

CityPULSE

a newspaper for the rest of us

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October 24 - 30, 2018

FREE

NIGHT & DAY THE ANNUAL BAR ISSUE

See page 17



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-ANDREW P. ABOOD



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Letters to the editor

BWL vs. Lightspeed

s a former member of the BWL Board of Commissioners, I can attest to the fact that I did bring the matter of Lightspeed's inability to quickly attach to BWL poles in February and September of 2015. I was told BWL was revising its rules and regulations to address the issue and it would be dealt with. When the issue was not addressed in 2015, I again mentioned it in 2016 and 2017 and was told the rules

and regulations, revised annually, would deal with it. For Mr. Peffley and Chair Price to now say (City Pulse, Oct. 10) hat they have never heard of a complaint from Lightspeed and that the Board does not address pole attachments in its regulations, and has promised to do so, is simply laughable. BWL could and should adopt the one-touch make ready policy of the FCC. It's high time.

Robert Nelson
East Lansing

Time to swing the pendulum

I've been following the City Pulse's excellent coverage of the upcoming elections, through Kyle Melinn's columns, and also enjoying those smart and funny comic strips that just leave you in stitches. Before I talk about "Dumb Donald," let me say this about our state races. After eight years of right-wing mediocrity and failure, it's time for change. And fortunately we've got a smart and tough lady in Gretchen Whitmer ready to get to work for the working men and women of this state. And no more mollicoddling to the kinda rich and filthy rich. No more huge tax breaks and they gotta pay up too to get the damn roads fixed. Those phony right-wing ads are pathetic. Whitmer lost half a million jobs, or Slotkin wants to raise middle class taxes and cut Medicare. The big three going belly up and the disaster known as Bush/Cheyney lost those jobs. And everybody knows it's Bishop who wants to gut Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security. Give me a break. The time is not

to vote Dems in and in droves. Now about that phony Ignoramus who got smoked by roughly 3 million votes from, ya know, the "ACTUAL VOTERS" and who's claiming credit for more jobs and the rise in the stock market. Fact. More jobs were created in each of Obama's last three years than in Trump's FIRST. Fact. The market almost tripled under Obama, 7,000 to 20,000, and Trump ain't even close. And if you like lying Donald's gas tax (3 bucks a gallon) you'll love his health care tax cause you're gonna be payin a whole lot more. I thought that Ronna Romney's Uncle Willard was the greatest tax dodge dodger ever. But now we learn that it's "Donald Dumbbell" who's the real champ. Maybe someday he'll have to pay the piper. Heck, even some of the glassy eyed human props at his pitiful rallies might even take notice. It's time to make the Russian loving "Donald Dimwit" a lame duck. Dare I say that would "MAGA."

Steve Jarvis
Lansing

CityPULSE

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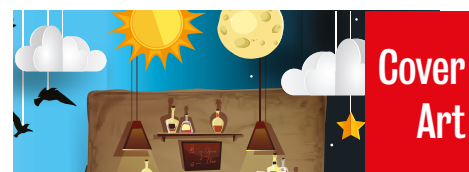
Will Lansing rebuild City Hall?



An in depth look at Lansing's bars



Custom graphic shirt company takes root in Lansing



Cover design by Kimberly Lavan

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THIS MODERN WORLD



by TOM TOMORROW



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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Will Lansing build a new City Hall?

For the first time, Mayor Andy Schor has suggested Lansing could build a new City Hall. And it could be — “could” being the operative word — on the long undeveloped Seven Block property along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard behind the Capitol Complex.

Schor emphasized in an interview with City Pulse that no options have been swept from the table as plans continue.

“If it’s cheaper to redevelop, then we’ll redevelop,” Schor added. “If it’s cheaper to build, then we’ll build.”

What’s new to the public is that building a new city hall is in the mix. Until now, the focus had appeared to be entirely on moving it to an existing building.

The owner of the eight-acre Seven Block property, Sam Eyde, said last week he’s “in conversations” with city officials to offload the property and suggested the land could “do it all” in terms of its size and relatively close proximity to the downtown district.

But Schor downplayed such talk. “This wasn’t like (Eyde) was pitching me on anything in particular,” Schor emphasized. “They believe the property can do it all. And we’ll look into our best options. We contacted him to see if it’s available. He mentioned it’d be a good location for a new city hall. We’re not having in-depth conversations with anyone yet.”

Previous plans for Eyde’s property — part of the Seven Block Renaissance Neighborhood — have also stalled for years. He bought the land from the city in 1999 with the intent to build two office buildings. Protests by nearby residents led to a new mixed-use plan that included retail, but with the slowing economy in the 2000s, development stalled. The property still sits empty.

Climbing maintenance costs pushed officials to consider development proposals and explore alternative locations for City Hall. The previous Bernero administration and the City Council agreed to sell it to Beitler Real Estate of Chicago to redevelop as a hotel, with City Hall moving to the old Lansing State Journal building downtown. But Schor suspended the deal because it would not accommodate the district courts and police lockup.

The courts could be removed from the equation if court consolidation discussions among the city, East Lansing and Ingham County result in a separate facility. Schor said the other two governments appear in favor of such a plan, while the Lansing City Council has yet to be heard from.

“My biggest challenge is the cost to tax-

payors,” Schor said. “We’d prefer to pay off the new city hall with the price of the sale from the old city hall. We’re going to look at the costs and make sure we’re spending those dollars wisely.”

Discussions to consolidate Lansing and East Lansing’s 54-A and 54-B district courts with Ingham County’s 55th District Court have started and stalled for more than 20 years. But momentum has grown in recent months.

Ingham County commissioners were sold on the idea earlier this year. East Lansing’s City Council has since pledged its support. It

officials have previously said they’re willing to continue with the merger with or without Lansing on board.

Schor said he remains committed to Beitler’s proposal, but only if the plan can remain financially feasible. Beitler has since told City Pulse he will likely take his investment dollars elsewhere if the Lansing plan is still stalled at the end of the year.

State Rep. Sam Singh has introduced legislation that would enable courtroom consolidation and jumpstart plans for Lansing’s City Hall. But the bill will only be able to move if the governments of each



Kyle Kaminski/City Pulse

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor — for the first time last week — suggested Lansing could build a new city hall building. This vacant parcel at the corner of Kalamazoo Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard was suggested as a possible location.

needs approval by the Lansing City Council, which has not yet taken it up.

The proposal, steered by state legislation that requires buy-in from each municipality, is still largely in its conceptual stages. Officials said the merger would optimize the local justice system, erase district boundary lines and fuse three courtrooms under a regional banner. Proponents touted the deal as a way to enhance efficiency and save cash.

But besides streamlining the judicial system, the motivation to find a new city hall is driving the renewed consolidation efforts. The building continues to drain at least a half-million dollars in maintenance costs every year.

Schor also said he’d prefer to move the courtroom out of the building and find a new location for the lock-up. But those plans will only be feasible if the city decides to greenlight the courtroom consolidation. County

municipality pass a resolution in support of the measure. Schor said he can do that independently from the City Council.

“I’m still the mayor and we can provide a general statement of support on behalf of the city,” he added. “I’m not a big fan of setting artificial deadlines. I’d like to see this as soon as possible and we’ll continue to have these conversations. We expect this legislation will move and we’d like to see some other decisions being made.”

Former Ingham County Commission Chairwoman Carol Koenig previously said \$1 million in countywide savings would be generated from a merger. Schor suggested Lansing could cut its annual costs by as much as \$1.8 million. Each variation of the consolidation proposal, however, could force those figures to change, they said.

— KYLE KAMINSKI
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**1135 East Grand River Ave.
East Lansing**

Even the vibrant signage on the storefront does not detract from the bold roof forms that define this iconic building, now Bell’s Pizza. Constructed in 1963, the building formerly housed Dawn Donuts in a design that was replicated throughout Michigan. The dynamic, angled roof is a character-defining feature of the style known as Googie Architecture, which was born in Southern California in the 1940’s and derives its name from a defunct Hollywood coffee shop. The style is further defined by broad expanses of glass and brightly colored neon lights. Here, the grand roof both marks the building and directs patrons to the main entrance.

Contemporary Ranch style houses presented wider street-facing elevations to better capture the attention of passersby. In the same manner, this building was born of the conditions faced as suburban strip development began to appear at the edges of the urban core. Considering the distance that this building set back from Grand River traffic and the parking lot that separates the store front from the road, it was deemed important to have the building forms stand apart from those of a traditional storefront, just as the modern movement was purported to break from the influences of the past.

Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

“Eyesore 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 it in at 517-999-6715.

Why should the city care about saving farmland?

County officials bank on millage renewal

Voters will soon be asked to extend Ingham County's Farmland and Open Space Preservation Initiative for another 10 years. The millage renewal will keep taxes flat and aims to shield certain lands from development. But it raises the question: Why should city folks give a damn about protecting farms and other natural landscapes?

The answer, as explained by several officials charged with oversight of the program, is a simple one.

"You like to breathe clean air. You like to drink clean water. Locally produced food is not only better for us physically but it helps to stabilize the local economy," explained Preservation Board member Wendy Villarreal. "The water floats all ships, so to speak. We're human. We're of nature. We depend on nature for our survival."

The land preservation millage — first approved by voters in 2008 — enables a 0.14-mill levy on property taxes to protect farmland and open spaces like waterways, wildlife habitats and other natural lands. The county, in turn, purchases development rights on certain properties, essentially preserving natural or agricultural land forever.

Since the program began, more than 5,900 acres have been inducted into a conservation easement to help create a buffer zone between the county's more rural areas and increasing developmental pressures from urban population centers like Lansing and East Lansing. More than 80 percent of the funds were paid to local farmers.

"I think as urban sprawl keeps occurring, this is a way to stop land in perpetuity from being developed," said Preservation Board member Laurie Koelling. "You might not be interested in this personally, but in the future I don't think it's in our best interests to have everything developed. This land

will eventually be in short supply."

The program is entirely voluntary for landowners and usually requires a philosophical commitment to land conservation. Officials suggested once the developmental rights have been sold, the property values invariably decrease but conservation easements ensure the land will remain free of development for generations to come.

Advocates listed a host of other benefits: Natural spaces obviously contribute to cleaner air, cleaner water and increased space for wildlife habitats and continued biodiversity. The undeveloped properties can also host outdoor activities like fishing and hunting. It also enhances food security by maintaining farmland in perpetuity.

Just about everyone can appreciate the scenic landscapes, officials said. And the program, by blocking development

naturally absorbs carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, curbing the ongoing and alarming effects of global climate change. And the aesthetics of natural spaces can't be underestimated, he said.

"I think that's one of the main reasons Lansing went for this back in 2008," Kindel added. "People are realizing it's a benefit for city people just as much as it is for the country people. It's a benefit for everybody, particularly on the climate change issue. Everybody in the county can benefit from cleaner air and cleaner water."

The millage, however, hasn't generated unanimous support from the community. Journalists at the Lansing State Journal, for example, recently opined how Ingham County — already inundated with nearly a dozen special millages — needs to reel it back. And they've lined this millage into their editorial cross-hairs.

"It's a benefit for everybody, particularly on the climate change issue. Everybody in the county can benefit from cleaner air and cleaner water."

— Paul Kindel

Chairman, Ingham County Farmland and Open Space Agricultural Preservation Board

in more rural areas, saves taxpayer cash by promoting growth within local city centers. The concept: Infrastructure and other services become more affordable when urban development is concentrated.

"It means you don't have to run all these service lines out to a development in the middle of nowhere," explained Paul Kindel, Preservation Board chairman and president of the Mid-Michigan Land Conservancy. "If you're running a sewer and water line out to a developed area like that, it's going to cost more funds to develop it."

Kindel said natural vegetation also

"While perhaps a worthy cause, Ingham County must prioritize its spending and stop asking voters to approve special tax millages," the editorial reads. "If none are allowed to expire, the effective tax rate continues to climb."

Stacy Byers, the director of the Farmland and Open Space Program, however, offered a rebuttal. She said most of the existing millages — like the recently passed justice millage to build a new jail — are just siphoning taxpayer dollars that were originally intended to come from the county's general funds. This millage is different, she said.

"This doesn't fall under any specific umbrella," Byers added. "This is one of those things where taxpayers, if they want to protect these lands, need to pay

some extra taxes. And if you look at the costs compared to some of these other millages, it's a no-brainer. This provides so much more bang for your buck. It doesn't even compare."

The 0.14-mill levy would continue to cost residents with a home valued at about \$200,000 a total of \$14 per year, or about \$1.17 per month. The justice millage, for context, collects about six times more with a 0.85-mill levy. And the upcoming vote on a 911 surcharge would drive up telephone surcharges to more than \$21 annually.

Byers also said that unlike other millages, this ballot measure has a sunset. Once the board is able to preserve between 25 and 50 percent of the county's agricultural lands in perpetuity, the program will eventually dissolve.

County Commissioner Mark Grebner — although he agrees with the program in theory — criticized its ability to function as intended in practice. He said most of the properties inducted into an easement are in the southern part of the county, but developers have been able to saturate the northern portions without a hitch.

Byers said land already under intense developmental pressures has driven property values sky high, giving officials the choice between protecting a lot of land in the south or picking only a handful of properties in the north. She added that the "greenbelt" near Lansing will still remain a priority if the millage is eventually renewed.

And landowners near urban hubs like Lansing will almost certainly be given preference over others, she said.

"It's a choice. We're spending less money and getting more acreage," Byers added. "We're charged to be stewards and preserve the land with this program. We're hoping and we're seeing trends that those northern, greenbelt landowners are interested in this program. I have a good feeling that the floodgates are about to open."

For additional information about the ballot measure, visit fp.ingham.org.

— KYLE KAMINSKI

kyle@lansingcitypulse.com

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On October 17th of 2018 the approved minutes of the following proceedings of the Meridian Township Board:

October 2nd, 2018 Regular Meeting

were sent to the following locations for public posting:

Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
and the Township Web Site www.meridian.mi.us.

**BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK**

CP#18-261

PUBLIC NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, has been scheduled for 29th day, October, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room in the Lansing Township Administration Building at 3209 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to determine that the program being used to record and tabulate the results of the election counts the votes in the manner prescribed by the law.

**SUSAN L. ATEN, Clerk
Charter Township of Lansing**

CP#18-264

Pro soccer heads to Lansing — but at what cost?

Public invited Thursday to big reveal at stadium

An “explosive celebration” scheduled for Thursday afternoon (Oct. 25) will likely provide additional details about a professional soccer team slated to hit the field next year at the Cooley Law School Stadium. But information about the event — billed to be the “biggest sports announcement in Lansing in 23 years” — is largely unavailable to the public.

Mayor Andy Schor and Tom Dickson, the owner of the Lansing Lugnuts and the recently formed Lansing Ignite soccer team, will orchestrate the big reveal with “drinks and prizes” at 4 p.m. Neither the city nor the Lugnuts’ front office was willing to release any further information ahead of the upcoming event.

A Facebook invitation with an image of a soccer ball provides only a small clue about the citywide celebration. Everyone is invited. And it looks like local residents will just have to stop by for themselves to find out more.

Games are slated to begin in March. Tickets will range between \$15 and \$22.

Lansing’s City Council unanimously approved a 16-year licensing agreement with the newly created Lansing Soccer Club earlier this month. The club is owned and managed by the same folks that run the Lansing Lugnuts and own the multi-million-dollar franchising rights to Lansing Ignite, the name of the soon-to-be soccer team.

The upcoming event could be an opportunity for Schor to formally announce a licensing agreement that, until this week, has been largely reserved for discussion at City Council meetings. Officials previously billed the deal as a multi-million-dollar boon to economic development.

“I see this as an opportunity to either move forward or to continue being afraid of our finances and sitting back,” explained Councilman Brian T. Jackson. “We won’t be able to grow at all without considering these investments. This will draw in people not only from the city but from all across the region.”

The deal, however, required city officials to pen a commitment to pay as much as \$625,000 in marketing costs among other fees to promote the stadium. Additional expenditures, many of which were already inked into a deal with the Lugnuts, will also need to be funded over the course of the recently approved licensing agreement.

The city’s financial commitment, by the end of the agreement, could tally higher than \$3 million. But officials maintain the investment will be well worth the return as soccer fans statewide converge on the state capital. Many of the costs were already being paid to support the Lugnuts’ minor league baseball team regardless.

Some City Council members were hesi-

tant to endorse the added costs, as they try to allocate financial resources to other priorities like police enforcement, unfunded pension liabilities and road repairs. But a desire for continued downtown economic development prevailed over some of the more vocal community concerns.

Council members, after multiple meetings to dissect the proposed deal, decided to greenlight the plan 8-0.

“We’re talking about bringing thousands of more people downtown on a regular basis,” said Councilman Peter Spadafore. “We can walk and chew gum at the same time. I think if we zero down our city budget just to pay off our unfunded liabilities, we could shut down government for 10 years and still not get that finished.

“We’ve got to keep doing things that will drive energy and development and excitement into this city.”

The team is slated to begin playing in the spring, running its season simultaneously with the Lugnuts and kicking off at least 15 home games at the stadium. The Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority will also need to subsidize sod conversions as the field repeatedly flips format from baseball to soccer.

Lansing Ignite will be a part of USL League One, an offshoot of the United Soccer Federation, and joins the ranks of other cities currently without a professional team and a population under 1 million — like Madison, Wisconsin, and Chattanooga, Tennessee. Rochester, New York, will also join the league in the next few years.

Nick Grueser, the president of both the Lugnuts and Ignite, spent hours going over the proposal with Mayor Andy Schor before the agreement hit the City Council’s agenda earlier this month. He didn’t return calls to comment for this story, but Schor emphasized how the deal simply had too much economic potential to pass up.

“We expect 70,000 people a year to come through and spend at least \$100 per person,” Schor estimated. “That equates to a \$7 million annual economic impact for our city. That’s people going to dinner or going to a bar afterwards. They might visit a museum or check out some other places around the city. That’s a lot of money.”

Schor also explained that the deal represented a fair “give and take” between the city and the team’s front office.

Grueser’s club agreed to pay several million dollars in franchising fees and more than \$1.2 million annually for travel expenditures and other soccer-related costs. The players will also be paid about \$350,000 a year, he told City Council. They also agreed to cover security, field preparation and grounds maintenance through local hires.

The city, however, didn’t escape the deal without costs of its own. Lansing is responsi-

ble for handling all major maintenance projects and food and beverage equipment, much like the existing agreement with the Lugnuts. City coffers will also cover the first \$20,000 in utility bills for the first five years, splitting the costs thereafter.

Capital improvement costs baked into the agreement also require the city to pay between \$2.1 and \$2.6 million over the course of the 16-year deal to keep the stadium in top operational condition. The previous deal with the Lugnuts, for context, had a lower minimum improvement cost set at between \$1.43 million and \$2.6 million.

“With a lease agreement or not, these appropriations happen every year,” said Council President Carol Wood. “I think the mayor has come up with some creative financing on this, and we’re looking at it, primarily, as a way to attract additional business and revenue into the community. I think the 8-0 vote shows how optimistic we are.”

LEPFA will also pay up to \$150,000 to purchase equipment to transition between soccer and baseball and will reimburse the club up to \$36,000 annually to complete the work.

Aside from the cash that fans will invariably spread across the business community, the city will also collect 6 percent of premium ticket sales. The deal, Schor said, ensures that Lansing keeps a vested marketing interest in filling the bleachers for every home game.

When Lansing Ignite succeeds, the city piggybacks on those revenues.

Lansing also won’t have to allocate any marketing costs after the first five years, according to the agreement.

Still, local residents like Loretta Stanaway and Rejuvenate South Lansing’s Elaine Womboldt opposed the agreement. The city is stretched far too thin and can’t afford to provide an added subsidy to a private enterprise while other issues like crumbling roads and code compliance concerns continue to pervade Lansing, they said.

Councilman Jeremy Garza said the deal was one of the toughest decisions he has faced. Councilwoman Patricia Spitzley said she had “heartburn” over the marketing costs. Councilman Adam Hussain was also hesitant to endorse the plan but, like his colleagues, ultimately decided that the risk would be worth the eventual rewards.

“This is purely an economic development deal. We understand that,” Hussain said, noting additional broadcast revenues could also eventually drive up profits. “I don’t love the deal necessarily but we had some negotiation and some back and forth, and this particular group is really not in a position to give a whole lot more.”

— KYLE KAMINSKI
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Correction

Due to a reporter’s error, a story titled “Transgender policies divide Williamston” requires a correction. Christopher Lewis was identified as the vice president of Williamston Community School’s board of education. He’s a trustee. Jeffrey West is the vice president of the board.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held to consider a lot split application from T&D Development for the property at 211 Harrier Drive. The applicant is requesting approval to create a new parcel for a one-acre office development.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1443, an Ordinance to Amend Section 50-943 of Division 4 - City Center Commercial District, B-3 - Of Article VI - Business, Office and Industrial Districts - of Chapter 50 - Zoning - of The Code of The City of East Lansing to make changes to the building height limitations in the B-3, City Center District.
3. A public hearing will be held to consider a lot split application from Antonio Mastromonaco for the property at 846 Touraine Avenue. The applicant is requesting approval to create a new parcel for the development of a single-family home.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard. These matters will be on the agenda for the next Planning Commission meeting after the public hearing is held, at which time the Commission may vote on them. The Planning Commission’s recommendations are then placed on the agenda of the next City Council meeting. The City Council will make the final decision on these applications.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services should write or call the Planning Department, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823. Phone: (517) 319-6930. TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#18-265

Two candidates vie for 54-A District Court

Ayanna Neal, Cynthia Ward eye judicial reforms

As Judge Frank DeLuca prepares for his retirement, two candidates have emerged to fill his spot on the bench at Lansing's 54-A District Court. Both lean on more than a decade of legal experience, a steadfast commitment to the community and a passion for blind justice as they eye potential reforms within the local court system.

Ayanna Neal and Cynthia Ward share a strikingly similar vision for the judiciary. They both view the judgeship as a way to give back to Lansing by helping local residents identify ways to overcome their legal troubles. They both want continued fairness in justice and they both believe they have the experience to make a difference.

Neal and Ward outlined a need for additional specialty courts. They both support the regional consolidation of district-level courtrooms in East Lansing. And they both think the only way to truly reduce recidivism is to address the root cause of why defendants land in the courtroom.

The term is for six years. Voters can select only one candidate when they head to the polls on Nov. 6. Hearing from both candidates, in their own words, might be the best way to inform your vote ahead of the election.

Ayanna Neal

Neal, 43, of Lansing, has a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Michigan and a law degree with a concentration in business transactions from Thomas M. Cooley Law School. She has practiced law for about 16 years, mostly working as an assistant prosecutor with the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office.

"I've always been interested in running for judge," Neal said. "With having been a public servant sitting as a prosecutor for almost 15 years, and with my experience handling all the types of cases that are handled in a district courtroom, being from Lansing and knowing what's going on locally, I felt I was the best qualified."

Neal also served on the Ingham County Equal Opportunity Committee, the Equal Access Initiative for Diversity and as a board member for the Lansing Educational Advancement Foundation. She has no prior experience holding an elected office but ran (and lost) a judicial bid for the 30th Circuit Court in 2012.

She said Lansing needs a specialty court to address drug-related crimes and, if elected, would work to give would-be felons another chance to keep their criminal record clean through probation and other programs. She said local residents ultimately need more help to overcome a growing nationwide opi-



Neal

oid addiction crisis. "People need treatment," Neal added. "A person having a felony conviction or being incarcerated does not help them in terms of overcoming addiction. For me, the issue is about address-

ing the root cause of those problems. And the root cause is often addiction. If we're just giving out felonies, we're not addressing the root cause.

"It could be a lack of education or a lack of a job and that breeds addiction. I'm a huge proponent of education. If you're placed on probation and you don't have a high school education, I'll order — depending on the case — that they complete a high school diploma or earn their GED or find some sort of skilled training along the way."

Neal said additional funding will be needed to implement any additional specialty courts or enhance access to addiction treatment. Those funds should also be used to construct or renovate a new courtroom if the cash can be made available, she said. Safety concerns and security issues continue to pervade the existing building.

"I feel like I would bring the perspective of being compassionate to people," Neal added. "I look and see people in the courtroom like I would look at my son or daughter. I see what I can do to help this person. We all live in this community. Sometimes people just need that compassion and they need that



Ward

second chance to get help."

Neal touts endorsements from Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 333, Ingham County Sheriff Scott Wigglesworth, Eaton County Prosecutor Doug R. Lloyd, Michigan State University Trustee Joel Ferguson, Eaton County Commissioner Joseph Brehler, multiple board members at both Lansing School District and Lansing

Community College, Lansing 4th Ward Progressives and a host of local attorneys and judges.

Cynthia Ward

Ward, 49, of Lansing, has a bachelor's degree in economics and political science from Rutgers University and a law degree from Villanova University. She works as

See Judges, Page 9

CITY OF EAST LANSING ELECTION NOTICE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018 FOR THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN

To the qualified electors of the City of East Lansing, please take notice that a **GENERAL ELECTION** will be held in the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018.**

For the purposes of electing candidates for the following offices:

Governor and Lieutenant
Secretary of State
Attorney General
United States Senator
Representative in Congress
State Senator
State Representative
State Board of Education
University of Michigan Board of Regents
Michigan State University Board of Trustees
Wayne State University Board of Trustees
County Commissioner

The following non-partisan offices:

Justices of the Supreme Court
Judges of the Court of Appeals
Judges of the Circuit Court
Judge of the Probate Court
Judge of the District Court
Lansing Community College Board of Trustees
East Lansing School Board
Lansing School Board
Bath School Board

Also to vote on the following proposals:

PROPOSAL 18-1

A PROPOSED INITIATED LAW TO AUTHORIZE AND LEGALIZE POSSESSION, USE AND CULTIVATION OF MARIJUANA PRODUCTS BY INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER, AND COMMERCIAL SALES OF MARIJUANA THROUGH STATE-LICENSED RETAILERS

PROPOSAL 18-2

A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION OF CITIZENS WITH EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY TO ADOPT DISTRICT BOUNDARIES FOR THE MICHIGAN SENATE, MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND U.S. CONGRESS, EVERY 10 YEARS

PROPOSAL 18-3

A PROPOSAL TO AUTHORIZE AUTOMATIC AND ELECTION DAY VOTER REGISTRATION, NO-REASON ABSENTEE VOTING, AND STRAIGHT TICKET VOTING; AND ADD CURRENT LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MILITARY AND OVERSEAS VOTING AND POST-ELECTION AUDITS TO THE MICHIGAN CONSTITUTION

INGHAM COUNTY FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION INITIATIVE MILLAGE QUESTION

INGHAM COUNTY INGHAM CENTRAL DISPATCH PROPOSITION FOR 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICE SYSTEM FUNDING

EAST LANSING PUBLIC SCHOOLS I. OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

EAST LANSING PUBLIC SCHOOLS II. SINKING FUND MILLAGE PROPOSAL

CLINTON COUNTY REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY AREA CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL

CLINTON COUNTY REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY SPECIAL EDUCATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL

For complete ballot wording, contact the East Lansing City Clerk at 517-319-6914 or visit the Ingham County Clerk's website at www.ingham.org or Clinton County Clerk's website at www.clinton-county.org.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Williamston schools, leaders on right track

(The following was written by Nicole Ellefson, Julica Hermann de la Fuente, Kelly Sundeen and Lyn Slayton)

Scholastic excellence, growing enrollment and an increasing fund balance are normally considered positive indicators of a school board's success. By those measures, Williamston Community Schools' board is exemplary.

The board has led our district to wonderful achievements for the children in our

Opinion

schools. Despite receiving the lowest possible foundation grant per pupil,

Williamston Community Schools beat out neighboring districts that receive hundreds more per student to win the State Academic Champion award from Bridge Magazine. In the last few years, the district has added STEAM programming across the K-12 spectrum, including new labs in both the elementary and middle schools. Enhanced school safety updates are in the works. And despite crushing funding cuts and pension debt added by the state of Michigan during the financial crisis, our district fund balance is on track to meet the board's goal of 5 percent.

Despite this stellar progress, a group of ideological extremists in our town have recalled our district's leaders. Four board members are being forced to fight for reelection after a lengthy recall process. All four of these board members, along with two more individuals who have since stepped down from the board, are being sued in federal court (Reynolds et al v. Talberg et al).

Why? Because they voted to acknowledge and support the LGBTQ students who are in our schools. The language in Reynolds et al v. Talberg says it all. The people recalling our board have cast themselves as people who "oppose these alternative sexual lifestyle categories on moral and religious grounds." They have been spurred on by presentations at multiple churches by attorney David Kallmann of the Great Lakes Justice Center, a fundamentalist Christian legal think tank that travels around Michigan opposing rights for LGBTQ people.

The recallers attempt to hide their anti-LGBTQ agenda under the guise of parents' rights and students' privacy. Let's break these arguments down. Opponents of the policies say parental rights are being violated. They are fixated on the use of "and/or" in the policy to support transgender students. They insist that the policy must REQUIRE informing parents. To require the district to do so is problematic for two reasons. First, there are parents, likely even some here in Williamston, who would physically or emotionally abuse their child or kick them out of the home if the

school informed them that their child was LGBTQ. Second, some students in any school system are considered emancipated by the courts or are legal adults. If the board were to author a policy that required parental notification in those cases, the district would be subject to legal action. In short, our board understands the legal requirements of policy writing and knows that to remove the "or" from the policy would be a huge fiscal risk.

Privacy is being used as a thinly veiled attack on transgender people using the bathrooms that correspond to their gender. In reality, the new facilities policy states: "WCS staff will work with the student to find an alternative that takes into account the privacy rights of all students, staff, and visitors. The Board directs administration to incorporate single-user facilities and measures to ensure greater privacy into new construction or renovation." So, in reality, anyone who wants to have more privacy can have it.

On Nov. 6 we encourage WCS voters to ask yourselves these questions. Is disagreement over two policies a good reason to throw out a board that has led our small district to the top of our area despite the financial odds? Is it worth voting for a group of people who are only involved because of their beliefs about LGBTQ people and who have no experience serving on a school board?

Greg Talberg, Chris Lewis, Sarah Belanger, and Nancy Deal have proven that they have the commitment to our schools. They are committed to making sure that WCS is a safe place for all students.

We know what our choice will be: to stand alongside our recalled board members who have a track record of excellence in leading our school district and who took steps to protect ALL students in our schools.

(The authors all have children in Williamston schools. Ellefson also has a son who is transgender.)



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Judges

from page 8

a state administrative manager at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and is licensed to practice law in three states.

"My career has been dedicated to serving the public interest," Ward said. "I've learned that it's just not enough to have legal representation when you talk about access to justice. Certainly, that's an important factor but it's so much more than that. You need a judge that knows how to treat people fairly and with respect and dignity."

Ward, with no prior experience holding an elected office, previously served as an assistant dean and professor at Thomas M. Cooley Law School, among other law-related jobs dating back to 1995. She also bills herself as an "outsider" within the local judiciary and emphasized she'll owe no political favors if elected to the bench.

"I have a philosophy of treating people fairly, respecting the law and recognizing the role that judges can play in our justice system," Ward added. "I also recognize that I need to respect the three branches of government in this process. I think my judicial philosophy will only evolve if I'm elected to the bench."

Like her opponent, Ward also emphasized the importance of addressing the root of criminal problems to ultimately help defendants and curb ongoing recidivism. She said her experience both as a civil rights lawyer and time spent teaching students in law school have helped to prepare her to "rethink" the administration of justice.

"Judges can't go at it alone," Ward said. "A lot of legal issues being disposed include an underlying social issue that have presented themselves in a legal posture. It does no one any favors to impose a sanction and send them out of the courtroom. We need to get to the root of the problem that brought them there in the first place."

"Some people say judges aren't social workers but my entire life has been about

collaboration and finding ways to help people. I've said this before: The court does not exist for me. It exists for the community. That's why I haven't advocated for one particular specialty court over another. That's not for me to decide."

Ward said her highest priority is to renovate or construct additional courtroom facilities. The existing building is inadequate both in terms of space and security. Any future enhancements to the justice system would only be hindered by the physical condition of the building, she said. That will need to be addressed sooner than later.

"All of this amounts to an access to justice issue," Ward added. "I think the court has multiple priorities to address but we certainly need to have an adequate courthouse to make those things happen."

Ward touts endorsements from the every member of Lansing's City Council, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 352, former Lansing Mayors Virg Bernero and David Hollister, multiple Ingham County Commissioners, board members at both Lansing School District and Lansing Community College, state representatives Joan Bauer and Tom Cochran and multiple judges throughout greater Lansing.

—KYLE
KAMINSKI
kyle@
lansingcitypulse.
com

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
INGHAM COUNTY
CIRCUIT COURT
FAMILY DIVISION**

NOTICE OF HEARING

In the matter of Jewel Carrier

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on 11/08/18 at 11:30 AM, at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Economy for the following purpose(s):

A petition was filed to name Mid-Michigan Guardianship Services as guardian and conservator for an incapacitated individual.


If you require special accommodations to use the court because of a disability, or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

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Talina Cummins
5303 S. Cedar Street
Lansing, MI 48909
517-775-5450

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Why lagging Leonard refuses to debate Nessel in AG race

POLITICS



KYLE MELINN

Here's something you don't see every day in politics. A candidate trailing in the polls declining to debate the front-runner.

Yet, this is what is happening in the attorney general's race, where Republican nominee Tom Leonard has declined three one-on-one debate invitations with Democratic nominee Dana Nessel.

The final opportunity came and went Monday when the Leonard camp passed on an Oct. 30 debate invitation from the Michigan Press Association and MIRS.

Attempts to generate debates on WKAR's "Off The Record," with Tim Skubick, and WDIV's "Flashpoint," with Devin Scillian, each fell apart after Leonard declined to appear without independent candidate Chris Graveline, who is hovering between 0 and 2 percent in the polls.

Leonard cited an evening conflict as the reason for declining the debate, to which Nessel said she would clear her calendar to meet the House speaker at any time Oct. 30.

"I am willing and eager to debate Tom Leonard head-to-head to give voters an opportunity to hear about the serious issues facing our state," Nessel said. "Tom is spending millions of dollars on ads falsely distorting my record but won't agree to spend two hours on stage beside me defending his own. Tom, I ask you to join me on the debate stage so that Michiganders can learn about your career of pay-to-play politics and lack of legal experience."

But Leonard is sticking to his guns that he wants "the second Democrat" on the stage at the same time or nothing at all.

"Debates will also give the people of this state the opportunity to see whether either of my two Democrat opponents are as equally prepared for the office," he said in a Sept. 18 press release.

The reference is to Graveline, the former assistant U.S. attorney who hopped into the race after Nessel won the Michigan Democratic Party's endorsement in April. The independent didn't get the required 30,000 signatures needed to get on the ballot. Instead, a federal judge put Graveline on the ballot, ruling the state's signatures threshold for independent candidates was too high.

However, his late entrance in the race, tiny political base and scant funds have not made him a legitimate contender. Mitchell Research and Communications' last poll had him at 2 percent, the same as Taxpayer Party candidate Gerald Van Sickle and 7 points behind

Libertarian Lisa Gioia, neither of whom are registered State Bar of Michigan members. Nessel was up 34 to 33 percent, well within the margin of error. A September MIRS/Target Insyght poll had Nessel up nine points.

Leonard has tried using Graveline to reopen old wounds. The progressive Nessel beat union-backed Patrick Miles, President Barack Obama's former U.S. attorney in West Michigan, at the Democratic convention, and many Democrats still wish it were Miles, not Nessel, on the ballot.

Leonard's math is simple. More votes for Graveline equals fewer votes for Nessel. The more exposure Graveline gets, the better for Leonard. Graveline's team lobbied hard for the event, too, flooding the general email box at MIRS with 150 messages lobbying for a Graveline debate appearance.

But the Michigan Press Association, MIRS, Skubick and Scillian weren't interested in a three-way or five-way debate with candidates who hadn't put themselves in a position to win a few weeks out from the election.

So Leonard stuck to his guns. He's out. The decision is costing him the opportunity to highlight the political gulf between him and Nessel.

Democrats aren't offering a more progressive candidate statewide than Nessel, who received national attention last year when she said women on a statewide ticket is an asset because they won't "show their penis in a professional setting."

Likewise, Leonard, of DeWitt, is the most conservative Republican on the statewide ticket. His recent campaign appearance in Pontiac featured John James, Kid Rock, Ted Nugent and Donald Trump Jr. He's one of only two General Election candidates appearing on any ballot to fill out a questionnaire from "Secure Michigan," dubbed an anti-Muslim hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

Not debating Nessel limits Leonard's ability to bring up the constant churn at Nessel's campaign office amid accusations of a "toxic" and "chaotic" work environment. At least 20 staffers have moved in and out of the Nessel campaign since she launched her bid 14 months ago.

She's on her fifth campaign manager and seventh campaign spokesperson. Most recently, Nessel threatened a former fundraiser, attorney Maggie Lourdes, with a personal protection order if she didn't stop contacting her on her personal email and phone.

Nobody wanted to share what promised to be a colorful exchange between the two more than the media, which spent countless hours over the last several weeks to pull off this hoped-for exchange. But, alas, it will not happen.

(Melinn, of the Capitol news service MIRS, is melinnky@gmail.com.)

From success to shame — and back again

Dunnings distances campaign from 'heinous' family missteps

The last name Dunnings once lined the pages of a familiar African American success story. And one local judicial candidate is personally working to ensure her namesake can again return to its former glory.

Stuart J. Dunnings Jr. became the first black attorney to practice law citywide. His firm, also the first African American practice in the city, was hailed for its civil rights work. His career touched the lives of thousands of residents over the years.

Dunnings' children also found success. Shauna Dunnings earned her legal degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C., and clerked for Federal District Judge Gordon J. Quist. She now serves as administrator at 30th Circuit Court in Ingham County, managing more than 200 employees and a \$28 million annual budget.

Stuart Dunnings III and Steven Dunnings also earned law degrees and worked for their father's practice before Dunnings III was elected Ingham County's first black prosecutor. He developed a reputation for cracking down on prostitution, sexual assault and domestic abuse during his 19-year career.

But the story took a turn when the Dunnings brothers had a brush with the wrong side of the law.

In 2016, Stuart Dunnings III faced

more than a dozen prostitution-related charges in three separate counties following a months-long investigation by the Ingham County Sheriff's Office. Authorities later determined he paid multiple women for sex over several years and he was eventually released after 10 months behind bars.

Steven Dunnings also pleaded guilty to engaging the services of a prostitute and was formally reprimanded by the Michigan Attorney Discipline Board for his misdemeanor conviction. He was later stuck with fines and dozens of hours of community service for his crime, but ultimately escaped with his legal license intact.

And now Shauna Dunnings — barring the unlikely success of a write-in candidate — will serve the next six years as a county Probate Court judge. Running unopposed, she has made efforts to separate her otherwise successful legal career from the missteps of her siblings.

"I walked into this race knowing that I would have to answer questions like this," Shauna Dunnings said. "With anyone I've talked to, I've asked them not to let my brother's heinous act in any way affect the things I've been doing. I ask everyone to please consider the work I've done over the last 27 years and to recognize that work."

The probate court, by nature, only provides statutorily mandated services



Dunnings

See Dunnings, Page 11

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Polls at said election will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m.

LIST OF POLLING LOCATIONS:

- Pct. 1 - Brody Hall, MSU
- Pct. 2 - Martin Luther Chapel, 444 Abbot Road
- Pct. 3 - East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road
- Pct. 4 - Capital City Vineyard Church, 1635 Coolidge Road
- Pct. 5 - Shaarey Zedek Congregation, 1924 Coolidge Road
- Pct. 6 - Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1315 Abbot Road
- Pct. 7 - St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3383 Lake Lansing Road
- Pct. 8 - University Reformed Church, 841 Timberlane Street
- Pct. 9 - Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road
- Pct. 10 - Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road
- Pct. 11 - Burcham Hills Retirement Community, 2700 Burcham Drive
- Pct. 12 - Union Bldg., MSU
- Pct. 13 - IM Sports East, MSU
- Pct. 14 - IM Sports East, MSU
- Pct. 15 - IM Sports West, MSU
- Pct. 16 - Wesley Foundation, 1118 S. Harrison Road
- Pct. 17 - Shaarey Zedek Congregation, 1924 Coolidge Road

All polling places are accessible and voting instructions are available in alternative formats of audio and Braille.

The East Lansing City Clerk's office will be open on Saturday, November 3, 2018, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to issue and accept absentee ballots for qualified electors.

To see if you are registered or to find your polling location, check the Secretary of State Voter Information website at www.mich.gov/vote
Jennifer Shuster
East Lansing City Clerk

CP#18-260

Dunnings

from page 10

like the safekeeping of wills, probating estates of the dead, trust administration, appointment and supervision of guardians and conservators and the processing of various mental health matters. The job is largely about helping residents navigate the system.

Shauna Dunnings — with a passion for family law matters — hopes to escape

the shadows of her relatives’ mistakes and help local families that find themselves in her courtroom. She relies on her experience, her cool temperament and willingness to collaborate to find the best ways to provide that assistance.

“I also want to spend more time looking into services that we’re coordinating for our youth as they progress out of the system,” Shauna Dunnings said. “Whether that’s successfully completing probation or children aging out of the welfare system, we need to appropriately link families and children to these com-

munity services.”

Shauna Dunnings, 55, spent more than a decade in private practice with a focus on family law cases. She worked as Friend of the Court in Eaton County and later Ingham County before she was promoted in 2013 to her post as circuit court administrator. She also received the civility award from the Ingham County Bar Association.

She knows her breadth of experience — and not her last name — will drive her success as a probate judge.

“I think there are very few people

who would characterize my reputation as soured in this community,” Shauna Dunnings added. “I just haven’t had it. I’ve been very fortunate to have positive interactions with the community. When talking about what happened with my brother, people understand I’m different.

“We can’t be held accountable for someone else’s bad actions. I think people understand that.”

— KYLE KAMINSKI
kyle@lansingcitypulse.com

NOTICE OF ELECTION November 6, 2018 General Election and Proposals

Please take notice that Meridian Township will hold an election on Tuesday, November 6, 2018. To vote on the election of candidates for the following offices:

Governor	Governor of Wayne State University
Secretary of State	County Commissioner
Attorney General	Justice of the Supreme Court
United States Senator	Judge of Court of Appeals
Representative in Congress	Judge of Circuit Court
State Senator	Judge of Probate Court
State Representative	Board of Trustees-Lansing Community College
State Board of Education	Haslett Public Schools Board Members
Regent of the University of Michigan	Okemos Public Schools Board Members
Trustee of Michigan State University	Williamston Public Schools Board Members

And the following proposals:

- Proposal 18-1**
A proposed initiated law to authorize and legalize possession, use and cultivation of marijuana products by individuals who are at least 21 years of age and older, and commercial sales of marijuana through state-licensed retailers
YES ☐ NO ☐
- Proposal 18-2**
A proposed constitutional amendment to establish a commission of citizens with exclusive authority to adopt district boundaries for the Michigan Senate, Michigan House of Representatives and U.S. Congress, every 10 years.
YES ☐ NO ☐
- Proposal 18-3**
A proposal to authorize automatic and Election Day voter registration, no-reason absentee voting, and straight ticket voting; and add current legal requirements for military and overseas voting and post-election audits to the Michigan Constitution.
YES ☐ NO ☐

Ingham County
INGHAM COUNTY FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION INITIATIVE MILLAGE QUESTION -YES ☐ NO ☐
INGHAM CENTRAL DISPATCH PROPOSITION FOR 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICE SYSTEM FUNDING -YES ☐ NO ☐

East Lansing Schools
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING I. SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING II.
OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL- YES ☐ NO ☐ SINKING FUND MILLAGE PROPOSAL- YES ☐ NO ☐

Full text of the ballot proposals may be obtained at the Meridian Township Clerk’s office, 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos, MI 48864, telephone 517-853-4300 or by viewing your ballot at www.michigan.gov/vote.

THE POLLS WILL OPEN AT 7:00 A.M. AND CLOSE AT 8:00 P.M.
THE VOTING LOCATIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS:
PCT 1 St. Luke Lutheran Church, 5589 Van Atta Rd., Haslett, MI 48840
PCT 2 Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St., Haslett, MI 48840
PCT 3 Haslett High School, 5450 Marsh Rd., Haslett, MI 48840
PCT 4 Murphy Elementary School, 1875 Lake Lansing Rd., Haslett, MI 48840
PCT 5 Haslett Community Church, 1427 Haslett Rd., Haslett, MI 48840
PCT 6 Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 7 Kinawa Middle School, 1900 Kinawa Dr., Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 8 Cornell School, 4371 Cornell Rd., Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 9 Edgewood School, 1826 Osage Dr., Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 10 Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct., Haslett, MI 48840
PCT 11 2/42 Community Church, 2600 Bennett Rd., Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 12 Wardcliff School, 5150 Wardcliff Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823
PCT 13 Central School, 4406 Okemos Rd., Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 14 Hiawatha School, 1900 Jolly Rd., Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 15 Meridian Senior Ctr., 4000 Okemos Rd., Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 16 consolidated with Pct. 17
PCT 17 Bennett Woods School, 2650 Bennett Rd., Okemos, MI 48864
PCT 18 Snell Towar Recreation Center, 6146 Porter Ave., East Lansing, MI 48823
PCT 19 United Church of Christ MI Conference, 5945 Park Lake Rd., East Lansing, MI 48823
PCT 20 New Hope Church, 1340 Haslett Road, Haslett, MI 48840

All polling place locations are accessible and voting instructions are available in alternative formats of audio and Braille. An accessible voting device is also available.
The Meridian Township Clerk’s office will be open on Saturday, November 3, 2018 from 8:00am to 2:00pm to issue and accept absentee ballots for qualified electors. Monday November 5 at 4:00pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot and the ballot must be voted in person at the Meridian Township Clerk’s office.
All voters are required to show photo identification to vote at the polls. Voters without identification will be required to fill out and sign an affidavit in order to receive a ballot.

Brett Dreyfus, CMMC
Meridian Township Clerk

ARTS & CULTURE

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Bychkov is back

Locals recall Czech Philharmonic maestro's time in Michigan

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Let's be respectful here. The once-in-a-blue-moon local appearance of one of Europe's great orchestras, the Czech Philharmonic, led by one of the century's great maestros, Semyon Bychkov, is not to be taken lightly. The Czech musicians are bound

Czech Philharmonic Orchestra

Semyon Bychkov, conductor
Alisa Weilerstein, cello
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 30
Wharton Center Cobb Great Hall
\$29 and up
(517) 432-2000
whartoncenter.com

to pour their hearts and souls into the music of Antonin Dvorak, the most beloved of Czech composers.

But there's a local dimension to Tuesday's rare orchestral extravaganza, and it involves beer and hot dogs.

Ava Ordman, MSU trombone professor and principal trombonist of the Lansing Symphony, still has incriminating photos of maestro Bychkov in her backyard, from about 1980.

"We had a keg of beer, drinking and hanging out," Ordman said. "We were all kids in our late 20s and early 30s, in bell bottoms."

Ordman was playing in the Grand Rapids Symphony when Bychkov got his first music director gig, at 27, in 1980. Bychkov, now based in Paris, was the maestro in Grand Rapids until he left to lead the Buffalo Philharmonic in 1985.

Ordman recalls congenial parties with Bychkov (they share a birthday) and some music-making she'll never forget.

"Semyon brings out warm colors, a richness and thickness that engulfs the listener," Ordman said. "He pushes things, takes a lot of risks, and that makes music, and art in general, very exciting."

Bychkov later admitted he was like a "kid in a candy store" in Grand Rapids, his first gig as maestro, fresh from graduate studies in New York. One marathon concert featured Strauss's "Also Sprach Zarathustra" for the first half and Beethoven's Ninth for the second half.

"Some people were angry," Bychkov said. "They had never been to such a long concert in their lives, and they probably never will again."

"His concerts sometimes went on for three hours," Ordman recalled. "We did some really great repertoire. I loved my time with him."

Critical of the Soviet regime, Bychkov was



Photo by Umberto Nicoletti

Czech Philharmonic maestro Semyon Bychkov got his start as music director of the Grand Rapids Symphony from 1980 to 1985.

pushed out of the Leningrad Conservatoire, where he began to study conducting in his teens, and emigrated to the United States in 1975. Wally Knack was president of the Grand Rapids Symphony board when he learned that Bychkov was available.

Bychkov, at 27, led the second of eight scheduled tryout concerts in Grand Rapids, but after hearing the maestro send Mahler's Fifth Symphony to the stratosphere, the rest of the auditions were dropped, Knack said.

"He was so well received that we hired him out of order, much to the disappointment of the other candidates," Knack said.

"No one was even close to him," Ordman said. "We were like, 'Oh my God, who is this guy?' He is so musical."

Even while Bychkov was cutting his teeth in Grand Rapids and Buffalo, gigs as a last-minute substitute in Berlin and New York thrust him onto the world stage. He went on to lead the Orchestre de Paris and the BBC Orchestra and moved on to grand opera at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden.

From the start, he drew superlatives.

"Once in a very long time, the critic is privileged to attend a musical event tinged with greatness," gushed New York Times critic Tim Page after Bychkov and the Buffalo Philharmonic played Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony at Carnegie Hall in 1986, a year after he left Grand Rapids.

Bychkov recalled his time in Michigan as a "very important chapter" in his life.

"I wanted to experience a 'deep America,'

not a New York America," Bychkov told The Guardian in 2012. In Grand Rapids, he beefed up the roster by some 10 musicians and called for extra rehearsals when he felt it was needed. It stretched the budget, but Bychkov was also game for fundraising, whether it meant skiing or competing in a hot dog eating contest.

Perhaps Bychkov's most memorable moment in Grand Rapids was a gala outdoor concert on the Grand River with over 100,000 people in Ah-Neb-Awen park near the Gerald R. Ford Museum. The celebration included Bychkov's emotional swearing-in as an American citizen.

When the Soviet Union broke up in 1991, Bychkov returned to Russia to conduct the St. Petersburg (formerly Leningrad) Philharmonic.

Knack was with him.

"We went back to the Conservatory, where he studied," Knack recalled. "He took us into the room where he first conducted an orchestra."

Knack is still a friend of the maestro and follows him to many of his far-flung concerts. This summer, Knack found the telegram President Ronald Reagan sent to Grand Rapids to congratulate Bychkov on becoming a citizen in 1985. He brought it with him to the Wagner shrine of Bayreuth, Germany, where Bychkov was conducting "Parisfal."

Knack recalled that in the mid-1980s, the Grand Rapids Symphony auctioned off conducting lessons and a chance to conduct

the orchestra for \$2500, but nobody bit on the offer. A Chicago radio promoter said to Knack, "You're the president. You ought to buy this."

"He was very persuasive and talked me into it," Knack said.

In six lessons, Bychkov took Knack from learning how to hold a baton (he still calls it "the stick") and beat time with it all the way to taking a bow properly. Instead of the usual pops fare used in such promotions, Bychkov let Knack conduct a 12-minute Wagner overture as part of the season's final subscription concert.

"I was a bundle of nerves," he said.

Needless to say, Knack and a pack of retired Grand Rapids musicians will caravan to East Lansing for Tuesday's concert.

Active Grand Rapids musicians are stuck with a rehearsal Tuesday — except for Ordman, who got a pass. She really wants to go, and besides, she's only playing second trombone for that concert.

Ordman admitted that Antonin Dvorak's Cello Concerto and "New World" Symphony are played to death by American orchestras, but hearing Czech masterworks played by a Czech orchestra is a different ballgame. (Ordman has also worked with Tuesday's cello soloist, Alisa Weilerstein, and called her a "fabulous and rare musician.")

"It's going to be amazing, because this music is in everybody's blood," Ordman said. "They're all unique musicians who play on the edge, and have a lot of heart and soul, as opposed to being just technicians."

LNSNG clothing line promotes city pride

By DENNIS BURCK

There is a new clothing brand on the block looking to showcase Lansing as a happening city.

Founded by Eastern High School graduates Noah Maldonado, Tony Allen and RJ Everett, Third Coast brands sports its flagship LNSNG line with 14 original designs on hoodies and T-shirts.

The narrative toward Lansing was negative growing up, LNSNG owner Maldonado said.

"It was drilled into us. Even from elementary school, if your family could get out of Lansing it was a success," he said. "In high school, we had a perspective change on how we saw the city. It was a blank canvas, and if we were going to stay, we thought we should make an impact in a way we know how to."

Launching a business from scratch was challenging, Maldonado said. "It is good to have a structure, but there comes a point where you have to leap and go for it."

The team buckled down and worked on designs in 2017.

Maldonado grew up on the south side and fell into the world of fashion through buying, trading and selling sneakers.

"The sneaker culture was huge in high school. At the time I had a bussing job making \$5 an hour with sucky tips. I would save up and get a pair of Jordans and resell them for a profit," Maldonado said.

"It was a huge part of my life and this transitioned to clothing."



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

LNSNG founder and owner Noah Maldonado (right) with co-founders RJ Everett (center) and Tony Allen (left).

Like the clean-cut striking sneakers he sold, Maldonado took a minimalist approach to design.

"A lot of times, a clothing line geared toward a city can be touristy and super cheesy," he said. "It was important to us that our designs were clean and different. We are creating a culture here in Lansing

that people are not used to."

Some designs are simple as a shirt printed with "LNSNG," while others include geometric repeating patterns and lyrics.

The design process involved working with Lansing area artists, including photographer Kayla Upshaw of Kay Eyes photography and touring hip-hop/soul artist

Michael "Mikeyy" Austin.

The line has Austin's lyrics on it and features his forthcoming album "Midnight Stereo," which is set for a January release, with a cassette logo.

"We premiered the shirts on tour in Chicago, New York and Atlanta," Austin said. "We were able to sell shirts at each of these cities, and it is cool to see them represented in these places."

"For Noah, his idea was to make street wear that is really appealing," Austin said. "But the struggle of getting things done at high quality, while making it affordable, is tough. To be able to do something like this shows what's possible in Lansing."

"A lot of people complain there aren't opportunities here, but you have to create opportunities," Everett said. "These types of things like clothing lines can be created here. It just takes people to build the foundation."

LNSNG's next step is to be stocked in local stores, Maldonado said.

"As Lansing is growing, we've seen the flipside of people wanting to live in Lansing. It is cool to see that transition and be a part of it."

New developments in Lansing give the brand more emphasis, Maldonado said. "When a city is going through what Lansing is, a lot of things get pushed out. But we believe culture trumps everything. You can have as many systems and buildings as you want — if the culture isn't there, it's not going to matter."

"Seeing the community's support and how they reacted to the brand helps our vision going forward," Allen said.

For more information, visit <https://www.lnsng.co/>

Become a guest of the living dead in 'Dracula's Wedding'

By SKYLER ASHLEY

A romantic blood feast arrives at the Fledge Saturday. Enter "Dracula's Wedding," an interactive vampire-themed play that rewrites bloodsucker lore and portrays Dracula as a woman.

The plot follows Dracula as she attempts to resurrect Arsal, a lover she lost to death long ago. The audience itself becomes a collective character as wedding guests anxiously watching the ceremony unfold under the threat of interruption by Erik Van Helsing's roaming gang of vampire hunters. Should the wedding end peacefully, with or without a massacre, it will be followed by "The Ruby Reception," which features live music and catering.

"Dracula's Wedding"

Performance, 9 to 11 p.m.
Reception, 11 p.m.
Discounts available for online advance tickets
\$40 couple
\$25 single
\$15 after 11 p.m.
Discounts available for online advance tickets

Geoph Aldora Espen, an artist and writer, developed several centuries' worth of retooled vampire lore as a backdrop for his personal incarnation of Dracula.

"In our lore, vampires do eat food and they do have sex. They can go out in the daylight, even though it's very uncomfortable," Espen explained. "They can't be killed; they can only be paralyzed or dismembered. The only way to truly kill a vampire is to kill Dracula herself."

Espen's script treats "Dracula's Wedding" as an actual event unfolding around its audience, rather than a play confined to the stage.

"The event unfolds around the audience. They are the wedding guests, so they're vampires from all clans and corners across the world," Espen said. "It's a lot of a vampire tribes getting together, because Dracula is their ringleader."

Espen and the rest of the "Dracula's Wedding" crew drew inspiration from an indelible resource for this sort of thing,



Courtesy photo

Ella Kramer as Dracula.

"The Rocky Horror Picture Show."

"I'm kind of using 'Rocky Horror' as a model for the phenomena and the excitement that people come to the crowd

with," Espen said. "It's their energy that's gonna really create the show and close off the circle for us as performers."

While "Dracula's Wedding" was originally intended to double as a blood drive for the American Red Cross, changes in how the organization handles mobile drives nixed the plan. Still, Espen guarantees anybody who can prove he or she donated blood in the month of October can attend the soiree free of charge.

And Espen was happy to drop more hints on what might go down at the wedding — egging on potential wedding guests to simply see for themselves.

"Van Helsing, little do we know, has a daughter who may — or may not — be coming after the events of the wedding," Espen said. "And if Arsal is resurrected, she may be brought back as a human, which could cause some later interpersonal drama between her and Dracula. But that's to be reported on in a potential sequel."

Arch of triumph

Lansing Symphony,
Melissa White, march
from Spain to Rome

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

“Keep your feet on the ground and your head in the clouds,” we are told. Thursday’s Lansing Symphony season opener took this useful cliché to sublime extremes.

An evening-length arch of triumph began at ground level, with earthy, Spanish-style stomps, airlifted into the violin-osphere somewhere over Paris with soloist Melissa White, and slammed back to Earth with Roman legions whose relentless march into the sunrise made “Spartacus” look like “Mary Poppins.”

The lilting dance rhythms and stern matador-iosity of Manuel de Falla’s “Three Cornered Hat” started the night with fine-grained washes of color, even though it’s hard to cast a spell on an audience after the bombast of the obligatory season opener, “The Star-Spangled Banner.” The loud lady in the middle of the hall — a fixture at every public performance of the national anthem, no matter where it may be heard — truly surpassed herself on “rocket’s red glare.”

After dispensing with the brisk, bluster bullfights, the orchestra turned to something less dusty — the honeyed yearnings of Ernest Chausson’s “Poeme.”

Violinist Melissa White, a Lansing native, got an extra warm welcome in her home town and lived up to it. “Poeme” is more of a meditation than an exhibition of virtuoso skill, ideally suited to White’s steady, perfectly weighted tone and deeply centered musical presence.

About that tone: this is the part where I usually fumble for metaphorical equivalents like butterscotch, Albanian thornberry wine or puppy nose leather, but where White is concerned, it’s a study in futility. Her performance was not just a matter of maintaining an exquisite, dark-



White

ly luminous tone throughout. Her whole being, her confidence and joy in the music, merged with hard-earned musical mastery to dissolve the listener’s clumsy, troubled ego — always busy striving toward God knows what — and absorb it into her own, higher journey.

The music climaxed with a series of high trills that escaped even metaphorical gravity. In the highest register of her instrument, where the oxygen grew thin and my ears reflexively shrunk into worried slits, White coaxed me up with her, as if to say, “I know it’s scary, but just look at the stars up here.”

After half time, White returned for a sweet soupçon of French sensuality, the “Havanaise” of Camille Saint-Saëns. Always the sensitive, supple collaborator, Muffitt and the orchestra acted as gentle gendarmes, subtly enforcing the dance rhythms under White’s dreamy melodies and flourishes.

Just when they had the audience purring complacently, like a collective cat in a sunny, lace-draped window, all Hell broke loose.

“The Pines of Rome” started with disconnected whoops, firework-like bursts and jingle-jangles suggesting a festival directed jointly by Walt Disney and Federico Fellini. Just when it reached a clown-car climax, the bottom dropped out, making possible the kind of gut punch Muffitt loves to deliver.

Suddenly, the low strings and woodwinds intoned a terrifying, ancient chord of uncanny depth. There you were, watching the clowns, when you forgot you were in Rome, somehow turned into an alley and found yourself completely alone with 3,000 years of cruel antiquity.

Then the fun really began. Muffitt masaged a series of slowly pulsing crescendi from the orchestra, producing sounds that seemed to ooze from a deep tunnel under the very stones of the city. Chest-rattling organ tones bubbled up from beneath the double basses like magma from Vesuvius. Deep in the catacombs, the dead, the bones and the terrible spirals of the ancient Romans rolled out of their tombs in an inexorable waves until the white walls, gory arenas and towering aqueducts of the city seemed to un-crumble and re-form all around.

The shock and awe was already over the top, but the best was yet to come. A sylvan interlude conjured up a summer afternoon in the Mediterranean sun, complete with bird song and a drifting solo by principal clarinetist Guy Yehuda, but you knew it was only a setup.

Quietly at first, the pounding began on the bass drum, and never let up.

The march of the Roman legions, one of the most spectacular showpieces in orchestral music, was under way.

Five percussionists took up their pagan work. The crucial hinge moment, when it dawns on you that this thing is going all the way, was provided by English horn soloist Gretchen Morse, who stood her ground with a worried-sounding solo that tried to push the apocalypse back with a lyrical feather. Good luck with that.

For the rest of the night, Muffitt was more a general than maestro. He turned around, like Douglas MacArthur riding on a halftack, and cued a brass phalanx tucked into the Wharton Center balcony. The antiphonal brass figures bounced off of each other, like legions forming up from far-flung positions and converging for battle. But instead of a bloody mess, this march ended in a major chord, a rising sun so bright you couldn’t look at it directly. Boo history, hooray for music.

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BY JESSICA LIND PETERSON

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CURTAIN CALL

Powerful ensemble boosts 'Jitney'

By TOM HELMA

The men of August Wilson's stage play, "Jitney," are a handful of ordinary yet extraordinary guys, the kind who find under-the-table side gigs, but never quit their day job.

Review

"Jitney:" define it as a thrown-together transportation service that predates Uber

"Jitney"

\$15 Adults, \$12 Senior/
Student/Military
Thursday, Oct. 25, 7 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 26, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 27, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 28, 2 p.m.
228 Museum Dr.,
Lansing
(517) 482-5700
www.riverwalktheatre.com

by a generation or two. In this play, it shines a bright and penetrating light on the dark desperation of blue collar black men trying to make ends meet.

Rico Bruce Wade plays Becker, who heads up this cast of textured characters.

Becker, who is in late

mid-life, is loosely in charge of the group. He suffers stoically through the horrendous consequences of a gut wrenching back story. He has a son imprisoned for murder, a quagmire which has defined the past twenty years of his life.

Ken Nelson is Booster, the son, clad in a cheap prison suit. He displays a loss of hope that is heart wrenching to see.

Lekeathon Wilson is Daryl Youngblood, the youngest of the crew, freshly discharged from the mayhem of Vietnam. He still wears his fatigue jacket and tries to find stability in a relationship with Rena, the mother of his two-year-old child.

Janell Hall is Rena. Together with Youngblood, the two of them reflect the economic and emotional challenges of still hot-headed young adults, maybe in love, sometimes not.

Youngblood struggles to comprehend and



Courtesy photo

Guy Thomas (right), as Turnbo and Lekeathon Wilson (left), as Daryl Youngblood in August Wilson's "Jitney."

commit to the responsibilities of fatherhood. He bristles with electricity as he grapples with this charge.

In one scene with Turnbo, played by Guy Thomas, the intensity rises when violence is threatened. Thomas' portrayal sends him dancing across the set, his character alternately attempting to seduce Rena, while confronting and confounding Youngblood over how to handle an accusation of infidelity.

A more reflective scene with Youngblood and Doub, played by Guy Stockard, brings out the generational similarities between one man, a Vietnam vet and the other, ten

years older, who fought in Korea.

Stockard's portrayal of Doub is subtle, suggesting someone who has come to grips with serving his country and then coming home to be invisible.

Chance Boyd is Fielding, an alcoholic who, as a cab driver, is an accident waiting to happen. When he becomes combative with Becker, Becker coldly dismisses him, only to forgive him the next morning when Fielding is once again cold sober.

"Jitney" dispels any stereotypes that one might have about responsibility, depth or commitment to family.

'Welcome to the White Room' is rife with curiosity and the bizarre

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

I try not to reveal many details of a play's plot in my reviews. While reviewing Ixion Theatre's "Welcome to the White Room," avoiding such details is easy. I'm unsure what its plot is.

Review

"Welcome to the White Room"

\$15 General, \$5 Artist
Rush
Saturday, Oct. 27, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 28, 2 p.m.
The Robin Theatre
1105 South Washington Ave., Lansing
www.ixiontheatre.com/
(517) 775-4246

"Welcome to the White Room" follows a bizarre script by Trish Harnetiaux that seems to take place in the future. Like Ixion's September production of "Chalk," their current show in the Robin Theatre has an apocalyptic theme.

In "Chalk," it was obvious that the antagonists were alien beings. In "Welcome to the White Room," the manipulators are simply referred to as "they."

It comes as no surprise when the set is revealed to be draped with white curtains, featuring all-white embellishments. The real surprise is that neither a purpose nor location of the white room is divulged.

In this brightly lit setting, for five of six introduced "parts," three characters share weird dialogue. As the hour-long play progresses, most of the obscure chatter seems to relate to video games, virtual reality and gamer roles. Conversations also include talk of memories of being boars, a meal that left broccoli in the teeth, a desire to kiss and a "Big Clean" event.

Jacquelyne Marks is Ms. White, a delicate-looking, clinical woman who seems driven to win. Paul Schmidt is the older and more scientific Jennings, who speaks in a German accent and is called "Brit." Nick Lemmer plays Mr. Paine, a sturdy fellow who often acts like a marionette. His crying is unconvincing but his stage falls are brutally real. It's unclear why Mr. Paine and Ms. White have a dance.

The actors often appear somewhat stiff and robotic. Maybe that was the intent of director Leo Poroshin. In his "Director's Notes," Poroshin asks if CGI makes a live theatre performance "an archaic curio."

"Welcome to the White Room" has aspects that maybe only true gamers will understand. Those of us who are inexperi-

enced in the art have a disadvantage comprehending much of the gobbledygook and gamerisms.

Anyone will still find humor and levels of fascination with the wondering-what-is-real play. It is a mix of slapstick, cerebral puzzles, inside jokes and bits that make about as much sense as finding square, plastic Cheerios in a flattened can of Spaghetti O's.

The late, "Part Six" appearance of Daniel Bonner — as the more animated, Patrick — does offer some clarifications. That doesn't mean "Welcome to the White Room's" conclusion provides satisfying resolutions to many of the countless questions the play presents.

I was bewildered early on, and by the play's end, I was still mystified.

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The Bar Issue

The biggest stars in the bar: Lansing musicians keep taverns rocking

By SKYLER ASHLEY

Shut up and play the hits. And play the hits they do.

Any barhopper accustomed to Lansing's scene will be familiar with the numerous bands that perform anywhere from the Green Door to the Unicorn. Some groups blend originals with covers, and others are full blown tribute acts — either to a single famous outfit or a particular era.

And people love them. For many musicians, the bar band gig is a surefire way to get people dancing and make some well-deserved dough on the side.

Kathy Ford, an accomplished Lansing musician and teacher who's reached been-there-done-that status with every nearly facet of the industry, still finds comfort in the familiar bar gig.

Her group, the eponymous Kathy Ford Band, regularly performs popular country, blues and rock songs across the region, as its done for more than 25 years.

"A bar gets its income from people staying there and spending money. My focus, generally, is to get people to come there in the first place, and keep them there by entertaining them," Ford said. "You ask the crowd what they want to hear, and you keep them dancing."

Having already made a name for herself long ago with her original material, Ford has no worries of a dogging, negative stigma sometimes perpetuated by fellow musicians who vehemently dismiss the notion of performing covers for bar patrons.

"People try to put stigmas on music all the time. You get called a 'bar band,' or a 'wedding band,' and it seems to be a negative thing. But I've done it all. And I'm still doing it all," Ford said. "It makes you a better musician if you're able to play in all these different areas. If you're playing around town, playing bars — you're still a playing musician and that's the important thing."

Lansing-based musician Christopher Baratono ventures between two musical worlds. In one, he's an original songwriter who's performed in several indie rock bands, such as Narc Out the Reds and the Hat Madder. In the other he's "Bartimus Skeaze," an '80s rock caricature who plays bass à la Mötley Crüe's Nikki Sixx with

the cover band Glämhammer. Baratono's wife Whitney Spotts also plays in a similar cover band, Starfarm.

"I never thought that I was going to be in a cover band ever again — it's a situation with age. You realize, 'I don't have much, my audience is shrinking,'" Baratono said. "My wife and I have always played in bands our whole life. I saw it as an opportunity to play, to not just sit around the house watching TV, and actually make some cash."

But Baratono, who's proudly ground it out with his own tunes for a couple of decades, can't help but feel certain reservations. Making more cash and receiving extra fanfare for covers doesn't always feel overwhelmingly rewarding.

"Seeing the response I get from playing other peoples' music I realize, 'This has nothing to do with me.' It's about this song that's transporting the audience to something specific they remember," Baratono said. "It's really hard to do that with your own music. When you're really affecting somebody with what you've done — nothing replaces that feeling."

Though Baratono was candid about the "element of fatalism" of performing in a cover band, he still finds creative avenues to enjoy himself with Glämhammer's blunt pastiche of flamboyant hair metal.

"The other part of Glämhammer is trying to be funnier. I like dressing in drag, so it was an opportunity to dress up like a girl again," Baratono laughed.

But with all that said, Baratono and the rest of Glämhammer are hanging up the wigs and platform boots once 2019 hits.

Sara Cruz, vocalist for Lansing barroom staples the Hot Mess, has a similar narrative to Baratono. Before getting the contemporary cover band together she had several indie rock projects of her own. She describes a noticeable distinction between the two separate realms.

"Being an original band is a lot of fun, but you get a little discouraged when no one comes to your shows," Cruz said. "Being in a cover band is really fun, because people know the music and they always have a good

See Bar bands, Page 18





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The Bar Issue

Bar bands

from page 17

time. It's just fun. I mean, that's really the only way I can explain it — just a great time."

Lansing legend Steve "Frog" Forgey, a prodigious guitarist who — for most locals — requires no introduction, is in, as he calls it,



Courtesy photo

Frog and the Beeftones play the Count Down to Blues Fest Party in September of 2018.

an "enviable" position. As well-established as Forgey is, most of the material people want to hear from his group, Frog & the Beeftones, is entirely his own.

Regardless, he has no problem playing comfortable standards for the drinking crowd at his band's usual Old Town haunt the Unicorn.

"Sometimes you're the center of attention and sometimes you're literally the human jukebox," Forgey said. "But I'd rather be playing than sitting at home eating popcorn. If I'm playing, I'm playing. I'm doing something I like to do and I'm lucky that somebody is going to pay me to do it."

Nikki "Dee" Fuller sings with Psychotic Paradise, a Flint-based tribute act to popular '80s hard rock band Tesla. Psychotic Paradise belongs with a common classification of bar bands that appeal to nostalgia for a certain time and place in music. The group has performed at the Green Door several times to a fond reception.

"I like it; I think it's cool. I come from the '80s where everything was really rocking, and

now it's just coming back around with cover bands," said Psychotic Paradise's bassist, who goes by the stage name Zap. "We picked Tesla and we got Frank Hannon's approval."

Realistically, as hair metal fell out of vogue three decades ago, one of the only ways to get an adequate taste of the trademark sleazy vocals and searing, reverb drenched guitar leads is to see a group like Psychotic Paradise. The band's vocalist, Nikki "Dee" Fuller mentioned her band attracts more than nostalgia seekers.

"A lot of these '80s bands are getting audiences ranging from kids to people older than us," Fuller said.

The certainty to be learned is that the unifying passion for music, whether in a bar, in a concert hall, written by the performing musicians or several decades ago by an icon, will always be evident.

Or, as it's put bluntly by Forgey:

"If they weren't enjoying what they were doing, they'd probably be doing something else."

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2018 Election



Chris Swope,
Lansing City Clerk

NOTICE OF ELECTION GENERAL ELECTION TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton, State of Michigan

Notice is hereby given that the City of Lansing will conduct the General Election in the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton, State of Michigan on Tuesday, November 6, 2018. Polls will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m.

The following will be submitted to the electors at the November 6, 2018 Election:

OFFICES:

Partisan offices

State: Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General; **Congressional:** United States Senator, Representative in Congress; **Legislative:** State Senator, Representative in State Legislature; **State Boards:** Member of State Board of Education, Regent of University of Michigan, Trustee of Michigan State University, Governor of Wayne State University; **County:** County Commissioner

Nonpartisan offices

Judicial: Justice of Supreme Court, Judge of Court of Appeals, Judge of Circuit Court, Judge of Probate Court, Judge of District Court; **Community College:** Board of Trustees Member; **Local School District:** Board Member.

PROPOSALS:

State:

Proposal 18-1 A proposed initiated law to authorize and legalize possession, use and cultivation of marijuana products by individuals who are at least 21 years of age and older, and commercial sales of marijuana through state-licensed retailers

Proposal 18-2 A proposed constitutional amendment to establish a commission of citizens with exclusive authority to adopt district boundaries for the Michigan Senate, Michigan House of Representatives and U.S. Congress, every 10 years

Proposal 18-3 A proposal to authorize automatic and Election Day voter registration, no-reason absentee voting, and straight ticket voting; and add current legal requirements for military and overseas voting and post-election audits to the Michigan Constitution

Ingham County:

Ingham County Farmland and Open Space Preservation Initiative Millage Question

Ingham County Ingham Central Dispatch Proposition for 9-1-1 Emergency Service System Funding

City of Lansing:

Proposed Annexation of Certain Territory in Delta Charter Township to the City of Lansing

Local Schools:

East Lansing Public Schools I. - Operating Millage Proposal

East Lansing Public Schools II. - Sinking Fund Millage Proposal

THE FOLLOWING IS A LISTING OF CANDIDATES & PROPOSALS AS THEY APPEAR AT THE RESPECTIVE CITY OF LANSING POLLING LOCATIONS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018.

PARTISAN SECTION:

STATE:

GOVERNOR and LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR – (Vote for not more than 1)

REP Bill Schuette and Lisa Posthumus Lyons
DEM Gretchen Whitmer and Garlin D. Gilchrist II
LIB Bill Gelineau and Angelique Chaiser Thomas
UST Todd Schleiger and Earl P. Lackie
GRN Jennifer V. Kurland and Charin H. Davenport
NAL Keith Butkovich and Raymond Warner

SECRETARY OF STATE – (Vote for not more than 1)

REP Mary Treder Lang
DEM Jocelyn Benson
LIB Gregory Scott Stempfle
UST Robert Gale

ATTORNEY GENERAL – (Vote for not more than 1)

REP Tom Leonard
DEM Dana Nessel
LIB Lisa Lane Gioia
UST Gerald T. Van Sickle
NPA Chris Graveline

CONGRESSIONAL:

U.S. SENATOR – (Vote for not more than 1)

REP John James
DEM Debbie Stabenow
UST George E. Huffman III
GRN Marcia Squier
NAL John Howard Wilhelm



U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS - 7TH DISTRICT – (Vote for not more than 1)

REP Tim Walberg
DEM Gretchen Driskell

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS – 8TH DISTRICT – (Vote for not more than 1)

REP Mike Bishop
DEM Elissa Slotkin
LIB Brian Ellison
UST David J. Little

LEGISLATIVE:

STATE SENATOR 23rd DISTRICT – (Vote for not more than 1)

REP Andrea Pollock
DEM Curtis Hertel, Jr.

STATE SENATOR 24TH DISTRICT – (Vote for not more than 1)

REP Tom Barrett
DEM Kelly Rossman-McKinney
LIB Katie Nepton
UST Matthew Shepard

REPRESENTATIVE IN STATE LEGISLATURE 67th DISTRICT–(Vote for not more than 1)

REP Leon R. Clark
DEM Kara Hope
LIB Zachary Moreau

REPRESENTATIVE IN STATE LEGISLATURE 68th DISTRICT–(Vote for not more than 1)

REP Rosalinda Hernandez
DEM Sarah Anthony
GRN Robin Lea Laurain

REPRESENTATIVE IN STATE LEGISLATURE 71ST DISTRICT–(Vote for not more than 1)

REP Christine E. Barnes
DEM Angela Witwer

STATE BOARDS:

MEMBER OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION – (Vote for not more than 2)

REP Tami Carlone
REP Richard Zeile
DEM Judith P. Pritchett
DEM Tiffany Tilley
LIB Scotty Bowman
LIB John J. Tatar
UST Karen Adams
UST Douglas Levesque
GRN Sherry A. Wells
WC Mary Anne Hering
WC Logan R. Smith

MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN BOARD OF REGENTS – (Vote for not more than 2)

REP Andrea Fischer Newman
REP Andrew Richner
DEM Jordan Acker
DEM Paul Brown
LIB James Lewis Hudler
LIB John Jascob
UST Joe Sanger
UST Crystal Van Sickle
GRN Kevin A. Graves
NAL Marge Katchmark Sallows

MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES– (Vote for not more than 2)

REP Dave Dutch
REP Mike Miller
DEM Brianna T. Scott
DEM Kelly Charron Tebay
LIB Bruce Campbell
LIB Tim Orzechowski
UST Janet M. Sanger
UST John Paul Sanger
GRN Aaron Mariasy
NAL Bridgett R. Abraham-Guzman

MEMBERS OF THE WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF GOVERNORS – (Vote for not more than 2)

REP Diane Dunaskiss
REP David Nicholson
DEM Bryan C. Barnhill
DEM Anil Kumar
LIB Jon Elgas
LIB John T. Hargenrader
UST Christine C. Schwartz
UST Marc Joseph Sosnowski

**COUNTY (INGHAM):****COUNTY COMMISSIONER – (Vote for not more than 1)****1st DISTRICT**

REP William F. Renfrew
DEM Victor Celentino

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – (Vote for not more than 1)**2nd DISTRICT**

REP Patricia Muscovalley
DEM Ryan Sebolt

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – (Vote for not more than 1)**3rd DISTRICT**

REP Beverly K. Hansen
DEM Derrell E. Slaughter

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – (Vote for not more than 1)**4th DISTRICT**

REP Vickie Niklas
DEM Bryan L. Crenshaw

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – (Vote for not more than 1)**5th DISTRICT**

REP William Douglas Ames
DEM Todd Tennis

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – (Vote for not more than 1)**7th DISTRICT**

REP Alexa Krueger
DEM Chris Trubac

COUNTY COMMISSIONER – (Vote for not more than 1)**10th DISTRICT**

REP Kathleen Groff
DEM Thomas Morgan

COUNTY (EATON):**COUNTY COMMISSIONER – (Vote for not more than 1)****8th DISTRICT**

DEM Joseph Brehler

NON PARTISAN SECTION**JUDICIAL OFFICES:****JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT – (Vote for not more than 2)**

Samuel Bagenstos
Megan Kathleen Cavanagh
Elizabeth T. Clement – Justice of Supreme Court
Doug Dern
Kerry Lee Morgan
Kurt T. Wilder – Justice of Supreme Court

JUDGE OF COURT OF APPEALS 3RD DISTRICT INCUMBENT POSITION – (Vote for not more than 2)

Jane Marie Beckering – Judge of Court of Appeals
Douglas B. Shapiro – Judge of Court of Appeals

JUDGE OF COURT OF APPEALS 4TH DISTRICT INCUMBENT POSITION – (Vote for not more than 1)

Stephen L. Borrello – Judge of Court of Appeals

JUDGE OF COURT OF APPEALS 4TH DISTRICT INCUMBENT POSITION Partial Term Ending 01/01/2023 – (Vote for not more than 1)

Brock A. Swartzle – Judge of Court of Appeals

JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT 30th CIRCUIT INCUMBENT POSITION – (Vote for not more than 2)

Laura L. Baird – Judge of Circuit Court
Jim Jamo – Judge of Circuit Court

JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT 56TH CIRCUIT INCUMBENT POSITION – (Vote for not more than 1)

Janice K. Cunningham – Judge of Circuit Court

JUDGE OF CIRCUIT COURT 56TH CIRCUIT INCUMBENT POSITION – Partial Term Ending 01/01/2021 - (Vote for not more than 1)

John D. Maurer – Judge of Circuit Court

JUDGE OF PROBATE COURT - EATON COUNTY INCUMBANT POSITION – (Vote for not more than 1)

Thomas K. Byerley – Judge of Probate Court

JUDGE OF PROBATE COURT - INGHAM COUNTY NON-INCUMBANT POSITION – (Vote for not more than 1)

Shauna Dunnings

JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT 54A DISTRICT – (Vote for not more than 1)

Ayanna Neal
Cynthia Ward

JUDGE OF DISTRICT COURT 54A DISTRICT INCUMBENT POSITION Partial Term Ending 01/01/2021 – (Vote for not more than 1)

Stacia Buchanan



SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICES:

LANSING COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS – (Vote for not more than 2)

Lawrence Hidalgo, Jr.
Shaquila Myers
Samantha Wilbur

LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS – (Vote for not more than 3)

Farhan Bhatti
Nathan Burroughs
Rachel R. Lewis

LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS – Partial Term Ending 12/31/2020 – (Vote for not more than 1)

Nino Rodriguez

EAST LANSING PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD MEMBERS – (Vote for not more than 4)

Chris Martin
Kate Powers
Thasin Sardar
Todd P. Swales
Terah Chambers
Kath Edsall
Noel Garcia

HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD MEMBERS – (Vote for not more than 2)

Julie Bureau
Robert G. Halgren

HOLT PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD MEMBERS–Partial Term Ending 12/31/2020 – (Vote for not more than 2)

Amy M. Dalton
Jennifer Robel

WAVERLY COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BOARD MEMBERS – (Vote for not more than 4)

Chris Beasley
Mary Ann Martin
Rhonda Sosnowski

THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS WILL BE OFFERED FOR CONSIDERATION ON THE GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT:

STATE PROPOSALS:

STATE PROPOSAL 18-1

A PROPOSED INITIATED LAW TO AUTHORIZE AND LEGALIZE POSSESSION, USE AND CULTIVATION OF MARIJUANA PRODUCTS BY INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, AND COMMERCIAL SALES OF MARIJUANA THROUGH STATE-LICENSED RETAILERS

This proposal would:

- Allow individuals 21 and older to purchase, possess and use marijuana and marijuana-infused edibles, and grow up to 12 marijuana plants for personal consumption.
- Impose a 10-ounce limit for marijuana kept at residences and require amounts over 2.5 ounces be secured in locked containers.
- Create a state licensing system for marijuana businesses and allow municipalities to ban or restrict them.
- Permit retail sales of marijuana and edibles subject to a 10% tax, dedicated to implementation costs, clinical trials, schools, roads, and municipalities where marijuana businesses are located.
- Change several current violations from crimes to civil infractions.

Should this proposal be adopted?

☐ Yes ☐ No

STATE PROPOSAL 18-2

A PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION OF CITIZENS WITH EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY TO ADOPT DISTRICT BOUNDARIES FOR THE MICHIGAN SENATE, MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND U.S. CONGRESS, EVERY 10 YEARS

This proposed constitutional amendment would:

- Create a commission of 13 registered voters randomly selected by the Secretary of State:
 - 4 each who self-identify as affiliated with the 2 major political parties; and
 - 5 who self-identify as unaffiliated with major political parties.
- Prohibit partisan officeholders and candidates, their employees, certain relatives, and lobbyists from serving as commissioners.
- Establish new redistricting criteria including geographically compact and contiguous districts of equal population, reflecting Michigan's diverse population and communities of interest. Districts shall not provide disproportionate advantage to political parties or candidates.
- Require an appropriation of funds for commission operations and commissioner compensation.

Should this proposal be adopted?

☐ Yes ☐ No



STATE PROPOSAL 18-3

A PROPOSAL TO AUTHORIZE AUTOMATIC AND ELECTION DAY VOTER REGISTRATION, NO-REASON ABSENTEE VOTING, AND STRAIGHT TICKET VOTING; AND ADD CURRENT LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MILITARY AND OVERSEAS VOTING AND POST-ELECTION AUDITS TO THE MICHIGAN CONSTITUTION

This proposed constitutional amendment would allow a United States citizen who is qualified to vote in Michigan to:

- Become automatically registered to vote when applying for, updating or renewing a driver's license or state-issued personal identification card, unless the person declines.
- Simultaneously register to vote with proof of residency and obtain a ballot during the 2-week period prior to an election, up to and including Election Day.
- Obtain an absent voter ballot without providing a reason.
- Cast a straight-ticket Vote for not more than all candidates of a particular political party when voting in a partisan general election.

Should this proposal be adopted?

☐ Yes ☐ No

INGHAM COUNTY:

INGHAM COUNTY FARMLAND AND OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION INITIATIVE MILLAGE QUESTION

For the purpose of protecting farmland and other open space lands, including waterways, wildlife habitat, wetlands, and other natural lands, and to encourage urban development, at the same millage level previously approved by the voters in 2008, shall the constitutional limitation upon the total amount of taxes which may be assessed in one (1) year upon all property within the County of Ingham, Michigan, previously increased by up to 14/100 (0.1400 of one mill, \$0.14 per thousand dollars of state taxable valuation, be continued and renewed for a period of ten (10) years (2018-2027) inclusive? (If approved and levied in full, this Millage will raise an estimated additional \$1,036,059 for farmland and open space preservation in the first calendar year of the levy based on state taxable valuation.)

☐ Yes ☐ No

INGHAM CENTRAL DISPATCH PROPOSITION FOR 9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICE SYSTEM FUNDING

Shall the County of Ingham, Michigan, be authorized to assess a charge on all landline, wireless, and voice over internet protocol service users located in Ingham County of up to \$1.80 per month to be used exclusively for the funding of 9-1-1 emergency telephone call answering and dispatch services within Ingham County, including facilities, infrastructure, equipment and maintenance, and operating costs?

☐ Yes ☐ No

CITY OF LANSING:

PROPOSED ANNEXATION OF CERTAIN TERRITORY IN DELTA CHARTER TOWNSHIP TO THE CITY OF LANSING

Shall the following listed parcels and described land, which is contiguous with the City of Lansing and generally located West of Waverly Road and North of Jolly Highway within Delta Charter Township, be annexed from Delta Charter Township to the City of Lansing, such that this land will thereafter be included within the jurisdiction of the City of Lansing?

Parcels to be Annexed:

Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-236-00, 11907 W. Jolly Hwy.; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-320-00, 5058 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-310-00, 5050 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-300-00, 5030 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-297-00, 4902 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-270-00, 4880 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-260-00, 4848 S Waverly Rd; Tax Parcel No. 040-036-400-250-00, 4820 S Waverly Rd.

Legal Description of Property to be Annexed:

A parcel of land situated in the State of Michigan, County of Eaton, Township of Delta (Township 4 North, Range 3 West), Section 36, residing entirely within the Southeast One-quarter of said Section 36, further described as follows: Beginning at the Southeast corner of Section 36, said point being a steel bar and cap #25837 as recorded in liber 1989, page 165 of corners, Eaton County records; Thence North 89°41'32" West, 580.80 feet along the south line of Section 36 (said line being a straight line between the said Southeast corner and a steel bar and cap # 47942 at the South 1/4 Corner of Section 36 as recorded in liber 2546, page 1102 of corners, Eaton County records); Thence North 00°06'38" East, 825.00 feet parallel with the east line of said Section 36 (said east line being a straight line between the said Southeast corner of Section 36 and a steel bar and cap # 47942 at the East 1/4 Corner of Section 36, as recorded in liber 2546, page 1117 of corners, Eaton County records); Thence South 89°41'32" East, 580.80 feet parallel with the said south line of Section 36, to the east line of said Section 36; Thence South 00°06'38" West, 825.00 feet along said east line to the point of beginning. This description contains 479157.16 square feet, 10.9999 acres, more or less.

A "YES" VOTE MEANS THE PROPERTY WILL BE ANNEXED.

A "NO" VOTE MEANS THE PROPERTY WILL NOT BE ANNEXED.

☐ Yes ☐ No



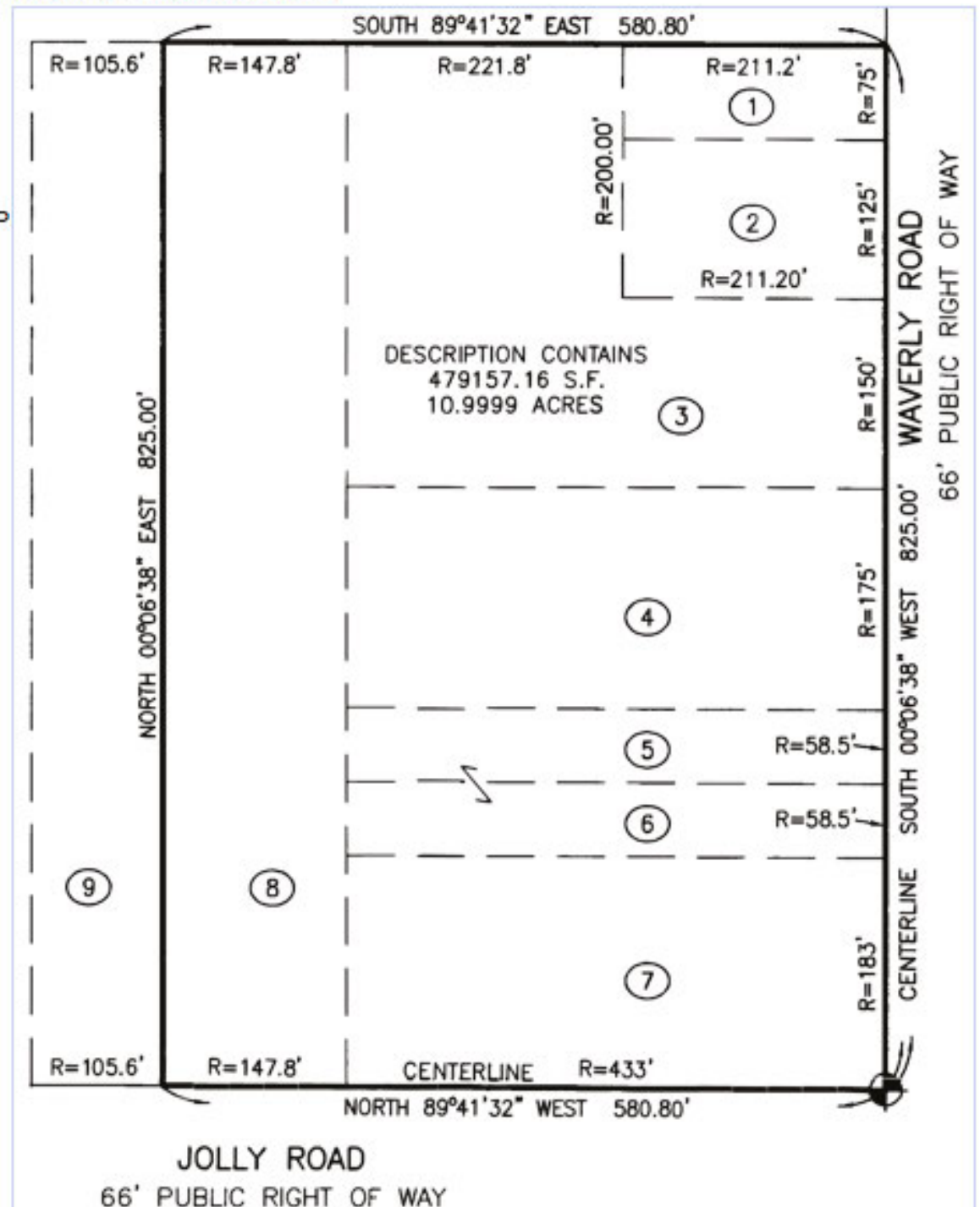
2018 Election



Chris Swopa,
Lansing City Clerk

GLENBURN NO. 4 LIBER 7 OF PLATS, PAGE 4

1. PID: 040-036-400-250-00
4820 S WAVERLY RD
LIBER 1985, PAGE 662
MATHION INC
2. PID: 040-036-400-260-00
CD SINGH, NIRMAL /KAUR, GURDEEP
4848 S WAVERLY RD
LIBER 2144, PAGE 515
3. PID: 040-036-400-270-00
DEVOOGD, CRAIG
4880 S WAVERLY RD
LIBER 2540, PAGE 450
4. PID: 040-036-400-297-00
DISCOVER GROUP LLC
4902 S WAVERLY RD
LIBER 2384, PAGE 1183
5. PID: 040-036-400-300-00
SURJIT LLC
5030 S WAVERLY RD
LIBER 2461, PAGE 841
6. PID: 040-036-400-310-00
SURJIT LLC
5050 S WAVERLY RD
LIBER 2029, PAGE 360
7. PID: 040-036-400-320-00
JOLLY ROAD INVESEMENTS LLC
5058 S WAVERLY RD
LIBER 1934, PAGE 1009
8. PID: 040-036-400-236-00
MURRAY, DANIEL /SARAH
11907 JOLLY HWY
LIBER 2509, PAGE 26
9. PID: 040-036-400-220-00
MCCOMB, TOM & VANANTWERP, JASON
V/L W JOLLY HWY
LIBER 1909, PAGE 0459



LEGEND:

- = SECTION CORNER
- = DISTANCE NOT TO SCALE
- = RECORDED

BEARING BASE

BEARINGS ARE BASED ON THE SOUTH LINE
OF SECTION 36 OBSERVED AS BEARING
NORTH 89°41'32" WEST.

GEODETIC DESIGNS INCORPORATED
2300 N. GRAND RIVER AVE.
LANSING, MI 48906
PHONE: (517) 908-0008
FAX: (517) 908-0009
www.geodeticdesigns.com



REVISION DATE: JUNE 4, 2018
FIELD: — DRAWN BY: RW
DATE: APRIL 12, 2018
FILE: S043-2018
SHEET 1 OF 2



EAST LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT (Precinct 1-45 only):

East Lansing Public Schools I. Operating Millage Proposal

This proposal will allow the school district to levy the statutory rate of not to exceed 18 mills on all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, required for the school district to receive its revenue per pupil foundation allowance. Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property, except principal residence and other property exempted by law, in the School District of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, be increased by 22 mills (\$22.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2019 to 2028, inclusive, to provide funds for operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and 18 mills are levied in 2019 is approximately \$9,729,657?

☐ Yes ☐ No

East Lansing Public Schools II. Sinking Fund Millage Proposal

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all property in the School District of the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, be increased by and the board of education be authorized to levy not to exceed 1 mill (\$1.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2019 to 2028, inclusive, to create a sinking fund for the purchase of real estate for sites for and the construction or repair of school buildings, for school security improvements, for the acquisition or upgrading of technology and all other purposes authorized by law; the estimate of the revenue the school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2019 is approximately \$1,145,786?

☐ Yes ☐ No

CITY OF LANSING REQUEST FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT

MAIL, DELIVER, FAX, OR EMAIL FORM TO: **CHRIS SWOPE, LANSING CITY CLERK**
124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, 9TH FLOOR
LANSING MICHIGAN 48933-1695
FAX: (517) 377-0068
EMAIL: city.clerk@lansingmi.gov

GENERAL ELECTION – NOVEMBER 6, 2018

VOTER'S NAME _____

VOTER'S REGISTERED ADDRESS _____

- ☐ MAIL ABSENTEE VOTER BALLOT TO
☐ MY REGISTERED ADDRESS (above)
☐ OTHER _____

As a United States citizen and a qualified and registered elector of the City of Lansing, County of Ingham or Eaton, State of Michigan, I hereby apply for an official ballot, or ballots, to be voted by me at the election or elections indicated above.

INDICATE REASON WHY YOU ARE REQUESTING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

- ☐ I am 60 years of age or older
☐ I am physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another
☐ I expect to be absent from the City of Lansing for the entire time the polls are open on Election Day
☐ I cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of my religion
☐ I am an appointed precinct worker in a precinct other than the precinct where I reside
☐ I cannot attend the polls because I am confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial

I certify that I am a United States citizen and that the statements in this absent voter ballot application are true.

SIGNATURE OF VOTER _____
DATE _____

Voter contact information: Phone _____
Email _____

PERMANENT ABSENTEE APPLICATION LIST SIGN-UP

If you would like to be placed on the Permanent Absentee Application List for future elections, mark below. You will automatically receive an absentee ballot application for every election.

- ☐ YES – PLEASE PLACE ME ON THE PERMANENT ABSENTEE APPLICATION LIST.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS FOR ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Step 1. After completely filling out the application, sign and date the application in the place designated. Your signature must appear on the application or you will not receive an absent voter ballot.

Step 2. Deliver the application by 1 of the following methods:

(a) Place the application in an envelope addressed to the appropriate clerk and place the necessary postage upon the return envelope and deposit it in the United States mail or with another public postal service, express mail service, parcel post service, or common carrier.

(b) Deliver the application personally to the clerk's office, to the clerk, or to an authorized assistant of the clerk.

(c) In either (a) or (b), a member of the immediate family of the voter including a father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, grandparent, or grandchild or a person residing in the voter's household may mail or deliver the application to the clerk for the applicant.

(d) If an applicant cannot return the application in any of the above methods, the applicant may select any registered elector to return the application. The person returning the application must sign and return the certificate at the bottom of the application.

WARNING

You must be a United States citizen to vote. If you are not a United States citizen you will not be issued an absent voter ballot. A person making a false statement in this absent voter ballot application is guilty of a misdemeanor. It is a violation of Michigan election law for a person other than those listed in the instructions to return, offer to return, agree to return, or solicit to return your absent voter ballot application to the clerk. An assistant authorized by the clerk who receives absent voter ballot applications at a location other than the clerk's office must have credentials signed by the clerk. Ask to see his or her credentials before entrusting your application with a person claiming to have the clerk's authorization to return your application.

Complete this box ONLY if returning someone else's application!

Certificate of Authorized Registered Elector Returning Absent Voter Ballot Application
 I certify that my name is _____, my address is _____, and my date of birth is _____; that I am delivering the absent voter ballot application of _____ at his or her request to return the application; that I did not solicit or request to return the application; that I have not made any markings on the application; that I have not altered the application in anyway; that I have not influenced the applicant; and that I am aware that a false statement in this certificate is a violation of the Michigan election law.

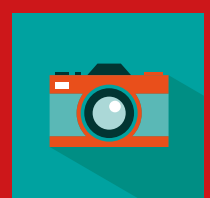
Person Assisting Voter: _____

Signature

Date

**Take a picture of this form,
and send it to
city.clerk@lansingmi.gov**

Questions? Call (517) 483-4131





Voting Precincts and Polling Places are:

Lansing Ward 1

Pct. 1 – Gier Park Community Center
 Pct. 2 – Grand River Head Start
 Pct. 3 – Post Oak School
 Pct. 4 – Pattengill School
 Pct. 5 – Foster Community Center
 Pct. 6 – Pilgrim Congregational Church
 Pct. 7 – Pilgrim Congregational Church
 Pct. 8 – Bethlehem Temple Church
 Pct. 9 – Board of Water and Light
 Pct. 10 – South Washington Office Cplx.
 Pct. 45 – Foster Community Center

Lansing Ward 2

Pct. 11 – South Washington Office Cplx.
 Pct. 12 – Lyons School
 Pct. 13 – Cavanaugh School
 Pct. 14 – Gardner School
 Pct. 15 – Mt. Hope School
 Pct. 16 – Parker Memorial Baptist Church
 Pct. 17 – Kendon School
 Pct. 18 – Gardner School
 Pct. 19 – North School
 Pct. 20 – North School
 Pct. 21 – Forest View School

Lansing Ward 3

Pct. 22 – Southside Community Center
 Pct. 23 – Woodcreek School
 Pct. 24 – Attwood School
 Pct. 25 – Attwood School
 Pct. 26 – Southside Community Center
 Pct. 27 – Dwight Rich School
 Pct. 28 – Elmhurst School
 Pct. 29 – Tabernacle of David Church
 Pct. 30 – Averill School
 Pct. 31 – Lewton School

Lansing Ward 4

Pct. 32 – Elmhurst School
 Pct. 33 – Lewton School
 Pct. 34 – South Washington Office Cplx.
 Pct. 35 – First Presbyterian Church
 Pct. 36 – Letts Community Center
 Pct. 37 – Letts Community Center
 Pct. 38 – Willow Elementary School
 Pct. 39 – Emanuel First Lutheran Church
 Pct. 40 – Willow School
 Pct. 41 – Cumberland School
 Pct. 42 – Transitions North
 Pct. 43 – St. Stephen Lutheran Church
 Pct. 44 – St. Casimir Catholic Church

All polling places are accessible and voting [instructions](#) are available in alternative formats of audio and Braille. An accessible voting device is also available.

To see if you are registered or to find your polling location, check the Secretary of State Voter Information web site at www.michigan.gov/vote.

Photo Identification OR Affidavit Required to Vote:

Under a Michigan law upheld by the Michigan Supreme Court, ALL voters will be asked to show photo identification to vote at the polls. Voters without identification will be required to fill out and sign an affidavit in order to receive a ballot.

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Registered voters can get an Absent Voter Ballot for any of the following reasons:

- You are 60 years of age or older
- You are physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another
- You expect to be absent from the City of Lansing for the entire time the polls are open on Election Day
- You cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of your religion
- You are an appointed precinct worker in a precinct other than the precinct where you reside
- You cannot attend the polls because you are confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial

We must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at www.lansingmi.gov/Elections or by calling 517-483-4131.

The Lansing City Clerk's Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave., 9th Floor, will be open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

The Lansing City Clerk's Election Unit, 2500 S. Washington Ave (rear entrance), will be open

- Weekdays beginning October 1 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Wednesdays until 7 p.m.
- Sunday, October 28 from 12 noon to 4 p.m.; and
- Saturday, November 3 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

to issue absentee ballots to qualified electors.

Saturday, November 3 at 2 p.m. is the deadline to request an absentee ballot. You may also vote an absentee ballot in person on Monday, November 5 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the City Clerk's Office at 124 W. Michigan Ave, 9th Floor or 2500 S. Washington Ave.

An emergency absent voter ballot must be applied for by 4 p.m. on Election Day. Emergency absent voter ballots are available for voters who become physically disabled or will be absent from the City because of sickness or death in the family which has occurred at a time which has made it impossible to apply for absent voter ballots by Saturday, November 3 at 2 p.m.

Chris Swope, CMMC/CMC
Lansing City Clerk

www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

The Bar Issue

Cold beer at sunrise: A look inside Lansing's third shift bars

By DENNIS BURCK

Even with third shift no longer operating at the Lansing Delta Township GM assembly plant, the bars supporting third shift workers still hold on tightly to the tradition, with no signs of stopping.

Among Lansing's morning bars, one distinctly rises to the top: LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, which has been serving third shift drinkers since the '60s.

Once the front door shuts out the morning sun, LeRoy's lit gas pump globes and subtle neon lights compose a warm, dark atmosphere more at home at midnight than early dawn.

"I try to keep it where it feels like night to them," LeRoy's daytime bartender and manager Joe Cardwell said. "A lot of people don't understand the whole concept. I hear things like 'I can't believe you are letting people drink at 7 a.m.,' but it is 5 p.m. to them."

Third shifters are a central part of the bar's business, Cardwell said. The morning crowd consists of nurses, doctors, firefighters, policemen, BWL workers, 911 dispatchers and factory workers from local GM suppliers.

Sometimes the early lunch crowd gets mixed messages from the group, Cardwell added.

"The third shifters are hanging on and they are having fun with the jukebox playing. Lunch people come in and think 'Wow, who are these people partying so hard in the morning?' I have to tell them they got off work and are having fun."

Most days the bar sees between 10 and 50 third shift workers. "Back 30 years ago with the plants, there were a lot more people working the shift and it was more consistent," he said.

"Third shifters are generally really laid back and honestly happy they have somewhere to go," Cardwell said.

Running the early shift does present some challenges, however.

"You have to watch for the people partying all night and know you are open at 7 a.m. They are trying to keep their night going and we need to catch them coming



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

Lucky's Hole in the Wall in Lansing's REO Town sees as many as 45 third shift workers each morning.

in intoxicated before they accidentally get served."

LeRoy's wouldn't be the same without

the morning crowd, Cardwell said. "We know 95 percent of our morning custom-

See Third shift, Page 28

THIRD SHIFT BARS

Lucky's Hole in the Wall Sports Bar
8 a.m. to 12 a.m. Monday through Wednesday
8 a.m. to 1 a.m. Thursday through Sat
12 p.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday
400 Baker St., Lansing • (517) 993-6309

LeRoy's Classic Bar and Grill
7 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday through Saturday
4 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday
1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing • (517) 482-0184 • www.leroysclassicbar.com

Art's Pub
7 a.m. to 12 a.m. Sunday through Thursday
7 a.m. to 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday
809 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing • (517) 977-1033 • www.artspublansing.com

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The Bar Issue



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

Under new ownership, Art's Pub carries on a 30-year third shift tradition.

Third shift

from page 27

ers and a lot of times have what they want to drink and eat ready for them."

The bar throws them morning karaoke parties several times a years, including a Christmas party.

Within walking distance from LeRoy's is Lucky's Hole in the Wall Sports Bar, another staple bar of third shift patrons.

Owner Jeffrey Jones acquired the bar in 2012. He grew up on the same street as the bar 46 years ago. "This is a shop bar area," Jones said. "I don't advertise and we get the same morning crowd plus some."

Third shifters come in for pool, darts, burgers and breakfast pizza. A good crowd

of third shifters is 45 in the morning, Jones said. "If I knew a crowd is coming in like that I'll do a buffet."

Lucky's expects more third shifters to develop after seeing the progress in REO Town, he added.

"The whole area has seen a big uplift in six years. It takes one to change one street and a street to change a neighborhood. LeRoy's dealt with a lot of stuff, but they hung in there," he said.

"They've done the grind and planted the tree. I'm just continuing to water it and making sure it grows."

Art's Pub owner Greg Sinicropi made sure to honor the tradition of keeping early hours for the third shift when he reopened the classic Eastside bar in late June.

For 30 years under previous owners Rick and Nancy Yager, the bar catered to the third shift who mostly only drank, Sinicropi said.

The kitchen at Art's Pub is open for pizza, dinner items and breakfast in the morning.

"They didn't have a breakfast menu, but were definitely open and the third shift-

ers could come in and hang out," he said. "With us, we thought LeRoy's does it and they do it right."

Catering to the third shift crowd harks back to Sinicropi's job as a beer distributor when he was 19, he said. "I used to deliver to Gus' Bar at 8 a.m. on a Wednesday and had no idea why everyone was drinking. I never thought about it until this place."

Despite the old guard of plant workers gone, the third shift is still a big demographic without much choice in Lansing, Sinicropi added.

"I think we are going to see more places like us pop up and see they are out there. To be able to get a burger, beer or breakfast at 7 a.m. was how we wanted to do it and we stuck to it."

Unlike the other bars, Art's pays extra liquor license fees to serve early on Sunday's for the crowd.

Sinicropi said he is happy local bars can thrive by being open so early. "They deserve to have a place to go and we need to take care of them. Because of them, we knew what we signed up for and knew we would be open 7 a.m. to 12 a.m."

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5801 N. Aurelius Rd.

Lansing, MI 48911

(517) 574-4008

Old Nation's M43 is the top IPA/beer sold. "This beer is crafted from a local brewery here in Lansing. It's a fresh tasting IPA with citrus undertones," said manager Julie Mullin.

www.cleatsbarandgrille.com

Michigrain

523 E. Shiawassee St.

Lansing, MI 48912

(517) 220-0560

Featured drink: Pineapple Muse

- Pineapple and lavender infused vodka, with soda water and sprite, topped with vodka infused pineapple chunks. "It's a very smooth drink and the infused pineapple garnish adds a fun finish," said manager Mike Bird.

www.michigrain.net



Capital Vine

2320 Showtime Dr.,

Lansing, MI 48912

(517) 377-8463

Featured drink: Manhattan - bourbon, cherries and sweet vermouth.

www.capitalvinelansing.com

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OCTOBER 27TH

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lansingcitypulse.com/donate to make your
contribution online.

Historians, genealogists make for history-packed weekend in Lansing

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Lansing will be crawling with historians and genealogists at two separate conferences next week, as they brush up on their skills in areas as varied as historical reenactment and researching family history.

The Archives of Michigan, the Library of Michigan and the Michigan Genealogical Council have pulled together a day-long program for beginners and advanced genealogists. Genealogy web sites trail only porn sites as the most visited according to Time magazine.

Michigan Genealogical Council Fall Family History Event

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 3
Early registration fee \$50, goes up to \$60 midnight Oct. 28
Michigan Library and Historical Center
702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing
www.michigan.gov/libraryof-michigan
(517) 335-1477

History Skills

Bootcamp

Check-in at 8 a.m.
Saturday, Nov. 3
Members \$99, Non-members \$139
Registration ends Oct. 29
LCC West Campus
(800) 692-1828
www.hsmichigan.org

the Golden State Killer have drawn attention to the reliability of DNA testing in identifying biological relatives.

It's unlikely that these high-profile cases will deter users, since a recent Science journal said, "Within three years the DNA of nearly every American of Northern European descent — the primary users of the site — will be identifiable through cousins in GEDmatch's database."

Right now users are routinely identifying lost or unknown relatives as close as brothers, sisters and first cousins. Locally, a descendant of a slave was able to locate cousins who were the descendants of the slave owners. Both sides have connected to share their history.

A highlight of the conference will be workshops by John Phillip Colletta, who has lectured on genealogy for more than 30 years. Colletta, who worked with both the Library of Congress and the National Archives, will conduct sessions on using federal records to fill out family history, how to use the County Courthouse as the "trunk in the attic" and using your head while researching.

Jessica Trotter from Capital Area District Libraries will discuss why everything is not on line and why some research may require a road trip.

Across town at the Lansing Community

College West Campus, the Michigan History Alliance is holding an all-day "History Skills Boot Camp," so public historians from local history groups can hone their skills in



Colletta

areas such as historic preservation, living history reenactments, marketing, recording oral histories and archiving collections.

Bob Myers of the Historical Society of Michigan will present a keynote luncheon speech titled "Mythbusters: History Lies That Don't Die." He offered one example of a house allegedly being a stop on the Underground Railroad, even though the house was built in 1920.

Lansing resident and Preservation Lansing officer Cassandra Nelson will present a session on researching and telling your house's story. The session includes how to uncover who built your house and when, architectural styles and previous residents of your home. Each participant can attend four separate breakout sessions.

In another Michigan history development Mark Harvey, Director of the State Archives, is directing the launch of a Michigan-style "Story Corps," which will allow residents to record their own histories at the Michigan History Center's new "whisper room." A whisper room is a specially outfitted sound room similar to a radio broadcast room.

The recordings will typically involve two guests and be facilitated and recorded by Archive Staff and volunteers. Story Corps is a private non-profit organization founded in 2003. Its first recordings were done in Grand Central Station in New York City. The program debuted on NPR in 2005.



Courtesy photo

The Director of the State Archives, Mark Harvey has brought a "whisper room" to the Michigan History Center, where everyday people will record their histories.

Harvey said recruitment and a training session will begin soon. Those interested in serving as a facilitator should email harveyM@michigan.org. No previous experience is needed, but background checks will be performed.

The cost of the "whisper room" is being covered by grants totaling \$50,000, including one from the Abrams Foundation, Harvey said.

He said recordings will be no longer than 40 minutes and will be transcribed and will be available on line at the State Archives. A number of recordings will be sent to the Library of Congress for archiving.

"It is our goal to make oral histories more accessible and not as intimidating," Harvey said. "However, the recordings are not free form and require preparation and strategy before going into the studio."

Harvey said there will be a special effort to include groups not typically heard, including voices of African-Americans, Hispanics, LGBTQ and Native Americans.

"Democratizing history gives everyone a voice and it also provides a certain drama by creating poignant moments," Harvey said.

SchulerBooks

Jenn Carpenter, Founder of Demented Mitten Tours, presents *Haunted Lansing*

Thursday, October 25 @ 7p

Get in the Halloween spirit with Lansing native, author, and lover of the paranormal, Jenn Carpenter, as she presents *Haunted Lansing*, a collection of terrifying tales set in our own capital city! Learn about spirits all over town, including a trickster at the Capitol Building and dark entities at the former Michigan School for the Blind. Scary!

Story Time with MYOI

Saturday, November 3 @ 11a

A volunteer from The Michigan Youth Opportunities Initiative will read a picture book on the 1st Saturday of every month to help instill the love of reading in your little ones!

Local Author Night

Thursday, November 8 @ 7p

Ann Margaret Johns is the author of the non-fiction book, *Clarkston's Curse: One Child's Quest to Explain the Series of Tragedies in Her Hometown*; cultural anthropologist Veronica Kirin is the author of *Stories of Elders: What the Greatest Generation Knows About Technology that You Don't*; Richard Gilmore Loftus is the author of *Dress Whites*, a lyrical collection of poetry; and Susan Sage is the author of the psychological literary novel *A Mentor and Her Muse*.

Located in the Meridian Mall
1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos
www.SchulerBooks.com

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OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Ella at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, October 24

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN 2018: MOBILIZATION, POLITICAL BEHAVIOR AND PUBLIC OPINION IN A DIVIDED WORLD. From 4 to 5:30 p.m. Michigan State University, 241 W. Brody Rd East Lansing. 517-432-1451.

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION. From 7 to 9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Lansing.

MSU LIBRARIES' DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP CO-WORKS. From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Digital Scholarship Co-Works are opportunities for meeting and working alongside colleagues and fellow practitioners of digital scholarship. Please consider joining us! MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

OPEN STUDIO LIFE DRAWING. From 7 to 9:30 p.m. Model fee: \$2 students (LCC, MSU, High School), \$5 all others. Room 208, Kresge Art Center, 600 Auditorium East Lansing.

PRACTICE YOUR ENGLISH. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

SENIOR DISCOVERY GROUP. From 10 a.m.

to noon Free event!. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E Kalamazoo street Lansing. 5173672468.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

PREP-TOBER WRITING WORKSHOP WITH JIM C. HINES. At 6:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

READING BUDDIES. From 4 to 5 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

ACOUSTIC MUSIC PERFORMANCE AT ALLEN FARMERS MARKET. From 5 to 6 p.m. Free. Allen Farmers Market, 1629 E Kalamazoo, Lansing MI 48912 Lansing.

EVENTS

FREE LECTURE SERIES. From 7 to 8:30 p.m. Free and open to the public. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive Lansing. 5173720529.

GAMES AT THE MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER (SEE DESCRIPTIONS FOR DATES AND TIMES). From 12:30 to 4 p.m. Bingo and Bridge- \$1 - \$2 per person to play. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

MSU LIBRARIES' DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP OPEN CONSULTATION. From 2 to 3 p.m. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Thursday, October 25

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

(TOPS) TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY. At 6 p.m. First meeting FREE.. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St. Haslett.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES. From 7 to 8:30 p.m. Love offering.. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.

SPANISH CONVERSATION GROUP. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

IPAD STORYTIME. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

GRAND LEDGE COMMUNITY BAND HAUNTED

See Out on the Town, Page 35



"SOMETHING ELSE" MASQUERADE

A night of mystique, interactive art, astrology and avant-garde sounds will fill the hall of the Cedar Street Art Collective in its first masquerade.

"SOMETHING ELSE" MASQUERADE

8 p.m. to 12 a.m.
\$5 suggested donation
Cedar Street Art Collective
1701 S. Cedar St., Lansing
www.facebook.com/LansingArt
(517) 402-2497

The festivities include excursions into the unknown, with psychic astrological readings, as well as fortune-telling for those who dare to discover their destiny. These otherworldly activities will be accom-

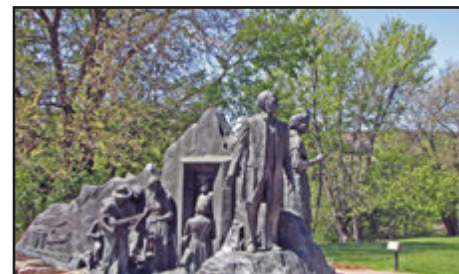
panied by strange tunes from experimental jazz students from MSU's the OC Collective.

Lansing DJs Kween and ETTA will cast their sonic spells on the audience afterward. Attendees should fear not if masks aren't adorned with immaculate Venetian filigree, as there will be a mask decorating event. Makeup tutorials will be provided by Lansing's Sometimes Art House. Costumes are encouraged. There will also be a full candy bar and a photo/selfie station. All art showcased during the event is from area artists.

Saturday >> Oct. 27 "Michigan Underground Railroad Heritage Gathering"

The Michigan History Center and the Michigan Freedom Trail Commission is hosting an event for individuals, organizations and communities interested in celebrating the state's Underground Railroad history. This event offers ways to network, share information and open conversations.

8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., \$10, Michigan History Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St. Lansing
www.michigan.gov/freedomtrail, (517) 373-3559



WEDNESDAY >> OCT. 31 "POSITIVELY SHAMELESS NOW"



"Positively Shameless Now" is a theater performance by a touring troupe from Bangalore, India, about aspects of childhood sexual abuse that last until adulthood, and the social impact it has. While the performance explores a difficult issue, it still maintains a feeling of hope. There is also a workshop on Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. at the MSU International Center.

5:30 p.m. at Erickson Kiva, Free, 620 Farm Lane, East Lansing
www.facebook.com/PositivelyShameless, contact RCAH at MSU: (517) 355-0210

TUESDAY, OCT. 30 >> MSU SCIENCE THEATRE HALLOWEEN OPEN HOUSE AT ABRAMS PLANETARIUM



MSU Science Theatre is joining with Abrams Planetarium for an annual open house packed with Halloween themed science experiments. Costumes are encouraged for this family-friendly event.

6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Free, Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing
www.facebook.com/MSUScienceTheatre,
sciencet@pa.msu.edu, Abrams: (517) 355-4676

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"I'm Certain"— some hidden veracity.
Matt Jones

Across

1 Countrified

7 Allison Janney sitcom

10 Haydn's nickname

14 Fleecy fabric

15 Yoko who turned 85 in 2018

16 Racetrack shape

17 Get louder

20 "GymnopEdies" composer Satie (or "Jeopardy!" and crossword champion Agard)

21 Hesitant sounds

22 "Right Now (Na Na Na)" rapper

23 Considered groovy, man

24 Slo-___ fuse

25 AKA, in the business world

26 ___ in "Charlie"

29 Fountain reward of myth

32 Alpine cottage

35 Haven't yet paid

36 Balletic bend

37 Varnish ingredient

38 Jim Acosta's network

39 Golden Globes category

40 Solemn promise

41 Some people's preferred pronoun

42 One not responsible for the bad news

43 Hit the mother lode

46 "Shameless" network, for short

47 Baby anteater

48 Noah's ride

49 Suffix in geometry

52 Bread served with aloo gobi

54 Takeover try

55 Prefix meaning "one

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

billionth"

56 Buddy cop show of the 1970s

60 Look sullen

61 "Jellied" British fish

62 "Certainly, Monsieur!"

63 March participants?

64 7-Across partner, maybe

65 Phrase before "Go!"

Down

1 "___ T for Teen"

2 Aboriginal name for Australia's Ayers Rock

3 Parsley bit

4 Do horribly

5 Closely monitored hosp. area

6 Juliet, for one

7 Mineralogist with a scale

8 Number of times the Milwaukee Brewers have appeared in the World

Series

9 Not fixed

10 Sport involving horses

11 Friendly, like some relatives

12 "Jackie Brown" actress Grier

13 It's made with warm fermentation

18 "___: Ragnarok"

19 Adequate

24 Vitamin also known as PABA

25 Early morning

27 "Once upon ___ ..."

28 Clip hedges

29 1912 Nobel Peace Prize winner Root

30 Trio of trios

31 "Everybody gets a car!" impresario

32 "Mr. Show" costar David

33 "English Toffee" candy bar

34 Carpenter or Ride, e.g.

38 Dale's cartoon pal

39 Pack of cards

41 Soundly defeated

42 Pointer, for one

44 They'll look over W-2s

45 Something stored in the cloud?

49 Los ___, California

50 As scheduled

51 Like a game for the record books, perhaps

53 They can be fine or graphic

54 Like a worn tire

55 Night, in Nice

56 Getaway spot

57 Bunch

58 House support

59 Artist's selection

©2017 Jonesin' Crosswords • For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to your credit card, call: 1-800-655-6548. **Answers Page 36**

SUDOKU

Intermediate

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

TO PLAY

Fill in the grid so that every row, column, and outlined 3-by-3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 exactly once. No guessing is required. The solution is unique.

Answers on page 36

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezsny

October 24-30, 2018

Aries (March 21-April 19) You have officially arrived at the heart of the most therapeutic phase of your cycle. Congratulations! It's an excellent time to fix what's wrong, hurt, or distorted. You will attract more help than you can imagine if you summon an aggressive approach toward finding antidotes and cures. A good way to set the tone for your aggressive determination to feel better is to heed this advice from poet Maya Angelou: "Take a day to heal from the lies you've told yourself and the ones that have been told to you."

Taurus (April 20-May 20) U2's singer Bono, born under the sign of Taurus, says that all of us suffer from the sense that something's missing from our lives. We imagine that we lack an essential quality or experience, and its absence makes us feel sad and insufficient. French philosopher Blaise Pascal referred to this emptiness as "a God-shaped hole." Bono adds that "you can never completely fill that hole," but you may find partial fixes through love and sex, creative expression, family, meaningful work, parenting, activism, and spiritual devotion. I bring this to your attention, Taurus, because I have a strong suspicion that in the coming weeks you will have more power to fill your God-shaped hole than you've had in a long time.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) "Most of our desires are clichés, right? Ready to wear, one size fits all. I doubt if it's even possible to have an original desire anymore." So says a character in Gemini author Tobias Wolff's short story "Sanity." Your assignment in the coming weeks, Gemini, is to refute and rebel against this notion. The cosmic rhythms will work in your favor to the degree that you cultivate innovative yearnings and unique urges. I hope you'll make it your goal to have the experiences necessary to stir up an outbreak of original desires.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) If you're a typical member of the Cancerian tribe, you're skilled at responding constructively when things go wrong. Your intelligence rises up hot and strong when you get sick or rejected or burned. But if you're a classic Crab, you have less savvy in dealing with triumphs. You may sputter when faced with splashy joy, smart praise, or lucky breaks. But everything I just said is meant to be a challenge, not a curse. One of the best reasons to study astrology is to be aware of the potential shortcomings of your sign so you can outwit and overcome them. That's why I think that eventually you'll evolve to the point where you won't be a bit flustered when blessings arrive. And the immediate future will bring you excellent opportunities to upgrade your response to good fortune.

Leo (July 23-August 22) "Each of us needs something of an island in her life," said poet John Keats. "If not an actual island, at least some place, or space in time, in which to be herself, free to cultivate her differences from others." According to my reading of the astrological omens, Leo, you'll be wise to spend extra time on your own island in the next two weeks. Solitude is unlikely to breed unpleasant loneliness, but will instead inspire creative power and evoke inner strength. If you don't have an island yet, go in search! (P.S.: I translated Keats' pronouns into the feminine gender.)

Virgo (August 23-September 22) I'm rooting for you to engage in experimental intimacy, Virgo. I hope you'll have an affinity for sweet blends and incandescent mixtures and arousing juxtapositions. To get in the right mood for this playful work, you could read love poetry and listen to uplifting songs that potentize your urge to merge. Here are a few lyrical passages to get you warmed up. 1. "Your flesh quivers against mine like moonlight on the sea." —Julio Cortázar 2. "When she smiles like that she is as beautiful as all my secrets." —Anne Carson 3. "My soul is alight with your infinitude of stars . . . The flowers of your garden blossom in my body." —Rabindranath Tagore 4. "I can only find you by looking deeper, that's how love leads us into the world." —Anne Michaels

Libra (September 23-October 22) Of course I want you to have more money. I'd love for you to buy experiences that expand your mind, deepen your emotional intelligence, and foster your ability to create inspiring forms of togetherness. My soul would celebrate if you got access to new wealth that enabled you to go in quest of spiritual fun and educational adventures. On the other hand, I wouldn't be thrilled about you spending extra cash on trivial desires or fancy junk you don't really need. Here's why I feel this way: to the extent that you seek more money to pursue your most righteous cravings, you're likely to get more money.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21) "Penetratia" is a word that means the innermost or most private parts, the most secret and mysterious places. It's derived from the same Latin term that evolved into the word "penetrate." You Scorpios are of course the zodiac's masters of penetratia. More than any other sign, you're likely to know where the penetratia are, as well as how to get to them and what to do when you get to them. I suspect that this tricky skill will come in extra handy during the coming weeks. I bet your intimate adeptness with penetratia will bring you power, fun, and knowledge.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21) Sagittarian poet Rainer Maria Rilke suggested that we cultivate an alertness for the ever-present possibility of germination and gestation. On a regular basis, he advised, we should send probes down into the darkness, into our unconscious minds, to explore for early signs of awakening. And when we discover the forces of renewal stirring there in the depths, we should be humble and reverent toward them, understanding that they are as-yet beyond the reach of our ability to understand. We shouldn't seek to explain and define them at first, but simply devote ourselves to nurturing them. Everything I just said is your top assignment in the coming weeks.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19) You're in a phase of your cycle when your influence is at a peak. People are more receptive than usual to your ideas and more likely to want the same things you do. Given these conditions, I think the best information I can offer you is the following meditation by Capricorn activist Martin Luther King Jr. "Power without love is reckless and abusive, and love without power is sentimental and anemic. Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice, and justice at its best is power correcting everything that stands against love."

Aquarius (January 20- February 18) Aquarian environmentalist Edward Abbey spent much of his life rambling around in the great outdoors. He was an emancipated spirit who regarded the natural world as the only church he needed. In an eruption of ecstatic appreciation, he once testified that "Life is a joyous dance through daffodils beneath cerulean blue skies and then, then what? I forget what happens next." And yet the truth is, Abbey was more than a wild-hearted Dionysian explorer in the wilderness. He found the discipline and diligence to write 23 books! I mention this, Aquarius, because now is a perfect time for you to be like the disciplined and diligent and productive version of Abbey.

Pisces (February 19-March 20) For renowned Piscean visual artist Anne Truitt (1921–2004), creating her work was high adventure. She testified that artists like her had "to catapult themselves wholly, without holding back one bit, into a course of action without having any idea where they will end up. They are like riders who gallop into the night, eagerly leaning on their horse's neck, peering into a blinding rain." Whether or not you're an artist, Pisces, I suspect your life in the coming weeks may feel like the process she described. And that's a good thing! A fun thing! Enjoy your ride.

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.

TURN IT DOWN!

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

Sun. Nov. 4

LAURA JANE GRACE & THE DEVOURING MOTHERS AT MAC'S

Tue. Oct. 30

CAROLINA CHOCOLATE DROPS' DOM FLEMONS AT THE ROBIN THEATRE

Fri. Oct. 26

DAVE SHARP WORLDS QUARTET AT URBAN BEAT



Against Me! vocalist/guitarist returns with new band

Sunday, Nov. 4 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$30, \$27.50, 7 p.m.

In 1997, Against Me! started as a Billy Bragg-influenced solo project by the songwriter/author Laura Jane Grace. By 2001, it evolved into a dynamic punk-rock outfit. The band's 2002 breakthrough, "Reinventing Axl Rose," is a hybrid of punk and Americana that AllMusic hailed as "socially conscious and impassioned anthems." Since then, Against Me! has released a string of albums, including the acclaimed "Transgender Dysphoria Blues" LP in 2014. On Nov. 4, Grace headlines Mac's Bar with a new band: Laura Jane Grace & The Devouring Mothers — opener is Corey Branan. The new project releases its debut record, "Bought to Rot," Nov. 9 via Bloodshot Records. As for the new LP, Bloodshot Records says: "Although it's a step and a twist away from Against Me!'s sonic blueprint, there's still a kinetic punk energy that vibrates throughout. These compositions are looser, stripped, but with a melodic pop immediacy."



Grammy Award-winner returns to REO Town

Tuesday, Oct. 30 @ The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$20.70, 6:30 p.m.

Dom Flemons, acclaimed songwriter and co-founder of the Grammy Award-winning Carolina Chocolate Drops, returns to The Robin Theatre with a new album in tow, the "Black Cowboys" LP. The new disc, released by Smithsonian/Folkways Records, pays tribute to the music of the golden era of the Wild West, but also its culture and complex history. In addition to singing on the album, Flemons also lays down some banjo, guitar, harmonica, fife, bones, drums and quills. Since becoming a professional musician in 2005, the Arizona native has become internationally known for his old-time folk and African-roots sound. Along with his mates in the Carolina Chocolate Drops, Flemons has performed in front of thousands of fans at massive festivals like Bonnaroo and the Newport Folk Festival, as well as prestigious venues like the Grand Ole Opry. Space is limited for this intimate Robin Theatre show and tickets are available at therobintheatre.com.



Group blends Arabic, Eastern European music

Friday, Oct. 26 @ Urban Beat Event Center, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 8 p.m. \$20, \$15 adv., \$10 students.

Dave Sharp Worlds Quartet, an Ann Arbor-based fusion group, bring its original brand of "world jazz" music to Urban Beat for two sets. Led by bassist/composer Dave Sharp, the ensemble specializes in a lively mixture of original tunes, often merging Arabic and Eastern European-style arrangements. The group comprises Sharp (electric bass, Qatar and synthesizer), Igor Houwat (oud) and Henrik Karapetyan (violin). At Urban Beat, a special addition to the lineup is a guest spot from local guitar whiz Elden Kelly (guitar and glissentar). The Worlds Quartet will showcase cuts from its new, eight-song CD, "Delta" — available now on Amazon.com. The new disc, released via Vortex World Music Recordings, was recorded at two Michigan-based studios: Troubadour Studios in Lansing and Willis Sound in Willis. VIP tickets are available for \$30 at urbanbeatevents.com and include a pre-show performance, one drink ticket and a band meet and greet.

LIVE AND LOCAL

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT ELLA@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night	Day Sleeper	The Big Sur	Tease a Gogo
Buddies, 1937 W Grand River Ave		Karaoke, 9pm		
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.		Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Claddagh, 2900 Towne Center Blvd.		Trivia, 7:30	Peat in the Creel, 7pm	
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Road	DJ Trivia		Live Music	DJ
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Good Cookies Band	Jeff Shoup & Friends	Avon Bomb	Avon Bomb
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Johnny D Blues Night	Karaoke	Star Farm	Star Farm
Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee			The Aimeriers, 7:30pm	
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.				Sailor's Mouth Yoga, 1:30
Macs Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.			Past Tense, 8pm	
Nuthouse, 420 E Michigan Ave.		Bingo		
UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner Rd.			Dave Sharp Worlds Quartet w/ Elden Kelly, 8pm	Grady Hall & the Disciples of Funk, 8p
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave.	Comedy Open Mic, 8pm			

Out on the Town

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MELODIES. From 7:30 to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each. Grand Ledge Opera House, 121 S. Bridge St. Grand Ledge.

EVENTS

ELOQUENTS TOASTMASTERS OPEN HOUSE. From 6 to 7:30 p.m. Free event. . Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road., Okemos. (517) 349-9536.

LANSING REIKI SHARE. From 6 to 8 p.m. Donation. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

LUNCH AT THE SENIOR CENTER. From 12 to 1 p.m. suggested donations of \$3.00. If you are age 59 and under, there is a charge of \$5.75 (this is not a suggested donation). Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

WILLIAMSTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS CANDIDATE FORUM. From 6:30 to 9 p.m. FREE. Discovery Elementary School, 350 Highland Williamston.

Friday, October 26

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

MSU LIBRARIES' FINDING GIS DATA. From 4 to 5 p.m. Digital Scholarship Lab classroom, 2 W. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

ELEMENTARY BOOK DISCUSSION. From 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

STORYTIME. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

TEN POUND FIDDLE: MAY ERLEWINE. From 7:30 to 10 p.m. \$20 Public, \$18 Fiddle Members, \$5 Students. Available online or at the box office at 6:30PM.. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

TIME2PLAY. From 7 to 11 p.m. No Cover. Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Rd, East Lansing, MI 48823.

HEADBAND FEATURING BIG BUCKS AND THE LOOSE CHANGE BLUES BAND. Rocky's Roadhouse, 2470 S. Cedar, Holt. Friday, Oct. 26. 8-midnight. Special Halloween party with prizes for best costumes. (517) 694-2698

THEATER

HALLOWEEN AUDIO THEATER DOUBLE FEATURE. At 7 p.m. \$10 at the door - general admission. Robin Theater, 1105 S Washington Ave, Lansing, MI 48910 Lansing. 989-878-1810.

EVENTS

HOWL AT THE MOON: GUIDED NIGHT WALK. From 7 to 8 p.m. \$3/person. Harris Nature Center,

3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Saturday, October 27

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

LEAN IN LANSING. From 9 to 11 a.m. FREE. Grand Traverse Pie, 1403 E. Grand River Ave. East


Lansing. (517) 203-3304.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

BOOKS AND BAGELS. From 2 to 3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

THURSDAY >> OCT. 25 “DIVE INTO LANSING”



Join Lansing 5:01 for a networking experience between emerging creatives and entrepreneurs at the empty pool floor of the Moores Park community pool. Specialty “mocktails” will be provided by American Fifth Spirits along with a spread of fall snacks and doughnuts.

4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Moores Park Swimming Pool, 420 Moores River Dr., Lansing
www.lansing501.com, (517) 884-1313



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GEROME RAGNI & JAMES RADO

MUSIC BY
GALT MACDERMOT

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MICHAEL BUTLER

ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY
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FRI/SAT 8PM · SUN 2PM
DART AUDITORIUM



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NEW IN TOWN: ALT PRINTING CO.



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

ALT Printing Co. co-owner Kristen Wilson screenprints a candy skull t-shirt in her new space at the REO Town Marketplace.

By DENNIS BURCK

Rising from a basement and into the REO Town Marketplace, Tony and Kristen Wilson's Another Life Tees **ALT Printing Co.** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday 1027 S. Washington Ave., Lansing (517) 388-3558 www.altprintingco.com

Multicolor shirts of zebras wearing sunglasses, ducks with headphones and flamingos adorn the walls around the spider like screen printing machine in their new digs behind Blue Onyx Thrift.

"Another Life" refers to the decision to work for themselves, Kristen said.

Trained by Detroit's Ocelot Print Shop, the couple started ALT Printing Co. out of their basement in 2015 focusing on Etsy and teaching others to screen print.

"There isn't really a lot of resources for printing in Lansing, but T-shirts and apparel are things everyone loves," Kristen said. "We learned to print with the intention of opening a printing shop, and the workshops evolved from the fact of finding a niche market in Lansing with no one offering them."

Upcoming workshops include a Halloween candy skull T-shirt printing from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and a dog bandana printing 6 to 8 p.m. on Oct. 27.

Becoming part of REO Town's revival is personal, she added.

"Tony and I are both from this neighborhood," Kristen said. "We grew up around Moores Park and are interested in becoming a part of REO Town and Lansing's revitalization."

There needs to be more to do after working hours in Lansing to continue this trend, Kristen said.

"What we in large part want to accom-

plish is to give people in Lansing and surrounding areas something to do after 5 p.m."

People may think screen printing is as easy as running ink over a stencil, but it is much harder, Kristen said.

"Any printer can tell you people don't understand every color is a screen and a layer of printing. There is significant cost involved with creating the screen and using the ink, as well as extra work involved with the line up of colors."

Recently, ALT Printing Co. experimented with split fountain printing, a method of mixing inks to create a rainbow effect.

"Every time we print, we learn something new. There is so much that happens behind the scenes: what type of ink you use for the garment, the small details in the prep work of a screen matter."

The couple is eyeing a permanent REO Town brick and mortar location sometime in 2019. "Our intention is to do a sip and print while teaching the entire print process."

"My business degree and his graphic design degree balance well in this job," Kristen said. "There is a lot more work now, but the way we are in our relationship is mirrored by the way we are in our business: our strengths and weaknesses play off each other."

For more information, visit www.altprinting-co.com



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Lansing, MI 48912 or visit
lansingcitypulse.com/donate to make your contribution online.

Out on the Town

from page 35

Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St. East Lansing.

EVENTS

ATHEISTS AND HUMANISTS MEETING. From 5 to 8:30 p.m. Buffet is \$11.49 plus tax and \$1.85 service charge . Asian Buffet, 4920 Marsh Rd. Okemos. (517) 381-8388.

HOW TO BE RADICALLY HAPPY. From 4 to 5 p.m. Free, at Centennial Room in Kellogg Center. Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, 219 S Harrison Rd East Lansing.

THE 2018 LARZELERE MEMORIAL LECTURE IWTH REV. TRACI BLACKMON. From 1:30 to 3 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave. East Lansing. (517) 332-5073.

Monday, October 29

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

A COURSE OF LOVE. From 1 to 2 p.m. Love offering. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Lansing. 517-371-3010.

ADDICTION RECOVERY THERAPY AND YOGA. From 6 to 7 p.m. Health Insurance of Sliding Scale Fee. GPS Guide to Personal Solutions, 913 W Holmes Road Suite 141 Lansing. 5176670061.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

BABYTIME. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Tuesday, October 30

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

BASIC YOGA @ THE LIBRARY. From 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. FREE. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey DeWitt.

HOMEWORK HELP. From 5 to 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MENS ISSUES THERAPY GROUP. From 6 to 7 p.m. Call office for more information. Health insurance and sliding scale fee.. GPS Guide to Personal Solutions, 913 W Holmes Road Suite 141 Lansing. 5176670061.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

AUTHOR VISIT WITH JANE CONGDON. At 6:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME. From 11 a.m. to noon Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St. Grand Ledge.

TODDLERTIME. From 10:30 to 11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

JAZZ TUESDAYS AT MORIARTY'S. From 7 to 10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

EVENTS

MSU LIBRARIES' SPECIAL COLLECTION OPEN

HOUSE: 500 YEARS OF BOTANICAL PRINTS. From 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

PAINT A PUMPKIN. From 3 to 4 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

TUESDAY GAMES. From 1 to 4 p.m. Euchre, Free Bridge, \$1 - \$2 per person. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

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lansingcitypulse.com

SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 33

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 33

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The
Prodigal
Son

Music by Remus Webb
Michigan State University College of Music
Art direction of Julian Van Dyke
Sunday October 28, 2018 10am
Friendship Baptist Church
2912 Pleasant Grove Road Lansing, MI 48910
Pastor, Clyde D. Carnegie

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Back of House: Q&A with Saddleback BBQ co-owner Nick Drumm

By SKYLER ASHLEY

Starting off as a dishwasher for Saddleback BBQ after moving to Lansing in 2015, Nick Drumm, 23, is now one of the smoke pit eatery's co-owners. Over the years, Drumm learned the tricks of the trade and was willing to share with City Pulse what goes down at Saddleback. Drumm explained the daily preparations: how the meat is tenderized and sauced and the great difference that temperature and wood varieties can make when the protein hits the smoker.

Saddleback BBQ

REO Town

Monday-Saturday,
11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
1147 S. Washington Ave.,
Lansing
(517) 306-9002
www.saddlebackbbq.com

Saddleback BBQ

Okemos

Monday-Saturday,
11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday,
11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
1754 Central Park Drive
Suite G2, Okemos
(517) 306-9002

Every barbecue place wants to have its own unique stamp — how would you define Saddleback's style?

The signature of Saddleback is doing a little bit of everything. Matt Gillett wanted to incorporate a bunch of different aspects of

barbecue into Saddleback, and not just stick with one specific style.

We were trying to get to the roots and the heart of what barbecue actually is, so we could take it to the next step and have our own spin on it. That's what we do with a lot of the specials.



Drumm

And how do you accomplish that?

With some of our dry rubs, we do a wide variety of spices. The basis of our pork rub is brown sugar. It's definitely on the spicier end, compared to Texas style. Texas style basically uses salt and pepper as its main rubs. It doesn't elaborate, it just keeps it traditional and utilizes the flavor of the protein.

Going into Carolina Style and going into Kansas City style, they're a little bit different. They go a little bit sweeter, they're not as spicy as Texas. That's where the brown sugar comes into play. And we use onion powder and garlic powder that doesn't touch on the spicy side of things, but adds just a little bit of a character.

Does Saddleback concern itself with the conversation over what constitutes "real" and "fake" barbecue?

Obviously we like to make good food, but no, I don't think we really concern ourselves with that. We get a lot of people that come into the store and say, 'Hey, I'm from Texas and, obviously, Texas has the best barbecue in the world.' People can argue that, there are definitely places in Texas that have fantastic barbecue. But



Courtesy photo

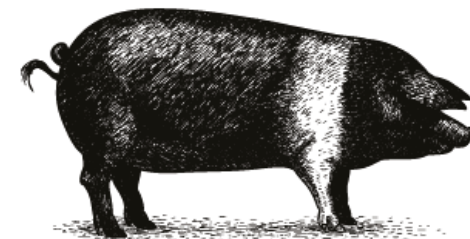
A sampler of offerings from Saddleback BBQ.

you can't compare the Texas style to the Michigan style or the Kansas City style.

Obviously, everyone has their own different likes and dislikes. We try to stay away from the negative side of the criticism that some people might put on our barbecue. We're just trying to make good food, dude. I feel like if we just stick to the roots of what we've grown, and what we've built as Saddleback, then we will please a lot of people

The wood, and the temperature it burns at in the smoker, is an important nuance for barbecue. What goes into Saddleback's selection process?

We locally source our wood and we get it delivered every couple of weeks.



SADDLEBACK BBQ

But it all comes down to what we have available. If you're looking at Texas style barbecue, they obviously don't have very many different kinds of hardwood in Texas. The weather limits the kinds of trees they use, but here in Michigan we have a wide variety of hardwoods that we like to utilize. We like to utilize the fruitwoods and hickory, because they have a lower burning temperature, but produce a lot of smoke and a lot of flavor.

See Saddleback, Page 40

Sahara Delight
WEEKDAY
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\$12⁹⁵



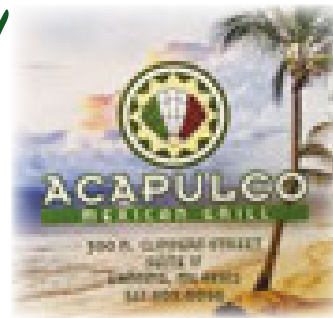
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1224 Turner Rd., Lansing, MI 48906 | www.meatbbq.com
- 2. Saddleback BBQ • Two locations www.saddlebackbbq.com**
1147 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, MI 48910 | (517) 306-9002
1754 Central Park Dr. Suite G2, Okemos, MI 48864 | (517) 306-9002
- 3. Crossroads BBQ • (517) 627-0555**
221 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge, MI 48837 | crossroadsbbqmich.com
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Courtesy photo

This big beautiful smoker sits outside the Saddleback BBQ location in Okemos.

Saddleback

from page 38

What's Saddleback's gold standard for tenderness?

A lot of the time we go by temperature. Obviously we want to make sure that the product is cooked thoroughly, and is brought to our customers at the correct serving temperature.

But sometimes it'll come down to feel. A lot of the time if I'm running the smoker, I'll just grab onto a brisket or shoulder with some gloves on and kind of feel it.

You can tell when it's nice and tender. The meat still holds its form, but it also has that softness to it. When you slice into it, it's not going to shred and fall apart, but it will hold the form and still be super soft.

How important is the sauce?

The sauce for a lot of people is a big aspect. There's a lot of people that enjoy the sweet and tangy barbecue sauce. There's a lot of people that like to have a Frank's style garlic buffalo sauce. There's people that love their mustard-based sauces.

But it depends. Some people like to come in and just get the protein. They don't need any sauce, because they enjoy the flavor, the bark and the texture so much.

But I think it's important to have a good array of sauces, and everyone loves our sauces; they're all homemade from scratch. We actually might be getting our sauces picked up by a larger distributor, and maybe they'll be in stores around Lansing soon enough.

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