our own little Korn and Deftones — two bands in this area that were original and doing their own thing. Every time the night was over, you could tell we just tore the roof down.

What inspired you to get back on stage for Rodriguez Fest?

My sister in Nashville, Rachel Rodriguez, has been having a wave of success. She's got a lot of momentum rolling and a new album, "Mi Vida," coming up, some singles being recorded at legendary studios with serious players and serious management.

With all those gears moving while I'm around it, it just gets me sizzling on the inside. For this show, I knew I didn't just want to run production and sound. I actually started feeling a pit in my stomach, thinking that when she comes to town, I'll be embarrassed if I don't take the stage. I feel like riding her coattails right now and re-sparking what I had going 10, 12 years ago. That was about the last time I did a big show like this.

What keeps you inspired?

I like the process of it. When I do music, it benefits not only my mind, body and spirit, but also the people around me. You can't quantify those feelings within yourself when you're just overwhelmed with gratitude. I've gotten to practice my sister's songs with the band. I'm singing my sister's lyrics, and her words are so beautiful. I've cried more these last few weeks as we're preparing for this show, not out of sadness, but out of inspiration.

Rodriguez Fest

Friday, Nov. 7
Doors 6 p.m., show 7 p.m.
Grewal Hall
224 S. Washington Square,
Lansing
All ages
facebook.com/
adrenachromemusic

Riverwalk serves up 'Little Women' for the modern era

By COURTNEY BOWERMAN

Anna Hill, the lead in Riverwalk Theatre's upcoming production of "Little Women," confessed that she's never read the original novel. As a young adult, she was more into fantasy and romance than classic literature.

However, she has seen Greta Gerwig's 2019 film adaptation and knew when Riverwalk announced the show that out of all the March sisters, Jo was the role she wanted to play.

"She's not as feminine as you think," Hill said. "She's very motivated and strong in her opinions, and I think that aligns with me as well."

Adapted for the stage by Kate Hamill, "Little Women" follows Jo, Beth, Meg and Amy March through hard times in the 19th century. It's a story that many people can identify with in our current economic climate. As such, during the show's run, audiences will have a chance to help those in need.

"In the spirit of the March family and also the Alcotts, Riverwalk will be having a food drive during the run of the show," director Mary Job said.

"Check out the Facebook page for items. Bring them to the show or during business hours."

According to Job, an ardent admirer of "Little Women" and

the accomplishments of Louisa May Alcott, this adaptation "more strongly focuses on the character of Jo and her development as a future writer, as well as her feelings of being different as a young woman growing into adulthood in the restrictions of the 19th century."

She added that there are moments in the show when Jo questions her gender identity. It's a concept that isn't new among scholars of Alcott's work.

"I think it's clear that she isn't always comfortable being a woman, certainly as the 19th century defined women," Job said. "Sometimes she feels like a man, given the constraints imposed on women in the 19th century, intellectually. She has gender ambiguity, and she's facing a world in which the gender she presents as faces a great deal of restrictions."

"To me, the theme of this play is about growing," she continued. "Not only growing up, which these girls



Photo by Anirika Artistry

From left: Anna Hill, Rachael Steffens, Storm Hawthorne, Betsy Karinen and Maria Berry in Riverwalk Theatre's production of "Little Women."

are doing. They're all growing into very different ideas of adulthood and womanhood. They're all very different that way."

Job explained that this theme is ultimately represented by the conflict-dynamic between Jo and her younger sister Amy (Rachael Steffens), and not just in terms of the relationships they have with their male friend Laurie (Heath Sartorius).

"Amy is a woman totally suited for her era and will be successful in it, while Jo is the square peg in a round hole," she said. "I think the central conflict is the tension between the two women, because neither understands nor agrees with the other's choices."

There are still fans that believe Jo and Laurie should have ended up together. Hill disagrees, knowing that her character's goals and needs don't include romance.

"Laurie and Jo are soulmates in a way," she said, "but I don't think it's romantic, especially on her side. I don't think Jo sees a need for a man in her life."

Despite its deeper themes, Hill promises that this adaptation won't be all drama.

"It's very much a story about family and love and how these things shape you into the person that you're meant to be. The adaptation that we're doing is very fun. It's a little zany, but all the serious story beats are there as well."

She said the rehearsal process has been a collaborative experience. She's

worked with Sartorius and Ndegwa McCloud (John Brooks/Mr. Dashwood) before, but she's also grown close to her stage sisters, Maria Berry (Meg) and Storm Hawthorne (Beth). Additionally, she praised Job's direction.

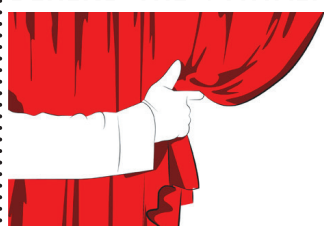
"Mary is always very organized," she said. "She knows exactly what she wants, and she has a clear vision. It's always a joy to work with her because she's so organized."

After "Little Women" ends, Hill

plans to take a break from acting. She'll serve as the stage manager for Evolve Theatrics' upcoming production of "Frozen" in February. However, being Jo March has made her want to finally read the book she's been putting off for so long.

"If you have any interest in a story about normal girls, about love, about family, about friendship, it's going to hit all those beats. There's some comedy, some drama — there's a little bit for everybody."

BEHIND THE CURTAIN



November theater productions:

"Little Women"

Nov. 6-9 and 13-16

7 p.m. Thursday

8 p.m. Friday-Saturday

2 p.m. Sunday

Riverwalk Theatre

228 Museum Drive, Lansing

riverwalktheatre.com

"The Best We Could (a family tragedy)"

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.

Nov. 7-9 and 13-16

7 p.m. Thursday-Saturday

3 p.m. Sunday; Nov. 15

Stage One at Sycamore Creek Eastwood

2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing

peppermintcreek.org

"Island Song"

LCC Performing Arts

Nov. 7-9 and 14-15

7 p.m. Friday-Saturday

2 p.m. Sunday

Dart Auditorium

500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing

lcc.edu/showinfo

"Othello"

Nov. 7-9, 12-14, 16

7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

2 p.m. Sunday

Wharton Center Pasant Theatre

750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing

theatre.msu.edu

"A Sherlock Carol"

Nov. 13-Dec. 21

Opening weekend showtimes:

7:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday

2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

Rest of run showtimes:

2 p.m. Thursday, Saturday-Sunday

7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday

No show Nov. 27

Williamston Theatre

122 S. Putnam St., Williamston

williamstontheatre.org

"Chemical Imbalance: A Jekyll and Hyde Play"

MSU Department of Theatre

Nov. 19-23

7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday

2 p.m. Sunday

Studio 60 Theatre

542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing

theatre.msu.edu

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

“Wanna-Bees” -- doubling the effort.
by Matt Jones
© 2025 Matt Jones

- ACROSS
1. Take another tour
5. Hank's wife on “King of the Hill”
10. ____ of certiorari
14. Shoe insert
15. Movie cowboy Lash
16. Tip-top
17. River through Luxor
18. In any way
19. Felt bad about
20. Sax mouthpiece that's mostly caramel and sugar?
23. Address a crowd
24. Unknowns in a linear equation
25. Heat source?
28. Neuralgia, e.g.
30. Unit of resistance
31. Overachieving high schooler?
38. Tapioca balls
40. Dr. on “The Muppet Show”
41. Last Ivy alphabetically
42. Super Bowl-winning coach Ewbank, if he had a team of arachnids?
45. ____-mo
46. Adopt-____ (shelter program)
47. Frequently
49. ____ de terre (potato, in French)
52. Mob
55. Flinging something at your parents in the front because you want the road trip to be over?

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
	20				21						22			
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55					56	57					58	59		
60					61						62			63
64					65						66			
67					68						69			

60. Pleasant
61. Accord promoter
62. Week seven, e.g.
64. Clinic group, casually
65. Held title to
66. Tax-exempt bond, for short
67. Future M.D.'s course
68. Brings up
69. Corp. boss
- DOWN
1. Sought office
2. Idle of Monty Python
3. John Wooden's sch.
4. Young star athlete
5. Beach, in Barcelona
6. Irritate
7. Raisin, formerly
8. Nervous noise
9. Stadium sound
10. Purchaser's protection
11. Joan of Arc site
12. “ ____ to tell you something ...”
13. One of the Roosevelts
21. Stylish clothing selection
22. Way out
25. Unruly crowds
26. “Breakfast All Day” chain
27. Prefix that means “both”
28. Buttigieg who ran for president
29. Hurt
32. Raison d’ ____ (reason for being)
33. Take a break
34. Not a lot
35. Vane heading
36. Allure competitor
37. Sign filler
39. Batman portrayer on TV
43. Olympic weapon
44. Physical form
48. “I'm hungry!”
49. “Kung Fu ____”
50. Constellation with a belt
51. Magnet for visitors
52. Dye used for temporary tattoos
53. Counter request?
54. Scans in
56. Marvel superhero from Asgard
57. Hockey Hall of Famer Gordie
58. French waters
59. Actress Daly of “Cagney & Lacey”
63. Editor's disclaimer

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SUDOKU

Intermediate

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

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy

Nov. 5-11, 2025

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In 1995, wolves were reintroduced to the American wildlife area known as Yellowstone Park after a 70-year absence. They hunted elk, which changed elk behavior, which changed vegetation patterns, which stabilized riverbanks, which altered the course of the Lamar River and its tributaries. The wolves changed the rivers! This phenomenon is called a trophic cascade: one species reorganizing an entire ecosystem through a web of indirect effects. For the foreseeable future, Aries, you will be a trophic cascade, too. Your choices will create many ripples beyond your personal sphere. I hope you wield your influence with maximum integrity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): I authorize you to explore the mysteries of sacred laziness. It's your right and duty to engage in intense relaxing, unwinding and detoxifying. Proceed on the theory that rest is not the absence of productivity but a different kind of production — the cultivation of dreams, the composting of experience, the slow fermentation of insight. What if your worth isn't always measured by your output? What if being less active for a while is essential to your beautiful success in the future?

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You are not yet who you will become. Your current struggle has not yet generated its full wisdom. Your confusion hasn't fully clarified into purpose. The mess hasn't composted into soil. The ending that looms hasn't revealed the beginning it portends. In sum, Gemini, you are far from done. The story isn't over. The verdict isn't in. You haven't met everyone who will love you and help you. You haven't become delightfully impossible in all the ways you will eventually become delightfully impossible.

CANCERIAN (June 21-July 22): By the time he became an elder, Cancerian artist David Hockney had enjoyed a long and brilliant career as a painter, primarily applying paint to canvases. Then, at age 72, he made a radical departure, generating artworks using iPhones and iPads. He loved how these digital media allowed him to instantly capture fleeting moments of beauty. His success with this alternate form of expression has been as great as his previous work. I encourage you to be as daring and innovative as Hockney. Your imaginative energy and creative powers are peaking. Take full advantage!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In his “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” Black activist Martin Luther King Jr. wrote, “We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.” He was proclaiming a universal truth: Real courage is never just about personal glory. It's about using your fire to help and illuminate others. You Leos are made to do this: to be bold, not just for your own sake, but as a source of strength for your community. Your charisma and creativity can be precious resources for all those whose lives you touch. In the coming weeks, how will you wield them for mutual uplift?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Who would have predicted that the first woman to climb Mount Everest would have three planets in Virgo? Japanese mountaineer Junko Tabei did it in 1975. To what did she attribute her success? She described herself not as fearless, but as “a person who never gives up.” I will note another key character trait: rebellious willfulness. In her time, women were discouraged from the sport. They were regarded as too fragile and impractical for rugged ascents. She defied all that. Let's make her your inspirational role model, Virgo. Be persistent, resolute, indefatigable and, if necessary, renegade.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Among the Mbuti people of the Congo, there's no word for “thank you.” Gratitude is so foundational to their culture that it requires no special acknowledgment. It's not singled out in moments of politeness; it's a sweet, ambient presence in the daily flux. I invite you to live like that for now, Libra. Practice feeling reverence and respect for every little thing that

makes your life such an amazing gift. Feel your appreciation humming through ordinary moments like background music. I guarantee you that this experiment will boost the flow of gratitude-worthy experiences in your direction.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Martin Luther King Jr. said that harnessing our pain and transforming it into wise love can change the world for the better. More than any other sign, Scorpio, you understand this mystery: how descent can lead to renewal, how darkness can awaken brilliance. It's one of your birthrights to embody King's militant tenderness: to take what has wounded you, alchemize it, and make it into a force that heals others as well as yourself. You have the natural power to demonstrate that vulnerability and ferocity can coexist, that forgiveness can live alongside uncompromising truth. When you transmute your shadows into offerings of power, you confirm King's conviction that “the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): “Apophenia” is the tendency to perceive meaningful patterns in seemingly random data. On the downside, it may cause a belief in delusional conspiracy theories. But it can also be a generator of life's poetry, leading us to see faces in clouds, hear fateful messages in static and find key revelations in a horoscope. Psychologist C.G. Jung articulated another positive variation of the phenomenon. His concept of synchronicity refers to the occurrence of meaningful coincidences between internal psychological states and external events that feel deeply significant and even astounding to the person experiencing them. Synchronicities suggest there's a mysterious underlying order in the universe, linking mind and matter in nonrational ways. In the coming weeks, Sagittarius, I suspect you will experience a slew of synchronicities and the good kind of apophenia.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Philosopher Alfred Korzybski coined the phrase “the map is not the territory.” In other words, your concepts about reality are not reality itself. Your idea of love is not love. Your theory about who you are is not who you are. It's true that many maps are useful fictions. But when you forget they're fiction, you're lost even when you think you know where you are. Here's the good news, Capricorn: In the weeks ahead, you are poised to see and understand the world exactly as it is — maybe more than ever before. Lean into this awesome opportunity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20- Feb. 18): Babies are born with about 300 bones, but adults have 206. Many of our first bones fuse with others. From one perspective, then, we begin our lives abundant with possibility and rich with redundancy. Then we solidify, becoming structurally sound but less flexible. Aging is a process of strategic sacrifice, necessary but not without loss. Please meditate on these facts as a metaphor for the decisions you face. The question isn't whether to ripen and mature — that's a given — but which growth will serve you and which will diminish you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Beneath every thriving forest lies a lacework of mycelium. Through it, tree roots trade nourishment, warn each other of drought or illness and make sure that young shoots benefit from elders' reserves. Scientists call it the “wood-wide web.” Indigenous traditions have long understood the principle: Life flourishes when a vast communication network operates below the surface to foster care and collaboration. Take your cues from these themes, Pisces. Tend creatively to the web of connections that joins you to friends, collaborators and kindred spirits. Proceed with the faith that generosity multiplies pathways and invites good fortune to circulate freely. Offer what you can, knowing that the cycle of giving will find its way back to you.

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

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

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

Wednesday, Nov. 5

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

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

Allen Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market.

Artist Talk: Diana Al-Hadid - Unravel what you know about paintings and sculpture. Join artist Diana Al-Hadid for a conversation on her artistic process, research and visual language. 7-8:30 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Beach Glass Christmas Trees - Each participant will be given a personalized kit with step-by-step instructions and all necessary supplies. 6-8 p.m. Sunnyside Cafe, 725 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston. eventbrite.com/o/beach-glass-crafting-party-77050402593.

Bingo - Every Wednesday. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Bingo cafe 5 p.m. Early bird 6 p.m. Eaton Rapids Senior Center, 201 Grand St., Eaton Rapids. facebook.com/EatonRapidsSeniorCenter.

Broadway Jazz Dance Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Careers in Business - Network with local employers, connect with LCC faculty and advisors, and learn about career, program and transfer opportunities. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Gannon Commons, 600 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. bit.ly/3WiZakE.

Code Club - Learn to make apps, animations and more! No coding expertise necessary. Drop-ins welcome. Grades 3+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org/project/learn-coding.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

GED to Degree - Get the support, resources and guidance you need to start your college journey and pursue a degree or certificate that moves you forward. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Gannon Building, 600 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. bit.ly/4hmc7z.

Group Dance Class: Beginning Hustle - The hustle originated in the 1970s, closely tied to the disco music craze of the era. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle, with Big Man Genesis - 9-11 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. lansing-shuffle.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. 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeat-events.com.

Lansing Speed Dating for Singles in Their 20s/30s - Meet up to 12 potential matches. Join the

thousands of people who have found love at our events. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Buddy's Pizza, 2010 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. pre-dating.com/lansing-speed-dating.

Lansing Speed Dating for Singles in Their 30s/40s - Meet up to 12 potential matches. Join the thousands of people who have found love at our events. 6-8 p.m. Buddy's Pizza, 2010 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. pre-dating.com/lansing-speed-dating.

Magic: The Gathering Club - We invite players of all skill levels to join us. Cards not provided. This is a drop-in adult program. 5:30-8 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Mindfulness Lunch & Learn: Begin with a Breath - Begin with a Breath introduces participants to the experience and practice of mindfulness, with a goal of reducing stress. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/stress_less_with_mindfulness/index.

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their "Black and White" exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

PEARS Crash Course - In this training, you'll learn what goes where in PEARs, where to find self-paced training materials and tips for data entry. 9-11:30 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/od/planning_evaluation_and_reporting/pears-crash-course.

Percussion Ensemble - MSU's Percussion Ensemble presents a dynamic program of contemporary works, showcasing a range of sounds through varied instrumentation. 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Pre-Coding Skills: Step It Out! - Learn the basic skills and concepts needed for computer coding through stories, songs and fun activities. Please plan to attend all three sessions. Ages 3-6. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Tap II Class for Teens & Adults - 6-7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Weaving the Web: Relative Truth - Join us online or in person every Wednesday for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6-8 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Women's Healing Circle - A space for women to share their stories, inspire each other and lift each other up. 8:30-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Thursday, Nov. 6

28th East Lansing Film Festival - The world-class East Lansing Film Festival screens independent films you wouldn't get a chance to see at local theaters. 7-9 p.m. Studio C, 1999 Central Park Drive, Okemos. elff.com.

Acting 101 Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.



Women in the Arts Festival

5-9 p.m. Friday, Nov. 7
10 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8
Edgewood United Church
469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing

In honor of its 40th anniversary, this year's Women in the Arts festival will highlight artists from throughout the state.

Beginning Friday evening and continuing all day Saturday, the festival will feature night stage performances by Americana supergroup The Rebel Eves and all-female Detroit jazz band Straight Ahead, co-sponsored by the Ten Pound Fiddle.

Kalamazoo blues artist (and professional whistler) Megan Dooley, folk duo The Investigators, Lansing women's chorus Sistrum and a collaborative performance by the Happendence Professional Company and music ensemble Aurora & Antheia comprise Saturday's day stage lineup.

An artists' market will operate both days, featuring dozens of vendors selling women-made goods, from clothes to crafts to coffee. Sistrum will also run a cafe.

At 4 p.m. Saturday, the hosts of Ann Arbor Lesbo Bingo, Ames and Callie M2, will bring the popular event to East Lansing. The prize? A cat sculpture.

Those still raring for more after the event is over Saturday evening can hop over to the Sir Pizza Grand Cafe in Old Town for an afterparty beginning at 9:30, with DJ Mae and DJ Che spinning tracks until after midnight.

Interested attendees can visit witafestival.com for a complete schedule of events.

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 8-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

African Diaspora Percussion Ensemble - Members of MSU's Percussion Ensemble explore the vibrant drumming traditions of the African diaspora, performing traditional Congolese and Cuban rhythms on culturally unique instruments. 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

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.

Arts Council Grant Chat - Stop by Foster Coffee Co. to discuss your grant questions and creative ideas with membership & program manager Taylor Haslett. She can provide information on local grant opportunities and assist you in planning your

applications. 3-4 p.m. 196 Albert Ave., East Lansing. facebook.com/ArtsCouncilGL.

Beach Glass Christmas Trees - Each participant will be given a personalized kit with step-by-step instructions and all necessary supplies. 6-8 p.m. Nina's Notions, 104 N. Clinton Ave., St. Johns. eventbrite.com/o/beach-glass-crafting-party-77050402593.

Biology on Tap - We'll have two speakers visiting from Kellogg Biological Station to discuss their work on parasitoid insects and temperature-dependent sex determination in alligators. 7 p.m. Michigan Wildlife Conservancy, 6380 Drumheller Road, Bath. facebook.com/BioOnTap.

Capital Area Audubon Meeting - Emma Campbell, Meridian Township land stewardship coordinator, will discuss what native plants are, what ecosystem services they provide our communities and why they're in steep decline. 7-8 p.m. Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos. capitalareaudubon.org.

LSO MasterWorks: Ray Chen Plays Bruch

7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 7

Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing

What's that? You missed the boat when superstar violinist Ray Chen played Max Bruch's grand Violin Concerto No. 1 with the Royal Stockholm Philharmonic at the 2012 Nobel Prize ceremonies? It's a good thing you live in Lansing. The home team has you covered. Under outgoing maestro Timothy Muffitt, the Lansing Symphony Orchestra has punched above its weight so many times that it's easy to get jaded, but Friday's MasterWorks concert is one for the books. Chen has played with the foremost orchestras in the world, from Berlin to Paris to New York, and has won too many awards and competitions to name here, but all that pales in the light of his incandescent stage presence.

"He's a very special kind of musician, not only in his exquisite playing but his connection with audiences," Muffitt said. "It's like Lang Lang. Only a handful of people have that — a power they bring to live performance that transcends just normal great playing."

Chen plays an 18th-century Stradivarius violin (formerly played by Jascha Heifetz), but he swims with ease in the media blur of the 21st century as an engaging blogger, educator, gaming fanatic and musical consultant for video game developer Riot Games.

The Bruch concerto is dear to both men's hearts.

"Every moment of it reaches you in such a direct and beautiful way," Muffitt said. "I'm thrilled to have Ray here because it will really line up with his gifts."

Friday's concert also includes one of the greatest hits of Muffitt's 20-year tenure, Bartók's absorbing Concerto for Orchestra, and a banging, soaring, east-meets-west showpiece by Michigan State University composer Zhou Tian, "A Thousand Years of Good Prayers."



Events

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Capital Area Modelers Society Meeting - Learn about building scale models, display what you're working on and get to know others interested in the hobby. 6:30-8 p.m. Judson Baptist Church, 531 Glendale Ave., Lansing. capitalareamodelers-society.wordpress.com.

Class Series: Beginning Ukulele for the Family - Participants will learn a brief history of the instrument and all the basics they need to get started playing. Ages 8+. Registration req. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladi.org.

Clayworks Holiday Pottery Sale - Noon-7 p.m. Faith Church, 2300 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. clayworkspottery.net.

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.

Drum Circle at Bath Community Center - Join the Greater Lansing Area Drummers for a fun and energetic evening of rhythm and drumming. All ages and experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. 5959 Park Lake Road, Bath. facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

Exquisite Corpse: A Full Moon Creative Mixer - Everyone is welcome to gather for this free mixer, inspired by the 1920s surrealist collaborative drawing game Exquisite Corpse. 6-8 p.m. Sleep-walker Spirits and Ale, 1101 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/ArtsCouncilGL.

Greater Lansing Potters' Guild Fall Sale - 5-8 p.m. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. greaterlansingpottersguild.org.

Group Dance Class: Beginning Rhumba - Learn the basic steps of this very easy Latin dance. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Group Dance Class: Beginning West Coast Swing

- Have fun, learn a social skill and meet new people! 7 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Intro to Acting/Improv Class for Kids - Ages 5-12. 4-4:45 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Ladies' Silver Blades - Join other adult women for fun, exercise, friendship and skating practice. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Bigby Coffee Ice Cube, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. ladiessilverblades.org.

"Little Women" - Kate Hamill's feminist-friendly spin on this American classic is funny, poignant and relevant to modern audiences. 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

MACC Chamber Mixer - Network and mingle over light refreshments and hors d'oeuvres. We'll have a 50/50 drawing and prizes to give away. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Mason Area Historical Museum, 200 E. Oak St., Mason. facebook.com/masonchamber.

MELT Thursdays - UrbanBeat turns up the heat with a weekly electronic music series, hosted by Big Sherm. No cover. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their "Black and White" exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Parkinson's Exercise: Rock-Steady Boxing - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson's. Caregivers are welcome to participate if space permits. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

Rittz - Hip-hop artist Rittz brings his "Night Owl" tour to Lansing, with support from Michigan Misfits, Knowledge da MC, Leukotomy and Wuzee. 7 p.m. Grewal Hall, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. hall224.com.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble: Performing Group for All Ages - Meets twice per week. 5:30-7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

SamRose Entertainment Presents: IS Evolution - Fronted by the powerful voice of Inohs Sivad, IS Evolution blends heavy grooves and sharp riffs into a sound that's both unrelenting and undeniable. 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

"Shrek the Musical" - Presented by Williamston High School Music Theater Club. 7 p.m. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston. gofan.co/app/school/MI3814_4.

Silent Book Group - Bring your own book to discuss, then read in companionable silence. Some attendees break off for private socializing. 6:30-8 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

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.

Stretch & Meditation - Join us at Chrysalis Enrichment Center LLC for a rejuvenating experience filled with gentle stretches and calming meditation. 6:15-8 p.m. 2380 Science Parkway, Ste. 108, Okemos. facebook.com/ChrysalisReflexologyHypnosis.

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.

Tune In - An inclusive music showcase for performers and songwriters from Greater Lansing. You're invited to share a song (must sign up in advance) or just enjoy great music by your neighbors. 7:30 p.m. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Women, Leadership & Policy: Navigating Change with Confidence - This event will provide valuable insights and strategies for women looking to excel in their professional lives. 8:30-10 a.m. Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, 500 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. eventbrite.com/o/lisa-fisher-associates-36664496403.

Friday, Nov. 7

28th East Lansing Film Festival - The world-class East Lansing Film Festival screens independent films you wouldn't get a chance to see at local theaters. 6:15-10:30 p.m. Studio C, 1999 Central Park Drive, Okemos. elff.com.

"The Best We Could (a family tragedy)" - In this funny, wise and heartbreaking play, a daughter's road trip with her father becomes a theatrical journey across more than just state lines. 7 p.m. Stage One, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. peppermintcreek.org.

Blue Avenue Delegates - Join us for an unforgettable night with the Blue Avenue Delegates, one of Michigan's finest blues bands! 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Broad Underground: "Lost Boys, Stolen Trucks" - A traveling program of four short films by Iowa filmmakers Philip Rabalais and Auden Lincoln-Vogel exploring dynamics of male friendship (and enmity) through surreal and genre-bending forms. 7-9 p.m. Wells Hall, 619 Red Cedar Road, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Clayworks Holiday Pottery Sale - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Faith Church, 2300 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. clayworkspottery.net.

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 Jr. - Make a pom-pom cornucopia! Grades 1-3. Registration req. 4:15 p.m. Charlotte

Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Free Lunch Friday: Nachos! - Nacho bar, beverages and dessert. Shop while you lunch. Something for everyone! 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Kellie's, 5000 Marsh Road, Okemos. kellies.shop.

Friends of the Haslett Library Fall Book Sale - Featuring our annual basket silent auction, with 25 baskets containing books on various topics. Sale is restricted to members only on Nov. 7. Membership can be purchased at the door. 5-7 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett.

Greater Lansing Potters' Guild Fall Sale - 10 a.m.-8 p.m. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. greaterlansingpottersguild.org.

Holiday Peek at Grace Boutique of Old Town - Join us for a weekend of holiday sneak peeks and introductions to some incredible new lines! Also, spend \$100+ and get a \$25 gift card. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. 509 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/graceboutiqueofoldtown.

"Island Song" - The energy and passions of New York City explode with a percussive, soaring pop score as an ambitious set of 20- and 30-somethings navigates the promises and perils of big city life. 7 p.m. Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Jessey Adams Live at the Peanut Barrel - 8-10 p.m. 521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-351-0608. peanutbarrel.com.

Jigsaw Puzzle Challenge - Teams of up to five members will put together as much of a 500-piece puzzle as possible within 75 minutes. The team with the most puzzle completed wins. 6:30-8 p.m. Delta Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. facebook.com/deltatownship.

JP & The Energy Live at Mash Bar - 9 p.m.-12:30 a.m. 212 Albert Ave., East Lansing. 517-858-2100. mashbar.net.

Lansing Symphony Orchestra: Ray Chen Plays Bruch - Chen takes us into the rich, romantic world of Bruch's Violin Concerto No. 1, a piece that feels both deeply personal and universally moving. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. lansingsymphony.org.

Last One Out Live at Summerlands Brewing Co. - 7:30-10:30 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

"Little Women" - Kate Hamill's feminist-friendly spin on this American classic is funny, poignant and relevant to modern audiences. 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their "Black and White" exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

MSU Horticulture Gardens 10th Annual Houseplant & Succulent Sale - We'll have thousands of plants for sale, but arrive early for the best selection! 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Plant & Soil Sciences Building, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing. canr.msu.edu/hrt/our_gardens.

MSU Jazz Nonets, with Salim Washington - Four nine-piece ensembles take the stage with guest artist Salim Washington, a saxophonist, composer and scholar known for blending jazz with African diasporic traditions. 7:30 p.m. Murray Hall, 333 W Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

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

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Events

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Open Old-Time Jam | First Friday of Every Month - Join the legendary Mike Ross for an old-time-centric jam. Even if you don't play, feel free to listen along! 5-6:30 p.m. Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. elderly.com/collections/events.

Parkinson's Exercise: Movement with Vitality - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson's. Caregivers are welcome to participate if space permits. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

PEARS Deeper Dive: Program Activities - Participants should have attended the PEARs Crash Course. Learn how to enter a program activity. 1 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/od/planning_evaluation_and_reporting/pears-deeper-dives.

Rodriguez Fest - Featuring performances by Rachel Rodriguez, Ray Rodriguez, adrenachrome., Shelby & Jake, DJ Sizl, Chef Surge and more. 6:45 p.m. Grewal Hall, 224 S. Washington Square, Lansing. Hall224.com.

Sensory-Friendly Night at Harris Nature Center - A special after-hours evening for families with members who have sensory processing needs. Exhibits will have reduced sounds and lighting, and a quiet room and sensory kits will be available. 5:30-7:30 p.m. 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

S'Moves Alive! - Dancers Roberta Otten and John MacDonald, singer Rosemary Edgar and musician Bill Tennant perform a relaxing mix of modern dance, calming songs and instrumental wind music. Visual imagery by Shin-Yi Wang enhances this soothing hour. Free admission. Donations accepted. 7:30 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capital Ave., Lansing.

UNWIND: Unplug. Link up. Have Fun. - Created for MSU students, UNWIND is a monthly series from the MSU Museum that offers a chance to relax, recharge and reset. In this session, attendees can play games, win prizes and enjoy free food with friends. 7-9 p.m. 311 Abbot Road, East Lansing. museum.msu.edu.

Saturday, Nov. 8

28th East Lansing Film Festival - The world-class East Lansing Film Festival screens independent films you wouldn't get a chance to see at local theaters. 1-10:30 p.m. Studio C, 1999 Central Park Drive, Okemos. elff.com.

All-Day Shape Note Singing - Celebrate the 2025 Sacred Harp book revision with 113 new songs, many by young composers! Drop by and sing this living American music! Free will offering, potluck lunch, books to loan or purchase \$20. 9:15 a.m.-3 p.m. Faith Lutheran Church, 4515 Dobie Road, Okemos. fasolamichigan.org.

"The Best We Could (a family tragedy)" - In this funny, wise and heartbreaking play, a daughter's road trip with her father becomes a theatrical journey across more than just state lines. 7 p.m. Stage One, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. peppermintcreek.org.

Burnin' Rubber 5K Run/Walk - Trade your wheels for running shoes and join NASCAR Cup Series driver Erik Jones for a one-of-a-kind race experience! Proceeds go to the Erik Jones Foundation. 10 a.m. Owosso Speedway, 7204 W. M-21, Ovid. runsignup.com/Race/MI/Ovid/BurninRubber-5KRunAndWalk.

Cocaine Anonymous Meeting - "We are here and we are free." 10 a.m. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing.

Granks Giving Alley Cat - Push back with mutual aid. Ride bikes. Buy food. Have fun. Bring your friends along. 2 p.m. Lansing Bike Co-op, 1715 E.

Kalamazoo St., Lansing. lansingbike.coop.

Friends of the Haslett Library Fall Book Sale - Featuring our annual basket silent auction, with 25 baskets containing books on various topics. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett.

Friends of the Library Speaker Series: Ian Tomashik - This lecture explores the history of and rationale behind moving houses, as well as some notable house-moving projects from the metro Detroit area. 1 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

The Future of Comedy Show - Featuring performances by nationally touring headliner Mike Ball and FOCS favorites Dave Welfare, Steve Kaz and Eric Wielinski. 8 p.m. Bengel Wildlife Center, 6380 Drumheller Road, Bath. facebook.com/thefuture-ofcomedyshow.

Global Festival - Immerse yourself in cultures from around the world at this free, family-friendly event. Enjoy lively performances, explore interactive exhibits and discover unique finds at the Global Gift Shop. 1-5 p.m. MSU International Center, 427 N. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. facebook.com/oissmsu.

Grady Hall and the Disciples of Funk - Get ready to move! Grady Hall and the Disciples of Funk are bringing the heat to UrbanBeat with their signature blend of old-school funk, blues, soul and Latin grooves. 7-10 p.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Greater Lansing Potters' Guild Fall Sale - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. greaterlansingpottersguild.org.

Hogwarts-Style Dinner Celebration - Come dressed in your finest wizarding robes. All ages welcome! 6-10 p.m. Eaton Area Senior Center, 804 S. Cochran Ave., Charlotte. eventbrite.com/o/eaton-area-senior-center-15564810298.

Holiday Peek at Grace Boutique of Old Town - Join us for a weekend of holiday sneak peeks and introductions to some incredible new lines! Also, spend \$100+ and get a \$25 gift card. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. 509 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/graceboutiqueofoldtown.

Intermediate Ballet Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

"Island Song" - The energy and passions of New York City explode with a percussive, soaring pop score as an ambitious set of 20- and 30-some-things navigates the promises and perils of big city life. 7 p.m. Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

"Little Women" - Kate Hamill's feminist-friendly spin on this American classic is funny, poignant and relevant to modern audiences. 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. meridian.mi.us/FarmersMarket.

MSU Men's Basketball vs. University of Arkansas - 7 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/mens-basketball.

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

The Movember Duals - Get ready for a fun-filled day of friendly competition for charity. Duelists bring a preferred ruleset and challenge each other throughout the day. Noon-5 p.m. 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge. eventbrite.com/o/papa-vansyckles-barbershop-113975948641.

Saturday Night Social Club - If you'd like to meet some new folks and play a few games, stop on by. \$10. 7-11 p.m. Homebrew Tabletop Game Lounge, 219 1/2 N. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. homebrew-gamelounge.com.

MSU jazz Nonets with Salim Washington, saxophone

7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 7

Murray Hall

333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing



Salim Washington, a brilliant multi-reed-man, composer, teacher, writer and speaker based in Durban, South Africa, is a uniquely cosmopolitan figure, even among the many distinguished artists in residence hosted by Michigan State University's jazz studies program over the years. From his gospel, jazz and blues roots in the Black Bottom neighborhood of Detroit to the 1970s efflorescence of spiritually heightened and politically urgent jazz in America to the vibrant and diverse world of today's South African music, Washington can connect the dots of Black American music, from Mahalia Jackson to John Coltrane to Stevie Wonder to Biggie Smalls, as few artists can. In addition to saxophone and flute, he plays the wickedly difficult jazz oboe in the tradition of one of his jazz heroes, the late Yusef Lateef. Washington is sharing his insights and wisdom with MSU students as he holds masterclasses and tours the state with top jazz ensembles this week, culminating in a concert Friday evening that will push the students into fresh and dynamic realms of sound. Expect a dizzying variety of musical forms and colors in the vein of Sankofa, Washington's all-star South African ensemble, with a few surprises along the way.

Second Saturday Divorce Workshop - Join us for a supportive and informative workshop designed to help you navigate the complexities of divorce. 9 a.m.-noon. 2139 Commons Parkway, Ste. B, Okemos. eventbrite.com/o/kylee-mohammed-chfc-cd-fa-77498789483.

"Shrek the Musical" - Presented by Williamston High School Music Theater Club. 2 and 7 p.m. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston. gofan.co/app/school/MI3814_4.

S'Moves Alive! - Dancers Roberta Otten and John MacDonald, singer Rosemary Edgar and musician Bill Tennant perform a relaxing mix of modern dance, calming songs and instrumental wind music. Visual imagery by Shin-Yi Wang enhances this soothing hour. Free admission. Donations accepted. 2 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capital Ave., Lansing.

Spirit Energy Day Fundraiser - Card readings, bio-feedback, reiki sessions, voice bio analysis, intuitive readings, chair massage, talking circle, snacks and refreshments available. 1-4 p.m. The Light House Chapel, 1501 Windsor St., Lansing. facebook.com/lansinglighthousechapel.

STEAM Fest - A free day of fun! Kids in grades K-6 and their families are invited to explore science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics-themed events as STEAM Fest takes over the LCC Arts and Sciences building! 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 419 N. Washington Square, Lansing. lcc.edu/steamfest.

Sweet C and the Sunset Riders Live at Summerlands Brewing Co. - All beers, seltzers and seltzer cocktails are \$1 off from 9 p.m. to close! 7-10 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Trombone Ensembles - MSU's trombone ensembles showcase the full range of the instrument through original works and transcriptions. 3 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Turkey Trails - Join us for the annual Turkey Trails 5k/10k, a fun, Thanksgiving-themed event perfect for the whole family. 9 a.m.-noon. Hawk Island Park, 1601 E. Cavanaugh Road, Lansing. runsignup.com/Race/MI/Lansing/TurkeyTrailsLansing.

Victorian Fall Open House at Historic Keller's Plaza - Explore the amazing shops and enjoy art, chocolate, ice cream, shop specials and much more. Come dressed in Victorian garb for a chance to win a gift package! 11 a.m.-6 p.m. 100 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston. facebook.com/ourkellersplaza.

Sunday, Nov. 9

28th East Lansing Film Festival - The world-class East Lansing Film Festival screens independent films you wouldn't get a chance to see at local theaters. 1-10:30 p.m. Studio C, 1999 Central Park Drive, Okemos. elff.com.

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 28

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From Pg. 28

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Events

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“The Best We Could (a family tragedy)” - In this funny, wise and heartbreaking play, a daughter’s road trip with her father becomes a theatrical journey across more than just state lines. 3 p.m. Stage One, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. peppermintcreek.org.

Holiday Bazaar - Bazaar will feature crafts, holiday items, baked goods and much more. While you’re shopping, we’ll also have homemade German food to eat. 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/LansingLiederkrantzClub.

Holiday Peek at Grace Boutique of Old Town - Join us for a weekend of holiday sneak peeks and introductions to some incredible new lines! Also, spend \$100+ and get a \$25 gift card. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. 509 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/graceboutiqueofoldtown.

“Island Song” - The energy and passions of New York City explode with a percussive, soaring pop score as an ambitious set of 20- and 30-some-things navigates the promises and perils of big city life. 2 p.m. Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/showinfo.

Jugglers and Would-Be Jugglers - Jugglers meet at the Orchard Street Pump House at 2 p.m. Sundays. 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. mike-marhanka@gmail.com.

Lansing Train Show and Sale - All aboard Michigan’s largest model train show! 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Farm Bureau Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. 517-432-5566. Imrc.org.

“Little Women” - Kate Hamill’s feminist-friendly spin on this American classic is funny, poignant and relevant to modern audiences. 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

MSU Women’s Basketball vs. Eastern Michigan University - 2 p.m. Breslin Center, 534 Birch Road, East Lansing. msuspartans.com/sports/womens-basketball.

Quaker Meeting for Worship - Rich communal silence that invites thinking deeply, developing spiritually, loving fully, speaking our truths. Children’s program provided. 10:30 a.m. Red Cedar Friends Meeting House, 1400 Turner St., Lansing. redcedarfriends.org.

“Shrek the Musical” - Presented by Williamston High School Music Theater Club. 2 p.m. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston. gofan.co/app/school/MI3814_4.

Monday, Nov. 10

28th East Lansing Film Festival - The world-class East Lansing Film Festival screens independent films you wouldn’t get a chance to see at local theaters. 1-10:30 p.m. Studio C, 1999 Central Park Drive, Okemos. elff.com.

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

Broadway Jazz Dance Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Charlotte Community Library Puzzle Swap - Drop off your puzzles at the library until 2 p.m. Nov. 8 and receive one voucher per puzzle. Then, on Nov. 10, shop the swap from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Dementia Caregiver Series - Three-session series intended to reduce stress for those caring for a person with dementia by providing useful tools and information. 1:30-3 p.m. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. To register, call 517-887-1465 or email histedc@tcoa.org.

Dine & Discovery: Harvest Bounty, with Chef Meghesh Pansari - We’ll make use of fall veggies like collard greens and kohlrabi to pair with a delicious pork dish. 6-8 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. facebook.com/AllenNeighborhoodCenter.

Euchre - 1-3 p.m. Eaton Rapids Senior Center, 201 Grand St., Eaton Rapids. facebook.com/EatonRapids-SeniorCenter.

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. 5:30-7 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Improv Acting Class for Teens and Adults - 8:30-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Level I Dance Class for Kids - Ages 5-8. 4-5 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Michigan Cottage Food Law - Learn how to prepare and sell foods to the public under Michigan Cottage Food Law. Topics include preparing, packaging, labeling, storing and transporting cottage foods. 6 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/cottage_food_law/index.

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their “Black and White” exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganart-guild.org.

Parkinson’s Exercise: Yoga - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson’s. Caregivers are welcome to participate if space allows. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble: Performing Group for All Ages - Meets twice per week. 5:30-7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

The Weekly Crunch - Laugh your ass off with the best local comedians every Monday night. 8 p.m. Crunchy’s, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. crunchyseastlansing.com.

Women’s AA Meeting - 6 p.m. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. lansingdistrict6.org.

Tuesday, Nov. 11

28th East Lansing Film Festival - The world-class East Lansing Film Festival screens independent films you wouldn’t get a chance to see at local theaters. 1-10:30 p.m. Studio C, 1999 Central Park Drive, Okemos. elff.com.

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

Acting 101 Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 8-9:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

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

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

Compulsive Eaters Anonymous-HOW Meeting - Meets in person and virtually. 5:30 p.m. St. Jude Catholic Church, 801 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. For Zoom info, call 989-620-0448 or go to ceahow.org/en/find-a-meeting.

Family Happy Hour - Join us every Tuesday for a free, all-ages playgroup in our safe and welcoming space. 4-7 p.m. Weavers of the Web, 809 Center St., Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Good Neighbor Concert Series: The Rough & Tumble, in Support of Music Is the Foundation - This touring folk duo will leave your ears feeling happy and your heart feeling stirred. 6 p.m. Stage One, 2200 Lake Lansing Road, Lansing. facebook.com/TheGood-NeighborConcertSeries.

Intermediate Ballet Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 5:30-7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

LAGE Game Night North - Lansing-Area Games & Events offers free board/card gaming experiences for diverse people and cultivates a safe, inclusive, fun community. 6:30-11 p.m. Reno’s Sports Bar, 16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing. meetup.com/lansing.

LAGE Game Night West - 6:30-11 p.m. Frank’s Press Box, 7216 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. meetup.com/lansing

Level II Dance class for Kids - Ages 9-12. 4-5:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Minecraft Mania - An evening of fun and friendly competition. We’ll have our Minecraft server set up and laptops ready to go. Ages 8-12. 6-8 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

MMAG Fall Art Show - The artists of the Mid-Michigan Art Guild invite the community to visit their “Black and White” exhibition, featuring art created with just those colors. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Open Mic Night at Summerlands Brewing Co. - Whether you’re a seasoned performer or stepping onto the stage for the first time, we provide a welcoming environment for you to showcase your talent. 7-10 p.m. 1957 Cedar St., Holt. facebook.com/summerlandsbrewing.

Parkinson’s Exercise: Balance, Conditioning and Strength - Free exercise class for people with Parkinson’s. Caregivers are welcome to participate if space allows. 1 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. To register, call 517-364-8800. lapsg.org.

PEARS Deeper Dive: Success Stories - Participants should have attended the PEARs Crash Course. Learn how to enter a success story. 11 a.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/od/planning_evaluation_and_reporting/pears-deeper-dives.

Preschool Family Storytime - Join us for fun stories, songs and a simple craft! Ages 1-6 with a caregiver. 11 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Quiz Bang Trivia - Join us at UrbanBeat for a fast-paced, high-energy game that’ll test your brains and strategy! 6:30-8 p.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Selling MI Honey & Maple Syrup - Learn how to safely handle, package and store honey and maple syrup and understand the exemption guidelines for selling these products in Michigan. 2 p.m. Virtual — register at canr.msu.edu/isabella/index.

See Events, Page 33

Lansing-Ôtsu Sister City fundraiser

1-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8
Sycamore Creek Church
Eastwood
2200 Lake Lansing Road,
Lansing

In 1968, the governors of Michigan and Japan’s Shiga Prefecture declared the two to be sister states. The two collaborate on projects such as high school exchange programs and operate the Japan Center for Michigan Universities in Shiga.

As part of that arrangement, Shiga and Michigan have formed “sister city” pairs. Lansing is paired with Ôtsu, Shiga’s capital city.

A delegation of Michiganders who visited Shiga this year included members of the Lansing-Ôtsu group, who will share what they learned at a fundraiser event Saturday.

The event will offer family-friendly activities such as origami and Japanese calligraphy, as well as a complimentary curry meal and samples of Japanese snacks and candies. Attendees can chat with the Lansing natives who visited Ôtsu to learn more about their experiences abroad. Admission is \$10 (cash only). Proceeds will benefit the Lansing-Ôtsu Sister City group’s future activities.



Richie Chan/Shutterstock

WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP Board Meeting October 29, 2025 Synopsis

The Williamstown Township Board held a regular meeting on Wednesday, October 29, 2025 with Supervisor Poth, Clerk Cleveland, Treasurer VanErp, Trustee Brinker, Trustee Creagh, and Trustee Steinberg present. The Board approved the following:

- Consent Agenda
- Revised Police Assessment Roll
- Updated Building Permit fees

The next regular Board meeting will be at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, November 12, 2025 in the Community Room of the Township Hall, 4990 Zimmer Rd., Williamston. Visit williamstownmi.gov for the latest agenda, documents, and updates. Phone (517) 655-3193.

Robin A. Cleveland, MiPMC
Township Clerk

CP#25-357

Events

from page 32

Service Industry Night at UrbanBeat - 50% off for hospitality professionals. One verified industry discount per check. Please present proof of employment. 7-11 p.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Tamales Cooking Class - Learn how to make traditional tamales, from preparing the masa to wrapping and steaming. Guided step by step, you'll explore classic fillings and techniques used in home kitchens across generations. 6-8 p.m. Brady's HG, 319 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing. bradlyshg.com.

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

Veterans Day Event and Exhibit Opening at REOTM - Help commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II with the opening of REOTM's newest permanent exhibit, "Soldiers of Production: Lansing and the Arsenal of Democracy." Admission will be free. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. reoldsmuseum.org.

Wednesday, Nov. 12

28th East Lansing Film Festival - The world-class East Lansing Film Festival screens independent films you wouldn't get a chance to see at local theaters. 1-10:30 p.m. Studio C, 1999 Central Park Drive, Okemos. elff.com.

131st Annual Dinner - The Ingham County Bar Association's annual dinner offers members an opportunity to gather and socialize, as well as honor some of the community's finest professionals. 6-11:30 p.m. Crowne Plaza, 925 S. Creyts Road, Lansing. inghambar.org.

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

Adult Bingo - Join us for a fun afternoon of bingo, complete with light refreshments and prizes for the winners! 2:30-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

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

Allen Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. allen-neighborhoodcenter.org/allen-farmers-market.

Bingo - Every Wednesday. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. Bingo cafe 5 p.m. Early bird 6 p.m. Eaton Rapids Senior Center, 201 Grand St., Eaton Rapids. facebook.com/EatonRapidsSeniorCenter.

Broadway Jazz Dance Class for Teens & Adults - Meets twice per week. 7-8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. ruhalacenter.com.

Butterfly Declines and What Can Be Done About Them - In a recent publication, MSU Professor Elise Zipkin and her coauthors document a decline in native butterfly populations in North America. Join the Wild Ones Red Cedar Chapter and learn about Dr. Zipkin's findings. 7-9 p.m. Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos. wildoneslansing.weebly.com.

Code Club - Learn to make apps, animations and more! No coding expertise necessary. Drop-ins welcome. Grades 3+. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org/project/learncoding.

Fitness Over 50! Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Group Dance Class: Beginning Hustle - The hustle originated in the 1970s, closely tied to the disco music craze of the era. 8 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. Register by calling 517-364-8888.

Holiday Wreath Crafting Workshop - Reverman Farms supplies fresh Fraser fir greens on 22" wreath frames. We'll provide a selection of ribbons, pics, pinecones, fruit and floral trims. Registration req. 6-7:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

Karaoke at Lansing Shuffle, with Big Man Genesis - 9-11 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. 6-9 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. urbanbeatevents.com.

Meet the Digilab - Learn about our new Digilab and all it has to offer. 4-5 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. gladl.org.

40TH ANNIVERSARY!

WOMEN IN THE ARTS FESTIVAL

FRIDAY & SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 7 & 8

Featuring 45+ women artists
in our Artists' Market,
2 days of live music, Sistrum
Cafe serving delicious food,
a silent auction, and a warm,
welcoming community.

FRIDAY, 7:30PM, \$25
Michigan's Super Group
THE REBEL EVES



SATURDAY, 7:30PM, \$25
Renowned all-female jazz band
STRAIGHT AHEAD



ARTISTS' MARKET HOURS:
Fri: 5-9PM Sat: 10AM-7:30PM
Free entry to Artists' Market
and Saturday Day Stage.
Donations accepted.

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FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Pablo's fresh Mexican food is worth the potential wait

By COURTNEY BOWERMAN

Since the pandemic, I've made a personal rule to never go out to eat on a Friday night. It's not just the fear of getting sick; not everyone has the patience for long wait times. However, my mother, a friend and I happened to be in Old Town one recent Friday evening for Preuss Pets' Howloween event. It was getting late, and we were getting hungry. My mother, not sharing my uneasiness with crowds, wanted to try Pablo's Mexican Restaurant. When I saw how small the restaurant was, I was worried there would be a wait, but we got in right away.

Luck must have been on our side that night. In addition to its limited seating, Pablo's is one of the most popular restaurants in Old Town. Everything on the menu is made fresh, including the basket of warm tortilla chips and accompanying salsa you get

upon arriving at your table. The decor, like most Mexican eateries, is bright and colorful, and the smaller space makes you feel like you're in a genuine south-of-the-border restaurant.

Since it was my first time, I had some difficulty choosing what I wanted. There are so many different entrées, including burritos, mini burritos (for those who find the regular ones too filling), gorditas, tacos, sopes and tostadas. I decided to try the chimichanga dinner. While I like all Mexican food, I have a special affinity for chimichangas, which are basically a deep-fried burrito. As usual, I chose shredded chicken as my protein.

The plate comes with rice, sour cream, refried beans, lettuce, tomatoes and a dollop of guacamole. The chicken, thankfully, wasn't too spicy for me, though even if it



Chicken chimichanga dinner \$16.29

Pablo's Mexican Restaurant Old Town

311 E. César E. Chávez Ave.,
Lansing

9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday

(517) 372-0887

pablosrestaurants.com



Courtney Bowerman for City Pulse

Everything at Pablo's Mexican Restaurant is made fresh, from the plethora of entrées, like the chicken chimichanga dinner, to the basket of warm tortilla chips and accompanying salsa you get upon arriving at your table.

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

TOP 5 BARBECUE

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

1. Capital City BBQ

Cozy eatery serving traditional
American barbecue dishes alongside
Vietnamese classics
1026 W. Saginaw St., Lansing
(517) 721-1500
facebook.com/capitalcitybbq
11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday

2. Meat BBQ

Casual spot offering slow-smoked
barbecue standards and inventive,
handmade sides
1224 Turner St., Lansing
(517) 580-4400

meatbbq.com

11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday
Noon-5 p.m. Sunday

3. Saddleback BBQ REO Town

Craft barbecue joint featuring
authentic Southern flavors with a
Midwestern flair
1147 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
(517) 253-7556
saddlebackbbq.com
11 a.m.-9 p.m. daily

4. The King of the Grill Express

Longstanding barbecue restaurant
known for brisket, ribs and
house-made tortillas
300 N. Clippert St., Lansing
(517) 308-9762
kotge.com
11:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday

5. The Smoke N' Pig BBQ

Barbecue joint specializing in
slow-smoked ribs, pork and brisket,
plus homemade sides
908 Elmwood Road, Lansing
(517) 582-5100
smokenpigbbq.com
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Friday-Saturday
Noon-8 p.m. Sunday

had been, the cool sour cream drizzled on top would have dulled the effect. The rice was flavorful without being greasy. The beans, on the other hand, were a little bit plain — other Mexican places coat them with melted cheese, but since I like beans, I didn't mind that much.

In the end, I'm glad my mom convinced me to risk a Friday night crowd at Pablo's. Even if it had been busier than it actually was, the food alone would have been worth the wait. That doesn't mean I'm

going to break my Friday-night restaurant rule, but I won't wait until next Hal- loween to visit Pablo's again. It's not only my new favorite restaurant in Old Town, but it makes the list of my favorite Mexican restaurants overall.

THE PULSIFIEDS

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF OKEMOS
2258 BENNET RD., OKEMOS
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 10 AM - 2 PM

SPIRIT ENERGY DAY - Fundraiser. Nov. 8,
1pm to 4pm. The Light House Chapel,
1501 Windsor St., Lansing MI 48906. Card
Readings; Intuitive Readings; Bio
Feedback; Chair Massages; Reiki
Sessions; Voice Bio Analysis; Talking
Circle; Snacks & Refreshments.
517-712-2622.

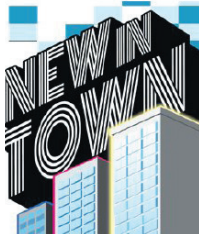
Thank You For Voting Us The Best!



Best BBQ
Best BBQ Sauce
Best Wings
Best Caterer/
Catering service

Meat
SOUTHERN B.B.Q. & CARNIVORE CUISINE

Good Truckin's other side now its own shop



The Other Side

1216 Turner Street
8 a.m. to 2 p.m., M-F
On Facebook as The
Otherside
517-253-7961

By LEO V. KAPLAN

When asked how long The Other Side, a new cafe adjacent to Good Truckin' Diner, was in the works, co-owner Nora Gorman laughed.

"Honestly, we thought of it like two weeks ago," she said. "It came together pretty quickly."

Good Truckin', once a REO Town staple, relocated to Old Town's Creole Building in March. The move came in response to hourslong wait times at the REO Town location, with only 26 seats. But the new location had the opposite problem.

Gorman and co-owner Nick Sinieropi set up the building's right half, which has its own door, as a "cafe and co-working space" that operated as overflow seating on weekends. But people didn't understand that the other side was distinct from the sit-down diner next door, and it was mostly unused.

"We just weren't bringing in the amount of people we wanted to during the week, and it was essentially a non-utilized space," Gorman said.

On Oct. 27, the other side became The Other Side, a cafe offering pre-made sandwiches, lattes and pastries. Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on weekdays, The Other Side can be a quick lunch spot, a morning pick-me-up or a co-working space. On weekends, it becomes overflow seating for Good Truckin'.

The menu includes house-made pastries, MOO-ville ice cream and a full latte menu, all of which were available before the rebrand. But five pre-prepared sandwich recipes, which can be served cold or hot from a panini press, are new. They have been a hit, Gorman said, which is a good sign because they were all taken from the menu of the yet-to-open Lunch Room, which will replace Good Truckin's former REO Town location.

"We pulled sandwiches from that menu, so it also gives us a chance to try out those menu items before the location opens," Gorman said.

She declined to say when The Lunch Room could open, but it's in progress. Its sandwich menu will be "much larger" than The Other Side's, she said.

There is one vegan option among the sandwiches, plus the pastries, lattes and ice cream all feature vegan options, Gorman said.

Good Truckin's expansion into Old Town already added an espresso bar, so that part



Leo V. Kaplan/City Pulse

The Other Side turns the other side of Good Truckin' Diner into a cafe and sandwich spot on weekdays. On weekends, it becomes overflow space for Good Truckin'.

is nothing new. Gorman said lattes have been a major hit at the new location, with some customers ordering them to elevate their brunch experience and others coming in just for the lattes. One employee, a barista already on Good Truckin's payroll, runs The Other Side.

The sandwiches may be helping to convert the spot into a convenient lunch-break stop, but Gorman thinks the rebrand has also helped customers understand what's going on with the space. She said "just putting a new name on the door" brought some customers in immediately.

"We had always advertised it as a cafe and co-working space," she said, "but because we didn't have a different business name on the door, I think people were confused."

EARLY BIRD OFFER: Reserve your turkey by 11/9. Get \$10 in Cadia on us!
Use Code **Cadia10** during checkout.

BETTER Thanks Giving



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Amish Brand**

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- Antibiotic & Hormone Free
- Humanely raised • Taste great
- Organic birds available

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Fresh Turkey
6⁴⁹
LB
Member Price

Bell & Evans
Fresh Organic
Turkey
9⁴⁹
LB
Member Price

Mary's
Frozen Organic
Turkey
7⁹⁹
LB
Member Price

Timber Valley Farms
Fresh Amish
Turkey
3⁴⁹
LB
Member Price

Timber Valley Farms
Fresh Amish Bone-In
Turkey Breast
4⁹⁹
LB
Member Price

Prices good til 11/30/25. Limited Quantities. Reserve your bird or meal today in-store or at betterhealthmarket.com/turkey

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MARKET
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EAST LANSING
(Frondor) 305 N Clippert Ave.
Across from Frondor Mall
517-332-6892
Hours: Mon-Sat 8am-9pm
Sun 10am-7pm

LANSING
6235 West Saginaw Hwy
517-323-9186
Hours:
Mon-Sat 9am-8pm
Sun 11am-6pm

**The Top 5 round has begun!
Vote now through Nov. 18!**

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