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September 25 - October 1, 2019



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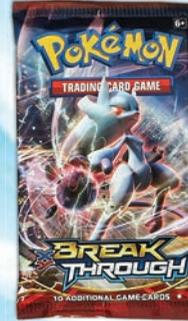
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Favorite Things

Dicker and Deal manager Adam Smith and 'The Blues Brothers' replicas



These used to be left outside on Grand River Avenue and Ingersoll Road. The owners had some buffaloes too out there. They had them out on some concrete blocks out front and everyone from the area knew them. Since they were made from fiberglass, they withstood the elements. We didn't even have to give them a touch up because they didn't need it.

Customers always ask if they are the same ones. And I tell them, "That's them." We bought them in the '90s and they hung out in Music Manor for a few years before being brought here. People still come in and take pictures with them all the time. Some give them a high-five. They are a real cool way to put people in a good mood when they walk in the door.

It's good to have the first thing customers see put a smile on their faces. It puts people in a good mood to see all the other things we have here in our half-store and half-museum. We have a lot of things not for sale hanging on the wall.

But they are probably the one thing that has been here the longest. There is a lot added, but we've had these things for over 25 years. That is almost the entire time the store existed.

At one point I did look these up. You can order these from a company out of California. They make all sorts of statues like this. They ran from

\$1,500 on up depending on who you got. I don't know where the previous owner got them from before us.

These are not for sale. On average I think three to five people a day ask us if they can buy these things. We tell people they are priceless because we will never sell them. Generally we also have at least one person taking a picture with them. Kids love them too.

"The Blues Brothers" were a Detroit thing and people know that. These are definitely a symbol of Michigan and people from around here really enjoy that.

I've been here four years and first saw them when I came here because I worked for a guy who runs an auction house in Pottsville. I worked with him for five years and I used to buy and sell in here with him too.

We keep a lot of good quality things here from ending up broken or ending up in a landfill. We give a second life to a lot of things. It is a constantly changing atmosphere, but I think these will be here forever.

(This interview was edited and condensed by Dennis Burck. If you have a recommendation for "Favorite Things," please email dennis@lansingcitypulse.com. You can visit "The Blues Brothers" and Dicker and Deal at 2408 S. Cedar St.)

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In remembrance of Dr. Taylor Johnston, the College of Music would like to recognize his vision, passion and support for underwriting the Early Music Series.

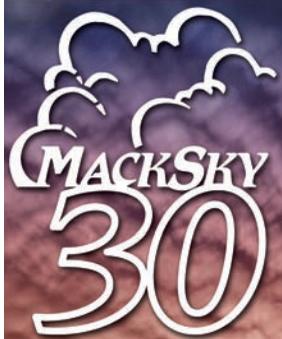


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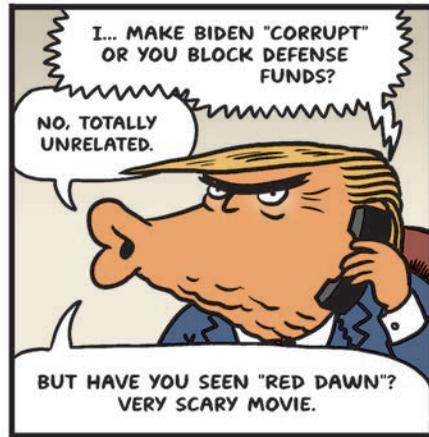
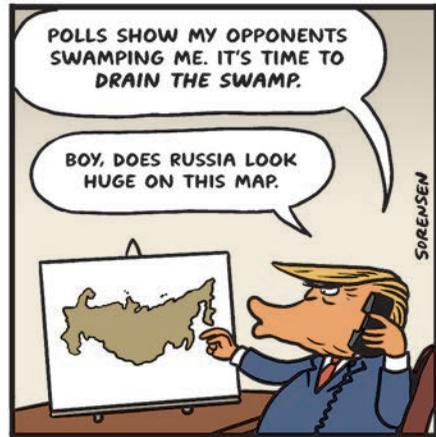
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CityPULSE

**VOL. 19
ISSUE 7**

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MSU honors literature Professor Anita Skeen

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The Michigan photographer who changed National Geographic

PAGE 19



Foster Coffee Co. opens in East Lansing

PAGE 25



Cover Art

By Dennis Burek

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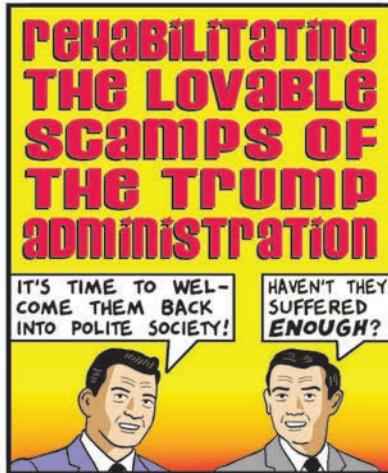
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THIS MODERN WORLD



by TOM TOMORROW



PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Slotkin opens up to possible Trump impeachment

When it comes to impeaching Donald Trump, Lansing's congresswoman may be the canary in the coal mine.

And this week Elissa Slotkin has given hope to the impeachment cause.

First thing Monday, Slotkin, a Democrat from Holly in the eastern portion of the 8th District, told the media that if recent accusations about Trump strong-arming the Ukrainian president to investigate potential 2020 opponent Joe Biden are true, it "constitutes an impeachable offense."

"If these allegations are true, or if the White House refuses to clear up these allegations, the Congress has no choice but to consider all congressional authorities available to us, including the power of inherent contempt and impeachment hearings, to protect our national security," she wrote in a Detroit Free Press article Tuesday.

The statement is a notable shift for the pragmatic congresswoman, who has shied away from following Democratic colleagues into the pool of impeachment talk. Slotkin has cautiously referred to impeachment as a "political

process, not a legal process" and something that should only be approached carefully.

Slotkin's shift, which occurred over the weekend, came ahead of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's announcement of a formal impeachment inquiry.

On Sunday, The New York Times reported Trump acknowledged that in speaking with Ukraine's president, he accused the former vice president of corruption tied to his son Hunter's business activities in that former Soviet republic.

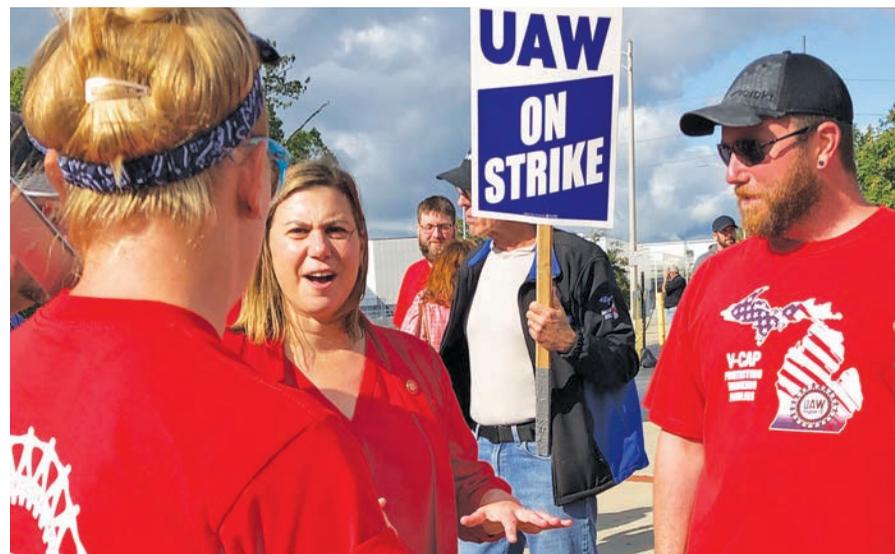
The Wall Street Journal has reported that Trump urged Volodymyr Zelensky multiple times during the July 25 phone call to work with the president's lawyer, Rudolph Giuliani, on an investigation of Biden and his son. Meanwhile, the Trump administration has held up \$250 million in security aid to the country.

Slotkin said this funding for military equipment and advanced military training was intended to equip the Ukrainians to defend against Russian-backed militants who have taken over the eastern portion of their country. The security assistance funded was only restored when a bipartisan group of lawmakers forced the White House



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS



Kyle Melinn/City Pulse

U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin, D-Holly, who represents the 8th Congressional District, meets with GM picketers in REO Town Monday.

to release it, she wrote.

Also, Congress is now learning that a U.S. intelligence official filed a whistleblower complaint about a Trump conversation with Zelensky.

Slotkin, a former CIA agent and national intelligence official, has been talking with her national security peers in Congress about the matter.

"To me, this just smells and feels

differently," she said while talking to reporters Monday at the UAW strike at the General Motors Grand River Assembly plant. "That is a really striking allegation and if that's true, we're in a different moment. As a national security professional, as a former CIA officer, that kind of thing goes so beyond the pale of what is acceptable for our own

See Slotkin, Page 6

SORE REVISITED



922 N. Walnut St., Lansing
Owner: Vic Loomis

This week's eyesore is a look back at a previous eyesore from May 2012, a stately old home from 1887 that had trees growing up through the porch the last time we looked, a rental property owned by former East Lansing Mayor Vic Loomis.

Rather than nudging the civic leader to repair his dilapidated building, the house has fallen further into disrepair since the article ran. Part of the roof is caving in, holes have appeared through the siding into the interior and a look inside the glass door from the front porch shows giant holes in the floor. And for all of that, Loomis blames City Pulse.

"It's been broken into several times. It all started with the photo published in City Pulse," Loomis said. "Here's a vacant property, have at it! I feel I was a victim of that."

Loomis said thieves stole furniture from the inside and ripped out much of the copper wiring and pipes. After inheriting the house from an uncle, he allowed a 94-year-old man to stay there at a rent that he says was below mar-

ket value and below the cost of upkeep and property taxes, too. The man died before the first eyesore article ran. He wanted the man to live out his life there before he flipped the house for sale or another rental.

But before he got a chance, Loomis said the vandals destroyed the value of the house and greatly increased the cost of renovations. "I'm not happy about the situation at all." Loomis blames the neighborhood for ignoring the theft. "This is the pay back I get for being a nice guy."

After vandals trashed the place, Loomis essentially abandoned the house. A separate, 1885 coach house on the property is also abandoned and boarded up. An elderly couple lived at the coach house with a disabled adult son for a longer period before they also

passed away, sometime after 2012.

Both houses are a relic of a bygone Lansing, when the siting of the state capital created an overnight city, but well before the days of the automobile and R.E. Olds let the city's population really take off. At least two out-buildings on the property appear designed to shelter horses.

Loomis quit paying his taxes and now owes more than \$12,000 on the place. Now, a posting on the door calls for a tax auction to come on Feb. 5, 2020, and that's all fine by Loomis. "Let it go at tax sales, let someone who has the capacity and knowledge take it over."

— CHRIS GRAY

"Eyesore of the Week" is our look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eye Candy of the Week and Eye for Design. Have a suggestion? Email eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call it in at 517-999-6715.

Morgan and Grebner spar over updated county ethics policy

A dispute over a rewrite of the Ingham County ethics policy has spilled over into bad blood between at least two county commissioners, who each accuse the other of wanting to cut corners on ethics.

Commissioner Thomas Morgan has been pushing for a rewrite of the ethics policy — first drafted by Commissioner Mark Grebner in the 1990s — in order to reduce a lot of flowery, difficult language and include an email policy.

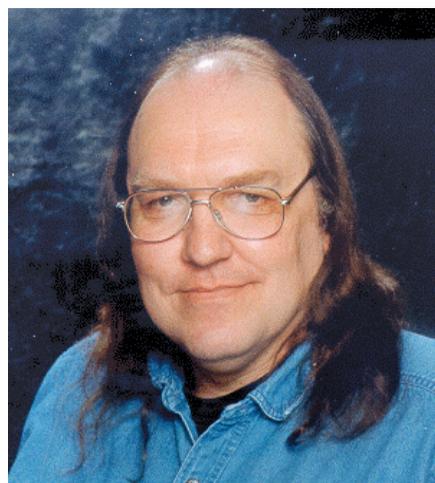
“You have to have a post-doctorate education to read a lot of the language in there. It’s so dense and incomprehensible,” Morgan said. He argued the policy was weak because it was hard to read.

Grebner has largely fought him the whole way, accusing Morgan and Commissioner Ryan Sebolt of trying to gut the ethics policy — something Morgan and Sebolt deny.

“He’s a well-known pain in the ass, and I love him for it,” Morgan said of Grebner.

The current county ethics policy dates to the 1990s, which Grebner said is the toughest policy in the state, going much further than the state requires. The Board of Commissioners was set to approve a new, clearer version that included an email policy from Morgan on Tuesday night. Morgan and Grebner both expected it to pass easily and likely unanimously.

The existing policy has barred commissioners from soliciting campaign donations from their staff or hiring them to work on their campaigns. There are strict rules against hiring family members and close relatives. It also bars them from receiving campaign donations from companies, unions and individuals who have business with the



Grebner

county — an unheard-of prohibition in America’s pay-to-play political culture.

Grebner said his older policy had fostered a climate in Ingham County that was self-policing because the conflicts of interest are clear. “The emphasis is on reciprocity and repeated violations. You look for substance. You don’t look for technical violations of the rules.”

An early draft from Morgan and Sebolt would have whittled at these prohibitions but it was quickly withdrawn and Grebner’s basic policy remained in plainer language, while an email policy was added.

“Our existing policy is all about breaking down and preventing the establishment of reciprocal back-scratching,” Grebner said, adding that Morgan’s initial proposal “was more or less a road map for using elected office to create profitable deals.”

“But it’s gone, and didn’t last 30 seconds at the subcommittee. So it’s more of a study in alternative universes than



Morgan

a genuine threat. When I saw it, I was afraid they were lining up the votes needed to push it through. But it died so fast there was never even a rough nose count; nobody but Sebolt and Thomas are recorded as supporting it.”

Sebolt said Grebner is misleading the intention of that rough draft, which was never meant to be the final version. “It was just meant to be a starting point.”

Morgan also said that draft was just incomplete. “I’m not sure I’ve ever heard Grebner bring it up. Considering he’s opposed updating the ethics policy long before June, I’m sure this is a red herring,” Morgan said. “He wants to look like he’s for stronger ethics while fighting an attempt for stronger ethics.”

At minimum, Morgan said the policy needed to be updated to reflect a reality of 21st century communication — the use of email, something Grebner has dismissed as trivial.

“If people are conducting business on the taxpayer dime, it needs to be as open

as possible. You can’t do a FOIA request on a gmail account,” Morgan said.

Morgan’s predecessor, Dennis Louney, had used his public account to solicit campaign donations. He resigned after that was publicized. It was later uncovered that Louney had also violated ethics policies against soliciting campaign endorsements from entities that have business with the county, including local labor unions, Sparrow Health System and Lansing Community College.

Morgan says Ingham County has trailed other governments in restricting the commissioners’ public business to their public email accounts — Grebner conspicuously uses a gmail account — while restricting their private business and campaigns to a private account.

“There’s this unforgiving ‘gotcha’ atmosphere. We’ll have a policy we can’t follow because it’s impossible to understand,” said Grebner, who argued it’s seldom easy to define what is and what is not county business. “They say every single thing a person says is either county business or not county business.”

Morgan said some situations can indeed be clear — such as when commissioners are communicating with county staff. “The argument that if we’re too transparent, we’ll never get anything done is complete and utter bullshit,” said Morgan.

Grebner argued what he says in an email is his First Amendment right, and he was afraid any little thing could be counted as unethical by vindictive political opponents. “They’ve created a system where they’ll yell, ‘Gotcha!’ all the time because the rules are impossible to follow. They are distracting people from real ethical problems.”

— CHRIS GRAY

Slotkin

from page 5

national security.

“I know we have the director of national intelligence coming up on Thursday to the Hill. To me, that is a very important moment. If he does not provide information on this whistleblower case, as he’s required to by law, I think we’re in a new moment where the Congress should exercise its full authority on those issues,” she said.

Slotkin’s opinion kept the ball rolling on her increasingly visible national profile. The Jewish Journal and National Public Radio were among the

latest national news outlets to cover the former acting assistant of the secretary of defense.

She and six other moderate freshman Democrats authored an op-ed this week in The Washington Post that called for impeachment if Trump did try to pressure the Ukraine. The Wall Street Journal covered the development and used Slotkin’s picture prominently.

“This flagrant disregard for the law cannot stand,” read the joint opinion article for The Washington Post. “To uphold and defend our Constitution, Congress must determine whether the President was indeed willing to use his power and withhold security assistance funds to persuade a foreign country to assist him in an upcoming election.”

The Republican National Committee was quick to jump on her comments as proof that Slotkin was aligning with the “far-left, anti-President Trump machine.” As far as Republicans see, Slotkin “has been anything but moderate in her short time in Congress.”

“From her call for impeachment to her extreme voting record, Elissa Slotkin has put her constituents on the backburner and her personal ambitions at the center of her disastrous platform,” said RNC spokesperson Michael Joyce. “The 8th District won’t forget how Slotkin sided with Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Rashida Tlaib, and the far left over them.”

In related news, the Republicans may soon have a declared candidate to run

against Slotkin in 2020. State Board of Education member Nikki Snyder told me over the weekend at the Republicans’ leadership conference on Mackinac Island that she’s seriously looking into a run and that a formal announcement could come as soon as next week.

Among those cheering Snyder on is former Congressman Mike Bishop, who has been keeping his options open about a Slotkin rematch, but has told Republicans privately that “he doesn’t want to run.”

If Snyder — no relation to the former governor — is able to put together a credible campaign, Bishop won’t have to.

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

Longtime Lansing finance director resigns from City Hall

City Finance Director Angela Bennett quietly resigned from city government last week, marking the latest departure of department heads under Mayor Andy Schor.

“I resigned last week. I’ve had a number of circumstances that have changed in my life over the past several weeks, and I need some time to reevaluate my future,” she told City Pulse.

Schor said chief strategy officer Shelbi Frayer has been named interim finance director and city Treasurer Judy Kehler will be the acting controller.

“We are looking at the structure for finance and treasury and will see what restructuring needs to be done,” Schor said.

Said Bennett: “It has been an honor to have served the city these past 14 years, both in my current and former roles as budget manager and deputy finance director, through the challenges of state funding cuts in the Great Recession, massive budget and benefit restructuring, but also during the exciting growth and pride the city has and continued to experience, and I am excited for the mayor’s vision for the future.”

Two Council members, Kathie Dunbar and Peter Spadafore said they were kept in the dark about the reasons for Bennett’s departure. “It’s been very tight-lipped,” said Dunbar, who added she expected to be briefed on the matter in a closed session. Spadafore said, “Your guess is as good as mine.”

Council President Carol Wood declined to comment and directed inquiries to the Mayor’s Office.



Bennett

Bennett had served Lansing as its finance director since 2012 and had been with the city since the early days of the Virg Bernero administration, after coming to the capital city in 2005 from Kalamazoo, where she worked as comptroller. Her salary was set at \$121,980 as finance director for 2019.

Almost half of Schor’s cabinet has changed since he took office in 2018. Bennett becomes the fifth department director to leave, all of whom were holdovers from the Bernero administration, including Police Chief Mike Yankowski, Fire Chief Randy Talifarro and Treasurer Tammy Good.

— CHRIS GRAY

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, October 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI, on the proposed **Saginaw Street** Corridor Improvement Authority Development and Finance Plan in accordance with the provisions of Part 6, Corridor Improvement Authorities, of the Recodified Tax Increment Financing Act, Public Act 57 of 2018, as amended (the Act) and as defined by Public Act 57 of 2018 as:

In 2009 the City of Lansing used the adopted State Law (Act 280 of 2005) to create what is known as the **Saginaw Street** Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) and established a District with eligible property within an area encompassing 500 feet north and 500 feet south of the centerline of centerline of Saginaw Avenue, and from the western edge of the City Limits of the City of Lansing to the west to the centerline of Pennsylvania Avenue to the east.

The purpose of the Corridor Improvement Authority Act is to help communities plan for and fund improvements along a corridor. The overall goal is to help support economic development and redevelopment of this area. The types of improvements could include sidewalks/pathways, streetlights, streetscape enhancements, façade improvements, and other public investments which could support and enhance economic development and the quality of life for business owners and residents within this district. The CIA’s first task to be able to fund these improvements is to create a Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan. This plan describes the types of activities that the CIA can participate in as well as how those activities are financed. The plan covers a 15-year period and explains how Tax Increment Financing (TIF) will work, which is the primary means in which new projects would be funded. It is important to note that TIF is not a new tax nor does it raise property owner’s taxes.

City Council will hear comments from citizens, taxpayers and property owners, officials from any affected taxing jurisdiction and any other interested persons. All aspects of the Plan will be open for discussion at the public hearing. Maps, plats, and a description of the development plan, including the method of relocating families and individuals who may be displaced from the area, are available for public inspection at Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP), 1000 S. Washington Ave. Suite 201, Lansing, MI 48910, 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
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CP#19-276

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, October 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI, on the proposed **Michigan Avenue** Corridor Improvement Authority Development and Finance Plan in accordance with the provisions of Part 6, Corridor Improvement Authorities, of the Recodified Tax Increment Financing Act, Public Act 57 of 2018, as amended (the Act) and as defined by Public Act 57 of 2018 as:

In 2009 the City of Lansing used a adopted State Law (Act 280 of 2005) to create what is known as the **Michigan Avenue** Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) and establish a District which eligible property within an area encompassing 500 feet north and 500 feet south of the centerline of Michigan Avenue, and from the eastern edge of the Pere Marquette Rail Line in the City of Lansing to the west to the Lansing City limit to the east.

The purpose of the Corridor Improvement Authority Act is to help communities plan for and fund improvements along a corridor. The overall goal is to help support economic development and redevelopment of this area. The types of improvements could include sidewalks/pathways, streetlights, streetscape enhancements, façade improvements, and other public investments which could support and enhance economic development and the quality of life for business owners and residents within this district. The CIA’s first task to be able to fund these improvements is to create a Development and Tax Increment Financing Plan. This plan describes the types of activities that the CIA can participate in as well as how those activities are financed. The plan covers a 15-year period and explains how Tax Increment Financing (TIF) will work, which is the primary means in which new projects would be funded. It is important to note that TIF is not a new tax nor does it raise property owner’s taxes.

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Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC
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CP#19-275

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT INGHAM COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT FAMILY DIVISION FILE NO. 19-1167-GA

In the matter of Christine Blackmon, especially to the attention of daughter Ebony Humphrey, of Seattle, WA:

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on 10/17/2019, 10:30 AM at 313 W. Kalamazoo Street, Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Richard Garcia for the following purpose:

Hearing to Appoint a Guardian.

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

Date: 9/17/2019
Gene Mellen, DHHS
Adult Protective Services
Ingham County office
5303 S. Cedar Street
Lansing, MI 48911
517-763-1210 CP#19-272

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF INGHAM NOTICE OF HEARING FILE NO 19-1194-GA, 19-1195-CA

In the matter of Carolyn Condell.
TAKE NOTICE: A Hearing will be held on 11/7/2019 at 2:30 p.m. at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Dunning for the following purpose(s):
Hearing for Guardian and Conservator.

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

Date: 9/20/19
Talinaa Cummins
c/o Ingham County DHHS
5303 S. Cedar St.
Lansing, MI 48909
517-775-5450 CP#19-280

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF INGHAM NOTICE OF HEARING FILE NO 19-1196-GA, 19-1197-CA

In the matter of Larry Hilton.
TAKE NOTICE: A Hearing will be held on 10/17/2019 at 11:00 a.m. at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Garcia for the following purpose(s):
Hearing for Guardian and Conservator.

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

Date: 9/23/19
Talinaa Cummins
c/o Ingham County DHHS
5303 S. Cedar St.
Lansing, MI 48909
517-775-5450 CP#19-281

History is watching

If Democrats won't do something about Trump's corruption, they're complicit in it

I don't think Joe Biden is the most electable candidate in the Democratic primary, and I doubt he'll be the nominee. But his double-digit polling leads over Donald Trump have remained remarkably durable, despite the gaffes and poor debates and concerns about his age and inability to generate excitement among the base.



JEFFERY C. BILLMAN

INFORMED DISSENT

And Trump, it seems, is apparently scared shitless of the man — and the lengths to which he'll go to stop him could lead to a constitutional crisis that makes Watergate look like child's play.

Here's what we know: Last week, The Washington Post reported that a member of the intelligence community had filed a whistleblower complaint against the president, and the IC's inspector general had deemed the complaint credible and urgent — meaning it rose above the level of hearsay or a mere policy dispute. With that finding, the inspector general had a legal obligation to turn over the complaint to Congress.

But Trump's acting director of national intelligence has refused to give members of Congress access to the complaint. Both the White House and the Department of Justice — run by Attorney General William Barr, who also ran interference for Trump in the aftermath of the Mueller report — instructed the DNI's office that the president is not governed by laws

covering intelligence whistleblowers.

In effect, the administration's position is that Trump is above the law. (Last week, under the same theory of supreme presidential authority, Trump also sued the state of New York to block a subpoena for tax returns, arguing that he can't be criminally investigated while in office, even in state court.)

The Post's first report only said the complaint centered on a "promise" Trump had made to a foreign leader. It took less than 48 hours for the blanks to get filled in: The foreign leader was the newly elected president of Ukraine, a former comedian who ran on an anti-corruption platform. The promise was the release of hundreds of millions of dollars in military aid that Congress had appropriated — Ukraine is fighting Russian-backed separatists in the eastern part of the country — but the administration was withholding, ostensibly because of concerns about corruption. What Trump wanted in return, and reportedly expressed eight times, was for Ukraine to reopen a closed investigation into a company that Joe Biden's son Hunter had advised and allege that Biden had blackmailed the government into firing the chief prosecutor, Viktor Shokin, in 2016.

Not that it will matter in the fever swamp, but this conspiracy theory has been thoroughly debunked; Ukraine's leading anti-corruption activist has called it "absolute nonsense." The Obama administration, in conjunction with the European Union and the International Monetary Fund, did

push Ukraine to oust Shokin — but because American officials thought he was protecting corrupt officials, including the oligarch who employed Hunter Biden. (The case against the oligarch's company, which concerned potential crimes that took place before Hunter Biden became an adviser, was shelved by early 2015, more than a year before the U.S. and its allies pushed for Shokin's firing.)

At this point, it's worth stressing that Trump had previously dispatched Rudy Giuliani, his personal lawyer — not anyone from the DOJ or the FBI — to Ukraine in an effort to dig up dirt on Biden, which is about as clear a tell as you get that this is a campaign matter, not a corruption matter.

So to recap: The president tried to force another country's leader into interfering in our election on his behalf while dangling \$250 million over his head. Then, his administration did everything in its power to make sure that the whistleblower's complaint never saw the light of day.

"All of this — extortion, corruption, obstruction — not only meets the criteria for impeachment, it demands it. History is watching."

All of this — extortion, corruption, obstruction — not only meets the criteria for impeachment, it demands it. And that's just what we know as I'm typing these words, less than a week after the story broke, before we've seen the actual complaint. Imagine the other ways in which the rule of law is about to be tested, in which our Constitution is about to be strained by an administration that sees it not as sacred by as inconvenient, in which the president's partisans are going to

have to choose where their loyalties lie.

History is watching.

History is watching the Democrats, too. And they're failing, just as they did after the Mueller report dropped, when Nancy Pelosi decided that the political risks of impeachment outweighed their constitutional obligations. The House Judiciary Committee fumbled, and the White House exploited that weakness with defiance.

Emboldened, Trump didn't just invite foreign interference into our elections; he demanded it. And here again, Democratic congressional leaders are passive, giving Trump and Giuliani and their allies room to push the narrative that maybe there's something to this Biden thing — aided by the same credulous both-siders in the mainstream press who gave oxygen to the nonsensical Uranium One story in 2016, and who crowed day and night about Hillary Clinton's emails.

Let's keep our eyes on the ball. What the president did — and what the president wants to distract us from — is a crime, and the only solution is impeachment. It doesn't matter if Senate Republicans try to shrug it off. Put Trump's venality on display and let the American people see it venality for what it is, and see his enablers for who they are. It's time for this country to have a long-overdue gut check.

If congressional Democrats aren't completely useless, they won't wait, they won't make excuses, and they won't shirk their responsibility again. If they do, then they're complicit in Trump's corruption.

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

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**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES**

On September 18, 2019 the approved minutes of the following proceedings of the Meridian Township Board:

September 3 2019 Regular Meeting

were sent to the following locations for public posting:

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

**BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK**

CP#19-273

**City of Lansing
Notice of Public Hearing**

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, October 14, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing 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, City Assessor, other interested persons and ad valorem taxing units to appear and be heard on the approval of an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Certificate (the "Certificate"), pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act, Public Act 146 of 2000, for property located at 1030 S. Holmes St., Lansing, Michigan, but more particularly described as follows:

LOTS 1 THRU 13 INCL & LOTS 21 THRU 34 INCL BLOCK 11 MANUFACTURERS ADD NO 2, Parcel Number: 33-01-01-22-133-102, and

Approval of this Certificate will provide the owner or potentially the developer of property an abatement of certain property taxes for the improvements to the property noted above. Further information regarding this issue may be obtained from Kris Klein, Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP), 1000 S. Washington Ave., Suite 201, Lansing, MI 48910, 517-702-3387.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. 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#19-277

**City of Lansing
Notice of Public Hearing**

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, October 14, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing 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, City Assessor, other interested persons and ad valorem taxing units to appear and be heard on the approval of an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District (the "District"), pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act, Public Act 146 of 2000, for property located at 1611 East Kalamazoo St., Lansing, Michigan, but more particularly described as follows:

LOT 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 BLOCK 4 ASSESSORS PLAT NO 16

PARCEL NUMBER: 33-01-01-15-427-302

Approval of this District will allow the owners of real property within the District to apply for an abatement of certain property taxes for the improvements to their property located within the District. Further information regarding this issue may be obtained from Karl Dorshimer, Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP), 1000 S. Washington Ave., Suite 201, Lansing, MI 48910, 517-702-3387.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. 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#19-278

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING

**LEGAL NOTICE
SPECIAL USE PERMIT**

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Lansing Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Offices located at 3209 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, for the purpose of recommending approval or denial of the following request:

Special Use Permit SP-19-09 to allow bulk storage of flammable liquid (Acrylonitrile—5,500 gallon tank) located at 1520 Lake Lansing Road. Property is zoned "H" Industrial and owned by Aurora Specialty Chemistries/Harry Moyle.

Tentative text and other information may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, 3209 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan.

Susan L. Aten, Clerk
Charter Township of Lansing

CP#19-279

**CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF REGISTRATION
FOR THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2019 ELECTION**

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing:

Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold an Election on November 5, 2019.

For the purpose of electing candidates to the following offices:

City: Council Member At Large (2), Council Member Ward 1, Council Member Ward 3

Any qualified elector who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of the Lansing City Clerk; the office of their County Clerk; a Secretary of State Branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms may be obtained at mi.gov/vote and mailed or dropped off at the office of the Lansing City Clerk. Voters who are already registered may update their registration at www.expressSOS.com.

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the Lansing City Clerk's Office is **Monday, October 21, 2019**.

After this date, anyone who qualifies as an elector may register to vote in person with proof of residency (MCL 168.492) at the following locations and times:

| Location | Address | Regular Business Hours |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Lansing City Clerk - City Hall | 124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933 | Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm |
| Lansing City Clerk - Election Unit | 2500 S Washington Ave Lansing, MI 48910 | Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm |
| | | Wednesdays 8am-7pm |

Additional times outside of the above listed regular business hours are as follows:

| Location | Address | Additional Hours |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| Lansing City Clerk - City Hall | 124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933 | Election Day November 5 7am - 8pm |
| Lansing City Clerk - Election Unit | 2500 S Washington Ave Lansing, MI 48910 | Saturday, November 2 10 am-2 pm |
| | | Sunday, November 3 12pm - 4pm |
| | | Election Day November 5 7am-8pm |

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Any registered voter may request an Absent Voter Ballot. No reason required.

The Lansing City Clerk's Office must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at the locations referenced in the above table or by visiting our website at lansingmi.gov/clerk.

Monday, November 4, 2019 at 4:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot except for those who register to vote on Election Day. Ballots issued on Monday, November 4, 2019 must be requested and voted in person at the Lansing City Clerk's Office, locations referenced in the above table.

Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, November 5, 2019, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk's Office, locations referenced in the above table.

Chris Swope, CMMC/MMC
Lansing City Clerk
Phone: 517-483-4131
Email: City.clerk@lansingmi.gov
Website: www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#19-274

ARTS & CULTURE

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Anita Skeen helps students find their inner magic

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

Every sentence Anita Skeen speaks and writes is precise, poignant and most of all, passionate. When discussing her 50 years as a teacher, she avoids wasting time fogging conversation with her accolades, six volumes of poetry or moments from tête-à-tête meals with her dear friend the author Margaret Atwood. What she'd rather discuss are the gifts she has received from students over the years.

On Friday, Skeen, 73, will celebrate her last homecoming on the faculty of MSU's Residential College of Arts and Humanities. Skeen taught in the English Department for 17 years before becoming one of the original faculty members at the college in 2007. She witnessed the demise of the creative writing program in the English Department, and Skeen took the opening of the new college as a big green light to pitch her idea for a community poetry center to Dean Steve Esquith.

RCAH Homecoming Celebration

Friday, Sept. 27, 7 p.m.
Snyder-Phillips Hall
362 Bogue Street,
East Lansing
Information on
pre-registration
can be found at
rcah.msu.edu/alumni-friends

"I wanted students to see that you can change people's lives with words," she recalled.

Poetry for all

Before the residential college came to fruition, Skeen was the director of a two-year undergrad program called the Residential Option in Arts and Letters, or ROIAL, in which she and Esquith collaborated on a project where young Sudanese refugees and MSU students worked together on a series of visual and performing art projects. When the residential college started, ROIAL ended and Esquith asked Anita if she would leave the English department to join the residential college as a regular full-time faculty member and lead the Center for Poetry.

"There are many ways in which the Center for Poetry has benefited RCAH and RCAH students," Esquith said. "For RCAH more generally, the opportunity to hear and work with the accomplished poets whom the Center has brought in has been exciting and often inspiring."

He added that her "natural kindness" will be missed, and is hopeful the college will work with her closely after her retirement.

When conceptualizing the Center for Poetry, Skeen wanted to emphasize the intersection of poetry and community outreach by integrating Lansing voices into the program. Enter Ruelaine Stokes, president of the Lansing Poetry Club, who first met Skeen while attending one of her public writing workshops. Stokes said it wasn't long before the pair began organizing poetry events around the city. Their most important collaboration to date was partnering with the Lansing Economic Area Partnership to develop a Lansing poet laureate.

"She has a tremendous imagination when it comes to creating programming for writers and students," Stokes said. "She's really extraordinary in that way."

Returning home

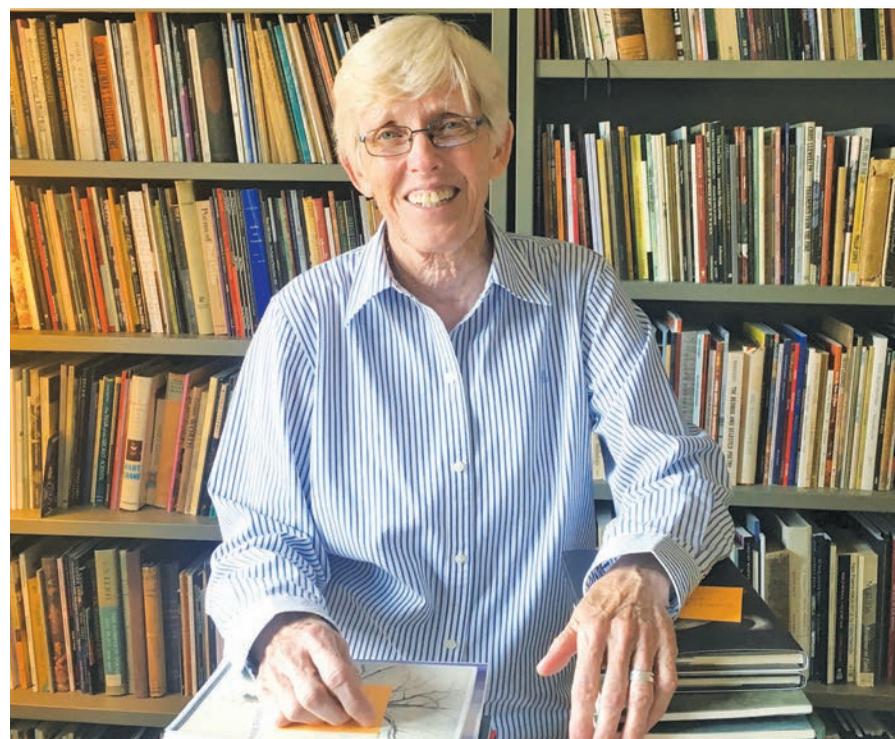
Born in the chemical valley of Charleston, West Virginia, Skeen recalled swinging on vines over creek beds and watching barges carry tons of coal up and down Kanawha River as important moments from her childhood.

"Your environment imprints you as a child," she said. "West Virginia has had so much struggle I feel like I can write about some of that stuff as the voice of someone who lived there, left and came back."

During her 12 years at the residential college, Skeen originated two courses. The first incorporated the literature, art and a three-day tour of southern Appalachia. She said the goal of the course was to introduce students — the majority from rural Michigan towns — to the region's commonalities such as "poverty, prejudice and disregarded family history" and get them to think about how they are products of their environment.

Jenny Crakes, 26, was an intern at the Center for Poetry who took many classes with Skeen, including the Appalachian study-away trip. Crakes knew little about the region and recalled meeting local historians, musicians and modern mountain dwellers as highlights from the experience.

"I think Anita wanted people to see the place with fresh eyes and be ready to get to know the place on its own terms



Audrey Matusz/City Pulse

Professor Anita Skeen will be honored at the RCAH Homecoming celebration Friday for her 50 years as an educator.

as well as understand the importance of valuing history even when it's not easy," Crakes said.

Magical objects

A second class the poet-professor originated was based on the Harry Potter series. In 2016, when she launched the course, there were no books or syllabi analyzing J.K. Rowling's life's work, Skeen said. So, she formed a class to make their own.

Her office contains the typical family photos, inspirational quote poster and expansive book collection, but some of her favorite treasures are projects from "wizards, witches and half-bloods."

"RCAH kids don't want to sit in on lectures, they want to make stuff. So we made magical objects ... giving them the power to create something that wasn't there."

One after one, Skeen pulled out former students' love potions, scrolls with detailed instructions for spells and handmade devices — all items which students returned for her to keep. The projects tackle the philosophy, theology and gender issues brought up in the book.

"We talk about what magic really is," she said. "I often tell them 'your definition of magic is too narrow, what about the magic that you carry inside you?'"

She added that there are no absences because students can't replicate the intensity of the book-based conversations from the hour and half sessions.

"Anita did a great job with mediating," said Rachel Brunhild, 24, who took the "Harry Potter" class in spring of 2018. "You have all these passionate readers and Anita helped navigate that conversations and drop hardcore wisdom. She made it academic and made me feel like she was actually listening."

Skeen said her life plan was divided into quadrants: Twenty-five years as a student, 25 years as a teacher, then the last two portions would be dedicated to her writing. Having spent half her life creating syllabi and lesson plans, she said it's time to go back to her first love.

"I'm happy with what I've written," she said. "Some poems are better than others. I've learned some things from the failures and hopefully that next one will be 'the one.'"

Fall is in the Air



Mums the Word!!!

Lansing Garden's Fall Festival....

October 12th

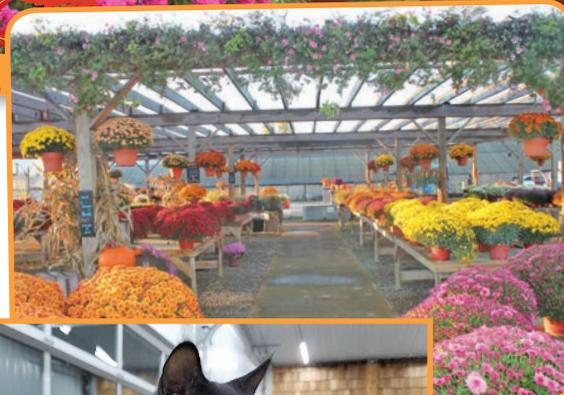
- Games • Contests • Touch a Truck.. Firetrucks
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'Bright Star' ushers in ambitious Peppermint Creek season

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

The opening song to "Bright Star" feels like a rousing act closer, or a stirring tune usually saved for a finale. It's clear from the start that "Bright Star" is a musical with clout.

"If You Knew My Story" begins with Amanda DeKatch's colossal voice filling Peppermint Creek's new, cavernous space inside the Central United Methodist Church.

Based on true events, DeKatch plays Alice, a young mom with a traumatic destiny. Sea turtles can hold their breath up to seven hours. With her impressive lungpower, I'm guessing DeKatch could make it to eight. She is joined by a harmonious collection of vocalists who take the song to a

"Bright Star"

Sept. 26-Sept. 29
Thurs.-Sat., 8-10:30 p.m.
Sat & Sun., 2-4:30 p.m.
\$20, students/seniors/military \$5
Central United Methodist Church
215 N. Capitol Ave.
Peppermintcreek.org
(517) 927-3016

and Edie Brickell is lively, emotional and potent, the 21 following songs in the musical never seem anticlimactic. And having a large cast with large singing voices makes great songs sound even greater.

Lots of players in "Bright Star" get chances to wail. Matthew Bill as Jimmy Ray is strongest when he belts out a song. Sally Hecksel's excitable Margo offers singing that soars. Judy Evans as Mama Murphy blows the freck-

les off her younger castmates.

Talented musicians help to achieve the heights "Bright Star"'s music reaches. A superior, six-piece band directed by Seth Burk provides a nearly continual, countrified bluegrass template for melodic songs that inspire joy and gut wrenching grief.

The harmonies of the cast are as smooth as their movements. Karyn Perry provides intricate and synchronized choreography that often flows from end-to-end of the spacious CUMC theater area.

Director Chad Swan-Badgero accomplishes the seemingly impossible task of blocking 16 actors entering from opposite corners of the hall — and sometimes occupying the real stage that almost begs not be ignored.

Instead of facing the stage, the audience is seated in rows lined up against the side walls. As a football stadium, some seat locations are close to the action, and other times, far from it. To overcome that, Swan-Badgero does an excellent job of creating the illusion that the actors are focused on each audience member. He also has actors gracefully roll out and retrieve versatile set pieces he designed — often in perfect unison.

Quality costumes designed by Camara Lewis — with some help from Riverwalk's Costume Shop — feature dresses and suits that suit the musical's time hopping between the '20s and '40s.

Opening night did have a few kinks that were being worked out. A slight echo was being tamed. Bright and



Courtesy Photo

Grace Rosen (left) and Taylor Jeffers in Peppermint Creek Theatre's "Bright Star."

annoying spotlights that fell on parts of the audience needed adjustment. Hopping into a new season with an ambitious musical at a new venue

would stifle a novice, but it appears Peppermint Creek succeeded in making their own tough act to follow.

Ingham County Animal Shelter

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600 Curtis St., Mason, MI, 48854 • ac.ingham.org



Baxter is a big bouncy guy looking for a special person. He would do best in an adult home or with sturdy kids who are used to big bouncy dogs.

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DeWitt
12286 Old U.S. 27
Charlotte
515 Lansing St.



Truman is a sweet young guy looking for a new home! He loves people but new things sometimes make him nervous. He would do best in an adult home with an experienced owner.

Sponsored by
Anne & Dale Schrader



Kayla is a sweet gal looking for a loving home. She would do well in an adult only home with few other animals. She can be picky about her feline friends.

Sponsored by
Linn & Owen Jewelers



Blow Pop came to the shelter a little worse for wear and needed leg surgery before she could go up for adoption. Now that she's on the mend she's ready to find her new family.

Sponsored by
Schuler Books



Hendrix is a shy guy looking for a loving family. He is very nervous here at the shelter and is still trying to get used to things. He would likely do better in a low energy adult only homeshelter.

In memory of
Rodica's cats

Don't lose local news!

Keep CityPULSE in Kroger

Dear readers,

Thank you very much for your efforts to keep City Pulse in Kroger. Thus far, nearly 800 people have signed the petition at www.lansingcitypulse.com/Kroger; many have told me they have also called (800) KROGERS x3 to register their views. And some have sent me copies of emails to Kroger's corporate communications director at Kristal.Howard@Kroger.com.

Unless something changes, this is the last issue we will deliver to Kroger, where more than 3,100 people have been picking up their City Pulse. On the next page, we list locations near Kroger where they can pick up their City Pulse starting next week.

Please, though, keep on letting Kroger know you want City Pulse in its stores. Below are suggestions on how to do that, and on the next page is a coupon you can drop off at the customer service counter in your Kroger store.

**Don't lose local news! Please act today.
Thank you.**

B. Schwartz



CALL KROGER

1-800-KROGERS ext. 3

Please explain that you disagree with Kroger's decision to ban free publications and that you want to continue to pick up City Pulse at Kroger stores in the Lansing market. Note: If someone tells you it is not a corporate decision, please reply that local Kroger employees say it is and to please pass along your message to the right person.

SIGN OUR PETITION

Visit Lansingcitypulse.com/Kroger
to sign and comment

EMAIL KROGER

Kristal Howard is the communications director for Kroger. Her email address is Kristal.howard@kroger.com. Please put something in your subject line like this: Keep City Pulse in Kroger. Here is an email from a reader for suggestions on what to write:

Dear Kristal Howard,

I am writing you as a concerned shopper who has, for many years, done grocery shopping at Kroger stores, a habit I fear that my family, friends, and I may soon have to break. I have just learned that Kroger is planning to discontinue one of the most useful services it provides to our community, the distribution of the City Pulse. I often shop at Kroger stores, despite being able to find the same or similar products at lower prices elsewhere, so that I can pick up a copy of the City Pulse. So I sincerely hope that you will rescind this policy change. The idea that the distribution of publications like City Pulse does not enhance "customer engagement" is simply untrue. It sounds so hollow, in fact, that I wonder what the real reason for this change might be.

I have also been disconcerted to discover, upon calling both several local Kroger stores and the national 800 number, that those responding to calls were either unaware of the change in policy or did not know much about it. I should add, however, that everyone I spoke to was as helpful as possible and handled the call with civility.

Thank you for reconsidering this policy. I want to continue being able to shop at Kroger stores.

Yours,

Michael Koppisch

Thank you! Keep local journalism strong! Don't lose local news!

Don't lose local news!

Keep CityPULSE in Kroger

ALTERNATIVES TO KROGER:

Should City Pulse be removed from Kroger, you won't have to travel too far:

Kroger Location:
6430 W. Saginaw, Lansing

Nearby businesses with City Pulse:

- Soldan's
6201 W. Saginaw
- Horrock's
7420 W. Saginaw
- Better Health Store
6235 W Saginaw
- Astera Credit Union
5615 W. Saginaw
- Meijer
5125 W. Saginaw
- MSUFCU
Corner of Saginaw/
Migaldi Drive

Kroger Location:
921 W. Holmes Rd.,
Lansing

Nearby businesses with City Pulse:

- Talecris Plasma Resources
921 W. Holmes
(same plaza)
- Royal Liquor
3325 S MLK Jr. Blvd.
- Great Giant Market
3222 S MLK Jr. Blvd.
- Valuland Market
1609 W. Mt. Hope
- Biggby
4230 S MLK Jr. Blvd.

Kroger Location:
4884 Marsh Rd., Okemos

Nearby businesses with City Pulse:

- Meijer
2055 W. Grand River Ave.
- MSUFCU
1775 Central Park Dr.
- Kellie's Consignments
5000 Marsh Rd.
- Best Buy
2020 W. Grand River
(outdoor box)
- Asian Buffet
4920 Marsh Rd.
- Foods for Living
2655 E. Grand River

Kroger Location:
443 Mall Court, Frandor

Nearby businesses with City Pulse:

- Ace Hardware
600 Mall Court, Frandor
- Better Health Store
305 N. Clippert
- Biggby
1429 W. Saginaw
- Flapjack Shack
3000 E Grand River
(outdoor box)
- Guitar Center
517 Mall Court, Frandor
- Marshall Music
3240 E. Saginaw

Kroger Location:
1550 W. Lake Lansing Rd.,
East Lansing

Nearby businesses with City Pulse:

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- Espresso Royale
1500 W. Lake Lansing
- Famous Taco
1500 W. Lake Lansing
- Biggby
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In their merry Oldsmobiles

Lansing's car brand lives on in hometown 15 years after demise

Dennis Burck/City Pulse

The former Oldsmobile world headquarters at GM Lansing Assembly sits empty as it's used as a giant advertisement billboard for Cadillac.

By **DENNIS BURCK**

Badgley's Garage sits humbly on Clippert Street in Lansing Township, a building of unassuming white concrete blocks. And though many repair shops carry garage in their namesakes, Badgley's Garage is just that — one big bay that can fit two cars.

There is no office and nowhere to sit to wait for a repair. Customers are served through a small window with what looks like the square footage of a closet.

Manning the shop is Trevor Badgley, a third-generation Oldsmobile mechanic and owner of the garage, dressed in simple mechanic overalls. As the striking United Auto Workers show, General Motors is still a big presence in Lansing, but in 2004 the company shuttered its Oldsmobile division, the brand tied to Michigan's capital for 107 years.

Fifteen years after the last Oldsmobile rolled off the assembly line, Badgley's still specializes in the hometown brand. It's one of the last Oldsmobile-specific shops in the United States and the very last in Michigan.

Inside the garage is a museum-quality display of Oldsmobile signs and memorabilia throughout the years, salvaged from former dealerships, garages and shops.

"We specialize in Oldsmobiles and are

known for that around the country. We'll have cars shipped in from Tennessee, Illinois and New York," Badgley said. "Some of these Oldsmobiles have been passed down from generation to generation. Some are recent purchases that come back to Lansing because people are looking to buy the car their dad worked on at the factory."

Despite a shortage of parts, manuals and mechanics, Oldsmobiles and their stubborn owners prove that the brand is very much alive in its hometown after being defunct for over a decade.

A step inside the R.E. Olds Transportation Museum sees a score of monthly magazines and newsletters from different Oldsmobile clubs across the country on how to maintain and find parts for the aging vehicles. Bumper stickers are also for sale, proclaiming "I don't care what GM says, Oldsmobile will never die!"

The history of R.E. Olds can be traced to Lansing in 1897, when Ransom Olds founded the Olds Motor Vehicle Company. Among Oldsmobile's pioneered inventions over a century in business were the passenger airbag, automatic transmission, chrome plating and onboard GPS navigation.

The concept of the brand's death would've been laughable in the 1980s. The Oldsmobile

Cutlass was the best-selling model of any car in 1986, selling over a million per year. At this highpoint, Oldsmobile employed 21,000 in Lansing and operated its world headquarters out of Building 70 on Townsend Street near Lansing Assembly. The building now sits overgrown and fenced off. GM appears to use it solely to hang an enormous advertisement for Cadillac, a brand still produced in Lansing at Grand River Assembly.

The biggest challenge to keeping the brand alive today is parts, Badgley said. "If it is a high-performance Oldsmobile, parts are readily available through aftermarket sources. But if it is just your plain Jane Oldsmobile 98, some of that stuff is not so easy to locate."

On Evan Hope's 1982 Oldsmobile Toronado convertible, a plastic piece between the front bumper and the body is rotting away from age. Hope covers the rot with a white piece of tape, the only noticeable cosmetic defect to an otherwise spotless machine.

"I can't find the original part for this," Hope said. "I can find something similar, but there will be an ugly gap at each bend."

Hope, who is the Delhi Township clerk, purchased his Toronado a year ago. It has been a lifelong dream of his to own an '80s Oldsmobile after rolling around in his neighbor's late '70s Oldsmobile 98 when he grew

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Oldsmobile

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up in Holt.

“You could not feel the road, and it felt like we were floating,” Hope said. “Other 10-year-olds might have been interested in exotic sports cars in the '80s like a Lamborghini Countach. For me, it was luxury cars like Olds.”

Hope hunted for a cheap daily driver, but he couldn't pass up the chance to own an Oldsmobile convertible.

“It had plush seats, a cloud ride, spokes and white walls. That's what made it a nice car to me. I like those quirky big cars that are unloved right now.”

His car is a testament to the bulky square design of the '80s. The dashboard is an amalgam of fake wood and an absurd amount of squares and rectangles. At 82,000 miles, he hopes it will last for years to come.

“I drive this every chance I get,” he added. “GM probably didn't need three luxury brands, but I know a lot of people around here liked Oldsmobile because it rode just like a Cadillac without being one.”

Pronounced dead

With cherry red paint and chrome rims, the last Oldsmobile ran off the Lansing Assembly line in 2004 amid a flurry of national media parachuting in to write the obituary of America's oldest car manufacturer at 107 years old.

R.E. Olds Museum historian Dave Pfaff was at the museum when the final 2004 Alero rolled in. It was the 35,229,218th vehicle assembled in Oldsmobile history.

“It was a very sad day,” Pfaff said. “I just thought ‘Why Oldsmobile?’”

Oldsmobile became the canary in the coal mine for the death of GM's numerous divisions. Saturn would follow suit in 2009 and Hummer and Pontiac in 2010, all victims of the GM bankruptcy.

Pfaff, who worked at Olds as an engineer from 1962 to 1999, said the decline of the brand came down to mismanagement and “badge assembly” where GM produced the same car across its divisions with only cosmetic differences.

“We started making cars that shouldn't have been made,” Pfaff said. “Cars like the Oldsmobile Omega and Firenza didn't make sense.”

Badgley saw the change from the mechanic's point of view. “At a certain point you weren't really driving an Oldsmobile anymore. They switched from making Oldsmobiles exclusively to ‘BOP’ or Buick, Olds and Pontiac cars. That's when they lost their identity, because they all went down the same line,” he said.

Another nail in the coffin was its advertising. The infamous “This is not your father's Oldsmobile” ad campaign was supposed to reclaim the brand for a new generation. It was a dud.

Oldsmobile's boxy cars of the late



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

(Above) Evan Hope is a proud owner of a 1982 Oldsmobile Toronado convertible.

(Below) R.E. Olds Transportation Museum volunteer Jerry Garfield stands next to a 1966 Oldsmobile Toronado.

'80s did little to motivate young American buyers while the ad alienated its loyal fan base.

“That ad was the dumbest thing they could've done,” Pfaff said. “My father had a 442.”

Pfaff's father's Oldsmobile 442 was not a geriatric cruiser by any means. The car was powered by a 350-horsepower V8 and was Oldsmobile's answer to the high performance horse-

power cars of the muscle car era.

“It was insulting to our customer base,” he added. “We always had terrible marketing.”

Two years before the 1986 ad, Oldsmobile sold 1,050,832 vehicles. By 1990, sales were down to 489,492.

But as Oldsmobile took flak from car culture for its failed advertising campaign, its Lansing engineers forged ahead by working on a monster

to set a new closed course land-speed record for some much needed positive PR.

That creation, the Oldsmobile Aero-tech I, debuted in 1987, featuring a turbocharged 1,000-horsepower Quad 4 engine and the silvery looks of a rocket ship. Flat out, the car ran 267 miles per hour, setting the bar for

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Oldsmobile

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a closed course land-speed record and high-speed endurance record.

By the time the car was fully tested on the track in 1992, the Oldsmobile Aerotech I had broken 47 speed-endurance records against the prestigious former world champion, Mercedes Benz. According to a Jalopnik.com profile on the Aerotech, some of those endurance records still stand today.

However, the daily driving populace wasn't driven to the brand by Olds' blistering fast prototype and the Aerotech I faded into relative oblivion. Sales and production at the brand declined throughout the 1990s.

"I was lucky to get out when I did," Pfaff said.

The Last Oldsmobiles

During Oldsmobile's final days of production, owner Dick Poulin of Dick Poulin Chevrolet received an Alero as a stock inventory car from GM. However, upon closer inspection, he noticed something peculiar about it.

"It was numbered 499 of 500 and I thought 'Wow, that's worth keeping,'" Poulin said.

In the luck of the draw, GM delivered Poulin the last Oldsmobile to be offered for sale by dealer.

It is currently for sale at Poulin's dealership for \$32,000. Poulin kept it in his showroom for the past 15 years. With only 42 miles on the car, the Alero only went in and out of the showroom for periodic inspections and to refresh the gas.

"It has all of its original stickers and everything. It's like it is still in the wrapper," Poulin said. "You have to find a special person who wants this car, but there are still a lot of people who love the Olds brand."

After dealing GM brand cars for 33 years, GM cancelled his dealership during its bankruptcy and Poulin made the switch to Chrysler. He listed the car in June to thin out his oddball vehicle collection.

"I loved Oldsmobile, but I've had no love for GM since they canceled me," Poulin said.

Oldsmobile Alero owner Jerry Garfield proudly sports a license plate saying "LSTOLDS" framed with a "Forever Proud" cover.

If Oldsmobile had a cheerleader, it would be Garfield. He volunteers each week at the R.E. Olds Transportation

Museum and wrote an article in the Oldsmobile Club of America's "Journey with Olds" monthly magazine about his 2004 Alero.

With regular maintenance and measures taken for rust prevention, Garfield aims to keep his Alero running as long as he can. For aid, he relies on its shop service manual. He worked as a service manual supervisor for Oldsmobile from 1980 to 1993 in a 40-year career with GM.

"It was fun, hard work, full of pressure and anxiety, but full of accomplishment," Garfield said.

When the announcement to end production came, Garfield was in shock. "It was like somebody closed the door on my home and I couldn't get back in," he said.

The announcement spurred him to buy the last model Alero. He keeps it running to this day. "It wasn't too big or too small and it was assembled in Lansing. I have an affection for my hometown because of Oldsmobile," Garfield said.

As for the very last Oldsmobile ever made? Pfaff, the museum historian, thought it would eventually come back to the museum after GM's bankruptcy. However, in 2017, The GM Heritage Center sold off the final 500 Alero to a private collector for \$42,000. Its purchaser declined to be identified at the closed door dealer-only auction.

Christo Datini, manager of archives and special collections at the GM Heritage Center, wrote the following statement in an email correspondence when asked about the decision to sell the last Oldsmobile:

"We are not able to locate the individuals involved in the sale of this particular automobile. However, we can confirm there are nearly 50 historically significant Oldsmobiles in our collection, including a 1903 Curved Dash, a 1911 Limited, the first production 1966 Toronado and Final 500 editions of the Aurora, Bravada and Silhouette."

Garfield said he doesn't know if Oldsmobile will be remembered 100 years from now.

"Since Lansing is its hometown, it will be remembered here more than any other place," Garfield said.

"Coming here to the museum I call my therapy day. I enjoy working on the old cars with my former colleagues. People from younger generations only knowledge of Oldsmobile might come from our work at this museum. It is truly therapeutic not only to preserve the past, but because it is fun too."



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

(Above) Co-owner of Badgley's garage Trevor Badgley specializes in Oldsmobiles. (Below) An Oldsmobile 98 with a rusted out subframe is on its last leg at a Midas repair shop in Lansing.

Audra McDonald conquers Lansing to open 90th season

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

I arrived to Saturday's Lansing Symphony opener with an ice cube in my bosom — a pointy, petty suspicion that the symphony was slipping a pip-squeak pops concert under the ermine-trimmed, patriarchal robes of its "MasterWorks" series.

Instantly, I was thrown from my high horse by the tough love of Audra McDonald. Happily bruised and grass-stained, I fully recant. After an evening of grand, funny, ravishing and seamless collaboration between one of Broadway's greatest stars and the home team, conducted by maestro Timothy Muffitt, my apprehensiveness dissipated. It's going to be hard to top this one.

Despite international multimedia acclaim, McDonald never came off as the superstar blowing into Tank Town, checking her watch for the time in Paris.

This rare collaboration appeared completely relaxed and comfortable, despite the short rehearsal time and sophisti-

cated arrangements. Deftly integrating her own touring trio, McDonald, Muffitt and the orchestra turned out some 20 tunes from Broadway and the Great American Songbook, each one as musically polished and emotionally committed as the last.



McDonald

The orchestra, strings in particular, wove an almost unbearably tender nest for her as she sang "You've Got to Be Carefully Taught," from "South Pacific," giving the song's message of racial tolerance an understated urgency that made you want to lean in and listen for dear life.

McDonald swung into the jazzy "Cornet Man" from "Funny Girl," garnished by a swaggering solo from principal trumpet Justin Emerich.

True to form, McDonald name-checked Emerich after "Cornet Man," singling him out in the back row and gave multiple nods to Muffitt and the

orchestra.

McDonald's self-deprecating, keep-it-real banter between tunes was as pitch perfect as her singing.

In McDonald's thrilling treatment of the Mother Superior's "Sound of Music" apotheosis, the anthem's synthetic, vague platitudes poured forth as naturally as organic honey from free-range bees.

She further punctured the dirigible by adding an anecdote about her young daughter's "review" of her live TV performance in the Mother Superior role, via text message: "Where are the dryer sheets?"

Suffice it to say that from start to finish, she had a packed house in complete thrall. By the time she put a killer bend into a single syllable — the word "time" from the standard "Summertime" — a man in the audience pretty much lost it. That man, the first to shoot up in the ensuing standing ovation, was California composer Bruce Stark, who was having quite a day.

Before McDonald's part of the pro-

gram, the orchestra gave a vigorous, deep-breathing performance of Stark's "Symphonic Dances" that had the composer grinning during the intermission schmooze to the point of pain.

Violinist and concertmaster Ran Cheng adorned glimmering dragonfly wings onto the first movement, inspired by Stark's childhood love of bluegrass music. She was present and poised, infusing her fiddle with the sweet air of wonderment that perfectly complemented the music's wanderous, restless drive. Stark's second movement avoided the cringe-worthy "jazz" gestures made by so many well-meaning classical composers. The finale tethered loose ends with rolling, chopping momentum that fed upon itself until the suite was sweetly spent.

Along the way, Muffitt muscled several sudden, shocking crescendi out of Stark's generally genial score, as if to remind everyone that this was a symphony orchestra, after all, and you have to expect to get the works now and then.

Open mic hero Amber Cordell plays her final Lansing set

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

It's rare to move away and have a send-off like Amber Cordell, a local musician, did this month. Besides several, get-togethers with co-workers and friends, there were two staff bashes that were connected to her. There was the work party at the Office for International Students and Scholars at Michigan State University, a farewell performance last Wednesday at Sir Pizza Grand Café in Old Town, and a final musical jam with over 20 musicians to honor her at the Waterfront Bar and Grill in Lansing on Sept. 22.

After touching the hearts of hundreds of college students and fans, such revelries were fitting.

Cordell is known in town for appearing at numerous open mics in the Lansing area, sometimes standing as the only woman on stage. Places like Moriarty's, the EagleMonk Pub, MBC, Windwalker and The All Saints Coffeehouse fostered the confidence to perform and compose music.

The exposure led to playing with Double Secret Probation, Amber and the Bad Habits, and with guitarist Ron

McKeever — and paid gigs all around Lower Michigan.

This month, she celebrated leaving her job of 11 years as educational program manager at MSU and headed Monday for Emory University in Atlanta. At MSU, Cordell started a scholarship leadership program, taught weekly seminars, was an advisor for the International Students Association and Japan Club, facilitated intercultural communications trainings, hired about 100 orientation leaders a year, managed orientation for all incoming international students, and coordinated and emceed an annual global festival.

Work took her to China to meet MSU students and their parents. She also hosted "Spring Break Service Trips," including one last year to the U.S.-Mexico border to distribute water for refugees.

Cordell mentored people from 140 different countries. At least 2,400 students follow her student focused Facebook page.

"I keep in touch with a lot of them," Cordell said. When her departure was announced, she received over 100 emotional testimonials.

"I had a great gig going on at MSU so I was never desperate or in a rush to leave," she said. A friend saw the Emory post and said, "This seems perfect for you." Cordell agreed.

Emory has a smaller population with a larger percent of international students. It offers career advancement and an opportunity to be closer to her mom, sister, niece, and nephew—a "huge reason" for the move.



Cordell

Rome, Georgia.

She attended Shorter for its music and theater programs, but earned degrees in psychology and religion instead. Her masters in religion—specializing in Japanese Buddhism—was completed at Wake Forest in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. In adherence for her degree, Cordell did Buddhism research and taught English in Japan from 2001 to 2004, providing her the opportunity to travel all over Asia.

Cordell's degrees helped interactions with students from many countries with different religions. "I have a certain intercultural sensitivity thanks to studying different religions," she said. Be-

longing to a local Buddhist meditation group has been helpful, too.

Cordell has also had opportunities to spend time in Chile and has traveled all over the world, she said. "Mostly by myself."

Her first job in international education was at the University of Kansas Medical Center. That's where she met and married a Japanese American who then moved here for a job with Michigan Virtual University. After four years together, they divorced in 2011. Reminiscing about her time at MSU, Cordell never thought she'd stay. "I never could get used to the cold," she said. "It really gets to me."

Cordell's dad, who died when she was 13, was a musician, guitar and voice. They did a duo appearance on a local TV March of Dimes telethon when she was five. Her mother was also a vocalist and piano/organ player. "Music was a big deal in my family," Cordell said.

This summer, Cordell got to play in North Carolina where her sister lives.

"Kinda like my first tour," she chuckled. "Three shows in four days."

Her musical side-career seemed to be taking off. Cordell had to cancel area bookings into November.

"I've done a little bit of poking around Atlanta," she said. "There will be more opportunities, but there will be more competition."

Northern Michigan professor memorializes 'Camera Hunter'

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Unless you are from Marquette or a photographic historian, it's likely you haven't heard of George Shiras III (or as Shiras signed it, "3d"). Shiras was not only a congressman, a naturalist and a pal of Teddy Roosevelt, he also was also an early wildlife photographer.

Don't feel bad if the name Shiras doesn't ring any bells. It didn't either for Marquette author and Northern Michigan University professor James H. McCommons until while on vacation he pulled a copy of what he calls "a heavy, rather plain-covered book" from a shelf in a bookstore in Menominee.

Discovering "Hunting Wildlife with Cameras and Flashlight" by Shiras would lead McCommons to several years of research with trips to numerous archives and ultimately writing his own book on Shiras titled, "Camera Hunter: George Shiras III and the Birth of Wildlife Photography."

Shiras, born in 1859 in Pittsburgh, attended the best schools, became a silk-stocking lawyer and followed in his father's footsteps as a congressman from Pennsylvania. He also became an avid hunter belonging to elite hunt clubs.

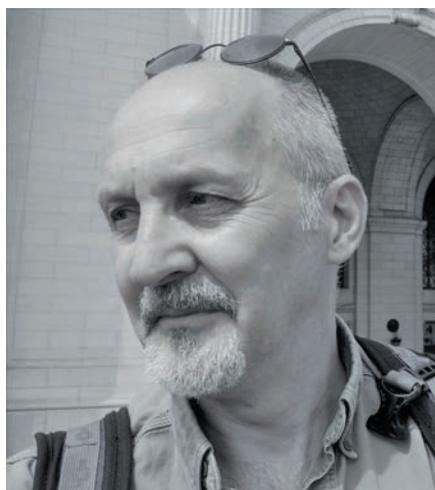
This was at a time when the slaughter of birds and mammals by both recreational and market hunters became an existential threat to numerous species.

In his book, McCommons thoroughly examines Shiras' evolution from hunter to a photographer using the magic box to capture spectacular images of wildlife at night by using a centuries' old Ojibwa hunting technique of "jacklighting," which is the modern equivalent of flash photography.

Ancient jacklighting involved two men in a canoe with one man in the bow using a fire-driven lantern to freeze animals in place while lighting them up for the kill.

Shiras replaced fire with kerosene, and on land he used trip wires to set off an explosive flash, freezing the animals and enabling him to take photographs of prancing deer, lynx, beaver and raccoons during the dark of night.

Shiras' photographs became a sensation and were propelled into superstar status when the National Geographic magazine published 74 of



Courtesy Photo

McCommons

his photographs in the July 1906 edition, which led to the resignation of two board of directors who disagreed with the use of photography in the then print heavy magazine.

McCommons said one of his goals was to place the legacy of Shiras into the context of the times by not only examining his contributions to photography, but also chronicling the world around him including the Progressive movement.

One little known fact McCommons discovered while writing was Shiras' close friendship with Teddy Roosevelt who, like Shiras, was also an avid hunter before becoming arguably the most important figure in wildlife and nature preservation.

When Roosevelt sued the Marquette Iron Ore newspaper for libel for calling him a drunk, he stayed during the trial with Shiras at his Marquette home. Although a product of the East, Shiras and his family had summered in Marquette since he was a small boy. As an adult, he moved his family there permanently.

Shiras was not only enamored by the wildness of the Western U.P., he married a daughter of the Upper Peninsula's most revered capitalists, Peter White, a philanthropist who donated large sums of money to the community including financing the elegant public library in Marquette.

While researching the life of Shiras, McCommons discovered a cache of documents in Pittsburgh where Shiras' father, George, a former U.S. Supreme Court justice, had resided.

In his later years, Shiras died unexpectedly while composing a biography of his father, leaving the unfinished biography and other papers that were donated to the University of Pittsburgh.

McCommons said it was there he found a trove of papers relating to Shiras.

"There were three boxes of material no one had looked at," McCommons said. In the unread collection, he found material linking Shiras to other important conservationists, including correspondence sent by Roosevelt.

McCommons was surprised when he visited the archives a year later because he was told that the papers had been donated to another archives.

"The archivist told me a professor had visited the archives a year earlier and they had sent the collection to his university. "It was me," McCommons said. The papers had been sent to Northern Michigan.

"The records provided me with personal anecdotes I wouldn't be able to find anywhere else," he said.

One transcendent act accomplished by Shiras was shepherding the Migratory Bird Treaty Act through

Congress in 1918.

As a hunter, Shiras had seen firsthand how entire species of birds had been eliminated through over-hunting while others were at great risk.

In his book, McCommons writes about how Shiras, was one of the overly-zealous hunters who contributed to the extinction of the passenger pigeon.

"It was at a time when it was thought America had unlimited resources to be hunted," McCommons said.

A report issued last week detailed the loss of more than 2.9 billion birds in the U.S. and Canada since 1970. It may be time to reflect on the life and times of Shiras.

SCHULER BOOKS

MAGIC/KEYFORGE GAME NIGHT
Tuesdays · 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.*

TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY
October 5 · ALL DAY

Teachers are hard core! Stop in to win prizes, a free beverage, and enjoy an extended classroom discount all day. We'll also have author talks on school visits and classroom opportunities. The first 50 teachers to join us get a free canvas tote bag!

AARTI SHAHANI
October 5 · 7am

NPR correspondent and author shares her memoir *Here We Are: American Dreams, American Nightmares*.

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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, September 25

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Astronomy & Astrophysics Seminar - 1:30 pm. Free. Room 1400, Biomedical and Physical Sciences Building, MSU, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

Beginning American Style Waltz Class - 7:15-8:05 p.m. Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Beginning Salsa Group Dance Class - 7:15-8:05 p.m. Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Business Model Workshop - 2-3 p.m. Gaynor Entrepreneurship Lab, 651 N. Shaw Ln, East Lansing.

Cooking Demo - Join our Executive Chefs as they teach you how to prepare items from our new fall menu. 6-8 p.m. MP Social, 313 N. Cedar St., Lansing.

Glitzy Netted Bracelet - Learn a basic netting stitch. All materials are provided. 1-3 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Living a Good Life On Your Own - Workshop Series for Widows,

Widowers and others. 4-5:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

Mental Health First Aid (ADULT) \$25. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Community Mental Health, 812 E. Jolly Rd, Lansing.

SlimeTime - Learn the science behind kinds of slime! 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Adventure Club Storytimes - 4-5 p.m. Grand Ledge Library, 131 S. Jefferson. grandledge.lib.mi.us.

The Artists Umbrella Vol 3 featuring T Gage Poetry. 6 p.m. The Loft, 414 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. theloftlansing.com.

The Artists Umbrella Vol 4 - featuring Kirei. 6 p.m. The Loft, 414 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. theloftlansing.com

Early Literacy Playtime (Ages 1-6) - Games and activities geared toward developing early literacy skills 10-10:30 a.m. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. cadl.org.

Family Storytime (Ages up to 6) - build early literacy skills. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. CADL Webberville, 115 N. Main, Webberville. cadl.org.

Teen LGBTQ+ Reading Group (Ages 13-18) - Discuss LGBTQ+ media, including books, movies, TV, comics, fanfic and more. 4-5:30 p.m. CADL Downtown Lansing, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. 517-367-6363. cadl.org.

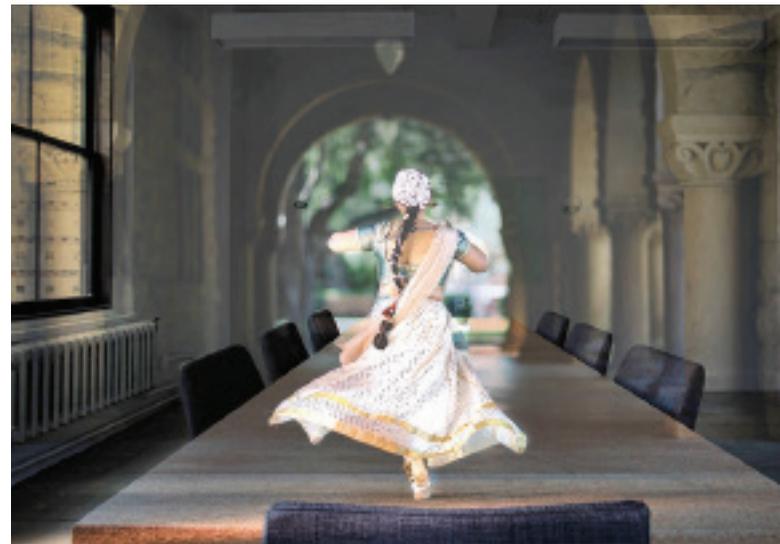
EVENTS

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

CCBS Workday - Do you enjoy spending time outdoors in nature? 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Capital City Bird Sanctuary, 6001 Delta River Drive, Lansing. michiganaudubon.org.

Fall Migration Bird Walks at Capital City Bird Sanctuary - 8-10 a.m. 6001 Delta River Dr., Lansing.

Fall Rummage and Bake Sale - Wed. 5-7:30 pm Thurs., 8 am-4 pm \$2 per bag at noon! St. Michael Church, 345 Edwards St, Grand Ledge.



NAARI: HONOURING THE FEMININE

Witness the beauty of Odissi dancer Sonali Mishra and poems by Hinnah Mian for a fundraising event supporting Our Biswas, short for Our Belief in the Services of Women of All Societies. The non-profit organization works through

Nano Finance, to provide interest-free loans to marginalized women living in remote villages and urban slums to tackle the many challenges of extreme poverty and to tap into their confidence and ability to empower themselves, their families and their community. There is a suggested \$20 entry fee for the general public, \$5 for students. RSVP by messaging ourbiswas9@gmail.com

Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. Meridian Township Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

Innovate State - a collaboration between the Burgess Institute for Entrepreneurship & Innovation and the MSU Innovation Center. 6-7:30 p.m. Gaynor Entrepreneurship Lab, 651 N. Shaw Ln, East Lansing.

Lansing Area Mindfulness Community - Weekly practice. 7-9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S MLK Blvd., Lansing. 517-420-5820. iamc.info.

Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society - 7-9 p.m. Family History Center (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints), 431 E. Saginaw, East Lansing.

MSU Group Tours - 1-3 p.m. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Rd., East Lansing.

Tiny Tots Tumbling Tour - 10-11 a.m. World Tour Cheer and Tumble, 1860 1/2 W Grand River, Okemos.

ARTS

BookWorks - New exhibit 12-4 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-6074. thepeopleschurch.com.

Drawing Marathon - Annual non-stop drawing extravaganza! 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 565 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Water, Wildlife, Sky and Earth - New exhibit. 12-4 p.m. The Peoples Church, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-6074. thepeopleschurch.com.

See Out on the town, Page 23

FRIDAY, SEPT. 27 >> ETIENNE CHARLES & CREOLE SOUL AT ROBIN THEATRE



The international trumpeter/bandleader and MSU Jazz Studies faculty will perform with his sextet, Creole Soul. The formation will evoke a myriad of colors and textures inspired by Charles' Afro-Caribbean background, coupled with the pulse of Motown and r&b. Doors are 7:30 p.m. and tickets can be purchased for \$12-15 prior to the day of the show.

8-10 p.m., \$20 door
1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
(989) 878-1810
therobintheatre.com

FRIDAY, SEPT. 27 >> GATHER FOR CHANGE AT REDHEAD DESIGN STUDIO



Inside the exposed brick walls of the chic design firm's headquarters, the public is invited to enjoy cocktails, LaCroix and artisan olive trays in the name of social change. Donations will be collected for the Firecracker Foundation, a local nonprofit that supports child survivors of sexual trauma through holistic healing.

4-7 p.m., donation-based
1135 N. Washington Ave., Lansing
(517) 853-3681
facebook.com/redheaddesignstudio

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Evened Out" -- following the sequence.

by Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Enough, in Italy
- 6 Shortly, to Shakespeare
- 10 Gives in to gravity
- 14 Groove for a letter-shaped bolt
- 15 Setting for "The Music Man"
- 16 Paris's ___ d'Orsay
- 17 Concerned question
- 19 "Back in the ___" (Beatles song)
- 20 Nixes, as a bill
- 21 Edit menu command

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- 22 Where harmful skin exposure may originate
- 26 Electrified particle
- 27 Moines intro
- 28 270 are required to win the White House (abbr.)
- 29 Nine of diamonds feature?
- 30 "American Pie" actress Tara
- 32 Some karaoke songs
- 34 Interstellar emissions studied by NASA
- 39 Former "America's Got Talent" judge Klum
- 40 Word on a red sign
- 43 Pompous type
- 46 Architect who passed in 2019
- 47 "Call of Duty: Black ___"
- 50 Most recent Summer Olympics host
- 51 Unwisely responding to an online troublemaker

- 55 Pageant prop
- 56 "Yup"
- 57 "Cantos" poet Pound
- 58 Intermediaries
- 62 Stack of paper
- 63 Map dot
- 64 Basketball Hall-of-Famer ___ Thomas
- 65 Concordes, e.g.
- 66 Egyptian canal
- 67 Really, really tiny

Down

- 1 "Before I forget," in texts
- 2 Cinders
- 3 Eastern European language, such as in Dvorak's "Dances"
- 4 Sacred emblem
- 5 Like some retired racehorses
- 6 Broadcasters
- 7 Yogurt brand named

- after a Queensland beach town
- 8 Newman's ___
- 9 Old horse
- 10 Catcher's position
- 11 Queensland resident, e.g.
- 12 "Beauty and the Beast" antagonist
- 13 Sounds in car chase scenes
- 18 Made on a loom
- 21 It may start out dry in a box
- 22 Tree with needles
- 23 Fish eggs
- 24 Pair, in Paris
- 25 Bon ___ (indie band with the 2019 album "i,i")
- 31 Homer's outburst
- 32 Half of MCCII
- 33 Part of PBS, for short
- 35 Antique photo tone
- 36 Appearance

- 37 "Got it"
- 38 Entered with much pomp
- 41 Painting medium
- 42 D.C. figure
- 43 Dessert, in England
- 44 Confiscates
- 45 Pirate, in old slang
- 47 "That's awkward"
- 48 Flippant
- 49 "Victory is mine!" character
- 52 Small units of liquor
- 53 Ping-pong surface
- 54 "Wild" star Witherspoon
- 58 "Saving Private Ryan" extras
- 59 Beavers' sch.
- 60 Rapper Lil ___ X
- 61 Just short

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Answers Page 23

SUDOKU

Beginner

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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 23

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

Sept. 25 - Oct. 1, 2019

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Comedian John Cleese speaks of two different modes toward which we humans gravitate. The closed style is tight, guarded, rigid, controlling, hierarchical, and tunnel-visioned. The open is more relaxed, receptive, exploratory, democratic, playful, and humorous. I'm pleased to inform you that you're in a phase when spending luxurious amounts of time in the open mode would be dramatically healing to your mental health. Luckily, you're more predisposed than usual to operate in that mode. I encourage you to experiment with the possibilities.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Upcoming adventures could test your poise and wit. They may activate your uncertainties and stir you to ask provocative questions. That's cause for celebration, in my opinion. I think you'll benefit from having your poise and wit tested. You'll generate good fortune for yourself by exploring your uncertainties and asking provocative questions. You may even thrive and exult and glow like a miniature sun. Why? Because you need life to kick your ass in just the right gentle way so you will become alert to possibilities you have ignored or been blind to.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Novelist John Irving asked, "Who can distinguish between falling in love and imagining falling in love? Even genuinely falling in love is an act of the imagination." That will be a helpful idea for you to contemplate in the coming weeks. Why? Because you're more likely than usual to fall in love or imagine falling in love—or both. And even if you don't literally develop a crush on an attractive person or deepen your intimacy with a person you already care for, I suspect you will be inflamed with an elevated lust for life that will enhance the attractiveness of everything and everyone you behold.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You know your body is made of atoms, but you may not realize that every one of your atoms is mostly empty space. Each nucleus contains 99 percent of the atom's mass, but is as small in comparison to the rest of the atom as a pea is to a cathedral. The tiny electrons, which comprise the rest of the basic unit, fly around in a vast, deserted area. So we can rightfully conclude that you are mostly made of nothing. That's a good meditation right now. The coming weeks will be a fine time to enjoy the refreshing pleasures of emptiness. The less frenzy you stir up, the healthier you'll be. The more spacious you allow your mind to be, the smarter you'll become. "Roomy" and "capacious" will be your words of power.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "We don't always have a choice about how we get to know one another," wrote novelist John Irving. "Sometimes, people fall into our lives cleanly—as if out of the sky, or as if there were a direct flight from Heaven to Earth." This principle could be in full play for you during the coming weeks. For best results, be alert for the arrival of new allies, future colleagues, unlikely matches, and surprise helpers.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): In North America, people call the phone number 911 to report an emergency. In much of the EU, the equivalent is 112. As you might imagine, worry-warts sometimes use these numbers even though they're not experiencing a legitimate crisis. For example, a Florida woman sought urgent aid when her local McDonald's ran out of Chicken McNuggets. In another case, a man walking outdoors just after dawn spied a blaze of dry vegetation in the distance and notified authorities. But it turned out to be the rising sun. I'm wondering if you and yours might be prone to false alarms like these in the coming days, Virgo. Be aware of that possibility. You'll have substantial power if you marshal your energy for real dilemmas and worthy riddles, which will probably be subtle.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "I just cut my bangs in a gas station bathroom," confesses a Libran blogger who calls herself MagiLipstick. "An hour ago I shocked myself by making an impulse buy of

a perfect cashmere trench coat from a stranger loitering in a parking lot," testifies another Libran blogger who refers to himself as MaybeMaybeNot. "Today I had the sudden realization that I needed to become a watercolor painter, then signed up for a watercolor class that starts tomorrow," writes a Libran blogger named UsuallyPrettyCareful. In normal times, I wouldn't recommend that you Libras engage in actions that are so heedlessly and delightfully spontaneous. But I do now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You could call the assignment I have for you as "taking a moral inventory" or you could refer to it as "going to confession." I think of it as "flushing out your worn-out problems so as to clear a space for better, bigger, more interesting problems." Ready? Take a pen and piece of paper or open a file on your computer and write about your raw remorse, festering secrets, unspeakable apologies, inconsolable guilt, and desperate mortifications. Deliver the mess to me at Truthrooster@gmail.com. I'll print out your testimony and conduct a ritual of purgation. As I burn your confessions in my bonfire at the beach, I'll call on the Goddess to purify your heart and release you from your angst. (P.S.: I'll keep everything confidential.)

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Two hundred years ago, Sagittarian genius Ludwig Beethoven created stirring music that's often played today. He's regarded as one of history's greatest classical composers. And yet he couldn't multiply or divide numbers. That inability made it hard for him to organize his finances. He once wrote about himself that he was "an incompetent business man who is bad at arithmetic." Personally, I'm willing to forgive those flaws and focus on praising him for his soul-inspiring music. I encourage you to practice a similar approach with yourself in the next two weeks. Be extra lenient and merciful and magnanimous as you evaluate the current state of your life. In this phase of your cycle, you need to concentrate on what works instead of on what doesn't work.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "When you hit a wall—of your own imagined limitations—just kick it in," wrote playwright Sam Shepard. That seems like a faulty metaphor to me. Have you ever tried to literally kick in a wall? I just tried it, and it didn't work. I put on a steel-toe work boot and launched it at a closet door in my basement, and it didn't make a dent. Plus now my foot hurts. So what might be a better symbol for breaking through your imagined limitations? How about this: use a metaphorical sledgehammer or medieval battering ram or backhoe. (P.S. Now is a great time to attend to this matter.)

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In 1965, Chinese archaeologists found an untarnished 2400-year-old royal bronze sword that was still sharp and shiny. It was intricately accessorized with turquoise and blue crystals, precision designs, and a silk-wrapped grip. I propose we make the Sword of Goujian one of your symbolic power objects for the coming months. May it inspire you to build your power and authority by calling on the spirits of your ancestors and your best memories. May it remind you that the past has gifts to offer your future. May it mobilize you to invoke beauty and grace as you fight for what's good and true and just.

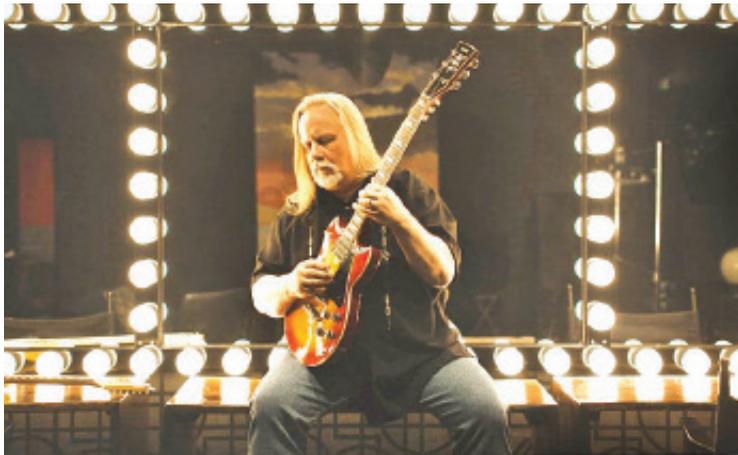
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): "All human beings have three lives: public, private, and secret," wrote Piscean novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez. I will add that during different phases of our lives, one or the other of these three lives might take precedence; may need more care than usual. According to my analysis, your life in the coming weeks will offer an abundance of vitality and blessings in the third area: your secret life. For best results, give devoted attention to your hidden depths. Be a brave explorer of your mysterious riddles. Be life not so serious," said John Irving. How are you doing with that?

TURN IT DOWN!

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE
BY RICH TUPICA

Sun. Sept. 29

PAT ZELEKA RELEASES NEW ALBUM



Pat Zelenka releases his new album Sunday, Sept. 29 at UrbanBeat in Old Town Lansing. Advance tickets are available at urbanbeatevents.com



Pat Zelenka's new album, "Magnolia Sunset," is available now on Magenta Records.

Guitarist drops 'Magnolia Sunset' LP at UrbanBeat

Sunday, Sept. 29 @ UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. All ages, \$10. 5 p.m.

Lansing guitar hero Pat Zelenka has been jamming across Michigan and far beyond for the last 25 years, playing his signature brand of rock 'n' roll. Zelenka's sonic equation comes from a hybrid of influences such as bluesmen Robert Johnson and Buddy Guy, to rockers like Chuck Berry and Jimi Hendrix. His record collection is as diverse as his sound.

His new album, "Magnolia Sunset," documents his skillful, soulful playing, and will be unveiled Sunday when the Pat Zelenka Band headlines UrbanBeat in Old Town. The early show, which runs from 5-7 p.m., features Zelenka on lead guitar and vocals. Backed by his band, the Nashville-based musicians include Andy Hull (drums), John Marcus (bass), Gary Sadker (keys) and rhythm guitarists Bob Hatter and John Bohlinger.

"Think of it as a good, bluesy, funky

collection of songs," Zelenka said of the album, which is being released via Magenta Records in Nashville — a city he's increasingly becoming attached to.

"Locally, I've actually been keeping a really low profile in 2019, as far as gigs are concerned," Zelenka said. "But I have been working a lot in Nashville, both on the new CD and its promotion. Plus, I'm currently managed by Gardy Sadker of Red Ridge Entertainment in Nashville. His offices are right across the street from the Bluebird Cafe. We've been working on this deal for a couple of years now—plotting and planning."

The album is available now on all digital download services, like Spotify and Amazon. A physical CD will be available at the UrbanBeat show. Next month, a video for the first single "Nobody Loves You (When You're Down & Out)" will be released.

While Zelenka's previous record, "The Elm Street Sessions 4/30/14," showcased his knack for loose, off-the-cuff jamming, "Magnolia Sunset" presents a tight yet dynamic record. From upbeat rockers such as "Blind Leading the Blind" to moody ballads like the record's title track, he shows his range as both a player and arranger.

"I think it's always followed a pretty direct path," Zelenka said of his style. "But I feel I've gotten a little more direct and focused, and that's a good thing."

As for the lyrical inspiration for the new eight-song disc, Zelenka keeps his explanation short and sweet.

A variety of things, but to put it simply: life," he said.

Fans of Warren Hayes and Robin Trower might dig Zelenka's bluesy new album, and he doesn't mind the comparisons. In fact, the late Mike Bloomfield is one

of his primary sources of stimuli and a continuous guiding light for his playing.

"I first heard Mike Bloomfield through his work with Bob Dylan," Zelenka recalled. "Later, I bought Al Kooper's 'Super Session' album — half features Bloomfield on guitar, the other half with Stephen Stills on guitar."

Zelenka said Bloomfield's playing on that album was particularly "extraordinary," noting his "phrasing, tone and feel."

"I've always been drawn to players like Bloomfield," he added "From the head, through the heart and through the hands. He taught me that this is a craft, not a sport."

To keep up with the Pat Zelenka Band, visit facebook.com/pzproject.



Upcoming show? Contact Suzi@lansingcitypulse.com

| DESTINATION | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave. | Trivia Night: 30 Rock 10PM | All Requests 9PM | Punk Show Free | Karaoke 9PM |
| Claddagh, 2900 Towne Center Blvd. | | | The Oxymorons 7PM | |
| Coach's, 6201 Bishop Rd. | | | | Cloudhoppers 9PM |
| Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River, East Lansing | | Karaoke 9PM | Karaoke 9PM | Karaoke 9PM |
| The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave. | | Old School Thursdays w/Jalese 8:30PM | Be Kind Rewind 9:30PM | Be Kind Rewind 9:30PM |
| Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave. | | Karaoke | The Corzo | Solstice |
| Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee | Trivia with Sporele 9PM | | Live Music with Shelby & Jake 8PM | Live Music with the Aimcriers 7PM |
| The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave. | Artists Volume 4 6PM | Blake Webber 7PM | Electric Six 7PM | Hearts of Jordan 7:30 PM |
| Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave. | Broadside 6:30PM, V. Soul 1PM | | Captured! By Robots 7PM | Dusk 8PM |
| Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw | | | The New Rule 6PM | The New Rule 6PM |
| Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave. | | | Etienne Charles & Creole Soul 8PM | |
| Unicorn, 327 Cesar E. Chavez, Lansing | | | Time2Play 9PM | Live Music with Lady Luck 9PM |

From Page 20

Thursday, September 26

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Beginning East Coast Swing - Group Dance Class. 7:15-8:05 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Beginning Texas Two-Step Group Dance Class - 8:15-9:05 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Conversational Spanish (Adults) - Refresh, practice and expand your knowledge of Spanish. 10:30-11:30 a.m. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Rd., Okemos. cadl.org.

Creating Possibilities - Empowerment Workshop Series - 6-7 p.m. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710-1712 E Michigan Ave, Lansing.

EES Distinguished Speaker Series - "What was it like for life on land one billion years ago?" 12:30 p.m. Room 204 Natural Science Building, MSU, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

Medicare Enrollment Workshop - with counselors from the Tri-County Office on Aging. 6-7:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014.

MRA Adult-Use Licensing Educational Session - with Marijuana Regulatory Agency for demo of online application for marijuana establishment licenses. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. G. Mennen Williams Building, 525 W. Ottawa, Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Local Poetry Reading (Adults) - Local poets share readings from their works. 7-8:30 p.m. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org.

EVENTS

Climate Change: Crisis and Opportunity - League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area public forum. 7-9 p.m. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. 517-351-7160.

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

Creative Placemaking Summit 5 - 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Arts Council of Greater

Lansing, 1208 Turner St, Lansing.

Diabetes Support Group - 6:30-8 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

DIY Vision Boards - Wellness coach Sandy Sonier will share the power of vision boards and provide tips to help you create your own. 6-7:30 p.m. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Rd, DeWitt. 517-669-3156. dewittlibrary.org.

Fall Rummage and Bake Sale - Wed. 5-7:30 pm Thurs., 8 am-4 pm \$2 per bag at noon! St. Michael Church, 345 Edwards St, Grand Ledge.

MSU Group Tours - 1-3 p.m. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Rd., East Lansing.

South Lansing Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. St. Casimir Parish Church, 800 W. Barnes Ave, Lansing. 517-374-5700.

TOPS - Take Off Pounds Sensibly - 6-7 p.m. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St., Room 207, Haslett. 517-927-4307.

ARTS

Bright Star at Peppermint Creek Theatre Co - Sept. 26-29, Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol, Lansing. peppermintcreek.org

Studio (in)Process - The studio is (in) Process! 6-9 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

MUSIC

Wind Symphony - 7:30-8:30 p.m. Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

Friday, September 27

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Intro to Computer Coding (Adults) - Learning how to code doesn't have to be scary! 6-7:30 p.m. CADL South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. 517-272-9840. cadl.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Teen Night (Ages 13-18) - Playing games, making crafts and having fun. 5:30-7 p.m. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 N. Aurelius Rd., Holt. cadl.org.

EVENTS

A Pink and Green Weekend. 65th Anniversary Celebration 3 p.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 925 S. Creyts Rd., Lansing.

Celebrate Shabbat - with MSU Hillel! Services 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Lester and Jewell Morris Hillel Jewish Student Center, 360 Charles St., East Lansing.

HaHaPalooza Comedy Jam - C Young Fly & B. Simone - 7-11 p.m. Causeway Bay Lansing Hotel & Convention Center, 6820 S. Cedar St., Lansing.

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

Holt Kiwanis Famous Chicken - 4-7 p.m. Holt Presbyterian Church Corner of Holt & Aurelius, 2021 N Aurelius Rd., Holt. 517-281-9358.

MSU Downtown Coaches Club Luncheon - 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Eagle Eye Golf & Banquet Center, 15500 Chandler Rd., Bath.

MSU Group Tours - 10 a.m.-12 p.m. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Rd., East Lansing.

Open Ballroom - Enjoy "open dance floor" time. 6-7:30 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

Our Daily Work/Our Daily Lives - This week's presentation titled, "Maurice Sugar and Labor Culture," 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. MSU Museum, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

Refuge Recovery Lansing - Non-profit organization grounded in the belief that Buddhist principles and practices create

a strong foundation. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing.

Sensory Friendly Hours - 5:30-7:30 p.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116.

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

ARTS

Black Kirby - Celebrate the arrival in our collections of four important prints by Black Kirby. 12-1 p.m. MSU Museum, 409 W Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-355-2370.

Bright Star at Peppermint Creek Theatre Co - Sept. 26-29, Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol, Lansing. peppermintcreek.org

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

LCC Performing Arts: Sunset Baby - 8 p.m. Lansing Community College, West Campus, Lansing. lcc.edu.

Small Stained-Glass Panel Lamp Shade - class. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

MUSIC

Friday Night Live Music - 4-7 p.m. Food trucks, cider & donuts, wagon & train rides, pick your own pumpkins, 4-7 p.m. Uncle John's Cider Mill, St. Johns. ujcidermill.com.

Symphony Orchestra - 8-9 p.m. Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 542

See Out on the town, Page 24

CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 21

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SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 21

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FRIDAY, SEPT. 27 >> HAHAPALOOZA COMEDY JAM WSG DC YOUNG FLY & B. SIMONE



Hosted by World Premiere Entertainment, spend the evening in tears from the spontaneous gags and quips of MTV's "Wild 'N' Out" cast members. Following the nature of the show, expect lightning-fast improv, head-to-head battles and good old-fashioned roasting.

7-11 p.m., \$40-60
Causeway Bay Hotel and Convention Center
6820 S. Cedar St., Lansing
facebook.com/WorldPremiereEnt

SATURDAY, SEPT. 28 >> ALLEY FEST AT D&W FRESH MARKET



The second run of the annual arts festival brings vibrancy to the alley next to D&W Fresh Market in Williamston. The concrete corridor will be activated with crafts and live music featuring a performance by Angela Predhomme, known for her laid back, original songs.

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
151 W. Grand River Ave, Williamston
facebook.com/alleyfest
(810) 844-1309

From Page 28

Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. 517-353-5340.
music.msu.edu.

Saturday, September 28**CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Basic Finances & Cops 101: workshop for teens/young adults. Checking accounts, on-line banking, credit, debit, bill paying, saving and more! 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St. 517-627-7014.

Group Wellness Program for Exhausted Women - Five interactive workshops. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Deb's Sereni-Tea Lounge, 115 E. Walker Street, St. Johns. 989-493-5824.

Lansing Public Media Center Production 101 - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Lansing Public Media Center, 2500 S. Washington, Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Harry Potter Quidditch Party - Snacks, games, and fun! 2-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St, Grand Ledge.

EVENTS

A Pink and Green Weekend - 65th Anniversary Celebration 3 p.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 925 S. Creyts Rd., Lansing.

Fall Recycling Event - 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Chippewa Middle School, 4000 Okemos Rd, Okemos.

Farmers' Market - 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Meridian Township Central Park Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

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

Grand Ledge Felpausch Employee Reunion - 4-9 p.m. Log Jam, 110 W. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge.

Holt Farmers Market - 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 2150 Cedar St, Holt. delhitownship.com.

Laingsburg Community Fundraiser - Laingsburg Community Singers. 5-7 p.m. First Congregational Church, 401 E. Grand River, Laingsburg.

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

UnCovered "A Walk in the Park" for Alopecia Awareness - 3rd annual walk in the park! 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Frances Park, 2701 Moores River Dr., Lansing.

Williamston Alley Fest - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Downtown Williamston, 151 W. Grand River, Williamston.

ARTS

Bright Star at Peppermint Creek

Theatre Co - Sept. 26-29, Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol, Lansing. peppermintcreek.org

LCC Performing Arts: Sunset Baby - 8 p.m. Lansing Community College, West Campus, Lansing. lcc.edu

MUSIC

Live Music - 1-5 p.m. Uncle John's Cider Mill, Saint Johns. ujcidermill.com.

Sunday, September 29**CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

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

EVENTS

2019 Fundraiser Event for our Biswas: Women Helping Women through Nano Finance. 5 p.m. Dart Auditorium, 500 N Capitol, Lansing.

A Pink and Green Weekend - 65th Anniversary Celebration 3 p.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 925 S. Creyts Road, Lansing.

American Heritage Festival - celebration with crafting demonstrations, live entertainment, a market of local vendors and more. Woldumar, 5739 Old Lansing Rd., Lansing.

CCBS Fall Migration Walks - 8-10 a.m. Capital City Bird Sanctuary, 6001 Delta River Drive, Lansing. michiganaudubon.org.

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

Erev Rosh Hashanah Dinner - Services 6 p.m. Dinner 7 p.m. Free to students. 6-8:30 p.m. Lester and Jewell Morris Hillel Jewish Student Center, 360 Charles St., East Lansing.

Fall 2019 Gluten Free Riverboat Experience - 1-6 p.m. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St, Lansing. 517-627-2154. gfcelebrations.com.

Family Special: Tails of Michigan Wildlife. 2-3:30 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Rd., Okemos. 517-349-3866. More info at meridian.mi.us.

Ingham County FREE Day - Ingham County residents will receive free admission to Potter Park Zoo. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

ARTS

Bright Star at Peppermint Creek Theatre Co - Sept. 26-29, Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol, Lansing. peppermintcreek.org

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

MUSIC

Vocal Arts Recital - Anne Nispel, soprano, and Harlan Jennings, baritone. 3-4 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

Feel the Beat Drumming Circle - Bring a drum or percussion instrument and share your rhythmic talents. 2-4 p.m. Bath Community Center, 5959 Park Lake Rd., Bath. (517) 641-6728. bathtownship.us.

Horn a Plenty! - 3 p.m. Molly Grove Chapel, First Presbyterian Church of Lansing, Lansing. lansingsymphony.org.

Monday, September 30**CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Beginning American Style Foxtrot - Group Dance Class. 8:15-9:05 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Beginning West Coast Swing Dance - Group Dance class. 7:15-8:05 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

EVENTS

At the Intersection of I-496 and Oldsmobile - There was a time when I-496 did not exist... What was there before it? 7-8:30 p.m. R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, 240 Museum Drive, Lansing. 517-372-0529.

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

Homeschool Study Group - Open to all area homeschoolers. 1-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014.

Mason Chess & Backgammon Club - All ages and skill levels are welcome. 6-8 p.m. Bestsellers Books and Coffee, 360 S. Jefferson St, Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

MSU Group Tours - 10 a.m.-12 p.m. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

Refuge Recovery Lansing - Meetings are a Buddhist inspired approach to recovery from addiction of all kinds. 6-7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing.

MUSIC

Ensemble Bizarria: Orpheus and Hercules: Music from the Court of Modena. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

Tuesday, October 1**CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Beginning American Style Tango - Dance Class. 7:15-8:05 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Beginning Cha Cha Group Dance Class - 8:15-9:05 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Beginning Italian - Learn how to start little conversations in Italian. 1-2 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

High Energy Physics Seminar - 1:30 p.m. 1400 Biomedical & Physical Sciences Building, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

EVENTS

Christian College Fair - Explore educational options at the NACCAP Christian College Fair 6:30-8:30 p.m. Lansing Christian School, 3405 Belle Chase Way, Lansing. 517-882-5779.

Drop-in Citizenship Test Prep - 1-2 p.m. CADL South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. cadl.org.

Election 20XX City Leadership Assembly - 6-9 p.m. Epicenter Of Worship, 517 W. Jolly Rd, Lansing.

Injury Clinic -Free consult with a sports or health professional. 5:30-7 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte.

It's a Breast Thing Fundraiser - It's a Breast Thing Fundraiser-Tuesday October 1st from 5-8pm. 5-8 p.m. Eagle Eye Golf Club, 15500 Chandler Road, Bath.

MSU Group Tours - 1-3 p.m. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

ARTS

Adult Clay Fall A - With Gabby 6:15-9:15 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. www.reachstudioart.org.

Art with a Twist: 6-8 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

Chinese Brush Painting - 1-3 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

MUSIC

Clawhammer Banjo Workshop - 5:30-6:30 p.m. Elderly Instruments, 1100 N Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-372-7880. elderly.com

Evie Ladin Live - 7-9 p.m. Elderly Instruments, 1100 N Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-372-7880. elderly.com.



FOOD & DRINK DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Coffee roasters set up shop in East Lansing

By DENNIS BURCK

As one of the first tenants to open in a \$125 million mixed-use redevelopment on Albert Street, Foster Coffee Co. sports a 2,000-square-foot interior with two levels of chairs, tables and benches dedicated to coffee.

The design is minimalist and modern with black-and-white design elements. The company motto “fostering community through coffee” commands the attention of the room.

Foster Coffee Co. owners Nick Pidek and Jon Moore of Owosso made moves on the location over a year ago. The organization has two locations, Owosso and Flint.

The pair developed a love for the bean after perusing coffee shops throughout the Midwest while they were on tour with their band.

“We’d go to these different states and people became connected to you,” Pidek said. “They’d start singing our songs in

Franklin, Indiana. There is a connection there and a sense of community. Our goal was trying to translate that to coffee.”

The company started small with pour-overs one day a week at an Owosso farmers market, Moore said. Within a year, the pair opened up their first location.

“There wasn’t really a central place for community to happen and we came in and filled that void.”

Lansing is a natural step in that evolution, Pidek added.

Foster Coffee Co. roasts all of its coffee in house in Owosso. The Flint and East Lansing locations are only about 30 minutes away in either direction.

“Being from Owosso, we’ve been to this community since we were old enough to drive. The same goes for Flint. It really just comes back to relationships and being at the right place at the right time,” Pidek said.

One of these relationships is with Groovy Donuts, which stocks the coffee shop with dozens of fresh-baked treats.

“It is the first step in getting open and tapping into our community partnerships,” Moore said. “We want to make sure we can tap into the local economy.”

Producing coffee en masse are two La Marzocco espresso machines.

Despite some high-end coffee places



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

Jon Moore (left) and Nick Pidek.

frowning on flavored lattes, Foster is trying to up its game with them, Moore said.

“We use real extracts, real fruit and raw, organic sugar base. We want to be approachable from anyone who wants a single shot of espresso to someone who wants an iced creamy drink. We want to be supportive of that.”

Foster Coffee Co. brings 18 jobs to the area and plans to host weekly community events.

“We can’t wait to meet our future familiar face customers,” Moore said.

Foster Coffee Co.

Mon.- Sat., 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Sun., 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
196 Albert Ave. East Lansing
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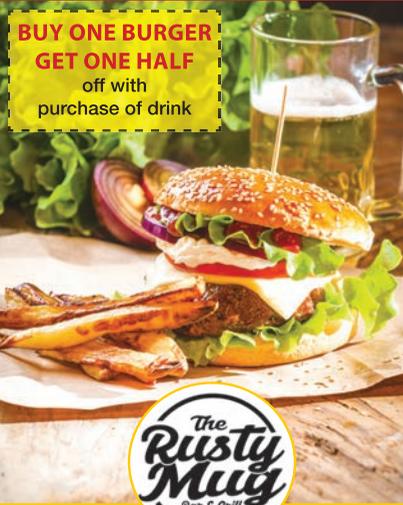
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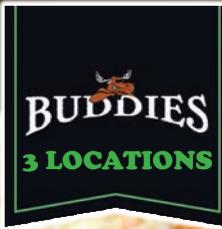


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(517) 897-3563, thecosmoslansing.com

3. Dagwood's

2803 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing
(517) 374-0390, dagwoodstavern.com

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4. Five Guys

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(517) 886-7440, redrobin.com



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