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CityPULSE

August 14- 20, 2019



-NEVIN '19

The CHEAP ISSUE RETURNS Millions in Savings Inside!



The fallacy of the cliché “no man is above the law” is that our country has had laws that discriminate based on race, religion, gender, sexual orientation and ethnicity. The law is not perfect. It is created by men and women who are imperfect. Don’t hire a lawyer that cites clichés. Great lawyers help clients rise above the law and stand on principle.

– Andrew Abood

ABOOD

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**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**

August 14, 2019
City of Lansing
316 N. Capitol Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933
(517) 483-4040

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Lansing, MI.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or about September 4, 2019 the City of Lansing, MI will submit a request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-383) as amended and HOME Investment Partnerships Programs under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C 12701), to undertake the following projects:

Tier 1 Broad Review Project/Program Title: Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnerships

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

Location: The City of Lansing

Project/Program Description:

CDBG Single-Family, Owner occupied Rehab Program/Public Improvements

Includes loans and grants for rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing units through city sponsored programs, and in conjunction with affordable housing efforts sponsored by nonprofit housing corporations and other state and federal agencies. Includes funds to meet lead hazard reduction regulations in rehabilitated structures, funds to assist in emergency housing rehabilitation, market analysis activities and technical assistance to nonprofit housing corporations, contractors, and low- and moderate-income households. Includes loans and grants for owner-occupied single-family units through city sponsored programs, loans to rehabilitate historic homes in conjunction with rehabilitation of the unit, and loans or grants for ramps, hazard remediation or weatherization. Includes staff, office space, technical assistance, training and other direct project costs associated with delivery of Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant and other State and Federal Programs. 37 Proposed units.

General street, sidewalk, water/sewer improvements, including assistance to income eligible owner-occupants or those in CDBG-eligible areas for special assessments related to new improvements. Includes improvements to neighborhood parks, recreational facilities; public neighborhood, medical and community facilities in CDBG priority areas.

Proposed funding amount: \$1,555,892

CDBG Rental Rehab Program

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

Includes financing of an Energy Fitness Program and/or Energy Optimization Program to benefit low and moderate-income households, 1 housing unit estimated with current funding. Additional units may be completed with prior year funds. 29 proposed units.

Proposed funding amount: \$ 380,000

Acquisition

Includes acquisition, maintenance and security of properties acquired through programs, and activities related to acquisition, disposition, relocation and clearance of dilapidated structures. Funds may also be used to acquire properties in the flood plain. Includes staff time associated with this activity. 5 Proposed units.

Proposed funding amount: \$100,000

New Construction/HOME Rehab/Development Program

Includes funds for loans and grants for housing construction and rehabilitation with non-profit and for-profit developers, including CHDOs.

HOME funds allocated for housing developed in partnership with the city, including Supportive Housing Program (SHP) and Acquisition, Development and Resale (ADR) activities. Projects may include new construction and rehabilitation activities with non-profit and for-profit developers, including CHDOs. Funds may be used for staff time associated with these activities. 4 Proposed units

Proposed funding amount: \$ 920,527

CHDO Set-aside (15% minimum required)

Reserved for housing developed, sponsored or owned by CHDOs in partnership with the City. 2 Proposed units

Proposed funding amount: \$ 106,073

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

Level of Environmental Review Citation:

CDBG Single-Family, Owner occupier Rehab Program/Public Improvements - 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i)

CDBG Rental Rehab Program - 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i)

Acquisition - 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(1)

New Construction/HOME Rehab/Development Program - 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(4)(i)/24 CFR 58.36

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

Tier 2 Site Specific Review: The site specific reviews will cover the following laws and authorities not

addressed in the Tier 1 broad review:

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any):

Tier 2 site specific reviews will be evaluated individually and any outstanding issues requiring mitigation measures/conditions/permits will be addressed in the environmental review.

Estimated Project Cost: \$3,062,492.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements per 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(3)(i), 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(1), 24 CFR Part 58.35(a)(4)(i) / 24 CFR 58.36

An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/environmental-review/environmental-review-records>

and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 A.M to 5:00 P.M..

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Lansing, MI has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at City of Lansing, Department of Economic Development and Planning, 316 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI 48933, City of Lansing, City Clerk Office, Ninth Floor, 124 W. Michigan, Lansing, MI 48933 and Capital Area District Library, 401 S. Capitol Avenue, Reference desk, 2nd Floor, Lansing, MI 48933 and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Lansing Department of Economic Development and Planning, 316 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI 48933, Attn: Doris Witherspoon, Senior Planner, or e-mail to doris.witherspoon@lansingmi.gov. All comments received by August 30, 2019 will be considered by the City of Lansing prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

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

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

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

Andy Schor, Mayor, City of Lansing, Certifying Officer

Note: The fifteen or eighteen-day public comment periods are the minimum time periods required by regulation prior to submission of a Request for Release of Funds and Certification (form HUD-7015.15) to HUD/State. The Responsible Entity may choose to allow a longer comment period. 24 CFR Part 58 requires, at Section 58.46, "Time delays for exceptional circumstances," a 30-day comment period for controversial or unique projects or those similar to projects normally requiring preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement. The fifteen-day objection period is a statutory requirement. The objection period follows the submission date specified in the Notice or the actual date of receipt by HUD/State, whichever is later.

Following completion of the comment period recipients may FAX the form HUD-7015.15 to HUD/State together with a copy of the public notice and a cover letter stating whether comments were received and, if so, how the recipient responded to the comment. The Request for Release of Funds and Certification should not be submitted before the recipient has responded. If the request is sent by FAX, the original signed form should be mailed to HUD/State. The date of receipt by FAX will be counted as the submission date. However, HUD will not issue the 7015.16 "Authority to Use Grant Funds" until after the original signed form is received.

CP#19-227

Favorite Things

Cheap eats master Clint Tarver's hot dog cart



Around 25 years ago I was the first black guy to own a hot dog cart in Lansing. There was a guy on this same corner named Bob. My wife and I would see this cat with a line every day and I thought we could get into the business. At one point I had a taco wagon, three hot dog carts and a soul food restaurant.

I've had this cart since 2013. I was able to get it custom made in Jackson after my stuff was destroyed.

I was under a tent just catering for a company that hired me to give away hot dogs during Right to Work. The strange part is that I didn't even want to do it. It was at 7 a.m. and I didn't even want to get up that early.

The protesters got mad and they dumped all my stuff over and trampled everything.

I'm standing there watching this guy overturn my stuff. He turned over my table and my chili and I just stood there. I could only look around shocked. I couldn't believe it and it was happening to me because I didn't bother anybody. Everybody that goes by here I try to say hello to, even the dogs that go by smelling hot dogs.

There were a lot of fights going on there and I still could not move. I knew what I wanted to do then,

but I think God wouldn't let me move. I feared if I put my hands on someone, it would be a different story.

My story got out there that all my stuff was wrecked and I was like a celebrity for four days. People actually donated so much money and that is how I had this cart made. I didn't know I was that loved.

People are so gracious to me and I have to return the favor. If anybody that comes to my hot dog cart that is hungry or doesn't have any money, I will feed them. You have a lot of people who are underserved here and I try to do what I can for them. I have no problems feeding anybody.

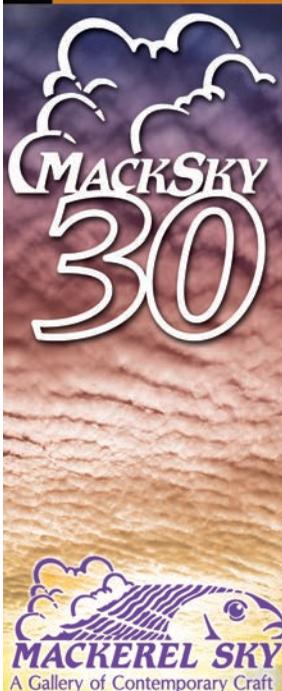
I get a lot of people that come up here later and say "Remember when I didn't have any money? Here is a \$5 or \$10 bill." I'm thinking I didn't even remember that, but that's the good thing about taking care of people. It's what we're here for.

(Tarver's hot dog cart can be found at the corner of Michigan and Capitol avenues. This interview was edited and condensed by Dennis Burck. If you have a recommendation for "Favorite Things," please email dennis@lansingcitypulse.com.)

ANNOUNCING an AUTUMN of CELEBRATION

MACKEREL SKY'S 30th ANNIVERSARY

And announcing our retirement at 2019's end.



It's business as usual at Mackerel Sky this Fall:

- continuing to receive new merchandise and all you expect
- to celebrate the holidays and a five month window of time for your planning.

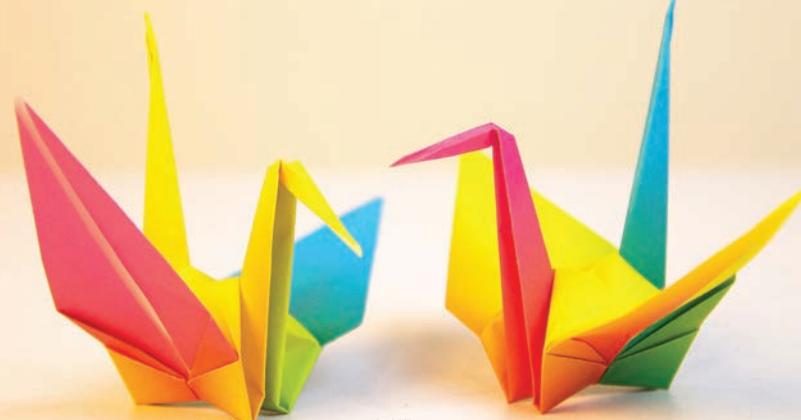
We welcome you to special order the lamp, or rocking chair, or piece of pottery or jewelry you have always wanted before we close our doors at the end of December.

Please check our website and Facebook for events during this last season to celebrate our gratitude to all of you who have helped us prosper these 30 years.

www.mackerelsky.com

211 M.A.C. Avenue, East Lansing, Michigan (517) 351-2211

Renegade Theatre Festival 2019



The world on stage.

Aug 8-10 & 15-17

www.renegadetheatrefestival.org



CityPULSE

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AMERICA RESPONDS

THE LATEST MASS SHOOTINGS CAUSE REPUBLICANS TO HAVE A CHANGE OF HEART.



I CAN'T LIVE WITH MYSELF ANYMORE. WE MUST BAN ASSAULT WEAPONS.

ADVERTISERS SHUN NETWORKS THAT PROMOTE HATE

WE CAN NO LONGER ASSOCIATE FAMILY FUNTIME TATO-BITES™ WITH SUBURBAN NEO-NAZISM.



FOX NEWS
TUCKER: WHITE SUPREMACY A HOAX

AMERICANS OVERWHELMINGLY TURN AGAINST TRUMP, LEADING TO IMPEACHMENT

HE'S STILL TWEETING BIGOTED GARBAGE, BUT NO ONE CARES ANYMORE.



SORENSEN

JUST KIDDING!

I'LL TAKE A COUPLE OF THOSE 100-ROUND DUAL DRUM MAGS FOR THE COMING RACE WAR, PLEASE!

AMMO
YOU GOT IT!



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Over the Ledge Theatre Co.'s latest production

PAGE 24



Lansing musicians pay tribute to Ronnie Hernandez

PAGE 27



The Rusty Mug opens in REO Town

Cover Art



Illustration by Nevin Speerbrecker

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AIR

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IMPACT**
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

GUN TALK
WITH YOUR HOST, THE GLIB SOCIOPATH

THANKS FOR SUBSCRIBING TO MY CHANNEL! SADLY, ONCE AGAIN, I MUST ADDRESS A SOMBER AND DIFFICULT SUBJECT--THE ANTI-GUN PREJUDICE WHICH IS SO PERVERSIVE IN OUR SOCIETY!

FIREARM-AMERICANS ARE AN OPPRESSED MINORITY!



OF COURSE, WE ARE ALL VERY SAD ABOUT THE LATEST MASS MORTALITY INCIDENTS WHICH HAPPENED TO INVOLVE FIREARMS! BUT THOSE PEOPLE COULD HAVE JUST AS EASILY DIED IN ACCIDENTS INVOLVING FALLING SAFES! OR BY DRINKING EXCESSIVELY, OVER A PROLONGED NUMBER OF YEARS!



IT MAKES NO SENSE TO BLAME INANIMATE OBJECTS, WHICH CLEARLY DO NOT PULL THEIR OWN TRIGGERS! WHAT WE REALLY NEED TO DO IS BAN VIDEO GAMES, AND PASS SOME LAWS ABOUT, YOU KNOW, MENTAL HEALTH AND STUFF! WHY WON'T POLITICIANS FOCUS ON THE REAL ISSUES?



AND AS FOR ALL THIS TALK ABOUT VIOLENT WHITE SUPREMACISTS, ALLEGEDLY INSPIRED BY OUR GREAT PRESIDENT--GIVE ME A BREAK! THE POLITICAL CORRECTNESS IS REALLY GETTING OUT OF HAND, WHEN YOU CAN'T USE BASIC, DESCRIPTIVE WORDS LIKE "INVASION" AND "INFESTATION" WITHOUT BEING CALLED A RACIST!



UNFORTUNATELY, CERTAIN UNSCRUPULOUS INDIVIDUALS WANT TO POLITICIZE THESE RANDOM, MYSTERIOUS, COMPLETELY UNPREVENTABLE INCIDENTS! THESE GUN-GRABBING GHOULS WANT TO EXPLOIT THE VICTIMS, RATHER THAN DOING THE DECENT THING--



--TWEETING THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS, AND THEN QUIETLY WAITING FOR THE NEWS CYCLE TO MOVE ON TO SOMETHING ELSE!

I MEAN, WHAT IS WRONG WITH THESE PEOPLE?

BESIDES, WITHOUT MY GUNS, WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO IF MY LAWN IS OVERRUN BY FERAL HOGS?

HEY, I SHOULD TWEET THAT!



TOM TOMORROW © 2019

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

‘I’m afraid to be brown’

Local Latinos hear familiar notes at higher pitch

After a deadly shooting in El Paso targeting Mexicans, immigration crackdowns in Washington and “invasion” rhetoric from the White House, Lansing’s Latino community is “on edge” at best, in “total panic” at worst, depending on whom you talk with.

On Lansing’s north side, Maria Sotello smiled gamely from the window of her food truck, Maria’s Cuisine.

“I’ve been living here almost 19 years and it’s the first time I got this feeling,” she said. “I’m afraid to go outside. You look around and see who’s around you.”

Juan Marquez, owner of the truck, was not smiling.

“It makes me feel like one of these days, someone is just going to come with the guns and start shooting people, just like nothing, because we’re Mexicans,” he said.

As Marquez talked, an elderly woman in a shawl and a young girl in sleep pants dotted with leopards came up to the window.

“¿Cómo estás?” Marquez greeted them.

“Bien,” the woman replied.

The girl shyly approached the counter, stretched her arm up and handed Casella a 20-dollar bill. Marquez paused the unpleasant conversation until the girl left the window.

“That guy drove nine or 10 hours just to kill people,” he said. “It’s been crazy from 2016. We are living afraid.”

Lourdes Casillas, owner of Taqueria El Chaparrito down the street from the food truck, came to Lansing from Mexico 35 years ago.

“We are more aware what is going on around us,” she said. “When there’s more people, there is fear. I don’t want to talk about it.”

Sein Paul Benavides, co-organizer of the annual Latino Lugnuts Day baseball event Aug. 18, said that after the El Paso shooting, he has “lowered expectations” for this year’s attendance.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Maria Sotello and Juan Marquez of Maria’s Cuisine food truck in north Lansing say they are more wary of their surroundings since the El Paso shooting.

The event, now in its eighth year, drew about 500 people last year.

“Let’s face it. If you’re putting together any kind of festival, it’s going to be on a lot of people’s minds,” Benavides said. “The Lugnuts are going to talk with the Police Department to have a soft presence, obviously not overdo it.”

A longtime friend and supporter of Lansing’s immigrants, both documented and undocumented, agreed that the mood in the Latino commu-

nity has changed.

“My friends are telling me, ‘I’m afraid to be brown,’” the woman said. Although she has been deeply rooted in Lansing for over 70 years, she didn’t want her name used, for fear of drawing the notice of ICE, the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency.

“At different times, ICE has said to me, ‘How did you find out about this person? Where did you meet? How often do you see them?’” she said.

See Lansing Latinos, Page 6

‘Eye’ editor needed

Our standing features “Eye for Design” and “Eyecandy” need a new editor. Architect Daniel Bollman, of East Arbor Architecture, in East Lansing, who has filled that role for nearly six years, is stepping down. (Thanks, Dan.)

If you are interested in this volunteer assignment — which means identifying and writing eyecandies and the “Eye for Design” two out of every three weeks — please email publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-5061 to discuss.

— BERL SCHWARTZ



406 Collingwood Drive,
East Lansing

Owners: Diane and Jonathan Perry

This home was constructed in 1929 near the western edge of the Strathmore Plat, which was formed from a portion of the Chittenden Farm in 1925. The new plat applied then-popular urban planning principles, so its streets break from the regular rectangular layouts found to the east and west. As a result, this home is located on a peninsular lot where the conflicting street grids create a traffic island, providing unobstructed views of this stately building.

The home is executed in the Tudor style, whose popularity is evidenced with numerous examples in the immediate neighborhood. The style is characterized by steeply pitched roofs and ganged, multi-paned windows. Crossed gables, anchored by a massive masonry chimney, provide a balanced asymmetrical composition. Stout brackets on the broad, front-facing bay window support the jettied upper level. There, dark, half-timbering boards divide the staggered shingle siding.

As befitting the residence of a masonry contractor, the lower level is clad in brick, including rowlock sills and a string course expressed with brick soldiers. The owners have enclosed an open deck above the garage and introduced stone details on the front porch and garage, including the addition of a decorative keystone over the garage doors.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

“Eye Candy of the Week” is our look at some of the nicer properties in Lansing. It rotates each with Eyesore of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call Berl Schwartz at 999-5061.

Lansing Latinos

from page 5

“Total interrogation, on the phone.”

On top of the gun massacres and family-destroying ICE raids, Latinos are experiencing a daily degradation of simple civility. Recently, a Latino friend was shopping in the produce aisle of a “one of our big grocery stores,” the woman recalled, when an apple whizzed by his head, thrown by one of three teenagers standing nearby. Another friend was confronted in a store by an angry man for speaking Spanish.

Angela Rojas-Dedenbach, a medical interpreter who helps Lansing area Spanish speakers navigate the health care system, reported that her clients are fearful and stressed, and she’s none too calm herself. Rojas-Dedenbach left her native Chile in 1967, when she was in her early 20s.

“I felt welcome here,” she said. “I felt people were interested in my culture.”

That has changed.

“I did not feel this kind of thing until 2016. I get the bad looks in the grocery store,” she said.

Recently, she was consulting with an elderly client in the waiting room of a cardiology clinic when an irate man suddenly began to harass them

for speaking Spanish.

“I’ll never forget it,” she said. “He said, ‘You people are an embarrassment to your race. This is America and everybody should speak English.’”

The man threw his magazine on the table and stormed out of the office.

Many Latinos in Lansing reported that such incidents are happening more often since the election of Donald Trump, who frequently inveighs against “invaders,” in 2016.

“The people who hate other ethnicities, they are not afraid to show it now,” Sotella said.

Oscar Castañeda has experienced the same change.

“As an immigrant and as a person who speaks English with an accent, you get this sense of not being welcome in some spaces anymore, which is a feeling I didn’t feel before,” he said.

Castañeda works with both documented and undocumented immigrants as a member of Action of Greater Lansing, an advocacy group that protects civil rights for immigrants.

“The ones who are undocumented — they live a life of continuous, total panic,” Castañeda said. “They’re panicking every single day of their lives. They get this sense of, ‘I’m going to work and I don’t know if I’ll be able to come back.’”

Each day’s news brings a new source of anxiety. In recent days, while the

El Paso shooting and Mississippi ICE raids were grabbing headlines, the feds rolled out a tangle of administrative razor wire aimed to ensnare poorer immigrants, even documented ones, who they deem likely to use some form of public assistance.

The sweeping, 100-page overhaul of the “public charge” rule announced Monday is complex and scary, even to relatively well off immigrants. Suddenly, Castañeda has to worry about his married, 28-year-old daughter, who has lived in the U.S. for 27 years and is expecting a baby in two weeks. Her husband, a recent college graduate, has a job waiting for him in Michigan, but the job doesn’t start for two months.

“Now they are totally afraid of applying for Medicaid for the birth, because they fear it might affect their future citizenship application,” Castañeda said.

The rule would also take income into account to determine whether an immigrant is likely to be declared a “public charge.” To avoid possible deportation, income would have to exceed 250 percent of the poverty line — about \$64,000 for a family of four, according to The New York Times.

“That’s way above the median income in Michigan,” Castañeda said. “All this, happening in a country that was made of very poor immigrants coming to the shore. Ask any person who comes from somewhere in Europe, how their families got here 80 years ago, 100 years ago. Nobody was in the upper part of the median income.”

In the face of such a multi-pronged onslaught, Latinos are reporting new levels of anxiety, but many are also mindful that anti-immigrant sentiment is nothing new.

“That type of thinking, that Latinos don’t belong here, aren’t deserving, etc. — it’s always been there,” Benavides said. “We had it at MSU in the 1980s when we were fighting just to get a Chicano/Latino Studies Program going. It’s always been there, it’s just more prevalent now.”

For older immigrants who fought off discrimination and racism to make their way in this country, it’s a nauseating form of déjà vu. In early June, Maria Star Van Core was accosted while waiting in a long line for a water taxi in Cleveland. She is president of the Lansing area chapter of Labor Council for Latin American Advancement.

“The guy came out of the taxi, walked right up to me and asked me if I had my passport,” she said. “I was the only Latina around, but it still took me off guard. It blew me away. Never in my life have I been asked that, or even questioned.”

The incident took her back to when was 15 and came to Michigan for the first time.

“They started talking about taco benders and beaners, greasers and all that,” she said. “I’m 63 now, and now that all of this is happening, it seems like the old wounds, the stuff I had buried, is coming back. It’s scary.”

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

ABANDONED VEHICLE SALE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN

Sealed bids marked **S/20/013, ABANDONED VEHICLES** will be accepted at the City of Lansing Purchasing Office, 1232 Haco Dr, Lansing MI. 48912 until but no later than, 1:00 PM, local time in effect **WED. SEPT. 18, 2019**
Questions regarding this sale may be directed to Stephanie Robinson, Buyer, at (517) 702-6197 or email: stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com

Vehicles may be inspected **WED. SEPT. 18, 2019**, as follows:

SHROYER'S, 2740 EATON RAPIDS RD, LANSING MI. 48911	8:30 AM
SWIFT TOWING, 2347 N CEDAR HOLT, MI	9:15 AM
PJ'S, 1425 RENSEN, LANSING MI	10:00 AM
NORTHSIDE TOWING, 226 RUSSELL, LANSING, MI 48906	10:45 AM

Abandoned Vehicle Sale List SEPT 18, 2019

NORTHSIDE	SHROYERS	PJ TOWING
2002 PONT	1988 BOAT	2004 FRTLINER
2013 MAZDA	2007 MAZDA	2008 DODGE
1981 OLDS	2008 DODGE	1975 PONT
1993 CHEV	2003 CHRYS	2017 HAR DAV
2003 GMC	2002 OLDS	2010 SUBURU
2001 CHEV	2012 CHRYS	2011 KIA
2014 DODGE	2006 CAD	
2019 FORD	2001 SAAB	SWIFT
2003 CHEV	2014 HYUND	2013 MOPED
2013 CHRYS	2008 DODGE	
2000 JEEP	2003 MAZDA	
2015 NISSAN	2014 CHEV	
2006 HUMMER	2009 CHEV	
2006 CHRYS	2000 YAMAHA	
2013 FORD	2019 KIA	
2017 HAR DAV	2006 CHEV	
2012 CHEV		

CP#19-228

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on August 26, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, MI, for the purpose stated below:

To afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, other interested persons and ad valorem taxing units to appear and be heard on the approval of Brownfield Plan #76 – Farnum Building Redevelopment Project pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, Public Act 381 of 1996, as amended, for property commonly referred to as 123 West Allegan Street located in the City of Lansing, but more particularly described as:

W 78 FT OF N 34 FT LOT 11 & W 78 FT LOT 12 BLOCK 115 ORIG PLAT.

Approval of this Brownfield Plan will enable the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to capture incremental tax increases which result from the redevelopment of the property to pay for costs associated therewith. Further information regarding this issue, including maps, plats, and a description of the brownfield plan will be available for public inspection and may be obtained from Karl Dorshimer – Vice President of Economic Development, Lansing Economic Area Partnership, 1000 South Washington, Suite 201, Lansing, MI 48912, (517) 702-3387.

If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

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

CP#19-230

Mac Sky owners blame city for business demise

Construction equipment blocked the sidewalk and on-street parking in front of Mackerel Sky in East Lansing last week, a scene all too typical in the past two years, since construction ripped out the center of downtown and built it up again.

Tom Dufelmeier, the co-owner of Mackerel Sky, said this July was the first month in two years, essentially since the construction began, that they made more money than the year before.

Since 1990, the store has specialized in bringing folk art, pottery and china directly from artists to a Michigan clientele. They've also provided a salon where a rotating set of artists are given space to display and sell their wares.

At 70 and still sporting a ponytail from his younger days, Dufelmeier said he and his wife and partner, Linda Dufelmeier, plan to throw in the towel and close shop when Mackerel Sky's lease ends at the end of the year. The loss of their artsy shop would be an ironic blow to the unique character of the college town's center that made it a destination worthy of new development.

Dufelmeier said the ability to run a profitable business ended when the city unilaterally took away the public parking lot behind their business that "99 percent" of their customers used. They said the city was indifferent to the plight of small business when a more lucrative development of new tower housing and a Target box store set its sights on East Lansing.

"They have no idea how a business works," Linda Dufelmeier said, noting Mayor Mark Meadows has had a career in government and the mayor pro tem, Erik Altmann, was a university professor. The city has belatedly opened a public garage, two years after taking away the surface lot. Many of their customers have had to walk a block with fragile items, an inconvenience they believe has discouraged many buyers.

Store clerk Gwynna Lapham, the Dufelmeiers' niece, said many customers are used to the Midwestern convenience of a parking lot and complain when they have to use the garage. Mackerel Sky, with a discount from the city, provides validation to customers.

The disruption of the development has had a negative effect on other business, even those that hadn't relied so heavily on the lost surface lot as Mackerel Sky.

Meg Larned Croft at Woven Art said they took over space from the exiting



Chris Gray/City Pulse

A customer leaves East Lansing art dealer Mackerel Sky, which has suffered amid the construction and plans to close.

Grove Gallery but now are just breaking even. "I am lucky because I am a destination business," drawing people from all over Michigan to buy her yarn. "These kinds of developments drive little businesses out of East Lansing," she said. "If more independent businesses close in East Lansing, I'm not sure I belong here."

Mackerel Sky had already moved once, from the Ann Street Plaza, to get away from another adverse development. The Dufelmeiers aren't willing to move again.

But the owners of Sundance Jewelers, whose old shop on Grand River Avenue was totally displaced by the new Target, feel their own move a block away to a site across from the Marriott on Albert Street, was good for them. "It was the nudge we needed," said store owner Bill Yonkus.

"I see us as a city on the rise. This is going to open up. There's going to be more foot traffic. I'm sorry Mackerel Sky is not going to be there for it," Yonkus said.

Meadows, East Lansing's mayor since 2015, also said he was sad to see Mackerel Sky go. He hoped the Dufelmeiers would reconsider as construction finishes and more people start living downtown, particularly a building for people older than 55 set to open in October. "You'll have a whole new group of people living downtown," Meadows said. "As construction disappears, maybe they'll rethink that."

Meadows said a chronic problem for downtown businesses was weathering

the dramatic drop in business in the summer months when Michigan State students are gone on break. One goal of the new developments is to provide a more stable base for downtown businesses.

The new housing facing Grand River Avenue, designed for students and young professionals, should have full approval for occupancy by the end of the month, with the senior housing nearing completion as well. Next year, the new Graduate Hotel, 130 W. Grand River Ave., will open nearby to compete with the Marriott, and another residential tower will open at the corner of Abbot Road and Grand River, replacing a vacant bank.

The surface lot disappeared, but Meadows said the new garage on Albert Street that is finally coming on line will have twice as many parking spots available to the public, while the city is guaranteed the \$438,000 it earned previously from the new developer for its reserved spaces. The developer's \$200,000 lease will go into the general fund. If any more development comes into downtown than what's already planned, he said the city will be able to replace the aging sewer pipes.

As a big picture, Meadows said he favored more development in the centers of cities and less urban sprawl and was hopeful that increasingly other people do, too. "Our objective is not to develop existing green space," he said. After years of suburban malls "sucking all the diverse retail out of the area," Target decided to plop down in the center of

East Lansing, and other new businesses are springing up around it, including a Foster Coffee, a Jolly Pumpkin brewpub and a Barrio's Mexican restaurant.

"It's hard to predict who's going to be hurt and who's going to thrive," said Meadows, who noted a Blue Owl Coffee shop is prospering in its new East Lansing location after the city struggled to attract an independent coffee place for years.

"The city staff minimize how much people don't like parking ramps," said Jessie Gregg, a candidate for East Lansing City Council, calling them dirty and scary. Gregg, a former journalist at East Lansing Info, recently started up her own small business, Seams, a new and vintage fabric store, in space shared with Woven Art.

She conceded that there are few ways for downtown East Lansing to get more dense or add new development while taking up precious real estate with a large surface parking lot in the center of town.

"The main problem is we're 30 years too late in encouraging dense development downtown," she said. "Mackerel Sky took the brunt of it because it's literally happening in their backyard."

Gregg said the city of East Lansing needs to follow up its new master plan with a citywide overhaul of its zoning codes, which would allow the city to prepare for more development in a rational way instead of adjusting the rules for each developer that comes along.

— CHRIS GRAY

Newcomer hopes to deny Washington a third term

The two-term incumbent Lansing City Councilwoman Jody Washington faces a new kid in town this November: Brandon Betz, a 28-year-old progressive economist and native of Alaska, who moved to Lansing only two years ago.

“The people here are fantastic. The businesses are fun. I love it here,” said Betz, who came here in 2017 after graduate school to take a job with the state of Michigan, analyzing unemployment reports. He works now for the Anderson Economic Group in East Lansing.

He may be a johnny-come-lately, but he has a passion for politics and felt frustrated the heavily Democratic city wasn’t more progressive. “It’s time for real, visionary ideas,” he said. “I meet so many people who are ready for change, the working-class people of the city. ... I’ve got ideas, why don’t I step forward?”

Betz lives on the east side of Lansing with his girlfriend, Melina Brann, dog Ellie and two cats, Carrot and Crouton. He wears yellow horn-rimmed glasses and a neat beard, with a penchant for pastel shirts and colorful socks. He’s fastidious with a necktie, even as he sits at home in socks.

A key difference between Betz and Washington is their attitudes toward marijuana. He wants to lift the rigid caps on marijuana businesses that Washington has supported and allow more local entrepreneurs to get licenses to sell pot. “I think it’s really important that we have local people running these small businesses,” he said, especially in minority communities that for decades were disproportionately tar-

geted in the war on drugs. He’s argued the current rules favor big out-of-state businesses.

He wants to slow down traffic on Michigan Avenue and put in bike lanes. He also wants to boost the number of trees planted all over the ward, ameliorate some of the concrete jungle feel and cool the temperature down during the increasingly hot summers.

Betz wants to take a more careful look at the tax breaks given to big developers and ensure they’re contributing a fair amount to rebuild the city’s ailing infrastructure as well as its job base.

His second-place finish caught some by surprise. Another challenger, Scott Hughes, outraised Betz and Washington, and Hughes had the endorsement of Ingham County Commissioner Mark Grebner as well as Hughes’ boss at the Ingham County Prosecutor’s Office, Carol Siemon. Hughes also had the backing of some members of the local marijuana industry.

But when the chips fell, Washington received 895 votes, and Betz got 633 votes, considerably more than Hughes’ tally of 353 in third place. Betz also won two precincts. One is north of Michigan Avenue and east of Marshall Street, where Betz lives. The other is across Oakland Avenue to the north.

Washington received 40% of the vote, but 60% voted a challenger. And on Nov. 5, that opposition will be consolidated in just one opponent, Betz.

Betz said his grassroots ground game compensated for his smaller campaign money chest. He personally tried to knock on every door in the ward, and he had a dozen volunteers canvassing



Chris Gray/City Pulse

Brandon Betz, 28-year-old economist, is challenging Jody Washington.

the northeast side of Lansing where the First Ward is located, distributing literature.

His father, Tom Betz, who donated \$1,000 to his campaign, works on the Alaska Oil Pipeline, while his mother, Alexi Betz, who gave him \$500, works as a nurse manager in Anchorage. Betz was his own biggest contributor, donating \$1,022 to his campaign.

Betz has degrees from Syracuse University and Brigham Young University. He was raised Mormon, but he left the Church of Latter-Day Saints because of its anti-LGBTQ stances and conservative politics generally. He now considers himself agnostic.

Washington is keeping her focus on nuts-and-bolts issues in the hopes that people will stick with her experience and her long history in the community. “I’m going to work on street funding, sidewalk funding, public safety and our city’s economic viability.” She also maintains the backing of labor unions, as well as the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce.

She wasn’t surprised that Betz out-

matched the better-funded Scott Hughes. He had the endorsements and the money, but Betz seemed to have more volunteers spreading the word about his candidacy.

Washington’s base is in the precincts

south of I496, an area that includes part of REO Town as well as some beleaguered neighborhoods further east. “I put in a lot of time into the neighborhoods that are marginalized so I’m not surprised when I do well there,” she said.

Betz disputes this. Washington lived much of her life as a single mother and lived in public housing. But now he says she’s lost touch with those communities.

“She’s got name ID. She does not do things for the marginalized groups of the city,” Betz said. “She lives in one of the richest subdivisions in the city. She’s been out of touch for a very long time.” Betz was referring to a decade-old development of single-family homes near Central Catholic High School off of Saginaw Street.

He said he was unable to reach voters in working-class quarters like Potter-Walsh because many residents were away at work when he came to the door, and with turnout only at 10 to 15%, the vast majority of people in those neighborhoods didn’t bother to vote at all.

Betz supports ranked-choice voting for municipal races and wants only one election each year, in November, which might boost voter participation. He would also like to move city elections to even years.

He promised not to stop engaging with voters if elected. “I want to have happy hours, coffee hours, with city residents.” After taking a brief breath after the primary, Betz said he would be right back out later this month, raising his profile, knocking on more doors.

— CHRIS GRAY

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Decedent's Estate
FILE NO. 19-937-DE**

Estate of Lewis W. Smith. Date of birth 10/14/27.
TO ALL CREDITORS: *
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Lewis W. Smith, died 6/24/19. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Stephen L. Hall, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

8/6/19

Stephen L. Hall
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CityPULSE



LOCAL EXPERTS

JEWELRY

The phrase DIY vintage jewelry repair should sound an alarm like DIY jet engine repair

Years ago I read a sign hanging in a shop. It read, “Labor charge: \$6.00 an hour regular, \$10.00 an hour to follow your specific instructions or \$20.00 an hour if you fixed it first.”

Anyone who performs any type of service can appreciate the sentiment behind that sign. Perhaps I liked it so much because one of my mentors several decades told me: “This would be so much less work if they didn’t have it fixed before they brought it to us for repair.”

It probably really doesn’t matter if we’re referring to a piece of jewelry, a timepiece, the kitchen sink, or the living trust you are setting up to provide lifelong support to your most cherished loved ones. Getting help from experts saves you from making regrettable mistakes.

That said, I applaud motivation, innovation and pure guts. Just be prepared to face the consequences if you decide to “fix” your watch, your heirloom silver, your precious jewels or your Tesla before taking it to an expert for repair. I know that this probably sounds cynical, but I would truly prefer to be able to charge you less because the work was so much easier.



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BANKING

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College can be one of the most expensive “purchases” in your family’s life, which can cause a lot of questions on how to prepare. Good thing for most parents, there are many options to save for college expenses. Some parents prefer to save for their child’s education with some kind of transaction account, such as a savings account. However, this is not your only option.

A great way to save is a 529-college savings plan, which allows parents to invest after-tax money into diversified, low-cost stock and bond funds. When parents are ready to pay for qualified education expenses, they can then withdraw the money tax-free. For parents who are confident that their child will attend an in-state public university, a prepaid tuition plan is a good alternative to a 529 savings plan. This plan allows parents to pay for tuition credits in advance, at a predetermined price. Other options include: UTMA and UGMA accounts, Coverdell Education Savings Account, taxable investment account and a Roth IRA. For more information visit dartbank.com or any of our local banking offices. Member FDIC.



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Civil rights director still on job, despite Whitmer

When Gretchen Whitmer was running for governor, she pushed her big-named campaign manager to resign because of an accusation of “inappropriate workplace behavior” in a prior race.

So, imagine how agitated the now-governor must be that the director of the Michigan Department of Civil Rights admitted to “objectifying women” in comments to a fellow staff member in May and she can’t do much about it.

Whitmer is saying she’s “deeply concerned” the eight-member Civil Rights Commission didn’t fire Agustin Arbulu after an investigation found he told department communications specialist Todd Heywood (a former City Pulse staffer) that he should check out the “ass” of a woman passing by.

When Heywood, a longtime gay activist, didn’t receive the comments well, Arbulu said it was because he “didn’t like women.” Heywood reported the incident.



POLITICS
KYLE MELINN

Then Arbulu tried to minimize it to a State Equal Employment Opportunity administrator by saying he called his own daughter “hot.” All that did was raise more red flags and turn nearly the entire Senate Democratic Caucus and the Women’s Progressive caucus against him.

Meanwhile, the commission, charged with hiring and firing the director, put a reprimand into Arbulu’s otherwise clean personnel file. They’re telling him to go through some sensitivity coaching. It’s also preventing Arbulu from participating in gender discrimination cases until at least Dec. 31.

“The Michigan Department of Civil Rights is charged with investigating and addressing incidents of discrimination, bias and hate,” read the Senate Democrats’ statement. “We no longer have confidence Dr. Arbulu can appropriately lead in addressing such serious issues.”

Daniel Levy, the Civil rights Department’s director of law and policy, is so bothered by how Arbulu handled the situation in front of the commission

last month he’s taking annual leave “while I contemplate my future.” Arbulu isn’t resigning.

“Not only does it show a continued failure to understand the problem, it has greatly compounded it,” Levy wrote. “While you publicly proclaim that you accept responsibility, you took this occasion to attack and blame it on others.”

That isn’t setting well with Whitmer, who asked Civil Rights Commission Chairwoman Alma Wheeler Smith for a full accounting of what happened and why Arbulu wasn’t run out of town. Only eight months on the job, Whitmer won’t have her first commission appointee in place until Jan. 1 at the earliest. Unless there’s a resignation at some point, she won’t have a majority on the commission until Jan. 1, 2022.

In the meantime, Whitmer can express displeasure. She could join about 20 Democratic legislators and call on Arbulu to resign.

At this point, she hasn’t done the latter. Presumably, it’s because she knows a commission chocked full of Gov. Rick Snyder appointees could blow her off. She’s not interested in looking weak or ineffective.

Smith already declined Whitmer’s request for transcripts and audio records of the commission’s closed session because nothing was archived.

Half the commissioners are Republicans and there’s a sentiment on the board that what Arbulu said, frankly, wasn’t that big of a deal.

As far as creating a hostile work environment for Heywood, again, the commission just didn’t see it. The comment about his daughter, while seemingly strange, is being explained by one source as a type of boast that doesn’t translate well in the American culture.

“The underlying claim did not meet the elements necessary to prove a hostile work environment claim,” said department spokeswoman Vicki Levensgood.

Instead, the commission chose to “try a restorative justice discipline model” with Arbulu that is “in line with the department’s mission,” Smith said. And if it “doesn’t work to the commission’s satisfaction, the commission can take other actions.”

Smith, a former Democratic state senator and gubernatorial candidate from Ann Arbor, earned a reputation in Lansing as a liberal problem solver with little appetite for showboat politics.

Whitmer may not reappoint Smith, when her term is up at the end of the year, but Smith isn’t one to care enough to change her decision-making.

So unless something substantial changes in this developing story, it’s possible that — as far as leadership is concerned — nothing is changing at the Department Civil Rights in the near term.

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

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Absentee voting mailer pays off

A mailer to voters helped boost the turnout in the city of Lansing well above nearby jurisdictions voting on Aug. 6, but it came with a price tag.

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope said his office spent \$11,510 to mail registered voters and encourage them to vote by mail through an absentee ballot. He credited the move for increasing turnout from about 8 percent at a similar election in 2015 to 11 to 14% this year.

A whopping 76% of voters chose to vote absentee in the city of Lansing, while the absentee rate in Meridian Township hit 58 percent and the rate in Eaton County was 54 percent.

Swope credited a mailer he sent out to all voters asking them if they wanted to receive a ballot in the mail. “We’ve been working for years for people who were eligible to get on the permanent list” for absentee voting.

Swope did not have figures yet

available for the costs of this August’s election, but the August 2015 election cost about \$68,000, with roughly \$50,000 for election worker wages and \$18,000 for printing and programming.

The city clerk said the change is dramatically shifting the work toward the clerk’s office and away from polling locations. The city hired 227 polling workers to help with just 26 percent of the vote, while the 28 people in his office counted the absentee votes, which were the lion’s share of the total. Thirty-six people also worked in the office on election night.

Last fall, Michigan voters passed Proposal 3, allowing mail-in, or absentee voting, for any reason. Previously, voters usually needed to be elderly or disabled or declare they would be out of the county on election day to receive an absentee ballot at home.

— CHRIS GRAY

Same old story

The second a Democrat becomes president, Republicans will become fiscal conservatives again

The same week Nancy Pelosi looked President Trump's criminal acts square in the eye and shrugged, she also surrendered her best leverage to counteract the administration's misdeeds while making it more difficult for his Democratic successor — should there be one — to enact a progressive agenda.



JEFFERY C. BILLMAN

INFORMED DISSENT

Some resistance this is.

To back up: The last full week of July, before Congress skipped town for the summer, was dominated by Robert Mueller's testimony. Not the substance of his testimony — which, like his report, made clear that Trump obstructed the investigation into Russian interference — but Mueller's lack of showmanship. Trump being Trump, the week was also full of sideshows: racist attacks on members of Congress (and the city of Baltimore), lashing out at Sweden's prime minister over A\$AP Rocky, his Department of Justice restarting the federal death penalty, etc.

Lost in all of this was a budget deal the administration hashed out with Pelosi that will keep the government running — and extend the debt ceiling — through 2021, ensuring there will

be no government shutdowns or debt defaults for the remainder of Trump's term. Democrats avoided a fight over looming automatic spending caps. Trump, meanwhile got the bloated Pentagon budget he drools over and — though he'll never admit it — more federal spending to prop up the economy headed into an election year.

The GOP's self-appointed fiscal conservatives huffed, or at least made a show of huffing. If nothing else, they knew the hypocrisy was a bad look.

This was the same Republican Party that had fought President Obama's \$700 billion stimulus in the midst of an economic collapse and brought the U.S. to the brink of default to extract spending cuts in 2011, but in 2017 had also lavished the wealthy with \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts during the longest period of economic growth in the post-war era. Now the GOP president who inherited that growing economy will head into an election year with forecasted deficits eclipsing \$1 trillion as far as the eye can see, after his Democratic predecessor cut the deficit in half.

As a rule, presidents get too much credit (or blame) for economic cycles, especially in their first two years in office. Trump is nonetheless an aberration, in that everything he's done has

been focused on short-term benefits at the expense of long-term pain. He walked into a steady if not booming economy that was producing decent job reports and stock market gains, primed by low interest rates and a strengthening real estate sector, and he flooded it with borrowed cash and spent freely.

Republicans swore the 2017 tax cuts would pay for themselves, an obvious lie (or simple ignorance). The tax cuts — Trump's only major legislative accomplishment — gave the economy a sugar high but little else. Growth is already slowing, to 2.1 percent this most recent quarter, about where it was during the Obama years, perhaps

Republicans swore the 2017 tax cuts would pay for themselves, an obvious lie (or simple ignorance). The tax cuts — Trump's only major legislative accomplishment — gave the economy a sugar high but little else.

weighed down by Trump's trade wars. At the same time, Trump has pressured the Federal Reserve to not raise interest rates, as it often does during growth periods to head off inflation.

Fortunately, there are no signs of inflation on the horizon. And the deficits aren't a big deal so long as we're able to continue borrowing at good rates; the national debt, now approaching \$22 trillion, hasn't prevented that, so it's not an acute crisis either.

All is fine, in other words — until it's not.

In June, Duke University's business school reported its quarterly survey of chief financial officers all over the world. Nearly 70 percent believe there will be a global recession by the end of 2020; for the third straight quarter, a majority of U.S. CFOs think so. Perhaps they're wrong about the timing, but when a recession does come, the Fed will have one less tool to fight it, as it can't cut interest rates much lower. Same for Congress, which will be constrained by already low tax rates and already soaring deficits that will be compounded worse by falling tax revenues when people start losing their jobs.

Keeping that in mind, look at what House Democrats agreed to: a spending deal that maintains Trump's tax cuts, drives up the deficit and delays the debt crisis until 2021 — when, if all goes to plan, one of theirs will be in the White House and they'll be setting the agenda.

Know this: As surely as the sun rises, the second a Democrat takes the oath of office, Republicans will stop backsliding and become born-again radicalized fiscal hawks. They won't blink at holding the debt ceiling hostage to force spending cuts, and they certainly won't refrain from using the spiraling deficits they created to lecture us about how we can't afford to combat climate change or expand broken health.

I've seen this movie before.

More immediately, though, think about the opportunities the debt ceiling presented if Democrats were willing to fight dirty — i.e., like Republicans. They could have forced Trump to release his tax returns, or improve the hellish conditions at border detention camps, or stop diverting military funds to his idiotic border wall. They could have even demanded a deal that ended this debt ceiling nonsense once and for all, so no president ever has to live with this threat again.

That would have made sense. Sure, the media would have scolded Pelosi about breaching decorum, and Trump would have had a Twitter meltdown. But unlike in 2011, when Republicans played footsie with default so they could gut programs for the poor, Democrats' goals would be popular. Trump would capitulate because he had no choice.

Instead, Democrats chose not to fight. They wanted to be the adults in the room. That's great, but I'd rather get children out of cages.

(Jeffrey Billman is the editor of INDY Week, in Durham, North Carolina.)



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Infertility is not just a woman's issue

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

According to the World Health Organization, infertility is “a disease of the reproductive system defined by the failure to achieve a clinical pregnancy after 12 months or more of regular unprotected sexual intercourse.” Elizabeth Walker, 41, a photographer and infertile art activist, has spent the past five years working to deconstruct that definition.

Walker and Maria Novotny started ART of Infertility in 2014, not long after Walker spent four unsuccessful years trying to conceive a child. The nonprofit started as an art exhibit, pairing oral histories of people impacted by the disease with their artwork. The showcase has entered hospitals and galleries in Arizona, Switzerland and, most recently, Michigan State University's Broad Art Lab for a weeklong exhibit.

“Infertility is one of those diseases that have a perception about what it looks like,” said Walker, the co-founder and co-director of the project. “Through the art, we kind of dispel those myths and show that it impacts everyone.”

The first exhibit took place in March 2014 at the Ella Sharp Museum in Jackson. At that time, Walker was the only exhibiting artist.

Today she's amassed a collection of over 200 pieces from artists around the U.S.

Walker, a former staff photographer at MSU, dug out her camera again when she embarked on her infertility journey in 2011. One of her most iconic photographs is titled “Crib with Medication Boxes,” which captures nearly \$10,000 worth of fertility medication she compiled in one In-Vitro Fertilization cycle and juxtaposes them with traditional symbolism of motherhood.

In addition to displaying artwork, the exhibits include a writers' workshop called “Reproduction Writes,” led by Robin Sibergleid, the director of MSU's creative writing program and faculty adviser for the nonprofit. As part of the Undergraduate Research Initiative at the College

ART of Infertility: Opening Reception

Free
Tuesday, Aug. 20
6-8 p.m.
Michigan State University
Broad Art Lab
565 E. Grand River Ave.
Lansing, MI
(517) 884-4800
Details on activities available
at facebook.com/msuartlab

of Arts and Letters, Sibergleid has worked with a handful of students to study the barriers to reproductive care as well as collecting oral histories.



Courtesy Photo

Myria Novotny (left) and Elizabeth Walker co-founded ART of Infertility to create a safe, creative space for those impacted by infertility

As a single mother by choice, Sibergleid, 46, said being pregnant was something she “had to work for.” She explained that people like her who experienced “social infertility” — people who find it hard to conceive because of their age or other factors, such as sexuality — are largely overlooked in the traditional definition of infertility, which excludes fertile heterosexual couples, as well as individuals of various ages, genders and lifestyles.

Examples of common, untold stories of infertility range from unsuccessful IVF treatments and men with low sperm counts, to gay couples seeking gestational surrogates and transwomen advocating for access to uterine transplants.

The organization's efforts to carve out an identity-affirming space earned them the Hope Award for Innovation from the National Infertility Association in 2018. Shortly after, the nonprofit partnered with the association on collecting individual's experiences with assisted reproductive technology — also referred to as ART. Walker said the project collected autobiographical photo essays and “took them to legislative offices on Capitol Hill.”

Walker and Sibergleid said their

art showcases are just as much for in-patients as they are for people unaffected by the disease.



Courtesy Photo

“Lady in Waiting,” by Jessie Dietz-Bieske

“This really isn't for infertile people,” Walker said. “It definitely is a safe space for people who identify as infertile, but really it's for all people to experience the art and art making.”



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CURTAIN CALL

Over the Ledge's saucy 'Summer Retreat' offers solace

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

A welcomed escape from some of this season's disturbing events is "Summer Retreat." The play is a fun, two-hour spree with laughs, surprises, laughs, emotional moments, laughs, shocks and more.

Review

The Over the Ledge Theatre Co.'s production is engaging, starting with an elaborate set, designed and built by Mary Job, Jeff Miller and Joseph Dickson, which takes

"Summer Retreat"

Thursday, Aug. 14
– Sunday, Aug. 18
8 p.m., \$10
The Ledges Playhouse
137 Fitzgerald Park Drive,
Grand Ledge, MI
overtheledge.org/box-office.html

the audience to a homey cabin on a lake in Northern Michigan. Set dressings and props by Chelsea Witgen and Job, include a full kitchen complete with appliances, a sink, stocked fridge and cupboards.

Exterior logs, real wood walls, glass windows and a doorway with views of leafy scenery add realism. Frequent "indoor" and "outdoor" sound effects by Bryan Ruhf contribute to the authenticity.

The attention to details for the kitchen reminded me of the set for Disney's "Carousel of Progress," which debuted at the 1964 World's Fair in New York City and eventually made its way to Disneyworld in Florida.

And similar to that experience, I felt transported to another place far, far away from the inside a barn in Grand Ledge. A key difference was "Summer Retreat" has no animatronics. The play's cast are very much alive, energetic and human.

The comedic show focuses on three women in their 50s who meet at a remote cabin where they once partied and bonded during their college years. Job, who is also the director, chose the ideal cast to play the trio of very different characters. Job also has a knack for expert blocking on a large stage.

LeAnn Dethlefsen as Amy, Gay Oliver as Sian and Emily English Clark as Caroline convincingly embody longtime friends who love and sometimes hate

each other. Shep, played by Erin Hoffman, is the uninvited misfit who completes the quirky, quipping quartet.

Each player suits her evolving role, displaying a distinctive persona that commands attention. Annie Martin's script gives them opportunities to offer exaggerated and physical comedy. With apparent ease, Hoffman especially flaunts a cartoonish, and sometimes rude, goofiness that can be annoying and very likeable at the same time.

Individually, the team members are brimming with talent. As an interacting ensemble, the foursome is formidable. When the sum is better than the parts, and the parts are already impressive, the collaborative result is especially remarkable.

Rick Dethlefsen plays the Man with some scene-stealing skills of his own. Although his stage time is limited, Dethlefsen's performance is memorable. The Man's appearance is one of many surprises in a play that sometimes seems predictable, but is actually full of more twists than a six-foot-long dreadlock.

The reminiscing, themes and humor of "Summer Retreat" are loaded with grownup content. Shocks include F-bombs, breast grabbing, smoking weed and a dropping of pants and undies — all to the delight of the audience.

The play isn't all merriment. Emotional and sad moments give it more depth while making us more absorbed in the action.

The conversations and camaraderie between the women seem accurate. I found it hard to imagine a man being able to write the play's decidedly female-point-of-view dialogue as Martin did. The playwright also makes it appealing to adults of any age.

When Dickson made the introductory speech at the start of the show and gave the house rules, he never mentioned the customary warning to silence phones and electronic devices. As it turned out, Dickson didn't need to. During "Summer Retreat," I never once noticed a bothersome glow from a phone. Clearly, the audience was too riveted by the show to even think about using one.



Courtesy Photo

Left to right: Gay Oliver, LeAnn Dethlefsen and Erin Hoffman command the stage with their uncompromisingly bold characters.

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PRESENTS

EVICTED

POVERTY AND PROFIT IN THE AMERICAN CITY

BY MATTHEW DESMOND

PRESENTED BY:



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This program is funded in part by the Michigan Humanities Council, an affiliate of the National Endowment of the Humanities.

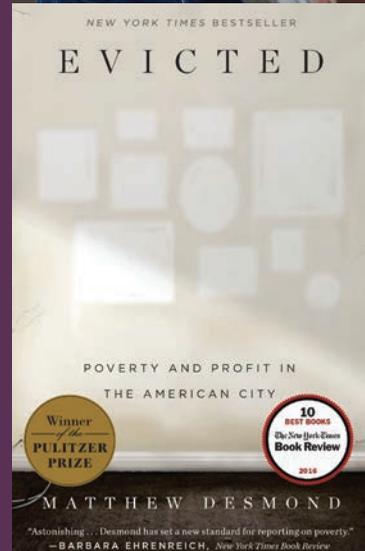
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"Astonishing... Desmond has set a new standard for reporting on poverty."
—BARBARA EHRENREICH, *New York Times* Book Review

Erin Bartels exposes tales from family photographs

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Lansing author Erin Bartels' debut book, "We Hope for Better Things," is difficult to define. I'd like to tell you more, but delving too much into its plot and characters will ruin a great

Author talk and signing with Elizabeth Bartels

Thursday, Sept. 5

7 p.m.

Schuler Books – Meridian Mall
1982 Grand River Ave. Okemos
www.schulerbooks.com

read. The book is a complex, historical tale spanning more than 150 years and three generations of strong women.

It's also a mercurial mystery, wrapped up in a cache of photographs

taken during the 1967 Detroit riot. Elizabeth, the contemporary protagonist and crusading reporter, is approached by two men who want the photos from the riot returned to their rightful owner. The two men know who the owner is but want Elizabeth to help make the connection since she's



Erin Bartels

Courtesy Photo

related to the owner, something she is clueless about.

"In the book I wanted to tell a story about a box of photographs and what you can know from them," Bartels said.

In Bartels' book, the photos not only provide a connection to the past, but Elizabeth learns that they hold a key to long-held family secrets. After being fired for bungling a story on the Detroit riots, Elizabeth finds herself living with her great-aunt Nora in rural Lapeer, where even handmade family quilts tell part of the story.

In more than 380 pages, Bartels pulls all the pieces together. Discerning readers can follow along as she uses distinct storylines told by three alternating characters who are all part of the same family tree. Hints dropped along the way tie together the Civil War, the '60s civil rights movement, and modern-day race relations.

"The novel's plot was inspired by my dad who was the family photographer. Since he was taking the pictures, he wasn't in many photographs," Bartels said.

Bartels devoured books as a child and teenager in her hometown of Essexville, Michigan. In high school, she was inspired by her English teacher to read broadly. Her second home was the quaint Carnegie Library in downtown Bay City, where she would get little stars for every book she read.

Bartels is a member of the Capital City Writers Association and was a finalist in the Saturday Evening Post 2014 Great American Fiction Contest. She lives on the east side of Lansing with her husband and son.

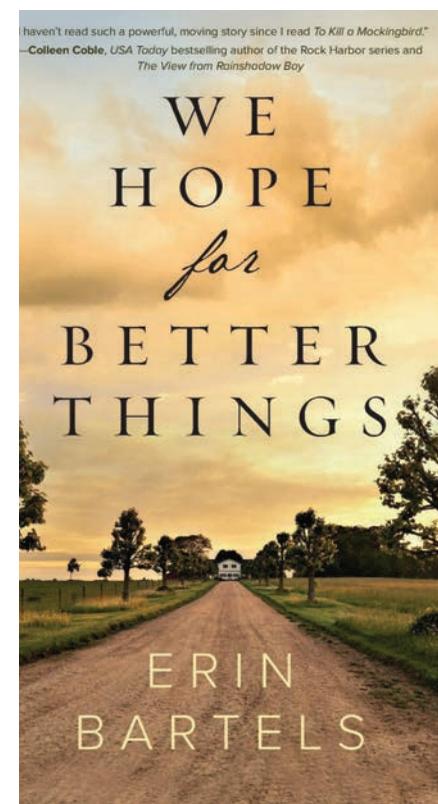
In addition to her study of classic literature at Grand Valley State University, Bartels knows a lot about books. For 17 years, she's been writing the copy which appears on the back of a book's jacket, or cover, at Baker Publishing in Grand Rapids.

"Blurbs are what I do for a living," she said.

The author estimates she has written the back-cover copy for more than 2,000 books.

When asked if she could've written her own book blurb, she said she'd start with "Elizabeth, an investigative reporter, learns her family has skeletons when ..."

Although race and race relations play a major role in "We Hope for Bet-



Courtesy Photo

Erin Bartel's latest novel is a coming of age journey that weaves family narratives and historical events in Michigan.

ter Things," the story is told through three white protagonists, said Bartels, who is also white.

"I am well aware of the dangers of writing about such a subject," she wrote in the author's note. "I am aware of the possibility that I have gotten something wrong. I am aware of the pitfalls of writing characters of color as a white woman. I have done my best to avoid stereotypes and cultural appropriation."

Most readers will understand, I believe, that Bartels did not use race as a prop in her novel, but she said, "That's legitimate conversation about who can write about what."

Bartels will be at Schuler Books & Music at Meridian Mall on Sept. 5 for a discussion, signing and for the release of her new novel, "The Words Between Us."

The new book is set in a city much like Bay City and is what she calls "a book on books" where books play a central role in the plot. The protagonist, a bookshop owner, is covering up some dark family secrets when a youthful flame contacts her using books as messengers.

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STEPHANIE BURGIS

August 17 • 1-3pm

East Lansing local author returns home for a signing event with us! She's bringing along her two recently published titles *The Girl with the Dragon Heart* and *The Dragon with a Chocolate Heart*.

MAGIC/KEYFORGE GAME NIGHT

August 20 • 6pm

Play Magic or KeyForge in a casual, friendly environment. Commander is the most popular Magic format these nights. All Magic products are 20% off for those who attend the event.

SCHULER BOOK CLUB

August 21 • 6pm

Join us monthly for the Schuler Book Club—a great way to create community, and engage with new books. Stop in our store for this month's book to get started.

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SchulerBooks.com/Event
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The Cheap Section

The best places to spend under \$10 on food in Lansing

Ditch the dollar deal fast food pumped with preservatives and siphoning money for the local Lansing market. If looking for a cheap meal or snack, stick to these great deals offered by Lansing and Michigan-based organizations.

\$1 Pizza Slice – Toarmina’s

Hot and ready to go, Toarmina’s offers \$1 slices and breadsticks out of a self-serve station on Michigan Avenue. Patrons can choose from a veggie, cheese, pepperoni and supreme pizzas. Breadsticks are also \$1 each.

\$2 Elote – Mexicone Sweets and Treats

This Mexican corn dish sees an ear of Michigan’s finest sweet corn doused with Cotija cheese, red seasonings and mayo. Served on a stick with a slice of

lime on the side, the elote is a cheap summer classic made to be eaten in the sunshine — just don’t forget to grab a napkin!

\$3 Polish sausage with all the fixings – Clint’s Hot Dog Cart

A snappy Polish sausage with all the works at Clint’s Hot Dog cart can fill any stomach. Owner Clint Tarver uses premium Polish sausage from a market on Mt. Hope Avenue and his own home-made chili. Tarver’s specialties are often overlooked Lansing classic as he has been there for over 25 years.

\$4 Breakfast Burrito – El Oasis

With a choice of meat, this brick of a burrito with eggs, potatoes, tomatoes, onions, peppers and choice of meat is fast and filling at a reasonable price.

Resist the urge to buy guacamole and sneak out with a meal worthy of a king on the budget of a peasant.

\$5 Beer, Burger and Fries combo – Dagwoods

One of Lansing’s oldest dive bars maintains one of the best deals in town. Catch a game and partake in its all day special of a domestic pint, Dag burger and fries for full Americana fervor.

\$6 Two Empanadas – La Cocina Cubana

Get two filling pockets of Cuban goodness with choice of meat at this downtown staple. Owner Illiana Almaguer-Tamayo cooks everything from scratch, making meals that remind her of her childhood in Cuba.

\$7 Fish and Chips – Olympic Broil

Based on the “Olympian Cafe” from a Saturday Night Live skit with John Belushi, owner Mike Alexander’s Olympic Broil has served thousands of olive burgers, gyros and fish platters over the past 40 years. “I drive my 10-year-old Camry down here, park it in my favorite spot and come in here at 6:45 a.m. in the morning to make all the fish, chicken, mushrooms and onion rings all from scratch,” Alexander said.

\$8 Pad Thai Noodles – Naing Myanmar

Owned and operated by husband and wife Moe Israel and Mi Thanda, Naing Myanmar Family Restaurant makes everything in house with some of the best authentic Asian food offerings in the area. Try the pad thai noodles to taste

See \$10 Food, Page 16

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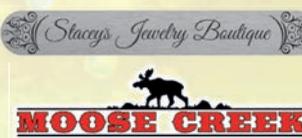


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The Cheap Section

\$20 date nights in Lansing

Date nights are getting ridiculously expensive. Even the very vanilla dinner and a movie date can set someone back well over \$100 with drinks, food, tickets and popcorn — What a rip off!

Don't let worrying about a budget keep you detached from the moment. Check out these cost-effective ways to keep the fire going without breaking the bank in the capital city.

Downtown — Soup and zany biology or astronomy facts

Midtown Brewing Co. has some seriously delicious homemade soups and chili. Grab two goblets of this treasure (\$14 + tip) and resist the urge to drink a budget draining craft brew before heading over to The Loft to see MSU professors and students present nutty and entertaining biology or astronomy facts from goofy slideshows cover free. The monthly shows alternate between subjects. It is part seminar and comedy routine, washed down well with some nice domestic lawnmower beer (\$6 for two).

Midtown Brewing Co.

402 S. Washington Sq., Lansing, MI
(517) 977-1349

The Loft

414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI
(517) 913-0103

REO Town — Local music and BBQ get down

Share slow-cooked pulled pork with a side of mac and cheese (\$12.50) in the shadow of Wynken, Blynken and Nod in REO Town, then migrate next door for open mic night at Blue Owl. Lansing's best musicians frequent the place for the night and patrons can hear the spectrum of the local performance scene from spoken word poetry to jangly folk music, contemporary hip-hop to old school blues. Dodge the latte urge for simple drip coffee or tea (about \$6 for two) to sip on for the night.

Saddleback BBQ

1147 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, MI
(517) 306-9002

Blue Owl Coffee

1149 S. Washington Ave., Lansing, MI
(517) 575-6836

See \$20 Dates, Page 17

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\$10 Food

from page 15

the difference and come back for dozens of other delicious offerings in the same price range.

\$9 Cabo Hash — Art's Pub

This popular eastside establishment serves breakfast bowls of serious proportions. Try the Cabo Hash with chorizo, redskin potato, sweet potato, pick-

led red onion, queso fresco, cheddar and sunny side up eggs topped with pico de gallo and lime crema.

\$10 Lunch Buffet — Cask and Co.

The soul of the former Xiao Asian Bistro at the Cask and Co. location lives on during the bar's lunch buffet. For only \$10, patrons can get access to hand made sushi, Asian take out classics and more.

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The Cheap Section

\$20 Dates

from page 16

Old Town – Beer, pizza and belly laughs

Ozone's Brewhouse brings in some of the best comedians in Michigan for its comedy night. Better yet, it's free. Enjoy a pizza hot off the stone from Captain's Wood Fired Pies (\$10) before sampling two beer pours (\$10 for two) from the brewery itself for a rollicking time. Just remember to get there early as parking and space fills up fast at the microbrewery.

Ozone's Brewhouse
305 Beaver St., Lansing, MI
(517) 999-2739

South Lansing – Swim, dine and sing

Start the evening with a nice swim at the adult-only swim time of Moore's Park pool. Admission is free regardless of residency. Afterward, head over to Huapei for two entrees of Chow Mein (\$14 for two with tip included). Once the last noodle leaves the bowl, it's time for karaoke night at Le Roy's Bar. Depending on vocal talent and the tenacity of the listener, who gets the last shot (\$5) can be decided as follows – It can be used to let a singer loosen some nerves or the listener get through the screechy off-key bellows of their partner.

Moore's Park Swimming Pool
420 Moore's River Dr., Lansing, MI
(517) 371-2778
Huapei
401 E. Mt. Hope Ave.
(517) 484-0846

East side – Beer and shawarma combo with a side of jazz

Wrapped with care from Jerusalem Bakery, eat two shawarma sandwiches (\$10) at the long time Mediterranean establishment before heading off down the street for a cover free Jazz Tuesday at Moriarty's Pub. The longstanding

tradition is frequented by out of town and local greats. Once again, the budget allows for two beers to sip on (\$10) while the music is flowing.

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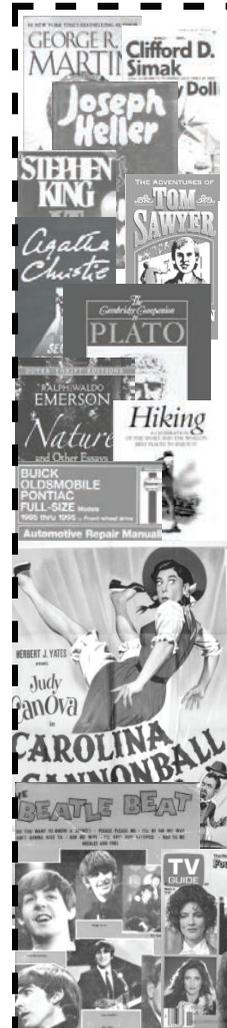
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Thrifty sisters maneuver the city for cheap summer activities

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

The secret to Sarah Hart and Olivia Rice's bond is their mutual desire for adventure and cheap outings. Over the past three years, the two have become experts at finding inexpensive hangs with high degrees of wheelchair accessibility.

The pair met at the special-education Heartwood School in Mason, where Rice was one of Hart's students. Rice, 27, has cerebral palsy and an underlying progressive neurological condition which requires her to use a wheelchair. Toward the end of Rice's time in school, her best friend died. Hart, 31, asked Rice if she wanted to join her in running a 5K in her friend's honor, and the two have been inseparable ever since.

Hart said it was frustrating when she and Rice first started hanging out because people would assume she was

Rice's mother.

"The problem I think is people see someone with a disability in public and they think the only person who would take them out is someone from their family," Hart said.

After consulting Rice's actual mother, Hart started referring to Rice as her sister when in public. When Rice graduated from Heartwood, she was moved to a group home where "they just sat the residents in front of the TV," according to Hart.

"For Liv, the real focus was taking her out," She added. "Nobody gets out much except for her."

Favorite low-cost summer activities

This year's best low-cost hang was participating in the Lansing Fourth of July Parade with the East Lansing Roller Derby team, which Hart officiates for. Hart said the duo started out with a Dollar General haul for "patriotic nonsense" to decorate Rice's chair. Other activities Rice enjoyed were watching the East Lansing roll-

er-gals practice — which is completely free — and attending this year's state tournament (\$10 for adults).

Second on the list this season came Hawk Island. There is a \$3 charge for residents to park your car. The paved sidewalks from the parking lot to the water park make it easy for Rice and Hart to maneuver. After putting a trash bag over Rice's chair, she could experience the splash pad and its mushroom-like fountains.

New this summer, the thrifty duo has dived into antique shopping, naming the Mega Mall as their favorite location. Hart finds antique sales around the area through Facebook, but she recommends that even if a store says they are wheelchair accessible, to still call ahead for clarification.

Not the best hang

On the not-so-great list for accessible adventures are older buildings, such as the Turner-Dodge House, in north Lansing. The Victorian building does have a ramp to get inside, but there is no access above the first floor for those with mobility restrictions. While attending a donation-based event at the old residence last year, Hart had to haggle to not be charged for two adults, considering all the ac-

tion was taking place on the second floor.

"We went to an antique store in Mason and there was a step, so I opened the door and asked the lady where the accessible entry was, and she was like, 'Let me go check in the back,'" remarked Hart. "I was like 'How do you not know if your building is accessible or not?'"

The woman returned with bad news and assured Hart that one single step wouldn't make much of a difference. Hart, a paraprofessional that provides in-home care, thought otherwise and she took Rice home.

Overall, Hart said that most places are easy access, including East Lansing's free downtown concert series, MSU's botanical gardens and the Downtown Lansing Library. Hart added that while she and Rice both have the means to attend ticketed events, free events offer more "interesting" experiences.

"If you are willing to put in the effort to try something new, generally it's worth it," she said. "Trying new things should never be disappointing just because you are with someone who has a mobility restriction or disability."

The Cheap Section



END OF SUMMER CLEARANCE

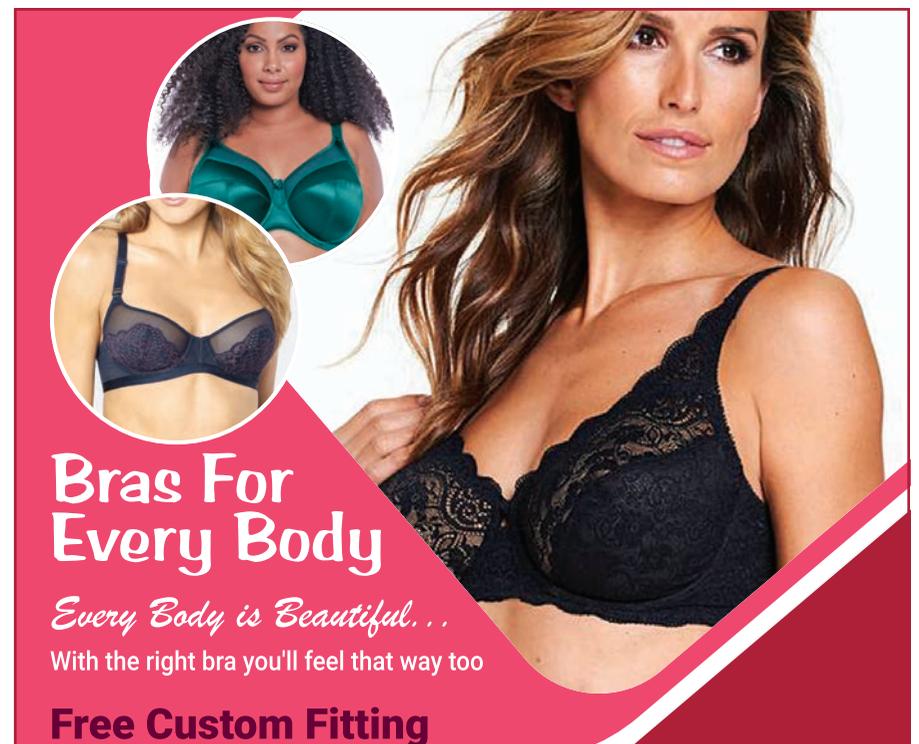
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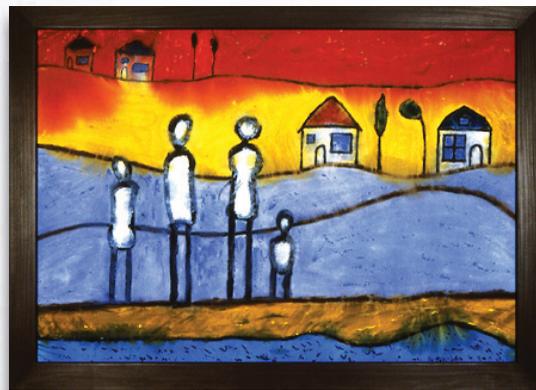
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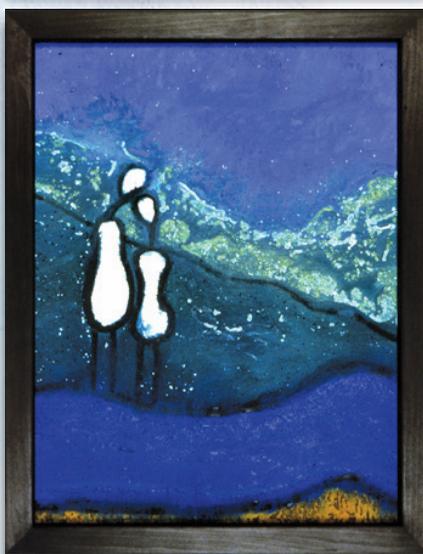
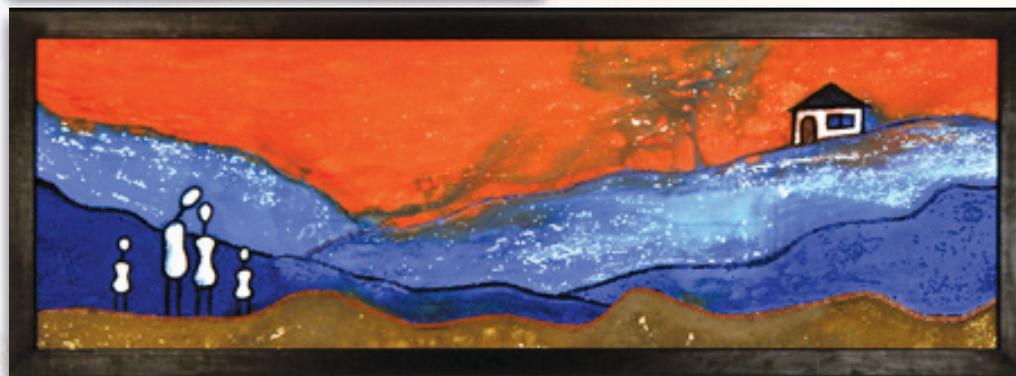
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Lansing's co-housing options provide cheap community living

By DENNIS BURCK

Lansing's housing cooperatives and cohousing organizations provide reasonable rent with all utilities included, if you don't mind cleaning dishes and doing chores around the house. With

most rental spaces ranging around \$400 a month with utilities, shared housing can be a means to save big bucks on the costs of living.

Formed in 1969, the Michigan State University Student Housing Co-op owns 17 homes which serve 240 members within the Lansing and East Lansing area. Applicants do not need to be MSU students to become members.

"We actually don't call it rent because members aren't renting in the co-op. They actually own the space and time when they are here," said Nola Warner, the member services coordinator.

Despite sharing the university's name, the MSU Student Housing Co-op is an autonomous organization independent of the school.

The co-op's three houses on Collingwood Street bear the symbol of two pine trees surrounded by a circle.

"That is the international cooperative symbol, the twin pines," Warner said. "The circle represents an everlasting system while the pines are evergreen and everlasting as well."

At the corner of Albert Street sits the Miles Davis co-op house. A part of the MSU Student Housing Co-op since 1991, the two-level property is the home of six owners.

Matthew Mandryk, a member of Miles Davis house, has lived in the housing co-op for two years.

"There is a tremendous sense of community here," Mandryk said. "I go to my friends' places who have apart-

ments and ask, 'Do you talk to your neighbors?' They usually don't. That is so strange to me."

He added that before moving to Miles Davis, he lived in a 22-person house.

"It is more of an intimate space and I've become close to almost everyone in the house," he said.

Warner said though co-ops can undercut market rates significantly, the model doesn't allow for fast growth.

"The answer why is affordability," Warner remarked. "It's our mission as a co-op to retain affordability. We can't do that and grow exponentially at the same time. We can only afford to grow as our assets and equity builds."

She added that a lot of housing co-ops "just sit on their assets, so to speak." The money that the co-ops bring in often meets the regular expenses, leaving little room for extra spending.

Another cohousing group operates on Genesee Street on Lansing's westside. Founded in 2003, Genesee Gardens Cohousing is a retrofitted cohousing community that spans over 10 homes.

"Co-housing is quite different from a co-op," said Mike Hamlin, a resident of the Genesee Gardens Cohousing. "We have common values and make decisions from consensus with a common house, which we see as a shared piece of property. Other than that, we all have our own spaces."

The organization was formed from home-owning neighbors who wanted to see organic change on their block. Its namesake Genesee Gardens is a shared space between all properties with flowers, vegetables, herbs and a chicken coop.

"We formed a condo association for the first four houses so we can share this garden because it is a language the

city understands," Hamlin said. "But unlike traditional condos, we are using and renovating what is already here."

Some members were inspired by the story of the N Street Cohousing community in California, Hamlin said. The movement saw Kevin Wold and Linda Cloud tear down their fences to unite with a home next door in 1986. The action had a snowball effect over the next 30 years and eventually saw 21 houses tear down their fences to share a common green space in 2018.

The Genesee Gardens Cohousing group maintains a common house with rooms available to rent at \$360 a month with all utilities included. A peek inside the cohousing property reveals an abundance of piecemeal couches arranged in the living room and large dining table stocked with garden-fresh vegetables.

The bottom floor of the common house functions primarily as a gathering space, Hamlin said.

"We have a vegan and a chef living here so we get some pretty amazing things in the kitchen," Hamlin said.

There is more to the cohousing community than just a good deal, he added.

"We have people that are interested in just the price, but we try to be a little bit picky with that and find someone with shared values," Hamlin said. "Aside from the low price, when you move in you'll immediately know 25 neighbors in your community."

The residents of Genesee Gardens Cohousing believe that sharing resources makes sense for the betterment of the community.

"Take a snowblower for example," he said. "Why should everyone have to buy one to use it for only 20 minutes and put it away when we can share one?"



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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 Suzi at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, August 14

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Charlotte Area Sports Performance Training - Learn the fundamentals. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

Down on the Farm - 9:15 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

What's So Funny - Learn about humor. The goals of these sessions are to learn a little, laugh a lot. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

EVENTS

AgroExpo - Come visit the AgroExpo. 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. AgroLiquid- North Central Research Station, 5605 N. Findlay Rd., St. Johns.

Allen Farmers Market - 2:30-7 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/market/

Grief and Loss - Drop in sessions. 2:30-3:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Lansing Area Mindfulness Community - weekly practice 7-9 p.m.

Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S MLK., Lansing. 517-420-5820. lamc.info.

Post-Polio Support Group - 1:30-3 p.m. Edgewood United Church of Christ, 469 N. Hagadorn Rd, East Lansing.

Tribute from a Grateful Nation: Honoring Those Who Serve - Our nation owes a great debt to those who serve our nation every decade, every year, every day of our country's existence. 7-9:30 p.m. Trinity Church, 3355 Dunckel Rd., Lansing.

ARTS

Acrylic Pour Painting (Adults) - Wear clothes that can get stained. Registration required: 517-694-9351. 5-6 p.m. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 N. Aurelius Rd., Holt. cadl.org.

Answers In The Dark- Jordyn Fishman & Curt LaCross Exhibition. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 119 N Washington Sq, Ste 101, Lansing. 517-374-6400.

Beach Terrariums at Blue Gill Grill - Make your own beach terrarium. 6:30-8 p.m. Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd, Haslett.

Clay on the Pottery Wheel - Summer - 4:30-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Spiral Rope Bracelet - Learn the spiral stitch. Materials provided. 1-3 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Teen Open Studio: Portfolio - Summer - 4:30-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

MUSIC

Concert in the Park - William E. Tennant Performance Shell St. Johns City Park 7-9:30 p.m. cityofstjohnsmi.com.

Thursday, August 15

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Down on the Farm - 9:15 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

EVENTS

Autism Support Group - for individuals caring for children with Autism. 6:30-



ArtFeast in Old Town

The Old Town Commercial Association is bringing its art-food festival back to Turner Street for the fifth year in a row. The festival started in 2014 with only

ArtFeast

Saturday, Aug. 17
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Old Town Lansing
Corner of Turner Street
and
E. César E Chavez
Avenue
(517) 485-4283

19 art vendors. Saturday's event will feature 91. The artist market is specifically for handmade goods ranging from acrylic paint on canvas, healing

crystal jewelry and natural soap. Four food vendors will be on site, including Ice Box Brand gourmet ice cream bars, Bangos, Fire and Rice and From Scratch Food Truck.

"This is a growing festival and does many things to create a better economy, including giving a platform for many new artists as well as bringing new visitors to the community," said OTCA Executive Director Vanessa Shafer, the lead coordinator of the festival.

7:30 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

Bath Township Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13751 Main St., Bath. shopbfm.org.

Country Line Dancing & Lessons at VFW Post #7309 - 7-9 p.m. 1243 Hull Rd., Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

DeWitt Ox Roast - 113 S. Bridge Street, DeWitt. michigan.org.

Drop-in LEGO Club (Age 4 & up) - Children under 8 must be accompanied by a family member age 12 or older. 3-4 p.m. CADL Webberville, 115 N. Main St., Webberville. 517-521-3643. cadl.org.

Renegade Theater Festival - Theatre presented all across Lansing showcasing original plays. 8 a.m.-10 p.m. lansingmi.gov.

Summer Retreat by Annie Martin - 8 p.m. Over the Ledge Theatre Co, Ledges Theatre, 137 Fitzgerald Park Dr., Grand Ledge. 517-318-0579. overtheledge.org.

TDL August 2019 - It's Time To Network! 2-4 p.m. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee, Lansing.

ARTS

Comics & Zines - Summer - 4:30-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Crafting for a Cause - A gathering to support and serve our community through crafting. 4-5:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. grandledge.lib.mi.us.

Kids Clay: Beginners - Summer - 4:30-5:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804

See Out on the town, Page 25

Thursday, Aug. 15 >> MUSIC IN THE GARDEN: BELLE COTY



Drift away to the sweet sounds of the harp while basking in the bliss of Michigan State University's W.J. Beal Botanical Garden. MSU student and harpist Belle Coty will pluck joyful tunes composed by Tailleferre, Grandjany and more, surely evoking visuals of flowing water and frolicking children among flowers.

7-8 p.m., free
W.J. Beal Botanical Garden
333 W. Circle Dr., East Lansing,
(517) 353-5340

Friday, Aug. 16 >> HERO FEST 2019 AT COOLEY LAW SCHOOL STADIUM



The objective of Hero Fest is to connect veterans, current active-duty military, National Guard and Reserve members. Residents from the tri-county area are encouraged to participate in this veteran-centered event. Servicepeople will receive a door prize and eat for free. This family-friendly event will include children's activities as well as vending tables covering information from social security, to college and Medicaid.

10 a.m. - 1 p.m., free
Cooley Law School Stadium
505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 485-4500

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Kickin' It Around!"-- visualize your goals.

by Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Door piece
- 5 "Good Eats" host Brown
- 10 Geometric art style
- 14 Miscellany
- 15 Jordan heard in "Toy Story 4"
- 16 Island WNW of Molokai
- 17 Speedometer locations
- 19 Sandpaper grade
- 20 Song starter
- 21 Oktoberfest snack
- 23 Language suffix
- 24 2006 Nintendo debut
- 26 High-priced Japanese beef
- 29 Part of the French Revolution noted for guillotines
- 34 Brad's "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood" costar
- 35 New Zealander, informally
- 36 Workout unit
- 37 Corner office occupant
- 40 Pageant wear
- 42 Kiddo
- 43 Waze, for one
- 44 ___ Bizkit
- 45 Intelligence-gathering org.
- 47 Cheerleader's equivalent to "jazz hands"
- 51 Willamette University locale
- 52 Positive vote
- 53 "Barry" network
- 56 Canadian beer orders
- 60 Word after trade or credit

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17				18							19			
20					21					22				
23				24	25					26			27	28
			29	30			31	32	33					
				34			35					36		
37	38	39			40	41					42			
43				44				45	46					
47			48				49					50		
51							52					53	54	55
			56			57	58	59		60	61			
62	63					64			65					
66						67						68		
69						70						71		

- 62 Pro sports org. with teams whose names begin the four theme entries
- 64 Annual June celebration
- 66 Leave suddenly
- 67 Like almost all music
- 68 ___ noire (fearsome thing)
- 69 Overly ornate
- 70 "Thong Song" performer
- 71 Georgia used to be part of it
- 7 Oreg., formerly
- 8 "Ye" follower, sometimes
- 9 Fit like Russian dolls
- 10 Folded-over page corner
- 11 Tea flavored with bergamot
- 12 Life force
- 13 On loan
- 18 Ziggy Stardust's alter ego
- 22 Two, to Tom Tykwer
- 25 Outfielder's yell
- 27 Part of NYSE
- 28 Instinctive impulse
- 30 Golfer Ernie
- 31 Giraffe-like creature
- 32 Christmas tree type
- 33 Like some country songs
- 37 Les Claypool's instrument
- 38 "___ Gangnam style ..."
- 39 Tells a secret
- 41 Global currency org.
- 42 Steamrolled stuff
- 44 Life partner?
- 46 No-___ (gnat)
- 48 "Are you kidding me?"
- 49 Where Microsoft trades
- 50 Polishes
- 54 Bertie ___ Every Flavour Beans ("Harry Potter" candy)
- 55 "___ Majesty's Secret Service"
- 57 Units with nos.
- 58 "Star Trek" counselor Deanna
- 59 Sardine containers
- 61 Celebrity chef Matsuhisa, or his restaurant
- 62 Pelicans' gp.
- 63 Kids' card game for two
- 65 "Xanadu" group, initially

Down

- 1 "Hotel Artemis" star Foster
- 2 Alda and Arkin, for two
- 3 Title that's usually abbreviated
- 4 1922 physics Nobelist Niels
- 5 GI's address
- 6 "___ lizards!" (comment from Annie)

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Answers Page 25

SUDOKU

Beginner

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

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 25

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

August 14 - August 20, 2019

ARIES (March 21-April 19): How did sound technicians create the signature roar of the fictional monster Godzilla? They slathered pine-tar resin on a leather glove and stroked it against the strings of a double bass. How about the famous howl of the fictional character Tarzan? Sonic artists blended a hyena's screech played backwards, a dog's growl, a soprano singer's fluttered intonation slowed down, and an actor's yell. Karen O, lead singer of the band Yeah Yeah Yeahs, periodically unleashes very long screams that may make the hair stand up on the back of her listeners' necks. In accordance with astrological omens, I'd love to see you experiment with creating your own personal Yowl or Laugh or Whisper of Power in the coming weeks: a unique sound that would boost your wild confidence and help give you full access to your primal lust for life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): "If your dreams do not scare you, they are not big enough," said Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, ex-President of Liberia. In accordance with astrological imperatives, I propose that we make that your watchword for the foreseeable future. From what I can tell, you're due to upgrade your long-term goals. You have the courage and vision necessary to dare yourself toward an even more fulfilling destiny than you've been willing or ready to imagine up until now.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): How did our ancestors ever figure out that the calendula flower can be used as healing medicine for irritated and inflamed skin? It must have been a very long process of trial and error. (Or did the plant somehow "communicate" to indigenous herbalists, informing them of its use?) In any case, this curative herb is only one of hundreds of plants that people somehow came to adjudge as having healing properties. "Miraculous" is not too strong a word to describe such discoveries. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, Gemini, you now have the patience and perspicacity to engage in a comparable process: to find useful resources through experiment and close observation—with a hardy assist from your intuition.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Today the city of Timbuktu in Mali is poor and in the throes of desertification. But from the fourteenth to seventeenth centuries, it was one of the great cultural centers of the world. Its libraries filled up with thousands of influential books, which remained intact until fairly recently. In 2012, Al-Qaeda jihadists conceived a plan to destroy the vast trove of learning and scholarship. One man foiled them. Abba al-Hadi, an illiterate guard who had worked at one of the libraries, smuggled out many of the books in empty rice sacks. By the time the jihadists started burning, most of the treasure had been relocated. I don't think the problem in your sphere is anywhere near as dire as this, Cancerian. But I do hope you will be proactive about saving and preserving valuable resources before they're at risk of being diluted, compromised, or neglected.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Moray eels have two sets of jaws. The front set does their chewing. The second set, normally located behind the first, can be launched forward to snag prey they want to eat. In invoking this aggressive strategy to serve as a metaphor for you in the coming weeks, I want to suggest that you be very dynamic and enterprising as you go after what you want and need. Don't be rude and invasive, of course, but consider the possibility of being audacious and zealous.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): It's relatively rare, but now and then people receive money or gifts from donors they don't know. Relatives they've never met may bequeath them diamond tiaras or alpaca farms or bundles of cash. I don't think that's exactly what will occur for you in the coming weeks, but I do suspect that you'll garner blessings or help from unexpected sources. To help ensure the best possible versions of these acts of grace, I suggest that you be as generous as possible in the kindness and attention you offer. Remember this verse from the Bible: "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Libra-born Ronald McNair was an African American who grew up in a racist town in South Carolina in the 1950s. The bigotry cramped his freedom, but he rebelled. When he was nine years old, he refused to leave a segregated library, which prompted authorities to summon the police. Years later, McNair earned a PhD in Physics from MIT and became renowned for his research on laser physics. Eventually, NASA chose him to be an astronaut from a pool of 10,000 candidates. That library in South Carolina? It's now named after him. I suspect that you, too, will soon receive some vindication, Libra: a reward or blessing or consecration that will reconfigure your past.

SCORPIO (Oct. 3-Nov. 21): Scorpio author Zadie Smith wrote, "In the end, your past is not my past and your truth is not my truth and your solution— is not my solution." I think it will be perfectly fine if sometime soon you speak those words to a person you care about. In delivering such a message, you won't be angry or dismissive. Rather, you will be establishing good boundaries between you and your ally; you will be acknowledging the fact that the two of you are different people with different approaches to life. And I bet that will ultimately make you closer.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "Nothing fruitful ever comes when plants are forced to flower in the wrong season," wrote author and activist Bette Lord. That's not entirely true. For example, skilled and meticulous gardeners can compel tulip and hyacinth bulbs to flower before they would naturally be able to. But as a metaphor, Lord's insight is largely accurate. And I think you'll be wise to keep it in mind during the coming weeks. So my advice is: don't try to make people and processes ripen before they are ready. But here's a caveat: you might have modest success working to render them a bit more ready.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "For though we often need to be restored to the small, concrete, limited, and certain, we as often need to be reminded of the large, vague, unlimited, unknown." Poet A. R. Ammons formulated that shiny burst of wisdom, and now I'm passing it on to you. As I think you know, you tend to have more skill at and a greater inclination toward the small, concrete, limited, and certain. That's why, in my opinion, it's rejuvenating for you to periodically exit in and explore what's large, vague, unlimited, unknown. Now is one of those times.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Look into my eyes. Kiss me, and you will see how important I am." Poet Sylvia Plath wrote that, and now, in accordance with astrological omens, I'm authorizing you to say something similar to anyone who is interested in you but would benefit from gazing more deeply into your soul and entering into a more profound relationship with your mysteries. In other words, you have cosmic permission to be more forthcoming in showing people your beauty and value.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): In his "Anti-Memoirs", author André Malraux quotes a tough-minded priest who served in the French Resistance during World War II. He spent his adult life hearing his parishioners' confessions. "The fundamental fact is that there's no such thing as a grown-up person," the priest declared. Even if that's mostly true, Pisces, my sense is that it is less true about you right now than it has ever been. In the past months, you have been doing good work to become more of a fully realized version of yourself. I expect that the deepening and maturation process is reaching a culmination. Don't underestimate your success! Celebrate it!

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsky'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

BY RICH TUPICA

Fri. August 16 - Sun. August 18

RONNIE HERNANDEZ: JUNE 18, 1951 - AUG. 7, 2019



Cover art for the 1980 Ronnie Hernandez & Sweet Energy LP. The record was issued by Spirit Records, Bob Baldori's label. (courtesy image)



Sweet Energy promo photo (courtesy photo)



Ronnie Hernandez poses for a more recent promo shoot. (Courtesy photo)

Local musicians play Hernandez tribute concert Sunday at Reno's North

Sunday, Aug. 18 @ Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27, Lansing. All ages, 3 p.m.

Back in the mid '60s as a Motown-loving teenager, Ronald "Ronnie" Hernandez joined a local garage band, called Balloon Farm, and never looked back. From there, his love of James Brown, R&B and rock 'n' roll records inspired him to make music his life. Over the years, the self-taught multi-instrumentalist spent time performing with The Paris Bakery, The Ones, Punk and Sweet Energy, among many others.

Sadly, during the early morning hours of Aug. 7, after decades of performances, the veteran singer and drummer died following complications from surgery. A benefit concert is set for Sunday at Reno's North in Lansing.

A GoFundMe campaign was also launched in an effort to offer financial support to his loved ones. The page was created by Debi Bassler, who wrote she started the campaign "to help with the family, so we can have a beautiful memorial service for everyone to attend." To make a donation, go

to tinyurl.com/ronniehernandez.

While he has deep Lansing roots, Hernandez was also a fixture in the Traverse City area, where he grew a dedicated fan base, thanks to steady performances across Northern Michigan. Known for his soulful and soothing vocals, Hernandez kept busy throughout the '70s playing drums for his uncle's band, the wildly popular Lansing-based outfit, Danny Hernandez & The Ones—vocalist Danny Hernandez passed away in 2000 at age 53. In its heyday, the Motown Records-signed band often gigged at The Brewery, The Dells, Grandmother's, Metro Bowl and various other local hot spots and festivals. The Ones had a stack of regional hits, like "You Haven't Seen My Love," "As Long As I Got You" and "One Little Teardrop."

In 1972, Ronnie Hernandez was featured behind the drum kit on the Danny Hernandez & The Ones live album, "Back Home." The vinyl LP, produced by "Boogie" Bob Baldori of The Woolies, also features local musicians

Jim Pitchford (organ), Tom Taylor (guitar) and Gary "Rocketman" Melvin (bass).

By 1975, The Ones disbanded and Hernandez took up work at Diamond Reo building trucks—he also formed his own outfit, Ronnie Hernandez & Sweet Energy. In 1980, after years of work, the band released an eclectic, self-titled album for Bob Baldori's label, Spirit Recordings. The 10-song album includes the local hit "Dancing in Lansing."

Shortly after, Hernandez relocated to Chicago and performed in various bands across the city. During this era, he also became a session player, often writing and recording jingles for the likes of McDonald's, 7UP and Oldsmobile, to only name a few. His most known jingle was one he recorded for the Budweiser spot with Spuds McKenzie. He kept busy composing music for other television jobs, including arrangements for "The Oprah Winfrey Show." Before he left Chicago, Hernandez managed to perform

at top venues, such as The Ritz Carlton and The House of Blues. He was also invited to sing with the Chicago Bears Band and sing the national anthem for the Chicago Cubs. After he moved back to Lansing about two years ago, Hernandez continued high-energy sets with numerous duos and bands. Right to the end, he was gigging locally and engineering tracks at his own studio, Stand Out Productions.

Viewing: Friday, Aug. 16, 5-8 p.m. @ Skinner Funeral Home, 101 W. Jolly Rd., Lansing

Memorial: Saturday, Aug. 17, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. @ City Life Church, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing

Benefit Tribute Concert: Sunday, Aug. 18, 3 p.m. @ Reno's North, 16460 Old U.S. 27, Lansing. \$10 Donation.



Upcoming show? Contact Suzi@lansingcitypulse.com

DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café , 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Trivia Night: Rock Hall of Fame 10PM	Open Mic 9PM	Free DJ Show 9PM	Tease-A-Gogo 9PM
Classic Pub & Grill , 16219 Old US 27	DJ Trivia 8PM			
Claddagh , 2900 Town Center Blvd.			Bobby Standal 7PM	
Crunchy's , 254 W. Grand River, East Lansing	North of Five 8PM	Karaoke 9PM	Karaoke 9PM	Karaoke 9PM
The Exchange , 314 E. Michigan Ave.		Old School Thursdays w/Jalese 8:30 PM		
Green Door , 2005 E. Michigan Ave.			Miranda & the M80s	Medusa
Lansing Brewing Co. , 518 E. Shiawassee			Live Music with Erin Coburn 8PM	Live DJ with DJ Face 8PM
The Loft , 414 E. Michigan Ave.				King 810 6:30PM
Macs Bar , 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Ma Baker/DJ Ruckus 8PM	Fruit of the Womb 7PM	JS & The Little Ghosts 8PM	Slight Case of Death 8PM
Reno's East , 1310 Abbot, East Lansing			The New Rule 6PM	
Robin Theatre , 1105 S. Washington Ave.			Jake Allen & Libby DeCamp 8PM	
Unicorn , 327 Cesar E. Chavez, Lansing			Live Music with DanMacLachlan 9PM	Live Music with The Rotations 9PM

From Page 22

S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

MUSIC

Music in the Garden: Harp Recital - Pull up a blanket or chair at the W.J. 7 p.m. East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Friday, August 16

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Dinosaur Safari - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Nature Wonders - 2 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Down on the Farm - 9:15 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Trauma Informed Yoga Workshop - 15-hour weekend certification. 6-9 p.m. Haslett Hot Yoga, 1476 Haslett Rd., Haslett. 517-896-9097. theconnectioncoalition.org.

EVENTS

DeWitt Ox Roast - 113 S. Bridge St., DeWitt. michigan.org.

HeroFest 2019 - The Lansing Area Veterans Coalition is partnering with Volunteers of America Michigan. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Cooley Law School Stadium-The View Lounge, 505 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. 517-483-7400.

Holt Farmers Market Mini-Market - 2-6 p.m. Holt Farmers Market, 2150 Cedar St, Holt. delhitownship.com.

Howl at the Moon: Guided Night Walk - Dogs on a non-retractable leash and flashlights are welcome. 9-10 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Rd., Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

Lansing Personal Injury Attorneys Meetup - . 10-11 a.m. The Cadillac Room, 1115 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-798-6175. attorneykennugent.com.

Renegade Theater Festival - Theatre presented all across Lansing showcasing original plays. 8 a.m.-10 p.m. lansingmi.gov.

Summer Retreat by Annie Martin - 8-10 p.m. Over the Ledge Theatre Co, Ledges Theatre, 137 Fitzgerald Park Dr., Grand Ledge. 517-318-0579. overtheledge.org.

Sunset & S'mores - Join us for a summer evening around the campfire and watch the sunset as we roast s'mores, sing campfire songs, tell stories, hike the esker, and 7:30-10 p.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E Mt Hope, Lansing.

TGIF Dance Party 7 p.m.-12 a.m. TGIF Dance Party - every Friday night at Hawk Hollow!, 15101 Chandler Rd., Bath. 734-604-5095. tgifdance.com.

ARTS

Art Fusion - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

End of Summer Art Show - 4:30-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804

S Washington, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Splash of Color - 4 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org

MUSIC

Brenda Loomis Band at DeWitt Ox Roast - 6 p.m. Downtown DeWitt, Downtown DeWitt Main St.

Summer Concert Series - 7-9 p.m. Ann Street Plaza, 240 M A.C. Ave, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com

Saturday, August 17

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Everything You Need to Know About Parenting - 2:30-5 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. 517-351-2420. bestbabykit.com.

Trauma Informed Yoga Workshop - 15-hour weekend certification. 6-9 p.m. Haslett Hot Yoga, 1476 Haslett Rd., Haslett. 517-896-9097. theconnectioncoalition.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Paws & Claws Join us for great people, great tunes great times! 4321 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Okemos Branch Library, 4321 Okemos Rd., Okemos.

EVENTS

ArtFeast - Art fair 10am-6pm, food trucks 1-4 p.m. 1232 Turner St., Lansing. Info at iloveoldtown.org.

BeerWorks Craft Beer Tasting 2019

- Join us for Beer Works, Holt Community Arts Council's FAVORITE craft beer tasting! 3-8 p.m. Veterans Memorial Gardens, 2074 N Aurelius Road, Holt.

Board Game Day -Are you bored with your old board games? 3-5 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Rd.,

Community Model Aviation Day - Looking for persons interested in Remote Control Flying. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. CARDS Field, 8328 Otto Rd., Okemos.

Death Cafe - Drink tea, eat cake and discuss death. 10-11:30 a.m. Hospice of Lansing Admin. Building, 3186 Pine Tree Rd., Lansing. 810-938-2410. deathcafe.com.

DeWitt Ox Roast - 113 S. Bridge Street, DeWitt. michigan.org.

Fab Acres Block Party - 1-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Lansing: "We Got Something To Say" Day Fest - celebrating the rich history and culture of local hip hop, arts, and entrepreneurship. 3-10 p.m. 1721 W. Holmes Rd., Lansing. 214-206-5631.

Mason Aviation Day - 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Mason Jewett Airport, 659 Eden Rd., Mason. 517-333-4531. eaa55.org.

Mason "Sunshine" Farmers Market - The outdoor market is back for our 15th year! 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

Mobile Food Pantry - Must bring state ID. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. St. Gerard Catholic School, 4433 W. Willow, Lansing.

See Out on the town, Page 26

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17 >> THE SUMMER GET-DOWN AT THE FLEDGE



Where else can you catch some of Lansing's favorite EDM and House DJs in a renovated church? Saturday's summertime celebration at The Fledge kicks off with an artist market at 5:30 p.m. There is no fee to participate as a vendor. Headlining the performance portion of the evening is East Lansing-based Devon Kirby (Skeptic) and Kameron Chauvez (Observer), who share a platform through Spacedog Productions. To sign up as an art vendor, email SkepticMusicMI@gmail.com.

6:30 p.m.-12 a.m., \$10
The Fledge
1300 Eureka St., Lansing
(517) 230-7679

MONDAY, AUGUST 19 >> MUSIC OPEN MIC AT BLUE OWL COFFEE



Enjoy a pourover amid songs plucked straight from the heartstrings Monday night. Hosted by local singer-songwriter Tania Watt, the open mic caters to hobbyists and emerging artists alike who want to share music. Sign-up begins at 7 p.m. and artists from any genre or style are encouraged to participate in the family-friendly showcase. For inquiries, please email Tania Watt at taniawattmusic@gmail.com.

7-9:30 p.m., free
Blue Owl-Reo Town
1149 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
(517) 575-6864

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18 >> PACK WALKS



Join Ryan and Cassie of Reigning Cats & Dogs Pet Care on a guided one-hour walk along the River Trail with your best four-legged bud. Dogs of all sizes are invited on this Sunday morning stroll. All pets must be on a 6-foot leash; the organizers ask that owners do not bring retractable leashes. Those interested in learning tips and tools on how to help guide their canines on walks are asked to arrive 30 minutes early to receive training from pet care professionals.

8:30 a.m., free
Brenke Fish Ladder
216 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
(517) 230-5271

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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

From Page 25

Parents' Great Escape - Drop the kids off while you take the evening to relax! 5-9 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

The Play's the Thing: Extended Edition - 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700.

Renegade Theater Festival - Theatre presented all across Lansing showcasing original plays. 8 a.m.-10 p.m. lansingmi.gov.

Stewardship Mornings - 9-11 a.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

Summer Retreat by Annie Martin - 8-10 p.m. Over the Ledge Theatre Co, Ledges Theatre, 137 Fitzgerald Park, Grand Ledge. 517-318-0579. overtheledge.org.

ARTS

Free Public Tours - of exhibitions. 1-3 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Dr., East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Games for Circus - Workshops: Have you dreamed of joining the circus? 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-884-4800.



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broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Midnight Blues - 7:30-9:30 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

Youth Art Festival - 2-4 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Sunday, August 18**CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Juggling - Learn how to juggle! 2-4 p.m. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing.

Trauma Informed Yoga Workshop - 15-hour weekend certification. 6-9 p.m. Haslett Hot Yoga, 1476 Haslett Rd., Haslett. 517-896-9097. theconnectioncoalition.org.

Xtreme Hip Hop Lansing - Step class 2-3 p.m. Steel Mill, 5246 W Saginaw Hwy, Lansing. xtremefitness.ticketleap.com.

EVENTS

East Lansing Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 300 Valley Court, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Lansing lugnuts Lunch and Game - 12-5 p.m. Cooley Law School Stadium, 505 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. 517-483-7400.

Summer Retreat by Annie Martin - 8-10 p.m. Over the Ledge Theatre Co, Ledges Theatre, 137 Fitzgerald Park, Grand Ledge. 517-318-0579. overtheledge.org.

ARTS

Free Public Tours - 1-3 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Dr., East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

MUSIC

Annual Community Hymnsing - hosted by Grace Lutheran Church. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Michigan Princess Riverboat, Grand River

Park, Lansing. 517-372-5830.

Concert with the Gracewood Singers - 7-8:30 p.m. Grace UM Church, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing.

Monday, August 19**CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Chemistry Craze - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Dinosaur Stomp! - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Extreme Survivor - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Fizz Boom Chemistry - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

EVENTS

CanHope Support Group - Conversations with cancer patients, survivors, family and friends and caregivers. 6:30-7:45 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

Clippers of Lansing Monthly Meeting - Lansing Clippers, American Sewing Guild. 5:30-8 p.m. St David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Rd, Lansing. 517-347-2019.

DDL Walking Club - 10-11 a.m. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Rd, DeWitt. 517-669-3156. dewittlibrary.org.

Mason Chess & Backgammon Club - 6-8 p.m. Bestsellers Books and Coffee, 360 S. Jefferson St, Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

Pinball & Arcade - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

ARTS

Kids Connect - 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Reach

Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Tuesday, August 20**LITERATURE AND POETRY**

Paws for Reading - Practice reading aloud to a certified therapy dog. 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St. grandledge.lib.mi.us.

EVENTS

2019 Lansing Open - 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Eagle Eye Golf Club, 15500 Chandler Rd. Bath Township, Lansing. lansingchamber.org.

Alzheimer's Support Group - 3:30-4:30 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

Injury Clinic - If you have sore feet, heels, knees, back or another nagging injury, join us for a free consult with a sports or health professional. 5:30-7 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte.

Lansing Area Parkinson's Support Group - 6-8 p.m. Valley Court Park Community Center, 201 Hillside Court, East Lansing. 517-230-2629.

MSU Honors College Volunteers - 1-3:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Yoga in the Park - Join us for a peaceful evening of yoga in the park! 7-8:30 p.m. Lincoln Brick Park, 13991 Tallman Rd, Grand Ledge. 517-627-7351.

ARTS

Art of Infertility Pop-Up Exhibition - artwork from The ART of Infertility, a local non-profit. 12-4 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Outdoor Bluegrass Worship Service

Part of the Worship EXPRESSIONS series
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Saturday, August 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Seating will be provided or you can bring
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FOOD & DRINK DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

New pub in REO Town offers garage doors and American fare

By DENNIS BURCK

The front door to The Rusty Mug in REO Town is open but hardly being used. Instead, patrons prefer to go through two massive garage doors opening up to Washington Avenue. With a breeze drifting through the restaurant, clacks of billiard balls from the pool table, noise from the street and the clinks of beer mugs make the atmosphere seem cafe-es-que.

Continuing a legacy founded with third shift auto workers in Lansing, the bar plans to be open for breakfast, lunch and dinner with drinks available at sunrise. The bar is currently open for lunch and dinner service.

“We want to be a part of REO Town and do everything we can do to support it,” general manager Blythe Oade said.

On the menu will be pub fare identical to the original Rusty Mug on Lansing’s west side. However, the added breakfast options will be exclusive to the new location.

“To start, we’ll have breakfast burritos, breakfast flatbreads, breakfast sandwiches and a breakfast scramble all served with sweet potato puffs or tater tots,” Oade said.

Aside from breakfast, the regular



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

Members of The Rusty Mug’s mug club can get drink, food specials as well as a custom mug.

menu has modern American pub fare like salads, sandwiches and burgers. Oade said a staple dish is the “Jam On IT” sandwich with blackberry jam, turkey, bacon and coleslaw between two slices of rye bread.

The location has been with the Oade family’s stewardship for 30 years.

“It used to be Oade’s Hidden Camel and Mac’s Saloon,” Oade said. “The liquor license has been in escrow for seven years as we’ve been working on it.”

The renovations were extensive.

Oade put in a brand new bar, kitchen, electrical system, floor and patio. The drywall was also chiseled away to expose the original brick backbone of the building.

Oade said this space is very nostalgic for her.

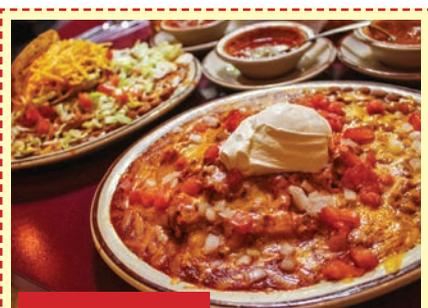
“I grew up in here, so it is so awesome to see this,” she said. “It was really a big biker bar back then with a lot of metal bands. I just want to carry on my dad’s legacy and keep it in the family.”

The Rusty Mug patio has standard dining seating on outdoor furniture

and cocktail seating in comfy adiron-dack chairs. Additionally, there are over ten beers on tap with the majority Michigan made.

It is \$50 to buy into the bar’s mug club. Perks of membership are a 23-ounce pour for the price of a 16-ounce, daily drink and food specials from Sunday to Thursday and a handmade mug from an artist in Wisconsin. There are four colors and different styles to choose from.

“I am very proud of our food and hope it takes off,” Oade said.



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(517) 580-8131



The Wrought Iron Grill's pamplemousse is a mouthful

By **DAVID WINKLESTERN**

It was worth traveling from greater Lansing to Owosso for a drink with a French name, made with a Holland gin and topped with an Italian garnish.

The Wrought Iron Grill — located on my usual path to Owosso Community Players' Lebowky Center — offers a chilled concoction called the pamplemousse.

Its name is French for grapefruit. It

comes in a martini glass with an ample serving of juice and no ice.

The sweetness of the fresh-tasting grapefruit juice was tempered with the right amount of tartness from real lemon juice. The citrus blend was augmented by a healthy splash of St. Germain. The unique — and pricy — French elderflower liqueur that comes in a fancy glass bottle, adds another contrasting flavor.

The intermingling of sweet, sour and flowery essences pleasantly stimulates multiple boroughs of taste buds.

The pamplemousse's mixture does

not end there.

What gives the cocktail its kick — while adding more aromatic hints — is a dose of New Holland Brewing Knickerbocker's gin. The West Michigan spirit has a distinct blend of its own. A dozen botanicals make it unusually piquant. Coriander, angelica root, orange and lemon zest, cinnamon, ginger and orris root, cardamom, fennel, clove, nutmeg and a generous amount of required juniper berries, give the \$8 pamplemousse an extra zing.

Completing the complex-tasting drink is a colossal basil leaf that barely fits inside the wide rim of the glass. The garden-fresh Italian herb contributes an extra, fragrant boost to the drink that's best sipped to appreciate all its flavors.



David Winkelstern/City Pulse

Pamplemousse, as served by the Wrought Iron Grill.

The Wrought Iron Grill

11 a.m.-9p.m. Tuesday-Thursday
11 a.m.-10p.m. Friday-Saturday
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Okemos - 1937 W Grand River Ave • (517) 347-0443
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BREAKFAST | LUNCH | DINNER



Doing it 'Big' at Capital City BBQ

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

The Capital City BBQ is an international street food house that quietly sits on the corner of west Saginaw Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. I've never had to wait in line to order here, but I've had three people this summer recommend that I should go to "that Vietnamese barbecue place." Little did they know, I was converted years ago by their smoked meats and saucy renditions of banh mi.

This month's special menu features the Big Rooster, which comes with shredded chicken, bacon, white sharp cheddar, chipotle mayo, raw red onions and a huge slice of tomato, all stuffed inside a doughy French baguette. That time I vowed to cease eating animals in seventh grade flashed

before my eyes when I saw the word "rooster" in the name, which made it all too real. I almost backed out last-minute

Capital City BBQ

11 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Monday-Saturday
1026 W Saginaw St,
Lansing, MI
(517) 775-8500
Capitalcitybbqlansing.com

to get the spring rolls instead, but decided I had to do what was best for the City Pulse.

The Big Rooster is essentially a \$10.35 chicken club without any leafy greens, and while it's more of a courtesy than a requirement, no coleslaw. While it was underwhelming to not be met with the crunch of lettuce, it was all in the name of perfectly smoked chicken.

I even crossed my arms and threw a little fit about the raw red onions, having preferred them grilled and then covered in smoldering hot cheese.



Audrey Matusz/City Pulse

Capital City BBQ's August special, the Big Rooster, a deluxe smoked chicken sandwich loaded with spicy chipotle mayo and red onion.

But you see, those are the remarks of someone who doesn't appreciate the laborious process of smoking meats. It's a serious pain and I admittedly will never undergo that kind of time in the kitchen for anyone.

Luckily, the team at Capital City BBQ treats all their customers like guests in their home. While my sandwich didn't come with a side, I or-

dered the cracked black pepper fries for \$3 which was easily shared between me and my partner-in-dining. I can huff and puff about not getting all the fixings of my Southern backyard barbecue fantasies, but this comfort-fusion food house delivered as promised — a gargantuan chicken sandwich.

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leosconeyisland.com

3. Nip N Sip Drive In
2603 N. East St., Lansing
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4. Zeus' Coney Island
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