



Sponsored Content -

Let's talk about safe spaces. I think we can agree that everyone wants to feel safe. We all deserve to have a home that's safe. We should be able to go to work and feel safe. We should be able to travel about in public and feel safe.

But what makes us feel safe? If we are at home, it's our family. If we are at work, it's our co-workers. If we are in public, it's our community. Sometimes the places we need to be safe have people who don't believe you are as deserving as them, and that's not fair. Even those close to us aren't always on your side. Everyone should have a right to determine what safety means to them, in accordance with their own beliefs; but all too often, people are attacked or ridiculed "just for fun." Feeling safe is paramount to living a full and unadulterated life.

As a so-called "intelligent" species, we often fail to acknowledge all of our individual and collective potential, and instead, we fall back on our weaknesses and shortcomings. We ironically conflate our faults as strengths. Can we not view history with honesty instead of denying the parts that don't fit the "land of the free and home of the brave" narrative? I contend that the worst parts will inspire us to be even better than the best parts, and unless we confront the worst, we'll never be better than the best we've already been.

Among our neighbors, there are many ways we feel unsafe, and I think people who judge people about their personal identity certainly make them feel unsafe. I know that Black and Brown people often have many reasons to feel unsafe, no matter where they are. Women certainly feel unsafe in too many situations. Generally, we may all want to feel safe, but there are people trying to control the narrative of what makes us safe. It's what makes them comfortable, while you are left trying to defend yourself from attacks, which can include violence. Ultimately, it is what leads to chaos and instability.

We just had another mass shooting and I have no doubt that we'll hear about how more guns will make us safer. I think we need a timeout. We as a society have not proven that we can handle the responsibility of unfettered gun ownership. I can only imagine what all of the innocent victims of gun violence would say from the grave, but I doubt it would be that they wish they'd have had a gun. I think they'd say they wish we didn't have such an affinity for guns.

For some, feeling unsafe is something they've just learned to cope with. For some, it can be the difference between wanting to live or wanting to die. For others, it means living a life in secrecy or in denial, which does not afford them the liberty that we are all born with. Feeling unsafe can go from doing normal activities, to fearing for your life in an instant. Unsafe spaces are often chaotic. If you feel unsafe, you make choices out of fear instead of instinct. I believe almost everyone's instinct is to be loving, compassionate, and understanding. Chaos is not a part of that; chaos is created out of confusion and desperation. Unfortunately, everyone's circumstances can change their instincts over time and cause them to feel bitter or embattled to the extent that love is no longer second nature. Instead they allow their other instincts to guide them, and will defend them at any cost, without sound reasoning.

It's odd to me that anyone would use a term like "safe space" as a punch line. We all want to feel safe. Not all of us are putting an effort to treat people with their safety at heart. You can't create a safe space with a gun, you can't create a safe space by denying someone's identity, and you can't

create a safe space by policing people in their homes and neighborhoods. It's already difficult enough to live in today's society. It's financially difficult for many who can't earn enough to pay rent, let alone go out to enjoy a meal or a movie. It's difficult if you can't afford to go to the doctor because you don't have insurance, but missing a day of work might mean no groceries.

We are missing the mark on having a healthy and educated populace. One that doesn't create chaos out of hate, or selfishness, or ignorance. We all want to be safe, but we aren't willing to accept what someone else's needs may be for that to be realized. I don't need you to make me safe, I just want you to respect what my safety means to me: as a son, a father, a husband, and a friend.

Evolution did not end with us having opposable thumbs. We are supposed to be continuously evolving. America has been at a crossroads for too long. There used to be a day that we could say we were moving in the right direction, but we have veered away from that course. I think it has more to do with our tribal mentality and that just means that we have abandoned intellect. We should be working together to create, and not to hold on to traditions that were never rooted in individual liberty.

Far too many people will quote MLK in January and turn right around and vote for someone who actively opposed everything he stood for. As time goes on, it feels like everything is murky. Fact is being confused with fiction, and it can be difficult to discern between the two if you don't know how to think critically, or research, and research does not mean listening to Joe Rogan or the so-called experts he has on his show. Frankly, we should expect more from ourselves. We can do better, we should want to do better. It is a little embarrassing that we have spent generations pounding our chests for the things that we've done right, while we have lost focus on the present failures.

f you don't fit into the happy little boxes that society's norms put you in, there are many who are fighting for you. We do not accept the boxes because we know that not everyone fits, and we want you to live a full authentic life based on how you feel, without influence. We want you to feel safe and be safe.

If you are celebrating, I am sending you all the best holiday wishes, no matter how you celebrate. Our celebrations will be missing someone who was larger than life this year, and I am grateful for the memories we have with him. Love you, Big Jiddo!

ALL STAT?

MECHANICAL

HEATING • COOLING

517-490-4642

LIC. 7115371



THE HEAD OF THE COP28 CLIMATE SUMMIT, WHO IS THE CEO OF AN OIL COMPANY, RECENTLY **DEFENDED** FOSSIL FUELS.

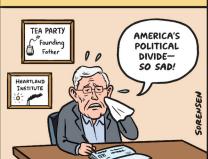
"I DON'T THINK [YOU] WILL BE ABLE TO HELP SOLVE THE CLIMATE PROBLEM BY POINTING FINGERS OR CONTRIBUTING TO THE POLARIZATION AND THE DIVIDE THAT IS ALREADY HAPPENING IN THE WORLD."



IT SEEMS THE CONCEPT OF "POLARIZATION" IS A TROJAN HORSE FOR ALLOWING CORRUPTION WITHOUT OPPOSITION.



CURIOUSLY, THE FOSSIL FUEL TYCOON AND CLIMATE DISINFORMATION SPREADER CHARLES KOCH IS FUNDING AN INSTITUTE TO STUDY THE ISSUE OF POLARIZATION.





CityPULSE

ISSUE 18

(517) 371-5600 • Fax: (517) 999-6061 • 1905 E. Michigan Ave. • Lansing, MI 48912 • www.lansingcitypulse.com



Joe Hertler & the Rainbow Seekers hit Grewal Hall



"Christmas Belles" brings cheer to Riverwalk Theatre



Beat hunger with beet latkes

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

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER • Berl Schwartz

publisher@lansingcitypulse.com ● (517) 999-5061

GENERAL MANAGER • Steve Underwood

steve@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6705

ARTS & CULTURE/EVENTS EDITOR ● Nicole Noechel

nicole@lansingcitypulse.com ● (517) 999-5066

SENIOR STAFF WRITER • Lawrence Cosentino

lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com ● (517) 999-5065

STAFF WRITER • Tyler Schneider

tyler@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5063

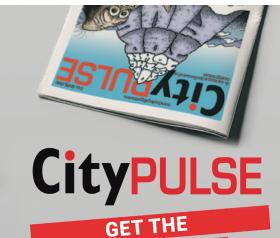
SALES EXECUTIVE ● Lee Purdy

lee@lansingcitypulse.com ● (517) 999-5064

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

Delivery drivers: Quill Blankenship, Khalya Coleman, Cindy Heistand, Curtis Lauck, Terri Paine

Cover illustration by Dennis Preston



DIGITAL EDITION

IN YOUR INBOX

BY 6AM
EVERY WEDNESDAY!

HELP PUT INK ON THE PAGE! CONTRIBUTE TO CITY PULSE.



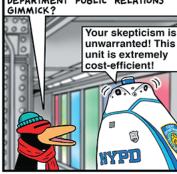
Use the QR code to donate by credit card or call (517) 999-6704. Checks may be mailed to City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave, Lansing, MI 48912.

rnis modlen world

Greetings, citizen! I am Officer K5, a fully autonomous crime prevention robot deployed here at the Times Square subway station to keep lawabiding passengers safe from miscreants and wrongdoers!



BUT JUST SO I'M CLEAR--NEW YORK CITY IS CUTTING LIBRARY HOURS DUE TO BUDGET CONSTRAINTS, BUT HAS THE MONEY TO PAY FOR YOU, AS SOME SORT OF POLICE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC RELATIONS GIMMICK?





Well--mostly I stay in one place

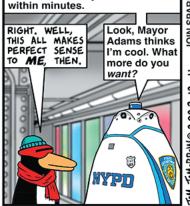


by TOM TOMORROW

But during certain late night hours, I roll around the station--well, this level of it, anyway, stairs are sort of a problem--and monitor events with my state-of-the-art video surveillance capabilities!



Obviously! If not for their presence, I would assuredly be vandalized within minutes.



16MoRRoW © 2023-12-11 ... JOIN SPARKY'S LIST: thismoderm

PULSE TANAL NEWS & OPINION

Michigan Waterways Stewards work to reclaim Lansing's riverfronts

Volunteers pulled hundreds of electronic scooters from the Red Cedar in 2023

On a Sunday morning in July, Cal DuLow and his 18-year-old son, Xan, left their home in Grand Rapids to go magnet fishing in downtown Lansing.

They had plans to meet other hobbyists at the riverfront to share in the plunder, but ended up arriving early. To kill some time, they drove a few miles east to scout a stretch of the Red Cedar River in East Lansing.

They came equipped with powerful Kratos 1350 neodymium magnets and tri-pronged hooks that they fasten on the end of thick ropes. When they find a suitable spot, they plunk them over the railing and feel around for a pull, at which point they'll reel it back up to find unseen junk or potentially treasure.

They usually run tests just to see if anything pulls out, because sometimes they don't find anything.

"That day, we just kept pulling out scooter after scooter," Cal DuLow said, referring to rentable electronic scooters that are prevalent on college campuses. "We decided to keep going."

By day's end, the duo had recovered 35 electronic scooters from the Red Cedar. Most of them belonged to Spin, a San Francisco-based tech company. DuLow called them to let them know, noting that the employee who answered was "amazed" to hear how many.

The DuLows have had other strange hauls in the four years they've been magnet fishing, including 40 to 50 firearms, a piece of mortar artillery, a 1950s' refrigerator, cash registers, safes, parking meters, wheels, kegs, horseshoes, jewelry, furniture and countless "unidentifiable lumps." They've even found a few scooters back in Grand Rapids, but never quite this many in one place at one time. Not even close.

Scooters are a "concern," DuLow



Courtesy Cal "Venture" DuLow.

Cal DuLow (right) and his daughter, Alani (center), and son, Xan, pose on the campus of Michigan State University with some of the scooters they found in the Red Cedar River this summer.

said, because the lithium battery may explode when it gets wet. "With those batteries being sealed, it's a ticking time bomb after 15 to 20 years when that water intrudes into that battery."

The pair returned to that spot twice more by summer's end, retrieving another 121 scooters, plus an estimated 1,700 pounds of bicycles, in just three single-day trips.

Their work got the attention of Mike Stout, a 62-year-old East Lansing resident and founder of the Michigan Waterways Stewards, a campaign he launched last winter to clean the area's rivers, streams and adjacent parks.

"Because of this father and son team that had randomly thrown a hook, we discovered a problem that no one was aware of besides Spin scooters," Stout said.

The prevalence of the scooters troubled Stout, a 1983 Michigan State University graduate and an accomplished paddler who moved back to East Lansing from Minnesota nearly two years ago. Shortly after his return, he took his kayak out for a training session on the Red Cedar River and was "appalled by the conditions" he saw, including several stretches made

"impassable" by logs, trash and debris.

"It's not a new problem. It's been a problem for at least a decade, who knows how long," Stout said. "I thought: 'Well, I've got two options here. I can either let someone else worry about it or tackle it on my own.' I decided to tackle it on my own."

Since then, he's partnered with 50 organizations and nearly 850 volunteers to remove an estimated 37.5 tons of debris from the local waterways. Of that total, Stout said his group has counted more than 250 scooters and 160 bicycles in addition to what the DuLows found.

The scooters are far from the only concern, but for Stout, discovering them was "the icing on the cake."

Peter Dewan, who was the president of the East Lansing Rotary Club when the organization partnered with Stout this year, agrees.

"I can maybe understand if it were just a handful or a dozen," Dewan said. "But when it was over 200, to me that illustrated that there's an awareness that needs attention."

In October, East Lansing City Attorney Anthony Chubb said the city was looking into possibly revoking Spin's license, but the city website still lists it as a licensed operator. The process became more complicated in September, when the company was bought out by Bird, a competitor

Stout said he is disappointed "in the lack of ownership and accountability by Spin," which did not respond to a request to comment for this story. "They dismiss, deflect, they try to blame it on the reckless few. But, as a reasonable business, if you have a problem, you need to own it," he said. "They know how many of them get lost in the woods, a backyard, a garage or a river, because each one has a GPS tracker on it. All along, they knew about a much greater problem that they never even hinted to."

Stout acknowledged that it often takes time to enact changes at the municipal level, but he said Lansing, East Lansing and Meridian Township have become more responsive to his concerns. He'd also like to see Michigan State University do more to protect the river that flows through campus.

In the meantime, more volunteers continue to step up and add to the group's momentum. Mount Hope Church outreach director Deana McIlrath's first experience with the stewards came in May, when she brought 10 students to volunteer at an event.

"One student could walk across the trash pile because it was so dense," McIlrath said. "I was really surprised. For that to be Lansing, and in that condition, I just didn't expect it."

A few hours later, "the water was flowing, and you could tell right away it made a difference," she said.

The church was the first group to sign on again for next year.

"Once you start focusing in and see how much attention it needs, how can you not join in? You wonder why you'd never really noticed it. It's because the awareness just wasn't there before," McIlrath said. "Now, every time I go out, I want to pick up trash."

- TYLER SCHNEIDER

www.lansingcitypulse.com City Pulse • December 13, 2023

REWI NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

BY TYLER SCHNEIDER Michigan State University intro-

duced Kevin Guskiewicz as its 22nd president in a press conference Monday. MSU trustees selected Guskiewicz, the chancellor of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the lone finalist for the position, in a unanimous vote Friday. He will officially start March 4, 2024, having signed a five-year contract



with an annual base salary of \$975,000 - a significant increase from his UNC salary of \$657,743. Guskiewicz spent 30 years at UNC and played an important role as a neuroscientist and leading concussion researcher. He served as the dean of UNC's College of Arts and Sciences from 2016 to 2019, when he was appointed interim chancellor of the school. UNC removed the interim tag later that year.



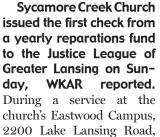
The family of Stephen Romero, who was killed in an officer-involved shooting Dec. 1, plans to sue the Lansing Police Department. On Friday, following the release of limited bodycam footage, family attorney James Harrington of Fieger Law said he plans to file a

civil lawsuit and criticized the eight-minute video posted by LPD as "police propaganda" and a "government-made slideshow." Romero, 33, died after a domestic violence call in the 1600 block of Massachusetts Avenue just before 11:30 p.m. The video depicts the officers telling him to get on the ground, after which Romero gets on his knees and lifts his shirt to reveal a handgun in his waistband. The video then cuts out before shots were fired. Chief Ellery Sosebee identified the officers involved as Donovan Moore and Jeff Kurtz, both of whom have been with the department for four years and have been on administrative leave pending the results of a Michigan State Police investigation.

Michigan State University and the former interim director of its Native American Institute have agreed to a settlement following accusations of harassment, discrimination and retaliation. Christie Poitra will get \$150,000 after nearly two years of legal disputes. The incident came in 2018,



when Poitra was working under then-director John Norder. One of her co-workers reported that Norder had behaved inappropriately towards Poitra, who filed a complaint with the Office of Institutional Equity. Norder was found to have violated MSU's sexual harassment policy and was removed from his position and suspended for four weeks, but he is still listed as an associate professor of anthropology. With Norder out, Poitra resumed his responsibilities but wasn't named interim director for over a year. She remained the interim director through 2021 before receiving any raise in pay, but Poitra said she was still making \$30,000 less than Norder had in the same position. She resigned in May 2022.





Pastor Tom Arthur presented an oversized symbolic check for \$3,684 to the Justice League's founder, Willye Bryan, and its president, Prince Solace. The Justice League reported nearly \$400,000 raised since 2021. Starting next year, the group plans to begin using some of those funds to offer \$50,000 education scholarships. The church plans to donate 1 percent per year from its endowment fund to the Justice League for at least two more years.



Cannabis company Skymint announced Monday that it plans to lay off 143 employees and close its 56,000-square-foot Harvest Park production facility in Windsor Township by March 1, 2024. Formerly one of Michigan's leading cannabis companies, Skymint has

struggled in recent years and in March was placed into a receivership by an Ingham County judge for allegedly owing more than \$127 million to a Canadian lender, Tropics, LP. Skymint cited steadily decreasing revenues and surplus supply for the decision. Operations at its 22 retail dispensaries will continue, the company announced, while the 143 employees were given a 60-day notice.

Walter Jemison, a 50-year-old Lansing resident, was convicted by jury trial Monday of assault with intent to commit murder, being a felon in possession of a firearm and discharging a firearm in a building in 2021. On Tuesday, Ingham County Prosecu-



lengthy history of violent and felonious conduct including bank robbery, assault with intent to do great bodily harm, and drug dealing. He had previously served many years in federal and state prisons, and been sentenced as a habitual offender as far back as 2015." The case is set for sentencing before Circuit Judge James Jamo on Feb. 14.



PUBLIC SAFETY:

A 57-year-old woman was hospitalized following a shooting at the 5900 block of South Waverly Road near Miller Road at around 6:30 p.m. Monday evening in Lansing. ... An arrest was made following a Friday police car chase that began outside of Lansing and ended on Long Boulevard. ...

Ricky Jaimal Meeks, 41, of Lansing, was sentenced 10 years in prison Wednesday for illegally possessing a firearm that was used in a Muskegon-area homicide.





1115 Regent St., Lansing

This 1,232 square-foot home has been red-tagged since Nov. 29, 2007, marking it as one of the longest-running properties in the city to bear that distinction. Built in 1919, it has been owned by DeWayne and Ellawyne Austin Birch since at least January 2000, when the latter registered the former, her husband since 1991, as a joint owner. She was listed as its sole owner prior to that, but records before 2000 were unavailable and she did not respond to a call for comment on the state of the home. DeWayne Birch died on May 29, 2023. The property, which the Assessor's Office lists at an assessed value of \$40,800, has one of its three front windows and another side window boarded up, siding that's either peeling or missing completely in some spots and a crumbling foundation that looks to have been accelerated by years of water damage. It features two "no trespassing" signs posted near its front door and on the 480-square foot garage in back. The house was one of 10 that were included on the agenda for Lansing's Demolition Board Meeting last week.

TYLER SCHNEIDER

"Evesore of the Week" is our weekly look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eye Candy of the Week and Eye for Design. Have a suggestion? Email eye@ lansingcitypulse.com or call to (517) 999-5063

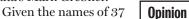
Yes, Capitol press corps leans Dem; but for majority, fairness prevails

For some readers out there, this may seem like the "No-Duh" headline of the year.

But for those of you who prefer to see data and proof before jumping

headlong into an opinion, the research has been done.

Michigan's Capitol press corps leans Democratic, according to an analysis compiled by Practical Political Data's Mark Grebner.



KYLE MELINN

journalists whose job it is to report or edit the political news that's coming out of Lansing and state government, Grebner's data showed that seven lean Republican, four are solidly in the middle, 12 lean Democratic and 10 are pretty hard-core Democratic.

No reliable voting information could be found on four other Capitol reporters.

Grebner's off-the-cuff analysis of this information?

"I'm surprised there's that many Republicans," he said. "Really?"

The information Grebner compiled is based on a complicated formula that he's tested and validated, and tested and validated, and tested again.

It's data that's proven reliable enough over the years to have campaigns of all stripes banging down his door for it.

He and his crew basically harvest the voting data of you, me and every other Michigan resident. How often do you vote? Which presidential primary do you participate in? Where do you live? Which petitions have you signed?

There are countless points of data Grebner uses that he's found to be predictors on how someone is likely to vote when push comes to shove. While he could get his hands on consumer data, Grebner said he doesn't use it because it's not a good predictor of a person's voting habits.

All of this data is thrown into a pot. Out spits a number 1-99. A "1" is a hard-core Republican. A "99" is a hard-core Democrat. If you've ever voted in a Michigan election, you probably have a number. If you've voted in a few, you definitely have a number.

The formula makes a lot of sense if you're an egg-headed genius like Grebner. Most people don't have the patience or interest in the mechanics of it all. What he found about the Michigan Capitol Press Corps is this:

They have an average score of 72.1, which has them leaning Democratic more likely than not.

Not a single reporter he tracked voted in the Republican primary in 2020. That's the one in which President Donald Trump dominated the competition. In fact, some reporters asked for a nonpartisan ballot. They wanted to vote on some local issues, but didn't want to dive into even the Democratic primary, which Joe Biden had pretty much wrapped up at that point.

This may date the press corps, but only two of the 33 voted in the 1992 presidential primary.

All but one of the 33 voted in the 2022 general election. All but three of them voted in the 2020 general election

Keep in mind the Michigan Capitol press corps is mostly college-educated, young professionals. Even if they're married, few have children, which puts them in a demographic that leans Democratic.

But don't read into this column that reporters are overtly in the bag for Democrats.

Sure, some write for nonprofit publications with a specific mission, whether it's viewing the news through a partisan lens or as a vehicle to somehow better society. Most political reporters are professionals, however. They go to great pains to keep their leanings, to the extent they have them, out of the public eye. They're trying to inform the public.

They see the adjective "fair" as the best compliment that can be given to their work.

It's hard to be viewed as "fair" in this hyper-political environment. It's easy for those with political motives to assign political motives to others. Groupthink runs wild.

Nobody should be going into their jobs with personal agendas. Journalists are no different.

I've worked with all of these journalists in some capacity over the last 22 years.

The fact that I needed an expert's analysis to tell me where their leanings were says more than the report itself.

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



Visit T-Mobile.com/OrderNow
Not available in all areas. Check address for availability.

Be details & terms at T-Mobile.com/home-internet/deals. Network Management. Service may be slowed.

Give the Gift of Music!



Recuer Francis, I

www.reederpianos.com 517-886-9447 info@reederpianos.com

Restoration, Relocation & Retail

5660 W. Grand River Ave. Lansing, MI 48906

Open by Appointment

M-TH 10-5 F 10-4 SU 1-5

SA Closed Or By Appointment

Holiday Savings!

Take an
additional
10-15% off select
pianos through
December



STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT, COUNTY OF INGHAM, FILE NO. 15-000633-DD-P33, PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING In the matter of Laura Tuma.TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Julius Tuma whose addresses is/are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on Full Hearing December 28, 2023, at 2:15pm at 313 W. Kalamazoo Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Shauna Dunnings for the following purpose: PETITION TO APPOINT GUARDIAN. 11/28/2023 Petitioner name: Emily Presendieu-Address: 5303 S. Cedar St Lansing, MI 48911 - Phone Number: 517-488-4156

CP#23-324

STATE OF MICHIGAN, PROBATE COURT, INGHAM COUNTY, Publication of Public Hearing, File No. 18-000418-GM-P33, In the matter of Magick Mitchell -Minor. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Lashanna Benjamin and Marcus Mitchell whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on January 11, 2024,at 3:00pm at 313 W. Kalamazoo Lansing, MI, 48933 before Judge Shauna Dunnings for the following purpose(s): UNCONTESTED HEARING-PETITION TO APPOINT GUARDIANSHIP FOR MINOR. 10/25/2023 Mallynda Fernando. 1711 N. Capitol Ave. Lansing, MI 48906 (209) 484-0584

CP#23-326



BLAINE TRASH REMOVAL Residential ● Commercial ● Yardwork Call Jay (517) 980-0468



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY LEGAL AD NOTICE: SPECIAL TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023 – 5:00 PM

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP BOARD SPECIAL MEETING MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2023

Notice is hereby given that the Meridian Township Board will conduct a special meeting on Monday, December 18, 2023, at 5:00 pm, in the Town Hall Room, Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, for the Township Board's Annual Goal Setting meeting.

The meeting agenda and packet will be posted on the Township webpage at www.meridian.mi.us

Deborah Guthrie Township Clerk

CP#23-323

A PRIME COMMUNITY

meridian.mlus

Eagle Township, Clinton County Board Special Meeting Synopsis

November 29, 2023 - Present: Supervisor Stroud, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Trustee Strahle, and 14 citizens. Absent: Treasurer Oberg, Trustee Jones.

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm. Board Actions:

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community

- 1) Accepted resignation of Trustee Dick Jones.
- 2) Approved posting requesting applications for Township Trustee position and a special meeting December 13, 2023 @ 6 pm for interviews.
- 3) Adopted resolution 11-29-2023-01 Resolution to Abolish Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) Between Eagle Township and Michigan Economic Development Corporation

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm. Board Actions:

- Appointed Chelsea Hoppes as Treasurer and Brittanie Davis as Deputy Treasurer effective November 30, 2023.
- 2) Approved adding Chelsea Hoppes and Brittanie Davis as signatories to Independent Bank checking, savings, and tax accounts and removing Kathy Oberg and Jeffery Oberg
- 3) Approved adding Chelsea Hoppes and Brittanie Davis as Authorized Signers to Michigan Class investment accounts and removing Kathy Oberg and Jeffery Oberg.

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

A complete copy of the minutes is available by contacting Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Clerk.

Next regular meeting of the Eagle Township Board is December 21, 2023, at 6 pm at Eagle

Township Hall, 14318 Michigan St, Eagle, MI. See www.eagletownship.org for latest updates.

CP#23-319

B/24/074 DEMO OF 1 PROPERTY 5016 CONNERS AVENUE

B/24/076 DEMO OF 1 PROPERTY 1402 MARQUETTE STREET as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept bids at The City of Lansing, Purchasing Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave. 3rd Floor, Lansing, Michigan 48933 or electronically submitted thru MITN Site (www.Mitn.Info) until 2PM local time in effect on DECEMBER 21, 2023. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by contacting Marilyn Chick at (517) 483-4282, or Marilyn.chick@lansingmi.gov or go to www.mitn.info. The City of Lansing encourages bids from All Vendors Including MBE/WBE Vendors and Lansing-Based Businesses.

CP#23-322

RFP/24/075 OVATION BRANDING PROJECT as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept proposals at The City of Lansing Purchasing Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave. 3rd Floor, Lansing, Michigan 48933 or electronically submitted thru MITN Site (www.Mitn.Info) until 2PM local time in effect on JAN. 4, 2024. Complete specifications and forms required to submit proposals are available by contacting Stephanie.robinson@lansingmi.gov, or 517-482-4128 or go to www.mitn.info. The City of Lansing encourages proposals from All Vendors Including MBE/WBE Vendors and Lansing-Based Businesses

CP#23-321

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT, INGHAM COUNTY, Publication of Public Hearing, File No. 23-1337-GM In the matter of Rita Victoria Carmona-Mestre- Minor. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Paulina Mestre and Victor Gallardo. TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on December 21,2023 at 9:00 am at 313 W. Kalamazoo Lansing, MI, 48933 before Judge Richard J Garcia for the following purpose(s): UNCONTESTED HEARING- PETITION TO APPOINT GUARDIANSHIP FOR MINOR. 10/25/2023 Rosaura Dubraska Montilla. 900 Legrand Drive, Lansing, MI 48911

CP#23-325

STATE OF MICHIGAN, PROBATE COURT, INGHAM COUNTY, Publication of Public Hearing, File No. 18-000417-GM-P33, In the matter of Ayanna Mitchell -Minor. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Lashanna Benjamin and Marcus Mitchell whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on January 11, 2024, at 3:00pm at 313 W. Kalamazoo Lansing, MI, 48933 before Judge Shauna Dunnings for the following purpose(s): UNCONTESTED HEARING-PETITION TO APPOINT GUARDIANSHIP FOR MINOR. 10/25/2023 Mallynda Fernando. 1711 N. Capitol Ave. Lansing, MI 48906 (209) 484-0584

CP#23-327

The decedent, Margarget Joyce Carlson, died 6/4/2023. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Scott M. Carlson, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 1045 Independence Blvd., Charlotte, Michigan 48813, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication. 12/13/23. Scott M. Carlson, Trustee for the estate, 2403 Emerald Forest Circle, East Lansing, MI 48823

CP#23-320

Auction set for 12/22 @ 12pm Address: 1425 Rensen St. Lansing, MI 48910 NO PHONE CALLS

08 Silverado 0872 15 Ram 3612 16 Soul 3991 87 5th Ave 9008 13 F250 9739 03 Silverado 3489 22 Silverado 6520 13 Jetta 4749 13 Escape 7391 16 Malibu 4528 13 Dart 4054 13 A4 1016 08 Altima 8538 19 Compass 2899 12 Cherokee 6537 12 Verano 3351 18 Ecosport 0232 22 Equinox 6066 15 Equinox 6169 04 Sierra 1689

CP#23-330

Eagle Township, Clinton County Special Joint Meeting Eagle Township Board and Planning Commission Synopsis

December 4, 2023 - Present: Supervisor Stroud, Clerk Briggs-Dudley, Trustee Strahle, Treasurer C. Hoppes. Planning Commission Members: Chair Currie, Vice-Chair M. Hoppes, Secretary Sutherland, John Iszler and 8 citizens. Absent: None Meeting called to order at 8:00 am. Board Actions:

- 1) Approved entering contract with McKenna for Community Planning Services including a Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance.
- 2) Adopted resolution 12-04-2023-01 Resolution Empowering the Planning Commission to Act as a Zoning Commission in order to Develop, Adopt, and Enforce a Township Zoning Ordinance.

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

A complete copy of the minutes is available by contacting Laurie Briggs-Dudley, Clerk. Next regular meeting of the Eagle Township Board is December 21, 2023, at 6 pm at Eagle Township Hall, 14318 Michigan St, Eagle, MI. See www.eagletownship.org for latest updates.

CP#23-329

ARTS & CULTURE TO LANDAL ART BOOKS FILM MUSIC

Newly ordained rabbi hopes to help Jews find community

By TESSA PANETH-POLLAK

At a Hanukkah party on Sunday (Dec. 10) at the East Lansing Public Library, Margot Valles wore bright orange tights and a navy-blue dress with a rainbow of colored pencils printed at the hem.

"One of the greatest compliments I ever received was from a student who said the way I dressed reminded her of Ms. Frizzle," Valles said, referring to the beloved and quirky teacher from PBS's "The Magic School Bus."

The event was co-hosted by PJ Library, an organization that sends free Jewish children's books and music to families across the world, and the Shtibl, a new organization through which Valles aims to enrich, connect and empower people in the local Jewish community.

As director of congregational lifelong learning at East Lansing's Congregation Shaarey Zedek, Valles is a dynamic educator who seeks to be "involved in the adventure of learning." For Halloween, she decided to lean into it. At the Shtibl's inaugural Jewish Halloween party, she dressed up as Ms. Frizzle herself, complete with a blue solar-system-print dress and a curly orange wig.

The party was a test run for a series the Shtibl calls "Let's Jew It Together!" — events that infuse secular get-togethers and celebrations with Jewish meaning.

The story of the Shtibl started in 2019, when Valles set out to "do some serious Jewish learning." She enrolled in the Pluralistic Rabbinical Seminary and took classes online.

According to Valles, pluralism means that "we are not affiliated with any movement or stream of Judaism. There is much to be gleaned from every form of Judaism, but none has all the answers or will work for everyone."

When Valles began seminary, her goal wasn't to start a new organization.

"There were so many things our community needed within the structures that already existed," she said.

But she realized she needed to create something of her own during an independent study with Rabbi Patrick Beaulier on how to be a "clergy entrepreneur." The aim is to complement,



Photo by Jonathan Berman

From left: the Shtibl board members Sean Valles (former), Margot Valles, Evin Taş, Nicole Ellefson, Naomi Glogower and kids celebrate Jewish Halloween at the Allen Neighborhood Center.

not substitute, other Jewish affiliations people may have in town.

"It's very important to me that this is something that adds to the community and does not take away," she said. Some of the Shtibl's board members are also members, if not employees, of other local synagogues such as Kehillat Israel or Shaarey Zedek.

"The intention is not to be comprehensive. It's to fill in the gaps," Valles said.

These gaps became especially apparent to Valles during the holiday of Purim in March 2023. She only knew of one Jewish organization in town planning to hold a reading of the full Megillah, or Book of Esther, in Hebrew.

Valles decided to organize a Megillah reading at her own home. Three women — Valles, Naomi Glogower and Rachel Minkin — chanted the Megillah, with roughly 15 people in attendance. Valles said it was "life-changing" to realize that she could host an event outside of the synagogue that people would attend.

The Megillah is chanted in a special trope, or cantillation. Glogower, who grew up in an Orthodox community in Ann Arbor, learned the trope from her mother as an adult. Valles taught herself from an app created by the Jewish

Orthodox Feminist Alliance.

It was from the success of this gathering — and this model of intimate community — that the Shtibl took its name. The organization's website reads, "Shtibl means little house in Yiddish. We hope the Shtibl will be your spiritual home and space for Jewish community."

Valles said she finds that intimate groups like this are missing from a lot of Jewish communal life. Institutional Judaism, she said, tends to obsess about "the numbers." But numbers of members aren't what builds community, or "repeat customers."

"People need to become attached to each other," she said. "Just as they do in successful yoga studios or CrossFit gyms."

Another aspect of the Shtibl's mission is to help people find their place in the Jewish community, or to "navigate the local and global Jewish scene."

"I want people to find a place where they feel they belong in the Jewish community," said Valles. "There are lots of different places that can be. It may not even be at a synagogue. It may be as a person who's really involved in the (Greater Lansing) Jewish Federation or in MSU Jewish Studies, or it could be in Jewish ritual at home." It's important to Valles that Jews don't let the rules get in the way of participation. She said she has a strong regard for Halacha, or Jewish law, "but it can become such a barrier to actually having a good experience. If Judaism is going to be meaningful in people's lives, there have to be rituals that speak to them and that they can get behind. Not because a rabbi told them it was the right way to do it."

This kind of empowerment and help accessing Jewish ritual has traditionally been the bailiwick of Chabad, a prominent Hasidic Jewish organization best known for its outreach activities.

Chabad welcomes everyone, but it can't always be counted on as a space where converts, women seeking egalitarian involvement in ritual, interfaith families, patrilineal Jews, Jews of color or LGBTQ+ Jews can be their full selves, Valles said.

For the Shtibl, by contrast, "Every Jew is Jewish enough" and "each person is a universe with endless potential"

Valles hopes to attract people who are "Jewish, Jew-ish or Jewish-adjacent," and are not already affiliated with one of the local Jewish congregations.

"When people leave or are unsatisfied with the options they've had locally, where do we want them to go?" she asked. "Are they going to go back into the world of the unaffiliated? Or could we give them another Jewish option that might speak to them more?"

For now, the Shtibl is working on organizing individual events, with plans in the works for tot Shabbats, a celebration of the Jewish holiday Tu B'Shvat and even a get-together on Christmas Day. Interested parties can stay in touch with the organization's upcoming events at shtibl.org.

Valles originally came up with the Shtibl as a project to define her rabbinate after graduation. But as a representation of what her "rabbi-ness will look like," the Ms. Frizzle costume is not too shabby.

"She doesn't just chaperone the kids. She's on the bus. I really hope that's how people receive what I do," Valles said.

Shop from the cannabis industry's nice list this season

By CHRIS SILVA

The nights in Lansing are twinkling a little more bright, and holiday cheer is radiating throughout the capital city as residents celebrate or prepare for winter holidays and wrap up the end of 2023.

Are you looking for a gift for that very loved but hard-to-shop-for stoner your life? I've compiled a list of a few great finds from some amazing operators who are surely on Santa's nice list, allowing you to use your holiday spending as an opportunity to reward those in our industry who have been good little boys and girls this year. I hope everyone has a happy and heady holiday season!

Candy Mob pre-rolls — Redemption Cannabis \$45/10 \$70/20 \$100/30 Local Roots Cannabis 120 W. Grand River Road, Laingsburg

Lansing local Ryan Basore and his cannabis business, Redemption Cannabis, bring a tasty variant of the ever popular Mafia Funeral strain. I think any

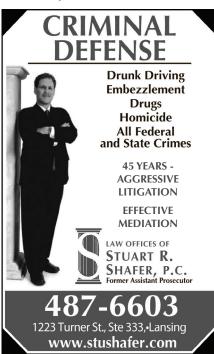




Courtesy of Redemption Cannabis

cannabis-loving friend or family member would be thrilled to receive a crisp 10-pack of pre-rolls of this former-caregiver-grown strain in their stocking on Christmas morning. The strain mixes menthol and sweet high notes to create a truly unique and memorable smoke, with the quality always seen in Redemption-cultivated flower. You can also feel good knowing your purchase is helping to support the work of the Redemption Foundation and being utilized to help those affected by the prohibition of cannabis.

In addition, Redemption offers some of the most accessible price options in the industry. Be sure to pick up a few 10-packs this season at Local Roots in Laingsburg. The mid-Michigan cannabis retailer has turned into a flagship store for Redemption and numerous other legacy and local Lansing brands. Like Redemption, Local Roots has a long history of cannabis activism and community involvement.





Courtesy of Franklin Field

Commissary Program distillate vape cartridges — Franklin Fields \$15/1g \$60/5g The Rotanical Co.

The Botanical Co. 3535 Capital City Blvd., Lansing

This new line of distillate-based vape cartridges from Franklin Fields features no-frills, high-THC products with impressive and reliable hardware and real attention paid to not overpowering users' palates with artificial flavor and fake terpenes. The result is a potent, reliable vape that can get you discreetly wrecked almost anywhere without the tell-tale smell of skunk that accompanies the operator's top-shelf live rosin cartridge offerings, another great gift idea.

Best of all is that \$1 from each cartridge sold goes toward a fund that puts money in the commissary accounts of people serving time for cannabis offenses. This holiday season, Lansing cannabis hero Danny Trevino is sitting in federal prison for trailblazing the legal cannabis market, while corporate chads pillage the industry in search of market





share and speculative future profits. Good on Franklin Fields for continuing its tradition of activism and philanthropy. This is a great chance to stock up on some affordable distillate carts and feel good about helping people out.



Courtesy of Michigan Organic Rub

Michigan Organic Rub \$30/1.5 oz Pincanna

1234 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing

Michigan Organic Rub is one of the OGs of cannabis topicals. The \$30 jar of the rub is a great value and can offer relief for all sorts of ailments. In addition, there are roll-on products and a new line of granola infused with THC. Founder Vince Volovlek is a former patient and caregiver who turned to cannabis after an accident left him with numerous injuries and accompanying aches and pains. I first met Volovlek back in the gray-market days as a patient and then as a vendor at Kind Provisioning in Lansing. It's been truly amazing to see him and his brand navigate the waters on legal cannabis. What I like about Michigan Organic Rub is that anyone can use it, from your heady, glass-pendant-wearing stoner friends to your nana with the achy knees. This is a good gift to help bring people into the cannabis fold and show them that there is more to the plant than just getting blitzed. You can feel good about spending your money with this brand, too, which is a win-win.



NEW DISPENSARY LOCATION SERVING THE GREATER LANSING AREA AND BEYOND WITH GRAND OPENING DISCOUNTS AND DEALS

We are a deli style dispensary which sells best-selling brands including locally grown flower and award winning solventless products. We aim to offer great pricing with friendly and knowledgeable customer service.

More info to be found at www.lakelifefarms.com



For use by individuals 21 years of age or older only. Keep out of reach of children. It is illegal to drive a motor vehicle while under the influence of marihuana.

NEW CUSTOMERS RECEIVE 25% OFF WITH MENTION OF THIS AD

Ingham County Treasurer ALAN FOX

Please read the STATUTORY PUBLICATION in this newspaper

DON'T TOSS ASIDE OR IGNORE THE INSERT IN THE CITY PULSE

MAKE SURE YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONES
ARE NOT ON THIS LIST

Help us prevent tax foreclosure in Ingham County

FORECLOSURE IS FINAL!!!



Ingham County Treasurer

P.O. Box 215 Mason MI 48854

517-676-7220

afox@ingham.org

Manufactured community expands with new homes and amenities

By TYLER SCHNEIDER



Leslie Estates

714 Mill St., Suite 58, Leslie 855-377-7368 mcmcommunities. com/ourcommunities/leslieestates Leslie Estates, a manufactured housing community at 714 Mill St. in Leslie, is in the midst of a renaissance after housing construction and management company MCM Communities purchased it four years ago.

The development is undergoing a phased expansion to attract younger

families and others who seek a more affordable alternative to the traditional homeowning experience.

"I think the driving force was the desire to take what was an old trailer park and make it into a luxury living community," MCM founder and owner Amin Khoury said. "The need was driven by amenitization."

The end goal, he said, is to produce a community "that can deliver what I call a golf-cart-ish luxury lifestyle for less than \$200,000."

At present, Leslie Estates offers 87 units, but after the next round of renovations and refurbishments, which begins in April, that number will grow to 140. Community amenities will include a pool, pickleball court, outdoor fitness center, dog park, playground and picnic area.

"The motivation to put the amenities in was to upgrade the lifestyle of the residents and just kind of change the neighborhood. To upgrade it from what it was, which was a community that hadn't been cared for in decades," Khoury said.

A few of the homes available now in-

clude three-bedroom, two-bathroom units ranging in size from 1,216 square feet for \$84,900 to 1,568 square feet for \$139,900.

"What I'm seeing is a lot of younger families. The most recent example is a young family with two children and a dog. They needed three bedrooms, and their price point was less than \$175,000. They chose us in anticipation of the rollout of the of the amenities because it's a good school system and a good town for kids," Khoury said. "I'm also seeing a little bit of the snowbirds, or retirees with second homes, because it's just a little cooler here if you're coming from Florida or Texas."

According to its website, MCM provides "complimentary financial assessment for all credit types, including those with limited or poor credit history." In addition, because it's a landlease community, Leslie Estates residents don't pay any land taxes.

"You own your home, and you lease the land. You'll get exclusive access to the amenities, and there's a monthly fee of about \$600. It's very much like a condo. What I think it's closest to, or at least the way it's envisioned to be in the future, is a property owners' association or a homeowners' association," Khoury said.

MCM operates seven manufactured communities in Michigan, including Eaton Pine Village in Eaton Rapids, Village Square in Williamston and Butternut Creek in Charlotte, as well as Lakeridge Estates in Huntsville, Ohio.

"I've been in the communities daily, and since we purchased the Leslie Estates community, it's been a drastic change. A lot of new homes have been brought in, and the place is starting to take shape. So, we're not where we want to be yet, but we're getting there," Khoury said.



Courtesy of MCM Communities

A mockup of the new amenities planned for Leslie Estates, which include a pool, pickleball court, outdoor fitness center, dog park, playground and picnic area. Construction of the new spaces will begin in April.

EMANUEL AX, LEONIDAS KAVAKOS, & YO-YO MA BEETHOVEN FOR THREE

WED, JAN 31, 7:30PM

W H"I can't imagine a more perfect performance than the one I experienced." —MassLive A R T

whartoncenter.com • 1.800.WHARTON





2. Michigan floral ornaments

UnHinged Artz Gallery \$19

ON

1027 S. Washington Ave., Lansing facebook.com/unhingedartz/

These Michigan-shaped ceramic ornaments, made by Michigan artist Roswitha Underwood, are offered in a range of designs, each with a different flower covering the front side. The little details like the cutout heart and ladybug show the care the artist put into the pieces.



3. Satin pillowcase

Curvaceous Lingerie

117 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing curvaceouslingerie.com

Satin pillowcases are reported to have numerous benefits due to the material's silkiness and breathability. These include healthier, less irritated skin as well as less hair breakage, tangles and frizz. In addition, the fabric regulates temperature to ensure at least one side of the pillow is always cool.

By NICOLE NOECHEL

Who said that finding great holiday gifts has to be a hassle? City Pulse has compiled a list of 25 gifts under \$25 that will still make recipients feel like a million bucks. The gifts are either locally made, available at local businesses or related to Lansing-area culture, and there's quite a range to choose from,

so you should be able to find something for anyone left on your holiday gift list. Many of the items are available at local markets, like downtown Lansing's Kringle Holiday Market, Horrocks Farm Market and the Holt Farmers Market, which may be great places to look for last-minute gifts that didn't make it into this list.



1. Horrow throw pillows

Grave Danger 1236 Turner St., Suite A, Lansing gravexdanger.com

Even when living in an intentionally spooky and gloomy space, no one should have to sacrifice comfort. These throw pillows are perfect for the people in your life who wear all black, binge horror movies whenever they can and never seem to stop celebrating Halloween.

4. 2023 Michigan **Capitol ornament** \$23.58

michigan-capitol-gift-shop. myshopify.com

Each year, the Michigan Capitol releases a commemorative Christmas tree ornament. This year's ornament, which was just restocked after selling out, features the Interior Dome and the scaffolding erected for the Rotunda Decorative Paint Project, which began in June 2023 to repair and maintain the many delicate pieces of art.



See Gift guide, Page 14

Gift guide

from page 13

5. Album art by Dennis Preston, Nevin Speerbrecker and Paul Vetne

The Record Lounge \$7 each or four for \$20 1027 S. Washington Ave., Lansing therecordloungereotown.com

Three local artists teamed up to recreate classic album covers, like Bruce Springsteen's "Darkness on the Edge of Town"; Joni Mitchell's "Hejira"; and Crosby, Stills & Nash's self-titled LP. These unique prints are perfect for music lovers who already seem to have every vinyl or CD under the sun.



12. Handmade coasters

Lychens Art Studio lychensartstudio.com

Michigan-based artist Erin Simonson sells her pop-culture-themed prints on stickers, pins, magnets and keychains, but no one can have too many coasters. Designs range from horror subjects like Pennywise the Clown and the Bride of Frankenstein to Donatello from "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" in a Santa hat. The coasters are scratch-, fade- and water-resistant.



18. All-natural room and linen sprays Heaven Scent Body Products

\$20 (4 oz)
Available 4-7 p.m. FridaySaturday (Dec. 15-16) and Dec.
22 at the Kringle Holiday Market
(400 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing)

heavenscentbody.com

These all-natural fragrances by Lansing-based Heaven Scent Body Products, made from botanical extracts, essential oils and other plant-based ingredients, provide a fresh scent throughout any room they're sprayed in. They can also be used on linens for a more concentrated effect. The lavender scent aims to provide calm, while the eucalyptus and mint scent aims to uplift.



6. Wax and candle warmers

Wicked Wax & Wix Candle Co. \$20

wickedcandlecompany.com

These ceramic warmers, made by St. Johns-based Wicked Wax & Candle Co., can be used with wax melts as well as candles, especially ones that have reached the ends of their wicks but still have some wax remaining. Their muted tones would pair well with almost any décor, and they'd be great to use in small spaces like dorm rooms or apartments, where flames can be a hazard.



Pic's & Wic's \$4-5 Horrocks Farm Market 7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing picsandwics.com

Pic's & Wic's is a family-owned soy candle and air freshener business based in Ludington. These Mitten-State-shaped air fresheners are perfect for someone who's lived here their whole life and never wants to leave, someone who moved away but misses Michigan dearly, or someone whose car has a lurking odor that you'd like to gently remedy.

7. Simmer pot kits Lansing Scent Co. \$8-12 lansingscentco.com

Available in 15 varieties such as Spiced Cider, Holiday Cheer, Fresh & Clean and Sage + Citrus, Lansing Scent Co.'s all-natural scent packs fill a room with vibrant fragrance when simmered in water. The business, founded in 2021 by Lansing Residen Allie Svoboda, ships to all 50 states.





Wicked Funny Candle Co. \$19.25 etsy.com/shop/WickedFunnyCandles

Whether it's basketball, football, hockey or any other collegiate sport, die-hard Michigan State University Spartans fans can make lighting this candle a new game day tradition. The candles are made from a 100% natural soy wax blend, 100% cotton wicks and premium essential oils. Scents include Clean Cotton, Sea Salt + Orchid and Apple Harvest.

19. Irreverent candles

Bad Annie's Sweary Goods \$15.99

swearygoods.com

These foul-phrased candles are sure to bring about a hearty laugh at the gift exchange, with many touting the F-word and other expletives in bold lettering and others promising the scent of various hunky actors. Each candle has a different scent and is made from soy wax.





8. Hard ciders

Phillips Cider Bar & Market \$13-18 (750 ml) 3000 Vine St., Lansing phillipsciders.com

On top of the baked goods and draft ciders available at Phillips Cider Bar & Market in the Frandor Shopping Center, the St. Johnsbased business also sells bottled ciders that range from fruity and botanical to hoppy and woody. Most ciders are centered around 7% ABV, though a couple of the barrel-aged varieties reach 9.5% ABV.

15. Dry rubs

Ellison Brewery and Event Space \$8-14 (8 oz) 1314 S. Washington Ave., Lansing facebook.com/ellisonbrewingreo/

Ellison Brewery and Spirits makes its own line of spicy dry rubs, perfect for the person in your life who can never get enough heat. Varieties include Carolia Reaper, Ghost Pepper and Trinidad Moruga Scorpion Pepper. The rubs can be used on both meat and veggies to spice up any meal.





9. Bloody mary mixes

\$7.99 (24 oz)
Horrocks Farm Market
7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing shophorrocks.com



11. Holiday candies

Ray's Candy & Crafts \$3-8

Available 4-7 p.m. Friday-Saturday (Dec. 15-16) and Dec. 22 at the Kringle Holiday Market (400 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing) facebook.com/profile. php?id=100092293075749

Whether you're looking for unique stocking stuffers or gift-basket items for someone with a sweet tooth, Ray's Candy & Crafts has you covered.

The Lansing-based business' selection of freeze-dried candy delights with bright colors and holiday-themed designs at a price point lower than the typical gourmet candy store.

16. Dog treat gift baskets or boxes

Fur Real Dog Snacks \$10-25

Available 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday (Dec. 15) at the Grand River Farmers Market (141 E. Michigan Ave., Jackson) and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday (Dec. 16) at the Holt Farmers Market (2150 Cedar St., Holt) furrealdogsnacks.com

Humans aren't the only ones who deserve gifts this holiday season. For the furry members of the family, these gift baskets include a stuffed toy and an assortment of Michigan-based Fur Real Dog Snacks' dehydrated meat snacks. The treats are free from steroids, artificial flavors and added preservatives. There are also smaller boxes with treats only.

20. Holiday soap tins

\$15 Sapo de Solis 1027 S. Washington Ave., Lansing sapodesolis.com

Variety is the spice of life, and everyone needs some spice during these dreary winter months. Sapo de Solis, located within the REO Town Marketplace, is offering build-yourown hoilday soap tins with a choice of four small-batch, vegan-friendly soap bars and a decorative container. Scents include Sandalwood, Vanilla Oatmeal, Fresh Peppermint, Lavender, Patchouli, Fresh Rose and more.





10. Fresh-roasted coffee \$16

River Tree Coffee Co.
Available 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday (Dec.
16) at the Holt Farmers Market (2150
Cedar St., Holt)
rivertreecoffee.com

America may run on Dunkin', but your loved ones could be running on much resher brews from East Lansing-based River Tree Coffee Co. The products are all direct-trade and roasted weekly, and as a bonus, the packaging is compostable. The business also accepts order requests via Facebook and Instagram and offers free delivery throughout Greater Lansing.

17. Bee propolis body cream

Organic Restorative Suds \$22.50 (4 oz) Available 4-7 p.m. Friday-Saturday (Dec. 15-16) and Dec. 22 at the Kringle Holiday Market (400 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing) organicsrestorativesuds.com

This cream, made by Okemos-based skincare company
Organic Restorative Suds, aims to aid those with sensitive and allergy-prone skin, but it can also be used to fight dry skin during the winter. It's made with bee propolis, a resinous substance that protects the beehive and is believed to have antiseptic, anti-inflammatory and anti-allergy properties. As a bonus, the product is light on the skin and smells of fresh fruit.





Send checks to City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing MI 48912. Or use the QR code or go to www.lansingcitypulse.com/ donate to give by credit card.



Gift guide

from page 15

21. Lavender-sceneted eye pillow

Sixteen Sprigs Lavender Farm \$18

Horrocks Farm Market 7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing

Sixteen Sprigs is a woman-owned lavender farm with facilities in Lansing and Alma. According to the business, lavender is associated with a reduction in stress, anxiety, insomnia and headaches. This eye pillow could be a great gift for anyone who needs a bit of calm in their life. Simply warm the microwave the pillow for 30 to 40 seconds and it's ready to go.



23. Downtown Digital Dollars gift card

Any amount app.yiftee.com/gift-card/lansing-mi

Downtown Lansing Inc. offers one simple gift card that can be used to support a variety of Lansing businesses, including Bowdie's Chophouse, the Peanut Shop, Impression 5 Science Center, all of the restaurants in Lansing Shuffle and much more. For a full list of participating businesses, visit app.yiftee.com/ gift-card/lansing-mi/locations.

24. Blind Date with a Book

Polka Dots Boutique \$8.99-9.99 1207 Turner St., Lansing polkadotsboutique.com

Looking for a gift to satisfy the avid reader in your life but can't decide on a specific title? Old Town's Polka Dots Boutique offers a "Blind Date with a Book," where you can choose from a variety of pre-wrapped books based only on their thickness, size and a few broad descriptors of the contents. The books are slightly used but are in "fantastic condition" with no marks, smells or writing, Polka Dots said on its website.





Williamston Alpaca

\$24

williamstonalpaca.com

Socks are a tried-and-true holiday gift, and these 78% alpaca fiber socks, made by a family-owned alpaca farm in Williamston, are sure to keep recipients' toes warm and cozy throughout the cold winter months. "Once you try these socks, you will never go back to cotton or wool socks," the business wrote on its website.



25. Playing Picasso gift card

Any amount 300 N. Clippert St., Suite 15A, Lansing playingpicasso.com

Playing Picasso, a paint-your-own pottery store in the Frandor Shopping Center, offers a range of paintable ceramic items for less than \$25, from plates and cups to animal figurines, allowing your giftee to choose a keepsake that's both personalized and fun to make.



New Creem Magazine pays tribute to the late Lester Bangs

By BILL CASTANIER

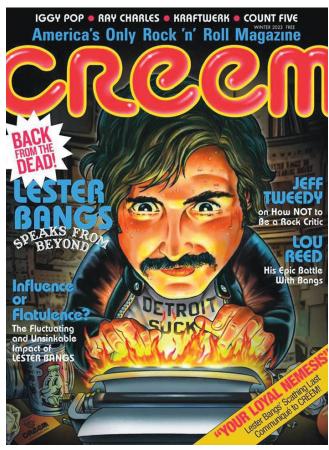
Are you ever too old to read Creem? I'll have to ask the magazine's mascot, Boy Howdy!

In the meantime, I talked with Susan Whitall, who as a quiet but curious Michigan State University graduate in the '70s was catapulted to the helm of Creem Magazine, an iconic Detroit-based rock 'n' roll publication.

Whitall worked for Creem from 1975 to 1983 and was instrumental in turning the magazine into a-no holds-barred alternative to Rolling Stone. One of the important distinctions between the publications was that Creem focused on the fans' perspectives, she said.

In addition to Whitall, a number of other MSU graduates were writers and photographers at the original Creem magazine, such as J.J. and Connie Kramer, the son and wife of the magazine's founder, Barry Kramer. Whitall said J.J. Kramer is responsible for clawing back the rights to Creem and launching its new publishing effort, which began in 2022 after a decades-long hiatus.

When I saw the Facebook post



Creem Magazine's winter 2023 issue, depicting one of the magazine's distinguished writers and editors, Lester Bangs.

stating that Creem would be issuing a collection of the six issues it has published since the hiatus, I knew I had to get my hands on it — especially since the most recent issue is a tribute to one of the magazine's distinguished writers and editors, Lester Bangs.

The 128-page large-format magazine includes cover art by commercial illustrator Gary Ciccarelli, depicting the mad-man-like Bangs during what appears to be one of his

legendary streams of consciousness.

Within the issue, there are reprints of some of Bangs' classic rock 'n' roll writings that show both his genius and his irreverence. There is also a Q&A feature about Bangs with former editors of the magazine.

The Q&A is an intense look at Bangs and all of his faults. An introduction calls Bangs a misogynist, a homophobe, slovenly and the "king of the dorks."

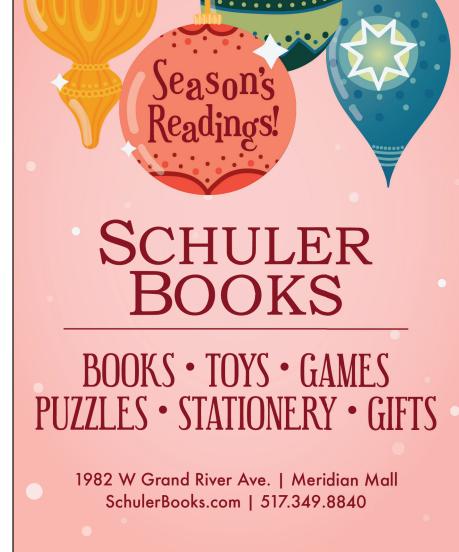
Some may remember Philip Seymour Hoffman playing the role of Bangs in the 2000 film "Almost Famous," serving as the crusty mentor to William Miller, a teenager

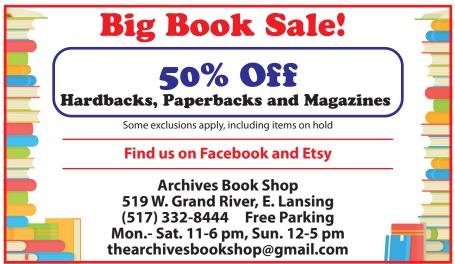
who's trying to break into writing about rock 'n' roll for Rolling Stone. The movie was somewhat based on filmmaker and journalist Cameron Crowe, who freelanced for Creem and wrote the screenplay for the movie.

Despite some of his well-documented and outlandish antics, Whitall said she saw Bangs in a different light.

"I worked with Lester for a particularly long time, and it was life-changing. It's a very emotional subject for me, talking about Lester," she said. "He was my buddy, my

See Creem Magazine, Page 18





Creem Magazine

from page 17

pal and my mentor." Bangs eventually left Creem to work at Rolling Stone and died in 1982 at age 33 from a drug overdose.

Whitall remembers Bangs as a member of the "girl gang" at the magazine. She says in the Q&A, "Lester loved women ... He was that big-brother figure - always protective and full of advice." She later says, "Lester had white-knight syndrome — he liked to save damsels in distress."

In a long article for The New Yorker, writer Maria Bustillos wrote, "Bangs never held anything at arm's length in his life; he was rushing headlong into the sea of the world, arms thrown wide open, to embrace it, to drown in it."

The only way to access the original issues of Creem online is by buying a subscription to the new issues for \$93, including taxes and shipping. The subscription provides access to a searchable database of "old" Creem magazines.

But back to Whitall, who left Creem in 1983 for a 15-year career writing about rock 'n' roll at the Detroit News and has also published three books: "Women of Motown: An Oral History" (1998), "Fever: Little Willie John: A Fast Life. Mysterious Death, and the Birth of Soul" (2011) and "Joni on Joni: Interviews and Encounters with Joni Mitchell" (2018). The writer won a Michigan Notable Book Award for her book on Little Willie John. She is also a member of the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame.

Imagine Whitall walking into Creem as a 22-yearold recent graduate of MSU and getting the opportunity to work with some of the giants of rock 'n' roll. Maybe she needs to write her own memoir about her time as a Detroit rock 'n' roll writer. They were heady times, and she could probably tell some those are off the record for now.



amazing stories. Well, From left: editors Robert Duncan, Susan Whitall and Lester Bangs at the Creem Magazine office in 1976.

Established 1976



Restoring old violins & guitars for 45 years see our repairs at WhiteBrosMusic.com or on YouTube

<u> Ukuleles! – any color \$49.95</u>



Open Mon.-Thur. 12-7, Friday 12-6, and Saturday 12-4 517-903-6040 🎜 13630 Main St., Bath MI 48808



A Stress-Free Holiday Season

It's not easy finding the perfect gift for the animal lover in your life, so we've compiled some of our most popular gifts at Potter Park Zoo. Make sure to stop by the AniMall Gift Shop for more!

- Potter Park Zoo Memberships
- Animal Adoptions
- 2024 Calendar
- · Gift Cards



Gift Card POTTER PARK



WWW.POTTERPARKZOO.ORG

Voted City Pulse Top of the Town Awards Favorite Massage Studio and Center

Sitt Catals You'll be your family's favorite too

ONLINE AT CREATIVEWELLNESS.NET FREE GIFT WITH PURCHASE (IN CENTER ONLY WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)



Great Lakes Art and Gifts

SHOP FROM OUR WIDE SELECTION OF HANDMADE ART AND GIFTS MADE BY LOCAL ARTISTS WE HAVE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE ON YOUR GIFT LIST

HANDMADE ITEMS AT GLAG

CERAMICS - POTTERY - JEWELRY - PAINTINGS

ART PRINTS - SOAPS & LOTIONS - STAINED GLASS

WOOLEN MITTENS - MINIATURES - MOSIAC ART

FRACTAL WOODBURNING - TOTE BAGS - KNIVES

ECLECTIC HOME DECOR - KNIT ITEMS

WOOD CRAFT - ACRYLIC & WOODEN PENS

GARDEN ORNAMENTS - EMBROIDERED TOWELS

CARDS - CANDLES AND MORE

STILL UNSURE OF WHAT TO GET, HOW ABOUT A GIFT CARD FROM GREAT LAKES ART AND GIFTS?



306 E CESAR CHAVEZ - OLD TOWN JUST EAST OF TURNER STREET WWW.GLAGOLDTOWN.COM



has all your vinyl needs, both new and used and will also special-order new vinyl for fast delivery. We also offer: Beautifully restored vintage stereo equipment Gift Certificates for that hard to buy for vinyl collector Need extra cash



for the holidays?

We buy good condition used vinyl

call to make an appointment

(517) 862-1976 therecordloungereotown.com Tuesdays - Thursdays, 11-4 p.m. Friday, Saturday, 11-5 p.m. · Sunday 12-5 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

19

"A Charitable Puzzle" --that's my impression. by Matt Jones © 2023 Matt Jones

ACROSS

1. "Mamma Mia" features their catalog 5. Item no longer mailed out by Netflix

9. Flower fragment 14. Fruity dessert

15. Ibiza o Mallorca

16. Project, as charm 17. Lunar eclipse sight,

sometimes 19. Yorba Linda

presidential library subject 20. Alternative to

Dollar or Budget 21. Prods into action 23. The -Bol

character)

that breaks? 30. Admit guilt, with

31. Ctrl-Alt-32. Nutritional

_ parmigiana 36. "Pinafore"

38. Bolt on a track 40. Writer who gets asked a lot of

judgment questions 44. Give a false story

45. Oversized

46. "A Bug's Life" beat it in the 1998 box office

47. Abbr. at an airport terminal 48. "Dude, Where's My

51. Three Stooges blow 53. Doubly polite acknowledgment? 56. Talk or rally

preceder 59. Practice piece 60. Brand of vegetable

53

man (classic TV ad 24. Remote feature

"un"

guideline letters

designation

Day Off" 71. Metal for an 11th wedding anniversary

72. Mini-feud -do-well (idler)

62. Hummus brand

65. Phrase about

precedes the first

words of the long

Fountain" fountain

69. Taverna liqueur

of "Ferris Bueller's

70. Actress McClurg

68. "Three Coins in the

vibes, or what

answers?

DOWN

1. Baseball scoreboard words

2. Notable name in pinball machines 3. Comprehensive

4. One of three in a water molecule

5. Badly lit 6. "Equal" start

7. Walks through muck

8. Paddled at camp 9. Part of some old clocks

69

10. Be

11. Rental for a formal

12. Fuss 13. "Dancing With the Stars" judge Goodman

18. "Sweet!" 22. "Good Burger"

actor Vigoda 25. "Days of Grace" author Arthur

26. "Semper Fi" org. 27. Practice seriously

28. Keats or Wordsworth

29. Football and golf announcer .lim 30. Dart (about)

33. Lot attendant 34. Singer Piaf

35. Spa brand with a Sanskrit name 37. Weep loudly

39. Round fastener 41. Screwdriver, e.g. 42. "The Simpsons

sister

43. Fruit with a wrinkly rind

49. Sun Devils' inst.

50. Dashboard

features, still 52. Protesting

54. "The ___!" (cry of outrage)

55. Awaken

56. June celebration

57. Muppet who shares a domicile

58. On-call

attachment, once

61. Like 100 62. GPS lines

63. Gallery stuff 64. Quilting gathering

66. "Kill Bill" artist

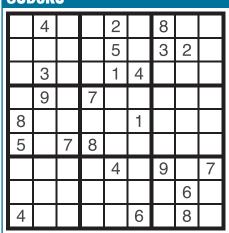
67. "Asia's ___ Talent" (international TV

Answers on page 27

©2020 Jonesin' Crosswords (jonesincrosswords@gmail.com)

Intermediate

SUDOKU



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 puzzlě!

Free Will Astrology By Rob Brezsny

December 13-19, 2023

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Aries educator Booker T. Washington advised us, "Do the common thing in an uncommon way." That's a useful motto for you in the coming months. If you carry out ordinary activities with flair, you will generate good fortune and attract excellent help. As you attend to details with conscientious enthusiasm, you will access your finest inner resources and exert constructive influences on the world around you. Be thorough and unique, persistent and imaginative, attentive and innovative. Adore your chores in 2024!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Taurus philosopher John Stuart Mill (1806-1873) was among the smartest people who ever lived. As is often the case with geniuses, he believed in the supreme value of liberty for all. He was a feminist long before that word existed. Like another genius, architect Frank Lloyd Wright, he thought that "individuality realized is the supreme attainment of the human soul, the master-master's work of art. Individuality is sacred." I nominate Mill to be a role model for you in 2024, Taurus. This could be a time when you reach unprecedented new heights and depths of unique self-expression and liberation. PS: Here's a quote from Mill: "Eccentricity has always abounded where strength of character has abounded; and the amount of eccentricity in a society has been proportional to the amount of genius, mental vigor and moral courage which it contained

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Emotionally and spiritually, you will ripen at a robust rate in 2024. Your intelligence will mature into wisdom in surprising and gratifying ways. Harvesting rich lessons from long-smoldering confusions and long-simmering mysteries will be your specialty. PS: Some of you Geminis joke around and say you never want to grow up. But I hope you minimize that attitude in the coming months

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Indigenous people study the intelligence of animals and incorporate it into their own lives. If you're game to do that in 2024, suggest you choose elephants as a source of teaching and inspiration. Have fun studying and meditating on their ways! Here are a few facts to get you started. Problem-solving is one of their strengths. They are experts at learning how to get what they need and passing that knowledge on to their offspring. They seldom suffer from sickness, but if they do, they often self-medicate with plants in their environment. Elder females are the knowledge keepers, retaining inner maps of where food, drink and other resources are located.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Writer Janet Champ speaks about the joy of locating "the big wow, the big yesyesyes." It happens when you find something or someone you regard as "better, greater, cuter, wiser, more wonderful than anything you have ever known." I'll be lavish and predict you will encounter a big wow and yesyesyes like this in 2024. Will you know what to do with it? Will you be able to keep it? Those possibilities are less certain, but I have high hopes for you. For best results, cultivate a vivid vision of how the big wow and big yesyesyes will benefit others as well as you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In 1916, most women in the world could not vote. Many men considered women to be inferior — lacking in courage and initiative. It was the Dark Ages! That summer, two sisters named Augusta and Adeline Van Buren rebelled against the stereotypes by riding their motorcycles across America. Roads were poor, rains were frequent, and police arrested them frequently for wearing men's clothes. Male-dominated media derided them, with one newspaper criticizing their escape from "their proper roles as housewives." nominate them to be your role models in 2024, no matter what gender you are. It will be a favorable time to transcend conventional wisdom, override decaying traditions and be a cheerful rebel.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): For hundreds of years, European nations stole land and resources from Indigenous peoples all over the world. Among the thefts were art, ritual objects, cultural treasures

and human skeletons. Museums in the West are still full of such plunder. But in recent years, some museums have begun to return the loot. Germany sent back hundreds of artifacts to Nigerian museums. France restored many objects to the African country of Benin. Let's apply this scenario as a useful metaphor for you in 2024, Libra. Is there a part of your past that was hijacked? Your memories appropriated or denied? Your rightful belongings poached or your authentic feelings infringed upon? It's time for corrections and

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I suggest we choose the brilliant Scorpio physicist and Chemist Marie Curie (1867-1934) as your role model in 2024. She is the only person to win a Nobel Prize in two different fields. She managed to pursue a rigorous scientific career while raising two children and having a fulfilling marriage. Being of service to humanity was a central life goal. She grew up in poverty and sometimes suffered from depression, but she worked hard to become the genius she aspired to be. May the spirit of Marie Curie inspire you, dear Scorpio, as you make dramatic progress in expressing your unique soul's code.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In my fairy tale about your year ahead, I see you searching for treasure. It's not a wild and wandering exploration but a diligent, disciplined quest. You are well-organized about it, carefully gathering research and asking incisive guestions. You ruminate on the possibilities with both your logical and intuitive faculties. You meditate on how you might make adjustments in yourself so as to become fully available for the riches you seek. Your gradual, incremental approach gives you strength. You draw inspiration from your sheer persistence and relentless inquiry. And it all pays off by the second half of 2024.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "All the things I really like to do are either illegal, immoral or quipped Capricorn author Alexander (1887-1943). Since he was never Woollcott arrested, I conclude he didn't get to enjoy some of the activities he relished. Was he immoral? Not exactly, though he could be caustic. Offering his opinion about a famous pianist, he said, "There is absolutely nothing wrong with Oscar Levant that a miracle couldn't fix." The good news for you, Capricorn, is that 2024 will be mostly free of the problems Woollcott experienced. You will be offered an abundance of perfectly legal and moral enjoyments. They may sometimes be fattening, but

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Author Augusten Burroughs is a devoted urban dweller. He says, "When I get a craving for nature, I turn on TV's Discovery Channel and watch bearattack survivors recount their horror." Martial arts master Morihei Ueshiba had a different perspective. "Mountains, rivers, plants and trees should be your teachers," he advised. "Study how water flows in a valley stream, smoothly and freely between the rocks." I recommend Ueshiba's approach to you in 2024, Aquarius not Burroughs'. Here are my predictions: 1. You will have no dangerous encounters with nature. 2. You will learn more than ever from the wild world. 3. To the degree that you wander in the outdoors, your spiritual life will thrive.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A study done at Union College in New York found that being fraternity members raised students' future income by 36% but lowered their grade-point average by 0.25 points. Would you make a similar trade-off, Pisces? Would you pursue a path that made you more successful in one way but less successful in another? I suspect you will encounter unusual decisions like this in 2024. My job is not to advise you what to do but to make you alert for the provocative riddles

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

TURNIT DOWN BY RICH TUPICA

THE SEEKER



Photo by Jake Mulka

Rainbow Seekers

Dec. 31

7 p.m. doors

8 p.m. show

hall224.com

Grewal Hall at 224

224 S. Washington Square, Lansing

w/ Of Good Nature, Earth Radio

Joe Hertler & the Rainbow Seekers will close out the year at Grewal Hall at 224 in downtown Lansing.

Joe Hertler returns to his old stomping grounds

For more than a decade, Joe Hertler & the Rainbow Seekers has been a fixture in Michigan's indie music scene and beyond. The group's dynamic new LP, "Pursuit of Wonder," was just pressed on vinyl and CD and will ship out to fans by the start of the new year or so. Speaking of 2024, the band will play on New Year's Eve at Grewal Hall at 224 in downtown Lansing. City Pulse caught up with Hertler about the new record and his love for Lansing. Here's what the singer-songwriter had to say.

Who first inspired you to start writing your own songs?

Joe Hertler: I was obsessed with Michigan music as a kid. I spent my early years trying to copy Frontier Ruckus, the Hard Lessons, Bear vs. Shark, Anathallo and the Silent Years. There were so many others, like Daniel Zott, Ella Riot, Theo Katzman, the Javelins, the Ragbirds and Sufjan Stevens. There was an enormous amount of incredible music coming out during that time. Today, I'm always trying to emulate Jamiroquai, Bill Withers, Death Cab for Cutie, the Flaming Lips and Dave Matthews.

Did you notice any overarching themes while writing the lyrics for your new 'Pursuit of Wonder' LP?

Impermanence is the overarching theme that ties together most of my music. All things have a beginning and an ending and are subject to change. This record deals with identity, especially in the sense of how 'what we do' defines how we view ourselves. The self, of course, is ever-changing. We're a different person every waking morning. This record is very much about letting go and accepting that nothing is truly ever ours for the keeping, and that's okay because the fleeting nature of all things is what gives them value.

Sonically, how did you approach the record? Did you try anything different Seek on this LP? Frankly. I thought we Joe Hertler & the

Frankly, I thought we were done as a band when the pandemic was in full swing. How could we survive if we couldn't play shows? I mourned it for a few months, but one day, I woke up and just started working. I wrote 40 songs

over that period of time. It was perhaps the most prolific period of my life. But in my head, if the band were to break up, my demos would have to stand on their own. I learned to produce by making hip-hop beats and house music. For the first time in my career, I could dig in and apply what I'd learned.

But it looks like the band lived on.

The Rainbow Seekers survived! We picked out a record's worth of songs from the batch and started refining them with

my producer buddy Konrad Snyder, who leaned into the demos. He brought out the best of what was there and helped us refine it. Micah Bracken (keys), Ryan Hoger (electric guitar) and I spent about six to eight months going back and forth to Nashville, Tennessee. It was the most fun I've ever had making a record.

You've had a big following in Lansing for a long time. You lived here for quite some time, correct?

Lansing is my hometown. I lived there for over a decade and purchased a house on the east side with my former partner. After our breakup, I had to separate myself from Lansing. I got a fresh start in downtown Ann Arbor. But I will always and forever love Lansing. It was the ground upon which my entire career was built. It's where the Rainbow Seekers all met and became friends. I will forever love Lansing. One day, I may move back.

Looking back, what were you up to in 2023?

A lot of shows and content creation. Modern music is more about socials than music sometimes, which can be equal parts frustrating but also a great way to communicate. Music, to me, is much more than just music. It's a means to connect, communicate and share ideas.

Going back to your music from 12 to 14 years ago, has your songwriting process evolved since then?

Yes and no. It's still just a matter of tossing paint. But back then, I only played acoustic guitar. I now have a giant collection of instruments and maintain a practice schedule. The biggest difference between then and now, and this change happened during the writing of 'Pluto,' was that I started writing on bass and drums. Start with the foundation, the groove, and build upward.

Do the members of the Rainbow Seekers influence your songwriting?

I formed the band with Ryan and Micah, who are heavily involved in that process. We get together once a week when we're not touring. They filter out the junk — and there are a lot of crappy songs. They are both songwriters, too, and extremely proficient

multi-instrumentalists. Trying to credit who played what on this record was a confusing process. But yeah, this band could not exist without them.

What's some advice you'd give to new singer-songwriters?

Cut the bullshit and get to work. You have to view yourself as a professional. You have to view music as a craft far greater than yourself. Don't wait for motivation, because you don't have enough time to wait around. There's a narrow win-



Photo by Jake Mulka

Joe Hertler

dow for most of us, and music leaves us all behind. You must ask yourself daily, "What does it mean to be a professional musician? How does a professional musician behave? What does a professional musician do?" Last, don't forget about your family and friends. They are more important than music. They'll be what you have when music leaves you behind.

OTHER UPCOMING SHOWS

Mannheim Steamroller Christmas at the Wharton Center features Grammy Award-winner Chip Davis' stunning multimedia show of Christmas classics in the distinctive Mannheim sound.

Thursday, Dec. 14 7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall

750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing

"A Very Merry Cabaret" is Okemos-based actress and vocalist Sabrina Dahlgren's first holiday-themed cabaret at Urban-Beat in Old Town.

Dec. 17 6 p.m. 1213 Turner St., Lansing

DJ Whitney Who, the 2023 Top of the Town contest winner for Best DJ—and the singer for another Top of the Town mainstay, '80s cover band Starfarm—spins a family-friendly, pre-New Year's Eve music set at the Horrocks Beer Garden.

Saturday, Dec. 29 6-9 p.m. 7420 W. Saginaw Hwy, Lansing

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, Dec. 13
Acting & Glee Music Class for Kids - Ages 5-12. 4:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

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

Blue Christmas - A service to recognize the difficulties we may be facing this holiday season while looking to our savior for hope. 7 p.m. Martin Luther Chapel, 444 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-332-0778. martinlutherchapel.org.

Coffee and Conversation - Join us and learn about fellow Chamber of Commerce members. 9 a.m. City Hall Community Room, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge. grandledgechamber.com/coffee_ and_conversation.php.

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

Improv Acting Class - 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jazz Dance Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mindfulness Meditation in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition - All are welcome to join our weekly practice! 7-9 p.m. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. MLK Jr. Blvd., Lansing. lamc.info.

"Mixed Media Medley," by Bobbie Margolis - 9 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL – Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. Call 517-347-2021 beforehand to ensure gallery space is open. facebook.com/MidMichiga-

"Murder for Two: Holiday Edition" - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

Nature photography display by Joyce Felzke - Hours subject to change as the Bookend Gallery is staffed by volunteers. Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/ about/our-locations/haslett.

Tap II Class - 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464.ruhal-

Weaving the Web: Patterns - Join us online or in person for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. weaversoftheweb.org.

Zoo Nights, with Lights! - See the zoo after hours, visit with the animals and enjoy tasty treats, drinks and holiday music under the glow of our holiday light display!21+. 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potter-

Thursday, Dec. 14
"A Course in Miracles," Facilitated by Lisa
Schmidt - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Acting 101 Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class - 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

"Christmas Belles" - 7 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-482-5700. river-

The Davies Project New Volunteer Driver Training Class - Become a volunteer driver for The Davies Project and help get seriously ill children (and their parents) to doctor's appointments. 10 a.m. 230 S. Bingham St., Lansing. thedaviesproject.org.

Eloquents Toastmasters Weekly Meeting -Safe and positive environment to practice public speaking and leadership skills. 6:30 p.m. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. eloquents.toastmastersclubs.org.

Jazz/Hip Hop II class - Ages 9-13. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Karaoke Thursday - 8 p.m.-midnight. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897, greendoorlive.com.

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

Laingsburg Farmers Market - 5-8 p.m. First Congregational Church of Laingsburg, 401 E. Grand River Road, Laingsburg. 517-295-8128. laingsburgbusiness.org/farmers-market-1.

Mannheim Steamroller Christmas - Experience the magic as the spirit of the season comes alive with the signature sound of Mannheim Steamroller. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

 $\operatorname{\mathsf{Mid-Michigan}}$ Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

"Mixed Media Medley," by Bobbie Margolis - 9 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. Call 517-347-2021 beforehand to ensure gallery space is open. facebook.com/Mid-Michigan Art Guild.

"Murder for Two: Holiday Edition" - 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org

Nature photography display by Joyce Felzke -Hours subject to change as the Bookend Gallery is staffed by volunteers. Noon-6 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble - Learn to excel equally in singing, acting and dance. 5:30 p.m. 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhala-

Stitch 'n Bitch - Come hang out with some fellow stitching witches! 5-8 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

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

Jurassic Quest

Dec. 15-17 Noon-8 p.m. Friday 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday **Lansing Center** 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Lansing-area families can walk among the dinosaurs at Jurassic Quest, the largest dinosaur exhibition in North America, stopping at the Lansing Center Friday (Dec. 15) through Sunday (Dec. 17).

Jurassic Quest works with paleontologists to ensure each animatronic dinosaur is accurately represented, down to teeth size, skin texture, fur and feathers. On top of the dinosaurs, some of which can be ridden by kids, guests can enjoy live dinosaur shows; interactive science and art activities, including a fossil excavation station and a raptor training experience; games; bounce houses and inflatables; a self-guided scavenger hunt; a "Triceratots" soft play area for toddlers; photo opportunities; and more.

General admission tickets are \$26, with a \$3 discount for seniors ages 65 and older, and include access to the dinosaur exhibitions, arts and crafts activities and dinosaur shows. Other activities require additional tickets that can be purchased onsite, or guests can purchase the Kids Unlimited Ticket for \$40. Advance ticket purchase is recommended at jurassicquest.com.

Yoga with Maja McKeever, Slow Flow for Better Mobility - 6 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 269-762-3189. unitylansing.org.

Friday, Dec. 15
"A Course in Christ" Book Study - 10:30 a.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 269-762-3189. unitylansing.org.

Atomic B00gal00 - Atomic Boogaloo explores the freshness that comes from exploring opposites: from the traditional to the innovative, from lightness to heaviness, from cheesy to profound. 8 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Build & Destroy - Children ages 2-4 and their caregivers can explore science through hands-on, inquisitive learning in a responsive, playful, exploratory environment. 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

"Christmas Belles" - 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com.

Christmas Cookie Decorating Class - Learn how to frost sugar cookies using the outline and flooding techniques. Registration req. 5 p.m. Nina's Notions, 100 N. Clinton Ave., St. Johns. 989-292-4101. ninasno-

The Coffeehouse at All Saints - Monthly showcase of mostly Michigan-based musical and spoken-word talent. Bring a snack/drink to share. Free admission. 7:30 p.m. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 517-351-7160. allsaints-el.org.

Evening of Lessons and Carols - This service includes readings, carol arrangements and congregational singing. The PCO Chancel and Handbell Choirs will be joined by instrumentalists and singers

from the MSU College of Music. 7 p.m. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. 517-349-9536. okemospres.org.

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

Holiday ShoDown - From the cheerfully decorated stalls and elaborate costumes to the comradery of the Hot Cocoa Social, this horse show is an unforgettable holiday tradition. 7:30 a.m. MSU Livestock Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, East Lansing. shomehorseshows.com/holiday-shodown.

Johnny Stix & the Outsiders - 8:30 p.m. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

"Mixed Media Medley," by Bobbie Margolis - 9 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL – Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. Call 517-347-2021 beforehand to ensure gallery space is open. facebook.com/MidMichiganArtGuild.

"Murder for Two: Holiday Edition" - 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

Nature photography display by Joyce Felzke -Hours subject to change as the Bookend Gallery is staffed by volunteers. Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl. org/about/our-locations/haslett.

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

See Events, Page 23

Events

from page 22

Wine and Winter Landscapes - Enjoy a glass of wine or hot chocolate as you follow along to a video on how to paint a winter landscape! Pre-registration reg. 5:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Saturday, Dec. 16 Beginner Celtic Calligraphy with Kate Darnell - Basic letter forms and pen strokes will be demonstrated and practiced. 15+. 10 a.m. Lansing Art Gallery, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Build & Destroy - Children ages 2-4 and their caregivers can explore science through hands-on, inquisitive learning in a responsive, playful, exploratory environment. 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

"Christmas Belles" - 8 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com.

Christmas Cookie Decorating Class - Learn how to frost sugar cookies using the outline and flooding techniques. Registration req. 2 p.m. Nina's Notions, 100 N. Clinton Ave., St. Johns. 989-292-4101, ninasnotions, shop

Cocoa and Collection - Warm up with hot cocoa and art-making activities inspired by wintry works of art in our collection! All ages welcome. Registration encouraged, 1-3 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Comedy Through the Looking Glass - With headliner Adam Degi and featured comedians Robyn and Jason Gilleran. 8:30 p.m. Looking Glass Brewing Co, 115 N. Bridge St., DeWitt. 517-668-6004. lookingglassbrewingcompany.com.

Contra & Square Dance - All dances taught. No partner needed. Come at 6:30 for a quick workshop on easy contra dance moves. 7 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. 517-614-5858. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Game Night - All table games are welcome, so bring your campaigns, board games, card games — whatever you like. BYOB. 5-8 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

Holiday Open House - All three floors of the house will be decorated for the holidays. Noon-5 p.m. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E. North St., Lansing. 517-483-4220. facebook.com/turnerdodgehouse.

Holiday ShoDown - From the cheerfully decorated stalls and elaborate costumes to the comradery of the Hot Cocoa Social, this horse show is an unforgettable holiday tradition. 7:30 a.m. MSU Livestock Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, East Lansing. shomehorseshows.com/holiday-shodown.

Intermediate Ballet class - 11 a.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

The Louderthans - 8:30 p.m. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

"Mixed Media Medley," by Bobbie Margolis - 9a.m.-7 p.m. CADL – Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. Call 517-347-2021 beforehand to ensure gallery space is open. facebook.com/ MidMichiganArtGuild.

Mulliken Craft Show - Various vendors will sell last-minute gifts. Attendees can also pick up gently used items for free. Donations of free items appreciated. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mulliken Masonic Temple, 206 Main St., Mulliken. criswood1@sbcglobal.net.

"Murder for Two: Holiday Edition" - 2 and 8 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org.

Out of This World Food and Toy Drive - 10 a.m.-noon. Eastside Lansing Food Co-Op, 1605 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. elfco.org.

Tease A Gogo Presents: "Tease the Season" - Food by Gator's Grill, live music by Matthew Shannon and incredible burlesque variety. Doors 7 p.m., music 7:30 p.m., burlesque show 9 p.m. Country Creek Reception Hall, 5859 N. Michigan Road, Dimondale. teaseagogo.com.

Toastmaster Meeting - Advanced club that helps members grow in speaking, presentation and leadership skills. Members get extensive evaluations to help them grow professionally. 9:45-11:30 a.m. MSUFCU, 104 S. Washington Square, Lansing. cdas.

Whorled Band with Gemhara Almaz - Bellydance artist Gemhara Almaz and her guest artists come together with Whorled Band, offering a blend of global music and Middle Eastern dance. 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Woodworking - Use real woodworking tools to measure, cut and assemble a wooden memory box to take home. Ages 10-13. 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-485-8116, impression5.org

Sunday, Dec. 17

A Very Merry Cabaret, with Sabrina Dahlgren - Enjoy festive songs that will bring about warm memories and lots of smiles and laughter. 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Bottle and Can Collection for Eastern Ingham Farmers Market - 11 a.m.-1 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. 517-618-1630. easterninghamfarmersmarket.org.

"Christmas Belles" - 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com

Cookie & Ornament Decorating Workshop at LBC - Registration req. 1-4 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. paintyourpoison.com.

Eastern Ingham Farmers Market — Special Holiday Market - Shop for winter produce, baked goods, handmade artisan goods, prepared food and more while you enjoy live music and kids' crafts. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Williamston Middle School, 3845 Vanneter Road, Williamston. 517-618-1630. easterninghamfarmersmarket.org.

GLAD Drum Circle - All ages and experience levels welcome. 2-4 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-803-2392. facebook. com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

Holiday Family Sunday Funday - Enjoy our brunch menu and fun activities for the kids, including holiday movies, an ornament craft table and free meals for kids under 12. Noon-5 p.m. Looking Glass Brewing Co., 115 N. Bridge St., Dewitt. 517-668-6004. lookingglassbrewingcompany.com.

Holiday Open House - All three floors of the house will be decorated for the holidays. Noon-5 p.m. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E. North St., Lansing. 517-483-4220. facebook.com/turnerdodgehouse.

Holiday ShoDown - From the cheerfully decorated stalls and elaborate costumes to the comradery of the Hot Cocoa Social, this horse show is an unforgettable holiday tradition. 7:30 a.m. MSU Livestock Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, East Lansing. shomehorseshows.com/holiday-shodown.

LSO Holiday Pops - Feel the joy of the season with your favorite holiday tunes and traditional carols. 3 p.m. Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing, lansingsymphony.org.

"Mixed Media Medley," by Bobbie Margolis - Noon-6 p.m. CADL – Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. Call 517-347-2021 beforehand to ensure gallery space is open, facebook.com/ MidMichiganArtGuild.

See Events, Page 24



\$64 for a 60-min Swedish massage OR Basic Facial

\$99 for a Hydrofacial (30 min)

Purchase \$100 in gift cards, receive a \$30 gift card for free



Located in the Campus Town Mall next to Chipotle 541 E. Grand River Ave., Suite 5 East Lansing www.massageandwellnessonline.com 517-203-1113

Ted Cedar spirits

Give a spirited gift!



Choose the spirits and gift box for your holiday gift. Made here in mid-Michigan!

Bourbon/Whiskey, Gin, Vodka, Brandy

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

Through squabbles and antics, Riverwalk show uplifts

By VIC RAUCH

The best Christmas pageant ever? No, but it's maybe the most entertaining one I've ever seen.

Review

"Christmas Belles"

8 p.m. Friday-Saturday

riverwalktheatre.com

Dec. 14-17

7 p.m. Thursday

Riverwalk Theatre 228 Museum Drive, Lansing

2 p.m. Sunday

"Christmas Belles," running Thursday (Dec. 14) through Sunday (Dec. 17) at the Riverwalk Theatre, offers a cast of

Southern-fried characters who captivate the audience with a seemingly endless flow of jibs, jabs, quibbles and squabbles that leave no one untouched in the three weeks leading up to Christmas Eve.

The story evolves in a series of vignettes, sometimes with snippets of Christmas songs between changes in scenes and settings. The staging and transitions are effective, like reading a book with short chapters. I especially love the recurring little wagon, laden with wrapped gifts and pulled by Raynerd Chisum (Tim Edinger), who repeatedly says, "I just love Christmas."

During intermission, the only complaint I overheard, several times, was difficulty hearing some of the spoken gag lines, perhaps because of the Southern accents.

We first meet Frankie Futrelle Dubberly (Debbie Lundeen), who's nine months pregnant with twins, and her husband, Dub Dubberly (Charles Hoogstraten), who frets about passing a kid-

ney stone and whether he can support another two children. A seasonal Santa with a kidney stone and a part in the pageant? Watch out!

Frankie and her sisters, Honey Raye (Linda Widener) and Twink (Holly Kay-Cannon)

Futrelle, are attempting to stage the annual Christmas pageant at the Tabernacle of the Lamb church in the fictional town of Fayro, Texas. Honey Raye has some ideas for making this pageant better than any directed by Miss Geneva Musgrave (Teresa Hurd) over the last 27 years. Twink has been in jail for alleged arson, but she's freed to lend a hand, sometimes cuffed, in the preparations.

Can you imagine a biting sheep, a

polar bear, Elvis and four wise men led by a camel in the Christmas story? Miss Geneva, for better or worse, still has some ideas of her own for salvaging the pageant. Take it or leave it, Honey Raye!

Alas, there's mutiny among the pageant cast, and whatever can go awry in their rehearsals goes awry. Moments of laughter may give way to loud guffaws, especially in act two.

Things get even worse on Christmas Eve. The ill-fated pageant opens with Mary sitting all alone with Baby Jesus, wondering why Joseph isn't there. Joseph may have been was busy with his daytime jobs, the pastor of the church and one of Santa's reindeer.

Patsy Price (Julie Franklin), who fancies herself the star of past pageants, takes to the ambo in glittering raiment for a serious reading of the Christmas story, which goes fairly well until she stumbles over the name Caesar Augustus. Pain pills have side effects, you know.

But then there's the real telling of the Christmas story, a narration coming from the least expected source.

From start to finish, this is an up-



Rich Kopitsch (front left) as Justin Waverly, Morgan Pohl (back left) as Gina Jo Dubberly, Tim Edinger (back right) as Raynerd Chisum and Linda Widener as Honey Raye Futrelle in Riverwalk Theatre's production of "Christmas Belles."

lifting evening of love and laughter. Like Chisum, you'll be telling yourself and others, "I just love Christmas."

Events

from page 23

"Murder for Two: Holiday Edition" - 2 p.m. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-655-7469. williamstontheatre.org

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

Worship Expressions: Jazz - A special worship service of song and word, with jazz arrangements of familiar Advent and Christmas hymns. 10 a.m. University Lutheran Church, 1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. 517-332-2559. ulcel.org.

Monday, Dec. 18
Ballet II for kids - Ages 9-13. 4 p.m. Ruhala
Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Book Arts: Accidental Literature and Upcycled Books - Instructors team up to guide storytelling and book-making that incorporates a meaningful object each participant brings. 6 p.m. REACH Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. reachstudioart.org.

Burger Night - Choice of hamburger, cheeseburger or olive burger, plus fries. Dine in or take out. \$8. 5-7 p.m. Columbus Hall, 5300 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. 517-321-2209.

Cirque Dreams: "Holidaze" - This annual tradition wraps a Broadway-style holiday production around an infusion of contemporary circus arts. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000.

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

Gloss Mondays Open Floor - Aspiring drag performers showcase their talent. 8 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Graphic Novel Book Club - Hang out with friends, chat about the book, have a snack and do a book-related activity or craft. Grades 3-6. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.

Improv Acting Class - 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jazz Dance Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jump Into Reading - Join Ms. Erin for stories, songs, activities and therapy dogs. Ages 0-5 with caregivers. 11 a.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663 0950. eradl.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment

Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

"Mixed Media Medley," by Bobbie Margolis - 9 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL - Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Ökemos. Call 517-347-2021 beforehand to ensure gallery space is open. facebook.com/ MidMichiganArtGuild.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble - Learn to excel equally in singing, acting and dance. 5:30 p.m. 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhala-

See Events, Page 26



Star Trek Food and Toy Drive

Saturday, Dec. 16 10 a.m.-noon **Eastside Lansing Food Co-Op** 1605 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing

The Eastside Lansing Food Co-Op is teaming up with Lansing's USS Tecumseh Chapter of STARFLEET International, the world's largest "Star Trek" fan association, to host a food and toy drive 10 a.m. to noon Saturday. Food donations will go to the Greater Lansing Food Bank, and toy donations will go to the Refugee Development Center.

Attendee's can meet the "crew" of the USS Tecumseh, sit in the captain's chair and see the display of "Star Trek" memorabilia. In addition, Santa Claus will be in attendance to meet and take photos with kids.

The co-op will give away one free coffee, tea or hot chocolate for every two cans of food or any toy donated. Toys must be new and unwrapped.

FOOD & DRINK

Defy gray days with a fruit cup from MexiTreats

By CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS

I spent this past weekend eating my way through Chicago on a girls' trip,

Mexi Cup

\$4.49

Elote

\$4.99

MexiTreats and Tagueria

3418 Pleasant Grove Road, Lansing

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

517-220-2983

facebook.com/MexlTreats/

dining on Mediterranean lamb and chorizo breakfast hash and drinking \$15 vodka mules out of a can. After recovering from a weekend of debauchery and financial ruin, where does one look for a transitional dish to gently push oneself

back into the daily grind of ever-professional Lansing? While "cleansing" is a strong term, I was looking for something fresh, not too pricey and different from my old standbys. Zooming in and

out on Google Maps, combing through establishments I hadn't tried before, I came across MexiTreats and Taqueria in its relatively new location on the south side.

Photos posted by diners of increasingly elaborate fruit cups made me stop and scroll. Then, I stopped in. I ordered a pint of cantaloupe that was

> dressed in chili powder and honey sauce and tasted of strawberry rhubarb. After squeezing a slice of lime into the mix and taking a bite, I thought of last summer's trip to Chicago, when I got a fruit cup from a vendor at the beach.

> > This simple treat is a mainstay in many other cities, but for the uninitiated, Mexican fruit cups, or vasos de fruta, pack a flavor profile that's tangy, sweet, citrusy, a little earthy from the honey and even a little sour! They're also a little

smoky and a tiny bit spicy. Once I tried one, I knew I would never look at those fruit cups at Meijer in the same way.

I ate half of my cup from MexiTreats, then let it sit in the fridge for a few hours. When I came back to it, the flavors were even more concentrated. The sour lime mixed perfectly with the citrus flavor, balanced against the backdrop of the mild but freshly ripened cantaloupe slices. And this was the simplest fruit cup the restaurant offers!

My dish, along with an order of delicately prepared and perfectly creamy Elote that was served on a stick, made



Mexican fruit cups, or vasos de fruta, pack a complex flavor profile that could be a welcome pop of color on the palate this cold and cloudy time of year.

for an excellent midday snack that banished my winter blues and gave me a fresh outlook on my happy little town. (Take that, Nancy Kaffer). Trying to compare the culinary offerings of Lansing with a city that famously worships an enormous bean turns out to be unnecessary. MexiTreats brings more than the usual taqueria experience — and its spicy fruit cup was a welcome pop of color on my palate this time of year.



In the matter of Pamela Edgar, TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including Michael Edgar, Linda Edgar, Pamela Edgar, Katina Lather, Diane McCarrick, Richard McCarrick, David Edgar, Vicki McCarrick, Philip Edgar, Kelli Trudo, Brian Edgar, Sara Edgar, Karen Edgar, Richard Edgar, Tina Edgar, Robert Johnson, Roxanna Edgar, Robert Edgar, whose address(es) is/are unknown and whose interested in the matter may be barred or affected by the following: TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on December 21, 2023 at 11:15 AM at 313 West Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Garcia for the following purpose: Petition for appointment of guardian of incapacitated individual. 12/12/2023, Petitioner: Robert Lindley, 5303 South Cedar Street, Lansing, MI 48909, 517-203-8399. CP#23-334



TOP 5 BAKLAVA

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

1. Aladdin's Restaurant

Middle Eastern restaurant with a robust vegetarian menu 300 N. Clippert St., Lansing 517-333-8710 aladdinslansing.com 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday

2. Bell's Greek Pizza

Late-night spot serving a mix of Italian and Mediterranean cuisines

517-332-0858 bellspizzahouse.com 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Sunday-Thursday 10 a.m.-1 a.m. Friday-Saturday

3. Lou & Harry's – both locations

Casual eateries offering both Mediterranean and American options See louhas.com for locations, hours and phone numbers

4. Social Sloth | Café & Catering

Family-owned eatery serving Turkish food and baked goods 1754 Central Park Drive, Suite F, Okemos 517-253-0240 socialslothcafe.com 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday

5. Woody's Oasis

Quick-serve Mediterranean restaurant offering classic eats and veggie options 1050 Trowbridge Road, East Lansing 517-351-2280

woodysoasis com 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday



El Oasis Lansing (517) 648-7693 eloasisfood.com

WANT YOUR RESTAURANT LISTED? CALL 517-999-5064

TRY THE CROWN JEWEL OF LANSING'S FOOD TRUCKS. 2501 E. Michigan Ave. Serving the Lansing community for 13

years, we extend an invitation to all those to give us a try to find out why we were voted the best food truck in Lansing's 2019 Top of The Town Contest

How to beet the holidays



Courtesy of Ari LeVaux

Beet latkes, a take on traditional potato latkes, melt into a sweet, savory mouthful that will leave you wanting more.

in the pan

By ARI LEVAUX

At the winter farmers market, I saw

the most enormous beets. Larger than softballs, a bag of six went for \$5. The growers are from Belarus. She's as sweet as the Virgin Mary. He's a welder, with a handshake that

could crush golf balls. Feeling goofy with holiday cheer, I had to jest.

"Do you have any beets that are, like, bigger?" I asked, holding my hands apart to demonstrate.

His windblown cheeks turned crimson

Beet latkes

Serves two

1 egg

2 tablespoons milk

2 tablespoons flour

1 cup beets, coarsely grated

1/4 teaspoon salt

Dashes of pepper

1 tablespoon butter

1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil Garnish idea: fresh dill and sour

cream or mavo

Beat the egg and milk, preferably with an egg beater. Add the flour and beat again. Then add the grated beets, along with the salt and pepper. Mix well and let it sit for 15 minutes.

Heat the oil and butter in a pan on medium heat. When it's hot enough to sizzle, add golf-ball-sized glops and press them into sub-inch-tall pancakes, far enough away from one another that they don't touch. After about five minutes, flip them. When nicely browned on both sides, serve with dill and your choice of crème.

as he squinted, pondering if he should take offense. I broke the tension with a

laugh. He punched me in the shoulder. Ouch.

I asked how they like to eat beets. He leaned in conspiratorially. "Grated," he said, gesticulating as much. "With Italian dressing." He kissed his fingertips.

She gave me a recipe that I have come to call Christmas Sweater because it's busy and goes with everything. Consisting of cubed beets, carrots, potatoes, onions and pickles, it's both a side dish and a condiment.

Christmas Sweater

Serves four as a side, two as a main 2 half-pound potatoes, peeled and cut in half

1 pound beets, peeled

1 pound carrots, peeled

1 medium onion

2 cups dill pickles

1/2 cup olive oil

Salt and pepper to taste

Steam the potatoes until soft on the outside but just a bit stiff in the middle, about 25 minutes. Remove from heat and allow to cool.

Meanwhile, preheat the oven to 350 degrees and peel and cube the veggies as perfectly as possible. Do the beets last, as you will need to wash the cutting board immediately.

Whether it's an onion, potato, pickle, carrot or beet, start by cutting it in half, lengthwise, and lay the flat sides down. (You can cut carrots down to four-inch lengths.) Slicing straight down, cut off the tops and bottoms, then turn the knife 90 degrees and



Colorful cubes of veggies combine to form a salad that Ari LeVaux calls Christmas Sweater because "it's busy and goes with everything."

As for those grated beets, I was surprised how palatable they were. Mixed with Italian dressing, they were indeed finger-kissing good, though I prefer them tossed with olive oil, salt and balsamic and topped with goat cheese.

But perhaps my favorite thing of all to do with grated beets is to fry them into pancakes, like a beet-based version of the potato latkes my Jewish mom would serve for Hanukkah. The beets melt into a sweet, savory mouthful that will leave you wanting more.

So, the next time you come across a big ol' bag of beets, you know what to do. As you would expect with something high in sugar that tastes like earth, beets will keep you grounded — and going — for the holidays and beyond.

make a series of parallel cuts, about a quarter-inch apart, along the top-tobottom axis. Turn each newly sliced half 90 degrees and make another series of crisp, quarter-inch cuts.

The next part is tricky because the vegetable wants to fall apart. Try to pull apart each twice-sliced half like you're cutting a deck of cards and roll it onto the cutting board so you can cut perfect cubes. If it all falls apart, just do the best you can.

Bake the cubed beets and carrots in separate dishes for about half an hour, stirring each pan once (with separate implements), until they are a little soft and a little crunchy. Then allow them to cool to room tempera-

When everything is cool, cubed and cute, gently toss everything together, minus the beets, along with the salt and oil. Taste and adjust the seasonings, gently toss in the beets and serve.

Events

from page 24

Tuesday, Dec. 19 Acting 101 Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class - 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Cirque Dreams: "Holidaze" - This annual tradition wraps a Broadway-style holiday production around an infusion of contemporary circus arts. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

Here Comes Santa Paws - Bring your pet and take a 1-mile stroll through Nancy Moore Park for a photo with Santa. Registration req. 5:45-8 p.m. Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court, East Lansing. 517-853-4600. recreation. meridian.mi.us.

Holiday Open House - All three floors of the house will be decorated for the holidays. 1-7 p.m. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E. North St., Lansing. 517-483-4220. facebook.com/turnerdodgehouse

Intro to Acting/Improv for Kids - Ages 5-12. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.

LAGE Game Night East - 6:30-11 p.m. The Junction, 410 S. Clippert St., 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/events.

Level I Dance Class - Introduction to theater dance using ballet, tap and jazz. Ages 5-8. 4:45 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganart-

"Mixed Media Medley," by Bobbie Margolis - 9 a.m.-8 p.m. CADL – Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. Call 517-347-2021 beforehand to ensure gallery space is open. facebook.com/ MidMichiganArtGuild.

 $\textbf{Preschool Family Storytime} \ - \ \text{Join us for stories}$ and literacy-enhancing activities, including songs and rhymes. Ages 1-6. 11 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

StressBusters: Positive Mental Health for Kids - 3 p.m. session for ages 3-6 and caregivers, 4 p.m. sessions for ages 7-10 and 11-14. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-346-8094. gladl.org.

Trivia at Lansing Shuffle with DJ Trivia - 7:30-9 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansingshuffle.com.

YA Book Club - Chat, eat snacks and have book-related fun. Grades 8-12. Registration reg. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte, 517-543-8859, charlottelibrary.org.

Yoga with Maja McKeever, Slow Flow for **Better Mobility** - 6 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 269-762-3189. unitylansing.org.

Wednesday, Dec. 20 Acting & Glee Music Class for Kids - Ages 5-12.

4:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhala-

MICA exhibition brings work of Lawrence Holbrook to life

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

An intricate web of branching lines extends across six hinged panels like inky frost on a field of gold. The glowing panels evoke pine branches and sunlight, but the lines, colors and forms are anything but natural.

"Zen Maple" is part of a remarkable display of pioneering computer-generated art at Old Town's MICA Gallery through Dec. 31.

The art was synthesized in the fertile mind of former Michigan State University Professor and state Department of Transportation research director Lawrence French Holbrook.

Holbrook died in 2002, but he left behind more than 100 files bursting with his unique fusion of mathematics and visual art. The show at MICA, curated by his family, brings about two dozen of them to life, printed and mounted with modern, high-quality equipment.

Visitors who expect to see mathematically precise arrays of pixels will be surprised by Holbrook's dynamic and fluid images. "Homage to Georgia," a nod to American painter Georgia O'Keeffe, surges and drifts like the

Lawrence French

"Art Meets Math"

Open Saturday and Sunday afternoons and by appointment

1210 Turner St., Lansing

Holbrook

Through Dec. 31

MICA Gallery

517-371-4600

micharts.org

edge of a cloud bank.

When Holbrook retired from public service in 1992, he dove head-first into his art. By then, his head was full of many things.

He taught philosophy at MSU and was director of the Materials and Technology Research Laboratory at the state

Department of Transportation. He later advised the state's attorney general on risk management and tort litigation. He avidly pursued many other interests, including modern architecture and art.



awrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Lawrence Holbrook's mathematically generated art piece "Detroit City," originally printed on canvas in the 1990s, explodes with life after being printed on metal for this month's exhibition of Holbrook's art at the MICA Gallery.

He loved the music of Dmitri Shostakovich, Gustav Mahler and the Rolling Stones. He couldn't be torn away from the color field masterpieces of Mark Rothko during a gallery visit in the 1990s.

In his mind, it was all connected.

Holbrook's artistic process was complicated. In the MICA exhibit, a page of his handwritten notes is posted next to a colorful canvas called "Dude Descending Staircase, a play on Marcel Duchamp's iconic 1912 canvas "Nude Descending a Staircase, No. 2."

Each pixel, Holbrook wrote, is the result of a

"number assignment."

"The number itself may involve up to 750 calculation cycles," he wrote. "Each cycle requires the completion of an algebraic mathematical algorithm, in this case, trigonometric."

To put it another way, this is not off-the-shelf, programmed art but the unique fruit of one man's fertile mind.

By creating natural-feeling images from mathematics, Holbrook was only turning the tables on nature. Look at the spiraling seeds of a sunflower and it's clear that the natural world itself is largely a manifestation of mathematics.

Sara Clark, a friend of the artist's family and passionate admirer of his work, said that Holbrook's vision was deeper and more profound than a simple right brain-left brain hookup.

"Math is nothing but a way to describe a relationship between certain things," she said. "He looked at it and was able to translate that into art, to take an equation and see it."

The MICA exhibition sprang from a fleeting impulse. In 2022, about 20 years after her husband's death, Holbrook's widow, Elinor Holbrook, slipped into an empty conference room at the Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties' offices on Jolly Road in Lansing to see if one of her husband's pieces was still there.

In the 1990s, Holbrook served on the authority's board and worked with Clark to get the building built. "Nobody recognized me," Elinor Holbrook said.

"Zen Maple," blown up to six enormous panels, each one taller than a person, was still there, in excellent condition. She snapped a photo with her phone and showed it to local artist Julian Van Dyke and MICA Gallery President Terry Terry at a MICA art exhibit.

They were impressed by the screens and urged her to put together an exhibit.

"You can't tell if it was created then or now," Van Dyke said. "Larry was on the leading edge of what we see today."

Some of the images at the MICA show have been spectacularly "remastered," to borrow a term from film and music, using equipment capable of much higher resolution. Most of them are printed and mounted on higher quality metal, canvas and paper than Holbrook was able to use 20 or more years ago.

Some works, including a painterly, rainbow-hued canvas called "Fabric," have never been printed before.

In their new lives, printed on canvas and metal, "Fabric" and another Holbrook image, "Detroit City," explode with vivid colors.

"He was of a generation where you were either a doctor or an engineer, and he chose to be an engineer," Elinor Holbrook said. "But he wanted to be a painter."

The unique visual universe of "Math Meets Art" is the fruit of a happy ending. In retirement, he found a way to do both.

Events

from page 26 center.com.

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

Cirque Dreams: "Holidaze" - This annual tradition wraps a Broadway-style holiday production around an infusion of contemporary circus arts. 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

Coloring Party - Relieve stress and unwind with our wide selection of markers, colored pencils and coloring sheets. Grades 4-12. 4 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

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

laingsburg.us.

"Fitness Over 50" Senior Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50nlus com

Holiday Open House - All three floors of the house will be decorated for the holidays. 1-7 p.m. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E. North St., Lansing. 517-483-4220. facebook.com/turnerdodgehouse.

Improv Acting Class - 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jazz Dance Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464.ruhalacenter.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION From Pg. 20

Α	В	В	Α		D		S	С		Р	E	Τ	Α	L
Т	Α	R	Т		_	S	\Box	Α		Е	Χ	U	D	Е
В	П	0	0	Д	М	0	0	Z		Z	_	Х	0	Ν
Α	L	Α	М	0			G	0	Α	О	S			
Т	Υ	D		Р	Α	U	S	Ε	В	U	Т	Т	0	N
			F	Ε	S	S		D	Ε	L		R	D	Α
٧	Ε	Α	L		Н	М	S			U	S	Α	Τ	Ν
Α	D	٧	Τ	С	Ε	С	0	L	U	М	N	Т	S	Т
L	Τ	Ε	Т	0			В	_	G		Α	N	Т	Z
Ε	Т	D		С	Α	R		S	L	Α	Р			
Τ	Н	Α	Ν	K	S	Α	G	Α	Τ	Ν		Р	Ε	Р
			Е	Т	U	D	Ε			Т	Ε	R	R	Α
S	Α	В	R	Α		Τ	Т	S	G	Τ	٧	Т	Ν	G
Т	R	Ε	٧	_		0	J	Z	0		Ε	D	_	Е
S	Т	Ε	Ε	L		S	Р	Α	Т		N	Ε	Ε	R

SUDOKU SOLUTION From Pg. 20



DEC. 13TH

EPIC GARDEN
1G PRE-ROLLS
FOR \$25

DEC. 14TH

PLATINUM VAPE 510 CARTS



DEC. 15TH

KING'S CHOICE 200MG GUMMIES FOR \$70

DEC. 16TH

\$ 99 + FREE OZ EIGHTH

DEC\$17TH

1G "510" THREAD DRIP CARTRIDGES FOR \$99



DEC. 18TH

OFF LION ORDER EIGHTHS



DEC. 19TH

BREEZE DISPOSABLES FOR \$78

DEC. 20TH

CALI BLAZE
INFUSED 1.2G PRE-ROLLS
FOR \$45

DEC. 21ST

SAUCE LIVE RESIN FOR \$99 OR SAUCE ESSENTIALS FOR \$89

DEC. 22ND

200MG SOUR GUMMIES FOR \$33

DEC. 23RD

1G PERSEY ROSIN FOR \$99

DEC. 24TH













