

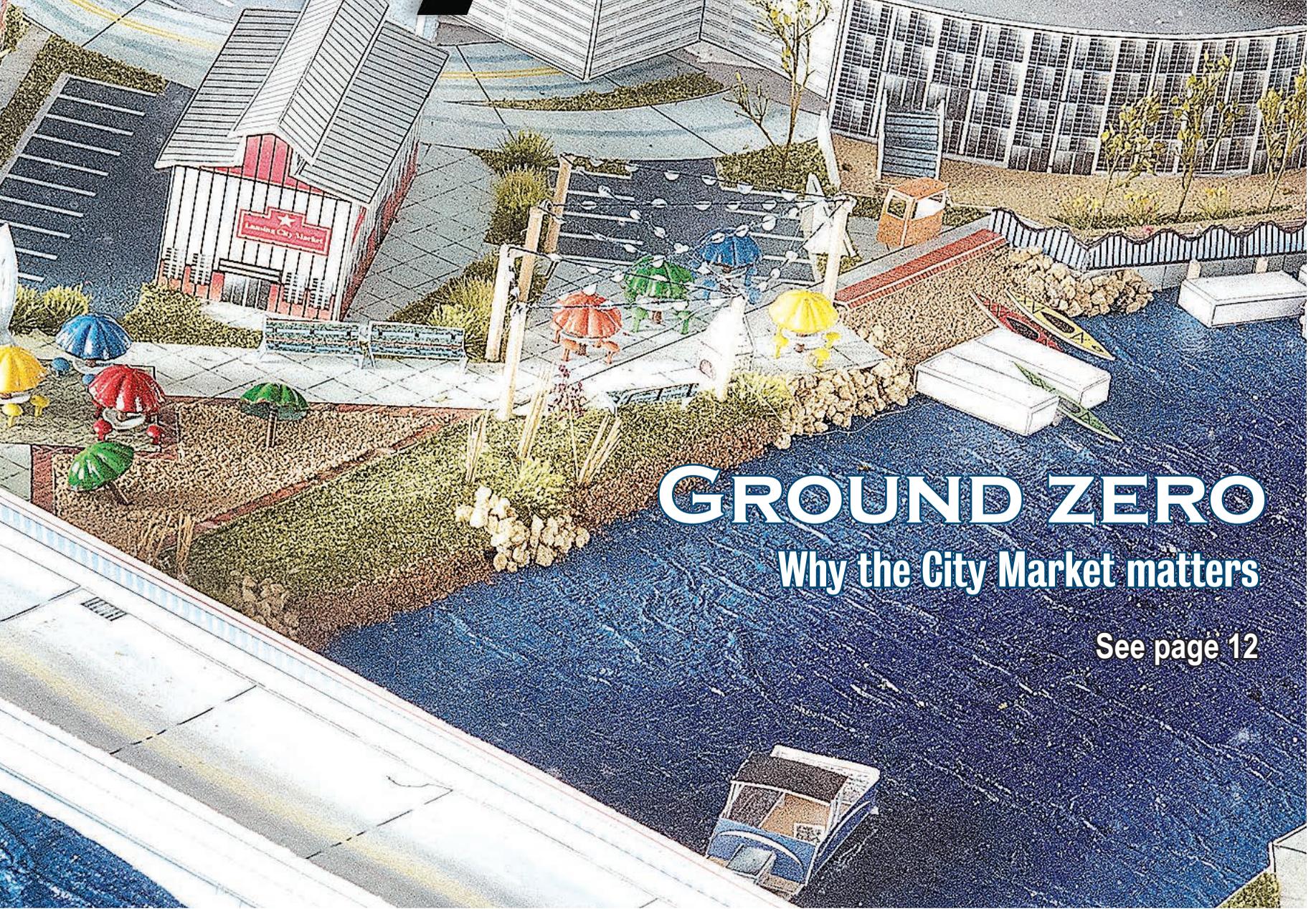
November 6 - 12, 2019

FREE

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GROUND ZERO

Why the City Market matters

See page 12

If hindsight was 20/20,
no innocent person
would be convicted.

A BOOD

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PARTNERS**

MAKING PROGRESS POSSIBLE

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Autism Services

Autism Learning Partners strives to give hope, support and paths of progress for children and their families living with Autism and related disorders. We believe that a tailored, comprehensive care plan using the science of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) allows each individual to reach his or her maximum potential when those services are partnered with our exceptional clinical talent and love and commitment from the family.

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Contact Us to Find a Location Near You

888-805-0759 | inquiries@autismlearningpartners.com

We accept most major insurance plans, including medicaid.

Favorite Things

Little Red Schoolhouse manager Tracy Kraft and the front display



Though we have so many neat things in this store, my favorite thing in the store is our front display. It is what you see on first entry of our establishment, and it is an ever-changing landscape just like the contents of our business. The fun part about coming in here and being greeted with this is that you can see it, touch it and smell it. That is better than shopping online.

We change the front display for holidays and special events. If you ever need that one special gift, the front display has that with its constantly changing treasures.

This wasn't always the case. It used to be a constant display then became about 10 years ago an always changing thing.

We usually start with a theme or focal point. Last year we did a vintage Christmas toy theme, but now we want to go with Christmas straight out of the 50's.

I like to see the look on people's faces when they see what is here. The items we've done in this Christmas display reflects a lot of people's childhoods. I may not want to see Christmas stuff until December either, but this is retail. People are already shopping for Christmas decorations and Christmas gifts.

I see people come in and remember the Shiny Brights on grandma and grandpa's tree, the vintage elves, the vintage Santas and the vintage blow molds that were out in their yards.

We happen to have a lot of the old and new Shiny Bright ornaments here and throughout the store.

Seeing these displays make me remember things too. Some of the vintage candles and ornaments remind me of my grandma and grandpa's trees. The vintage stockings remind me when we never had a fireplace to hang our stockings, but my mom would buy us these fake brick fireplaces where we would hang our stockings and gather around thinking we were actually getting warm.

Even if you don't like what is in the display, we are a small business and small business shopping is the way to go. We have 45 vendors of vintage things and we've been here for 25 years.

It is just so amazing to me that people come in here, see this and tell me that they are already done with their Christmas shopping.

(This interview was edited and condensed by Dennis Burck. If you have a recommendation for "Favorite Things," please email dennis@lansingcitypulse.com.)



BWL Seeks Public Input on Future Energy Plan for Region

The BWL will host open houses to seek public input as we update our plan to continue delivering cleaner, affordable and reliable power to the region.

Join us at one of the dates below to learn about the BWL's new Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), which will serve as the foundation for our new strategic plan.

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 4:30-7pm

BWL REO Depot, 1201 S. Washington Ave., Lansing

Thursday, Nov. 7, 4:30-7pm

E. Lansing Public Library (large meeting room)
950 Abbot Road, E. Lansing

Wednesday, Nov. 13, 4:30-7pm

Delta Twp. District Library (Elmwood Room)
5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing

Thursday, Nov. 14, 4:30-7pm

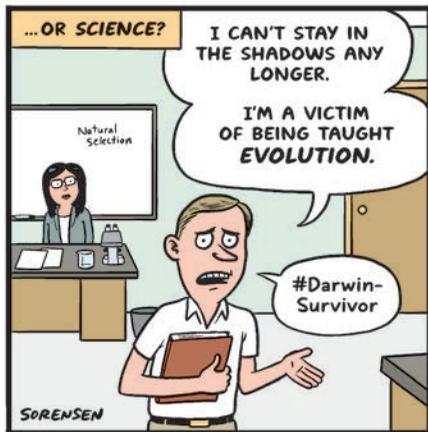
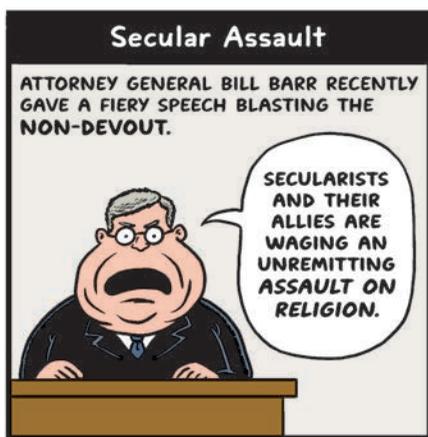
Alfreda Schmidt Center (Community Room)
5825 Wise Road, Lansing

Tuesday, Nov. 19, 9am-noon

BWL REO Depot, 1201 S. Washington Ave., Lansing

More information about the BWL's energy plans can be found at

www.LansingEnergyTomorrow.com.



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CityPULSE

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ISSUE 13**

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PAGE 8

Exhibit on local Green Book sites on now at MSU



PAGE 12

Women in the Arts Festival brings national female acts



PAGE 21

JAMM honors local jazz DJ



Cover Art

Courtesy Capital Area Community Foundation

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

THIS IMPEACHMENT STUFF MAKES NO SENSE, WHITE-HAIRED GUY! I KEEP TELLING EVERYONE, IT WAS A PERFECT PHONE CALL!

YES SIR, THAT IS A NORMAL PHRASE PEOPLE OFTEN USE TO DESCRIBE PHONE CALLS!



WE RELEASED A PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT WHICH ONLY BRIEFLY INDICATES THAT I WAS SEEKING A QUID PRO QUO! AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT PROVES?

THAT THERE WAS NO QUID PRO QUO, SIR! EXACTLY!



I DON'T KNOW WHO HALF THESE WITNESSES EVEN ARE! WHY ARE SO MANY PEOPLE LISTENING TO MY CALLS ANYWAY? HOW DOES THIS PLACE EVEN WORK?

I'LL MAKE SOME INQUIRIES, SIR. PERHAPS THERE'S A USER'S MANUAL OF SOME SORT.



I MEAN, FINE, THERE WAS A QUID PRO QUO! BUT I DIDN'T CARE IF UKRAINE ACTUALLY INVESTIGATED BIDEN! I JUST WANTED HEADLINES SAYING THAT THEY WERE INVESTIGATING BIDEN!

AN IMPORTANT DISTINCTION, SIR!



THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO BE DONE! I'M GOING TO ISSUE AN EXECUTIVE ORDER COMMANDING EVERYONE TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING DIFFERENT!

PERHAPS HILLARY'S EMAIL SERVER! EXCELLENT THINKING, WHITE-HAIRED GUY! I NEVER GET TIRED OF THAT!



SO, AH, SIR--IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE THAT MIGHT COME OUT DURING THESE HEARINGS, THAT REPUBLICANS SHOULD BE READY FOR?

HOW THE HELL SHOULD I KNOW? I CAN BARELY REMEMBER MY KIDS' NAMES ON A GOOD DAY-- AND I THINK ONE OF THEM IS NAMED AFTER ME?

GREAT! I'LL TELL EVERYONE THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!



TOM TOMORROW © 2019

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Lake Trust project

Transformative project or drain on public funds?

The blocks of downtown Lansing south of the Capital Area District Library look bleak, filled with wind-swept acres of unused parking lots, rimmed with unused parking meters.

The blight of sorts, along with the I-496 freeway, prevents the strip of historic businesses on Washington Square downtown from connecting to the livelier businesses of REO Town a half mile farther south. It's not a place to hang out or even enjoy a nice walk.

A new, \$33 million redevelopment of the 1970 Lake Trust Credit Union building at the corner of Lenawee Street and Capitol Avenue could start to change all that, but the renovation, along with a new, five-story mixed-use building in the parking lot next door comes at a steep cost to taxpayers: \$9.8 million in brownfield reimbursements back to the developers that would otherwise go to city streets, schools and other services.

The property is eligible primarily because of asbestos and lead paint in the Lake Trust building, as well as an old gas station site at the corner of Lenawee and Washington Avenue. Karl Dorsheimer of Lansing Economic Area Partnership — LEAP — said the developers would not build it otherwise, a point on which Mayor Andy Schor concurs.

"The Lake Trust block redevelopment, along with the Y-Site, Oliver Towers and Capital City Market projects, will further energize downtown Lansing," Dorsheimer said. "LEAP and the city envision a great 24/7/365 downtown filled with residents, visitors, workers, shoppers, students and a host of others creating a vibrant and great place to be."

The investors, 501 Block LLC and 502 Block LLC, with assistance from True North Development of Okemos, are counting on more residents moving downtown to help make their overall project a success.

The Washington Avenue side of the block will be developed in the next decade with restaurants and storefronts, but financing for that project



Chris Gray/City Pulse

depends on more people living in the area, both at the Metro Place development on the site of the former YMCA and people living in the credit union building and their first new building on Capitol.

"We want to preserve the ability to bring as much commercial development and activate the Washington Avenue corridor," project consultant Eric Helzer told the City Council last month. He added that one thing that made the new housing downtown more attractive was the incoming downtown Meijer store on Michigan Avenue — part of another tax-supported development from the Gillespie Group that will eliminate a food desert from the city's core.

Dorsheimer said the developer is asking the city for a brownfield plan that is long enough to reimburse the "extraordinary brownfield costs" the developer will be paying up front to begin the project. "Without this reimbursement over time, the project would not be undertaken by the developer. The result would be the building and block would remain mostly vacant."

The tax reimbursements mean the city and other taxing authorities will not receive the full property tax value

Plans are in place to renovate the old Lake Trust headquarters into four stories of apartments atop two floors of commercial space.



South Grand Ramp 201 S. Grand Ave., Lansing

Rotary Park has become a new focal point for downtown Lansing, a highlight of the River Trail that meanders along the east bank of the Grand River.

But on the west bank of the Grand? An ugly Brutalist parking garage from 1968 rises from the water's edge, blocking the public from strolling or even witnessing Lansing's natural resource.

This is not a ding on the parking garage itself, which seems to have as good of service as any, although at \$20 a day, it's more costly than other garages in the area. To its credit, the garage does actually have a concrete walkway in the rear

See Eyesore, Page 6



"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.

See Lake Trust, Page 6

Lake Trust

from page 5

entering into the brownfield plan.

The Lake Trust building will keep commercial tenants on the first two floors, with 44 apartments on the top four floors, including studios, one-bedrooms and two-bedroom apartments, to be open by August 2021. Construction of the five-story mixed-use building with 116 apartments and 3,500 square feet of retail would begin next summer on the blacktop just south of the Lake Trust building at the corner of Capitol and Hillsdale.

The developers will leave parking in the middle of the block for tenants and customers, allowing the buildings themselves to face the sidewalks and pedestrians.

Last month, LEAP's Bob Trezise told City Pulse that he didn't know of any large developments in Lansing that did not come with tax sweeteners, which he defended as a means to ensure developments are built to the city's stipulations,

such as with local labor or with affordable housing units.

But Schor rebutted the notion that the city offers tax incentives to every developer that comes through the door. "There's all kinds of different projects that don't have incentives. You just don't hear about them because they don't come before Council. You hear about the ones that do."

The reimbursements come as rebates from new taxes on the increased value of the property. About 95 percent of the new valuation would go either to the developer or the city's brownfield redevelopment fund, with the remaining 5 percent coming in new tax payments to authorities such as the city, schools and Ingham County.

Selling Lansing short

Brandon Betz, an economist and candidate for Lansing City Council in the First Ward in this week's General Election, has disagreed with Lansing's general approach to economic development as a primary reason the city never has the money to maintain its streets or adequately fund other services.

"These arguments are so ridiculous,"

Betz argued. "They knew it had asbestos and lead paint, yet they still invested their money. Why should we give them free property for 19 years to do something they were already going to do? Our city is starving for cash."

Betz said city officials were selling Lansing short. He said 160 market-rate apartments in downtown Lansing are a great investment and one that will more than make up the \$9.8 million in tax reimbursements that developers are asking for.

"Did they not realize that the building had asbestos and lead paint before they purchased the entire building for what it cost them?" he asked. "It's like these developers go into these projects knowing that Lansing is going to give them a tax break without them even having to ask."

The project was supposed to begin Nov. 14, but the approval process with the Lansing City Council has been held up and it was pulled back from

the agenda on Oct. 28. The Council won't meet again to approve the project until Nov. 18, and Councilman Adam Hussain said he and others were working to ensure the project hires local construction crews to help the city's middle-class workers.

"The proposal does talk about local labor. We may push for more," Hussain said. He said the developers knew such a delay was normal. "They understand our process."

Schor said his economic development staff and LEAP already had considerable negotiations over the property, going back more than a year to reach the deal they have. He said older municipalities like Lansing are at a disadvantage compared to "greenfields" in the sprawling edges of the metro area.

"This is good for the environment," he said. "I think it's tremendously important. We do a lot of work trying to attract and keep people downtown after hours."

— CHRIS GRAY

Eyesore

from page 5

that overlooks the river, although this forlorn space seems more of a hideaway for smokers sneaking a puff, given the cigarette butts strewn about.

Motorists driving down the urban canyon of Grand Avenue have no way of telling that the river lies less than 200 feet away. The view is blocked by the hulking garage and other impersonal buildings, such as the Michigan Department of Corrections offices at the foot of the Michigan Avenue bridge.

South Grand Avenue is one of the sadder corridors in downtown Lansing. Not only is the river blocked from view, the other side of the street is met with deserted parking lots and vacant buildings.

Mayor Andy Schor said the ramp was constructed at a time the industrial city of Lansing was ashamed of their river. "The city wanted to hide the river because it was so polluted," he said.

Schor said while he'd be happy to entertain an offer from a developer to

tear down the garage, build a new one across the street and revitalize the current space with something open to the river, it's not on any list of city priorities nor something the city itself has the money for.

The city of Lansing owned the 800-space garage but sold it to private hands at the fire sale price of \$1.5 million back in August 2008, amid a flurry of sell offs of public property during the Virg Bernero administration.

By contrast, the city sold its 1,500-space Townsend Parking Ramp, which is two blocks closer to the Capitol, to the Michigan Senate for \$18 million this past winter.

The city took in \$6.7 million in parking revenues in 2018, an increase of about \$30,000 from the year before. But that money goes into an enterprise fund for the maintenance and repair of the parking system, and cannot be readily used for other purposes. South Grand Parking paid \$75,000 a year in property taxes, according to the Lansing city assessor website.

— CHRIS GRAY

CITY OF EAST LANSING NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 1475

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 8-615 OF DIVISION 4 – CONDUCT OF ELECTRIC SKATEBOARD USERS – OF ARTICLE X – ELECTRIC SKATEBOARD COMPANIES – OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING.

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Section 8-615 of Chapter 8 – Businesses – of the Code of the City of East Lansing is hereby amended to read as follows:

DIVISION 4 – CONDUCT OF ELECTRIC SKATEBOARD USERS

Sec. 8-615. – Parking and operation in the city right-of-way; Restrictions.

In addition to the restrictions on parking and operation of electric skateboards found in the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code and the Uniform Traffic Code, electric skateboard users are subject to the following restrictions:

- (1) Electric skateboards shall be parked upright on hard surfaces on the sidewalk but only if at least five linear feet of unobstructed sidewalk is preserved for safe pedestrian travel and where designated, if at all, by the city manager through an administrative order.
- (2) Electric skateboards may not park in such a manner that impedes or interferes with access to or use of:
 - (a) Sidewalks, crosswalks, or sidewalk ramps;
 - (b) Bus stops, shelters, or waiting areas;
 - (c) Loading zones or handicapped parking spaces;
 - (d) Fire hydrants;
 - (e) Benches;
 - (f) Parking meters or pay stations;
 - (g) Commercial window displays;
 - (h) Access to or from any buildings;
 - (i) Any bicycle racks;
 - (j) Streets, driveways or alleys;
- (3) Electric skateboards may not be parked in street metered vehicular parking spaces or vehicular spaces within City parking garages and surface lots.
- (4) Electric skateboards may be parked on streets without sidewalks only if the roadway travel lanes and bike lanes are not impeded.
- (5) While on sidewalks within the city electric skateboards shall be driven at no more than 10 miles per hour.
- (6) A person who violates this section is responsible for a civil infraction.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#19-325

Invitation to Comment on a Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facility

Interested persons are invited to comment on the wireless telecommunications project proposed at 504 W Allegan Street in Lansing, Michigan, with respect to impacts on, and specifically, the potential effects to, historic properties located at or near this facility. The project will consist of the removal and replacement of five existing antennas with five new antennas, and the installation of one new microwave dish on an existing 109-foot rooftop with a 60-foot, self-support tower. Comments regarding potential effects to historic properties should be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to Mr. Andrew Fleming at 8610 Washington Boulevard, Suite 217, Jessup, MD 20794, (301) 776-0500, or afleming@aec-env.com. This notice is provided in accordance with regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, 47 C.F.R. Part 1, Subpart I and Appendices B.

CP#19-329

LETTERS to the editor

Trump and the Vietnam War

I read with great interest Bill Castanier's article "Fifty Years Ago" (Oct. 16, 2019) about the National Moratorium Day March. I was a grad student at the University of California, Berkeley, a few years before the march. Berkeley was "ground zero" for the anti-Viet Nam War movement for a powerful reason. The campus is a few miles north of the Oakland Naval Base, where troop ships docked. We watched as the young draftees walked up the gangway carrying their duffle bags. And we watched the dead boys being brought off the ships in their coffins. Our friends knew that their college deferments could end at any moment. Their lives depended on the random numbers on the Bingo balls on TV every night that represented their draft numbers. Not one politician or military leader ever explained why a civil war in an impoverished country across the Pacific was worth risking one American's life. I saw nearly 900 Berkeley students occupy the Sproul Hall Administration Building in protest. They were dragged down the steep marble steps by the arm, the leg, the hair. One young woman was hauled down the entire flight of stairs by her hair. She was about 8 months pregnant. I saw the young man trapped in the police car after being arrested for anti-war activities on campus. Many thousands of students surrounded the car and refused to allow him to be jailed. Mario Savio delivered his magnificent speech encouraging us to lay our bodies on the "cogs of the machine" to bring the war to an end. And later, Nixon ran on the platform of ending the war, only to use that claim in order to be re-elected. I watch Trump today and dread the very real possibility that he will manufacture a war to distract Americans from his blatantly illegal and unconstitutional tactics. We fought 50 years ago for survival. We can do it again.

Janet Abramson

CWF: Carol Wood Forever

I am writing in regards to the article in the City Pulse dated 10/22/19 "At-Large ABC: Anybody But Carol". I have known Carol since 1978 and she is the type of person who does research before she gives her opinion on anything that goes on with the Council. If it was not for Carol, Patricia and Jody being on the council this city would be in bad shape. Carol is the one who keep the residents of Lansing up on what is going on within the City. Every time it comes to an Election these three people are the only ones wrong. What are the others members doing get a check and doing nothing.

Every time a new business comes to Lansing there is a tax break for them and the residents are left in the dark. I am a home owner and a tax payer waiting for the roof to cave in. As stated before Carol does more than she is given credit for so if you cannot say something good then do not say anything. She is always giving her support to other meetings that takes place in the city.

By the way if Jody and her son does not agree on a matter I am quite sure they can settle it. By

Have something to say about a local issue or an item that appeared in our pages?

Now you have two ways to sound off:

1.) Write a letter to the editor:

- E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912

- Fax: (517) 371-5800
- At lansingcitypulse.com

2.) Write a guest column:

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061 (Please include your name, address and telephone number so we can reach you. Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. City Pulse reserves the right to edit letters and columns.)

the way you cannot tell me who to vote for I am old enough to make my own decision. No matter what happens Carol name is the first to come up. Remember you were elected just as she was come on get it together. While you are pointing fingers at someone the same is happening to you. I feel there are others who read this but is afraid to write. I will continue to express my opinion. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Hazel Bethea
Lansing

Surrealism and Michigan education

In case you didn't make the League of Women Voters meeting October 29 at the Episcopal Church in East Lansing, you were smart to stay home and watch the World Series. All three speakers - Craig Thiel of Citizens Research Council, David Arsen, MSU prof, and a LofWV spokesperson tried to dazzle the audience with charts, graphs, percentages, studies, etc., attempting to explain why Michigan is right down there with Mississippi in educational status - blaming it on 1994 tax legislation and declining school enrollment.

They all said the same thing, wringing their hands about the horrible tax situation we're in with no solution.

At the end of what to me was grinding boredom, I stood up and said that I was a consultant for the MI Department of Education starting in the '70s- back when states from around the country visited us because of our innovations - we had written objectives in each curricular area, we had very special special ed, etc. Michigan was a leader in the country in education then thanks to the leadership of John Porter - our first black state superintendent. Today it's at the bottom. And I told the audience that the elephant (a pun intended) in the room is that group generously funded by the state - charter schools, computer schools, academic schools, call them what you will, but they were designed to create schools for profit by siphoning off money formerly spent on public education. And by starving the public schools, the unions will suffer. And Republicans must be gleeful about their success. Our own DeVos is doing it nationally for Trump. I call these state-run "Free K-12 education -at home - by -computer" ads that are all over TV "state-sponsored child abuse programs". Parents can get up to three free computers per family. Certainly many parents must think that's worth depriving their children of social, physical, emotional and educational well-being. The state's goal - sabotage enrollment in public schools - and it's working.

And, of course, removing the cap on charter, academic, whatever schools has them sprouting up all over. They're totally secretive about salaries, numbers of administrators, enrollment, curriculum, etc. They can teach that the world is flat,

or that there's no such thing as climate change. They don't have to take children with special needs. Their administrators need not have any educational experience. And their teachers often get free tuition for grad school from your tax-paid state funds. The state also buys student uniforms. There's no accountability. All three speakers alluded to shrinking student enrollment in public schools. But not one attributed it to these schools for profit. I'd like to know how many students are enrolled in them, but no one knows. That's not public information. All three speakers tried to stop me from speaking. They all ran to the front. They talked over me, and over each other quite loudly with looks of terror on their faces. And two League of Women Voters gals came from the back and started flailing their arms to get me to stop. It was really a funny scene.

I have a different opinion of that group of

women now. They really don't want the truth out there.

I told the audience that two years ago I attended a speech by an MSU entomologist at the annual Home & Garden Show. He said studies show that bees really aren't affected by pesticides. (I knew better.) I told them my brother was also an entomologist at MSU years ago, and he told me that pesticide companies heavily support the entomology program - as other corporations commonly do at universities for propaganda purposes. So beware of anything college professors profess. That one tonight looked stricken at what I had to say. He too was flailing his arms at me.

It was pandemonium! The speakers & the LofWV looked scared to death. It was Kafkaesque.

Where was City Pulse tonight? It could have been a funny story if it weren't so pathetic that the Republicans care more for their pocketbooks than they do for Michigan's children. P.S.

You'll never see LofWV gals. wearing pussy hats and protesting at the capitol like I did. But you may see them wearing t-shirts that say "You Go, Status Quo".

Judy Hood
Bath

NOTICE OF CITYWIDE PUBLIC HEARING COMMUNITY NEEDS HEARING

TO: Citizens of the City of Lansing
FROM: Andy Schor, Mayor

Notice is hereby given that the City of Lansing will hold a public hearing to solicit public input on community needs and priorities for housing, public facilities and economic development. As required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the City of Lansing is in the development stages of its Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2020, which covers the time period July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021. This is the fifth and final year of the City of Lansing's Five-Year Consolidated Plan, 2016-2020. The Plan provides a concise summary of the actions, activities, and the specific federal resources that will be used over the next year to address priority needs and specific goals.

The annual planning process serves as the framework for a community-wide dialogue to identify housing and community development priorities that align and focus funding from the following block grant programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). These program funds have been historically used for such activities as: housing rehabilitation, weatherization, public services, economic development, public improvements, new construction, down payment assistance and programs/services to assist the homeless.

The City encourages participation at public hearings to allow citizens an opportunity to provide input and indicate needs, views and proposals for the use of CDBG, HOME, and ESG program funds, more specifically regarding housing and non-housing community development needs within the City of Lansing relevant to preparation of the plan.

Comments received will be considered in drafting the City's Annual Action Plan. The proposed use of CDBG, HOME and ESG program funds will be submitted to Lansing City Council for approval.

This is an opportunity for all citizens and neighborhood organizations to participate in the planning process and influence future programming and use of these federally funded programs.

PLACE: Lansing Planning Board Meeting
Neighborhood Empowerment Center
600 W. Maple
Lansing, Michigan 48915

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

DATE: Tuesday, December 3, 2019

If you cannot attend the hearing and wish to submit comments, or if you have questions about the public hearing, please contact Doris Witherspoon, Senior Planner of the City of Lansing Planning/Development Office, 316 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, MI, doris.witherspoon@lansingmi.gov, (517) 483-4063.

Please note that identifying housing and community development needs in the Lansing area is a community effort and public participation is strongly encouraged.

CP#19-323

'You may need it'

MSU exhibit maps out Green Book locations in Detroit, Lansing

On April 15, 1940, 21-year-old Irene Orkin was one of thousands of census workers across the United States who took part in conducting the decennial national count. Orkin knocked on James and Frances Lewis' door at 816 S. Butler St. in Lansing and gathered information on everyone staying in the house.

The Lewises had overnight guests — Cornelius Henderson, John Wittker and a man named Maurice, whose last name is not legible on the census form — a trio of Michigan Highway Dept. engineers, all of them college graduates based in Detroit. They were probably in

Exhibit: Mapping the Green Book in Detroit and Lansing

MSU Map Library
(Main Library, Two East)
Through November
Documentary Film:
"The Green Book:
Guide to Freedom"
with filmmaker Yoruba
Richen
7 p.m. Thurs, Nov. 14
Wharton Center Pasant
Theater
Free

Lansing on business.

You would expect three college educated state employees in Lansing on business to stay in a hotel. Instead, they stayed in a private home listed in the Negro Motorists' Green Book.

Why? In the mid-20th century, over-the-top

advertising was everywhere in America, but the Negro Motorists' Green Book sold itself with painful circumspection.

"Carry your Green Book with you," the cover copy suggests, leaving almost everything important unspoken. "You may need it."

The Green Book, a directory of places where African-American travelers could stay or do business "without aggravation," was published from 1936 to 1966.

A new exhibit at the MSU Library maps out all 86 Detroit locations and five Lansing locations listed in nine editions of the Green Book. The exhibit is



Courtesy Capital Area District Library

Sonny Adams' Tropicana Lounge at Division and William streets in Lansing was listed in two mid-1960s editions of the Green Book as a place where African-American travelers could go "without aggravation."

in the Map Library on the second floor of the library's east wing. The exhibit also has replicas of a dozen Green Books and historic photos of many of the locations that were listed.

By the 1940s, the Green Book included every state, with listings in Canada and Mexico. At its height in 1947, it contained over 15,000 listings and expanded from living quarters to doctors, drug stores, liquor stores and public swimming pools.

The book evokes an era when American musical icon Nat King Cole could sing "get your kicks on Route 66," but couldn't stay at many hotels and motels along the way.

"It will be a great day for us to suspend this publication," Green wrote in the introduction.

Using the Green Books and Sanborn fire insurance maps, MSU Head Map Librarian Kathleen Weessies created an online, interactive map of all the Detroit and Lansing locations listed in the Green Book. Where the streets no longer existed, she used old maps to find the places.

All but one of the six Lansing locations mapped out by Weessies are "Tourist homes" — the AirBnB's of the time, private homes that offered rooms to travelers.

People running tourist homes often used names other than their own.

Mabel Beverly at 1212 W. St. Joseph St. was listed as "M. Busher." Vesta Dickson of 1220 W. St. Joseph St. was listed as "Mrs. Cook."

All of the Lansing places listed in the Green Book are now parking lots belonging to General Motors or the Union Missionary Baptist Church. Most of the lost homes are close to I-496, but none of them were removed to make way for the freeway.

The 1940 Census gives us a snapshot of who was staying at the Lansing sites listed in that year's Green Book. In addition to the three engineers staying with the Lewises on Butler Street, Mabel Beverly at 1212 W. St. Joseph St. hosted two lodgers from Lansing, a janitor and a porter. Vesta Dickson at 1220 St. Joseph had four in-laws (two couples) on a long-term stay. Katherine Gaines at 1406 Albert St. had two unrelated children living with her, also on a long-term stay.

The Green Books in the MSU exhibit are all reproductions.

"These kind of material is hugely collectible," Weessies said. "If you could

find one for sale, it would be, minimum, \$15,000."

Weessies created the exhibit, in part, to coincide with a visit from documentary filmmaker Yoruba Richen, who will visit campus Nov. 14 to give a bigger picture on the origins and significance of the Green Books and meet with members of the MSU student club, Supporting Women in Geography.

Richen's documentary is full of home movies and personal stories of African-Americans navigating a hostile and segregated nation while enjoying newly mobile status in the auto age. It's also the perfect antidote to the sanitized 2018 fictional film, "Green Book," which drew widespread criticism as a feel-good fantasy focusing on white redemption.

The Richen documentary recounts that many public pools set aside one day a week for African-Americans to use — often, the day before the pool was cleaned.

A surprising supporter of the Green Book was the Esso Oil Co., credited as forward-thinking in its effort to reach out to African-Americans. The 1947 guide includes folksy remarks from two African-American Esso "Special Representatives," Wendel (also spelled Wendall) P. Alston and James A. Jackson.

The only reference to segregated facilities in the South is couched in almost painfully poetic politesse:

"Much of the equipment for bathrooms, such as are commonplace today, were unknown where Negro travelers might stop," Alston remarks. "It seems that the major bit of bathroom equipment could be found anywhere from fifty to a hundred feet down the yard and on the way, a grape arbor afforded the only shelter from storm."

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

LEGAL NOTICE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING

The 2020 General Fund Budget and Special Fund Budgets were adopted by the Board of Trustees at a regular meeting on October 29, 2019 and are available for review in the office of the Clerk during regular office hours.

Susan L. Aten, Clerk
Charter Township of Lansing

CP#19-326

B/20/046 TWO 2019-2020 TRUCKS as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the CITY OF LANSING, C/O LBWL, PURCHASING OFFICE, at 1110 S. PENNSYLVANIA AVE., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until **2:00 PM** local time in effect on **NOV. 12, 2019** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by contacting Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197, or stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com** or go to www.mitn.info. The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#19-327

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LOCAL EXPERTS

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www.thereadingpeople.org

JEWELRY

Team work makes the dream work

I have the pure joy of working with someone full time on my staff who just celebrated her 97th birthday. Full time and three years shy of a century. In fact, she often arrives unannounced on her day off to cover for somebody on vacation or gone for medical reasons. She has been suggesting over the last year or so that she really thinks she should quit because, "I'm just not any use to you anymore."

She recently took some vacation time to visit her son in Idaho where he lives in a cabin in the mountains along the Coeur d'Alene River. Every day she was gone, I looked over at her empty chair and desk a multitude of times thinking about the dozens of things I would be asking her to do. Her response is always, "I'm on it, chief," "You've got it, chief," or "How soon do you need it, chief?"

All too often we begin to judge ourselves based upon our many limitations. We seem to forget the numerous and important contributions we are constantly providing. That's why we are always at our best as a team.



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Never exclude the following coverage:

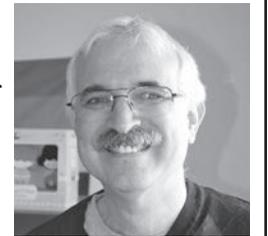
Mini-Tort: it's inexpensive and if you cause an accident, the other party (under many circumstances) can sue you for up to \$1,000. Mini-tort will pay for it.

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Uninsured and Underinsured motorist: These coverages will protect you if the OTHER person is at fault and you try to sue them AND they either have way too low (20/40) or no personal liability coverages.

Finally... TALK TO YOUR AGENT! They work for you (unless they're crummy agents).



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GIFTS

Custom framing in Old Town

Everyone is welcome to come in and play, see what they like, what they don't, and we can work from there. This is the direction I take with my customers when they want their picture framed.

Often, they come to my gallery for framing and the first question I get is, "How much does it cost to frame this picture?" At this stage I ask for more information about the picture and the final look that they want to achieve. The importance of the piece in their life and the meaning it holds are things I consider before going on to the next stage of frame suggestions.

Choosing from over 8,000 frames is a Herculean task, but I can certainly help customers make the right decision. After a bit of back and forth, I can work closely with them and help identify their needs based on their answers.

Where are you going to hang the frame? What is the color of the wall? Is there a presence of other colors in the room? Is the frame for the room or the piece? Other than the regular broad styles of traditional or contemporary frames, at this stage of the process I like to bring out the wild cards, based on my expertise.

This is when I pull out something unexpected which the customer did not think of, and all of a sudden it becomes this very cool frame which they really love. I encourage people to stop by the gallery for all their framing needs and more.



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Trump? Warren? Michigan polls go only so far

So many polls. So many varying results.

Could President Donald Trump win Michigan a year from today? Or could anybody with a "D" after her or his name pound him by double digits?

It depends on the poll and that's down-right frustrating for everybody.

Emerson College reported Monday that 57% of the 1,051 Michigan voters they asked said they preferred Bernie Sanders to Trump. The other 43% said Trump. The New York Times' poll with Siena College has Sanders only edging Trump by two percentage points in Michigan (45% to 43%), well within the 5% margin of error.

Emerson College has Elizabeth Warren up 54% to 46% over Trump in Michigan, outside of the margin of error. The New York Times has Trump winning 46% to 39%.

Joe Biden v. Trump? Emerson College has it 56% to 44% Biden. The New York Times has it 45%-44% Trump, basically a tie.

This isn't the only example. Look at



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

the presumed 2020 U.S. Senate race between U.S. Sen. Gary Peters and Republican John James.

On Sept. 27, a Target Insyght poll commissioned by MIRS News had Peters up 53% to 37%, a 16-percentage point spread. A couple weeks later, the Marketing Resource Group had Peters only up on James by three percentage points (43% to 40%). Then Vanguard Public Affairs/Public Sector Consulting poll with Denno Research had it at a tie (39.5% to 39.3%).

And then Monday, Emerson College had Peters up 6 points (46% to 40%). Other polling not released publicly have Peters up by at least 10 percentage points.

This race hasn't changed in the last six weeks. Why are the results so different?

It all starts with the sample. Who is going to show up on Election Day?

Before political pollsters ask any questions, they ask themselves: How many women will vote? How many men? African Americans? Latino? Rich people? Poor people? Liberals? Rural people? Young people? Older people? People who traditionally

don't vote? It's from this demographic sample pollster pick the likely voters they call with their questions.

Pollsters look at history to compile this calculation and that's what happened on Election Day 2016.

Based on a historic voting population and mix, Hillary Clinton should have beaten Donald Trump in Michigan. Hillary Clinton should have beaten Bernie Sanders in Michigan, too.

But 2016 didn't have a typical voting mix. Predominately lower income, rural folks who hadn't voted in years were inspired by Trump's plain-spoken patriotism and showed up to voting booths in droves.

Those like John Yob's Strategic National or Target Insyght through its exit polling accurately caught these people and dubbed the race a toss-up.

Are these people going to show up in 2020? Based on Trump's latest choices of words — his graphic dramatization of the killing of ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, for example — shows that's what he's going for. He wants to inspire even more of them.

Democrats are going for a larger voting sample, too. Over the weekend, the Michigan Democratic Party

chairwoman and the Democratic interest group Priorities USA spent resources driving turnout for Tuesday's municipal elections.

They weren't pushing a particular candidate. They just want to get younger, female, minority voters in the habit of voting so they'll do it Nov. 3, 2020.

Ingham County Commissioner Mark Grebner of Practical Political Consultants believes there's going to be interest in the 2020 election regardless. A lot of interest. A year after correctly predicting the 2018 turnout at 4.25 million voters, he now says an historic 6 million Michigan voters will show up next year.

In 2016, roughly 4.75 million showed up and that was a huge turnout. But 6 million people voting in Michigan?

If Grebner is correct, the mix of voters isn't going to be like 2016. It won't be like 2018. It'll likely be something we've never seen before.

Who are these people going to be? Until pollsters agree to that question, the polls will continue be all over the place.

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

CITY OF EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 1469

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 50-7 OF ARTICLE I – GENERAL; TO ADD SECTION 50-94b TO DIVISION 3 – SPECIAL USE PERMITS OF ARTICLE II – ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT; TO AMEND SECTION 50-154 OF ARTICLE III – GENERAL DISTRICT REGULATIONS; TO AMEND SECTION 50-612 OF DIVISION 5 – RESTRICTED OFFICE BUSINESS DISTRICT, B-4, SECTION 50-632 OF DIVISION 6 – COMMUNITY RETAIL SALES BUSINESS DISTRICT, B-5 AND SECTION 50-651 OF DIVISION 7 – MANUFACTURING DISTRICT, M-1 OF ARTICLE VI – BUSINESS OFFICE AND INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS; TO RENAME DIVISION 7 – MEDICAL MARIHUANA PROVISIONING CENTER FACILITIES OVERLAY DISTRICTS – AND AMEND SECTIONS 50-801, 50-802 AND 50-803 OF ARTICLE VII – OTHER DISTRICTS; ALL OF WHICH ARE IN CHAPTER 50 – ZONING – OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING TO ALLOW FOR AND REGULATE MARIHUANA ESTABLISHMENTS.

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1469 was adopted by the City of East Lansing City Council at their meeting held on October 29, 2019 and will become effective upon the expiration of seven (7) days after the publication of the following summary of ordinance.

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 1469

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Ordinance 1469 amends the Zoning ordinance by allowing for and regulating the following adult-use (recreational) marihuana establishments only: grower, processor, retailer, secure transporter, and safety compliance. Retailers must also be licensed to sell, at retail, medical marihuana and may only operate out of specific overlay zoning districts within the City. There are also spacing requirements precluding retailers from operating within 500 feet of another retailer in most of the overlay zoning districts and within 1,000 feet of another retailer in the overlay district established in the Downtown Development Authority District.

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1469 can be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan during normal business hours.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#19-328

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The president's defenses

In a mostly party-line vote Thursday, the House of Representatives passed a resolution establishing ground rules for the ongoing impeachment inquiry, allowing the release of deposition transcripts, providing opportunities for the president's lawyers to present evidence, and setting up televised public hearings just in time for Thanksgiving.



JEFFREY G. BILLMAN

INFORMED OPINION

This, of course, didn't stop House minority whip Steve Scalise from complaining about "Soviet-style impeachment proceedings." Other Republicans argued that Democrats were "abusing the process" or that, because no Republicans voted for the inquiry, it's no more than a partisan sideshow.

Even so, now that the impeachment inquiry is officially official, we should be getting a sense of how the White House and its allies plan to defend Donald Trump against mounting evidence that he withheld military aid as leverage to get Ukraine to dig up dirt on his political rivals. What we're actually seeing, however, is not one defense, but a scattershot of defenses, some contradictory, some conspiratorial, some that seem culled from a Reddit thread, all led by a president who refuses to admit the possibility that he did anything inappropriate, let alone illegal.

As best I can tell, there are four at play: 1) No quid pro quo. 2) Sure, a quid pro quo, but it wasn't illegal. 3) An attempted quid pro quo, but that doesn't count. 4) Hell yeah, a quid pro quo, but it was a good thing, because The Truth Is Out There, man.

The first defense belongs to Donald

Trump, and increasingly, to Donald Trump alone. In his mind, and on his Twitter feed, the July phone call with Ukraine's president — in which, according to the White House's edited account of the conversation, he conditioned aid on an investigation into a conspiracy theory that the Ukrainians framed Russia for the 2016 DNC hack and urged an investigation into the Bidens — was "perfect." There was nothing inappropriate about it, no quid pro quo.

Since Trump did no wrong, everyone who says he did must be part of a conspiracy. The whistleblower, Trump tweeted Monday, "must be brought forward to testify." The top Ukrainian expert on the National Security Council who testified that he was told Trump would only meet with Ukraine's president if Ukraine opened the investigations Trump demanded is a "Never Trumper," Trump has asserted, as if that has any bearing on the substance of his testimony.

The no-quid-pro-quo line has become a bridge too far for even some loyalists. After all, even the best news the White House got last week — that a Trump appointee to the NSC said he didn't think there was anything illegal about the call with the Ukrainian president — also came with the confirmation that Trump froze military aid to pressure Ukraine to investigate his enemies.

That brings us to defense No. 2: The quid pro quo happened, but it wasn't criminal (or impeachable). The Washington Post reported that, during a private Senate GOP lunch last week, some senators pitched this line of attack — "the U.S. government often attaches conditions to foreign aid and that nothing was amiss in Trump's

doing so in the case of aid to Ukraine." As Sen. John Kennedy, R-Louisiana, told the Post, "To me, this entire issue is gonna come down to, why did the president ask for an investigation. To me, it all turns on intent, motive."

This defense would work better if Trump didn't stomp on it. On Sunday, Trump tweeted that the story was "false." Perhaps a quid pro quo wasn't impeachable, he said, but it didn't matter because there wasn't one.

Then there's defense No. 3, that Trump's conspiracy failed, so no harm, no foul. Per The Wall Street Journal's editorial page: "Democrats want to impeach Mr. Trump for asking a foreign government to investigate his political rival for corruption, though the probe never happened, and for withholding aid to Ukraine that in the end wasn't withheld."

It's true that Trump released the money just before the scandal broke, but the fact that he got caught before his extortion scheme bore fruit hardly speaks to a presidential temperament. Besides, his efforts to stoke an investigation in Ukraine continue. Just last week, NBC News reported, Rudy Giuliani was in Ukraine meeting with a former diplomat who alleges that Ukraine's government conspired with the DNC to hurt Trump in 2016. At the same time, a group of Russia-friendly Ukrainian parliamentarians are seeking an investigation into whether their country set up Trump's former campaign manager Paul Manafort, now a resident of a federal prison.

Giuliani tweeted last week that "frenzied" Democrats are "covering up

because it's bigger than you think."

And herein lies the last line of defense, that there is a grand conspiracy yet to be unraveled, connecting the Deep State and the Obama administration and Joe Biden and the DNC and Ukraine and Russia and George Soros and probably Cigarette Smoking Man from "The X-Files."

Trump's die-hards are pinning their hopes on John Durham, the prosecutor Attorney General William Barr tapped to investigate the investigators who first looked into the Trump campaign's ties to Russia, an effort — like Giuliani in Ukraine — to discredit the Intelligence Community's conclusion that Russia interfered in the 2016 election on Trump's behalf. Over the weekend, The Independent reported that, based on Barr's requests to British intelligence services, officials there believe "they are basically asking, in quite robust terms, for help in doing a hatchet job on their own intelligence services."

As incoherent as they seem, these defenses are all aimed at a singular audience.

Over the weekend, NBC and Fox News released polls showing that 49 percent of voters believe Trump should be impeached and removed from office. But both polls also showed that about 90 percent of Republicans oppose impeachment. And as long as that's the case, the White House's bet is that there's no way the Republican-led Senate will convict Trump, so long as there's a thin reed to cling to.

Anything will do, really.

(Jeffrey Billman is the editor of The Indy, in Durham, North Carolina.)

ORDINANCE #2613

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN AND FOR THE REVISION OF THE DISTRICT MAPS ADOPTED BY SECTION 1246.02 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The City of Lansing ordains:

Section 1. That the district maps adopted by and incorporated as Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing, Michigan be amended to provide as follows:

To change the zoning classification of the property described as follows:

Case Number: Z-5-2019
 Parcel Numbers: 33-01-01-16-361-201
 Address: 521 W. Hillsdale Street
 Legal Descriptions: East 3 Rods of the West 7 Rods of Lot 8, Block 162, Original Plat from "DM-4" Residential District to "D-1" Professional Office District.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance was duly adopted by the Lansing City Council on October 28, 2019, and a copy is available in the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 9th Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect on the 30th day after enactment.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC
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CP#19-324

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‘WHERE’S THE PLAN?’

Empty City Market raises questions over riverfront vision

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Downtown Lansing basked in a big-city moment at dusk on Sept. 10. The grand opening of Rotary Park, a new riverfront hangout with shoreline seating, a sand beach and colorful lights, drew hundreds of early autumn strollers. Just downriver, the MSU Professors of Jazz played at the pavilion in front of the convention center.

All night, the boardwalk was jammed with people who wanted to be where the action was, from curious kids to dancing lovers to a showboating cyclist who orbited the boardwalk in a tricked-out neon bike.

The Grand River Princess riverboat, back in Lansing after a 10-year hiatus, cruised past the pavilion like a floating cake, with dozens of waving hands for candles.

Lansing, like many cities across the nation, is beginning to embrace its riverfront in earnest. But there are holes in the picture. Perched above the park, in a prime spot on the river, sits the empty shell of the pole barn that housed Lansing’s dead City Market.

The empty shell raises questions about the future of the riverfront and what vision, if any, is taking shape there. City leaders, including Mayor Andy Schor, have talked about flipping the precious, city-owned asset into a brew pub and restaurant as soon as possible — a block away from the Lansing Brewing Co., another brew pub and restaurant.

The vacancy on prime city-owned



Courtesy Capital Area Community Foundation

A scale model of Lansing’s riverfront sits in the offices of the Capital Area Community Foundation, the prime mover of Rotary Park and future projects meant to “activate” Lansing’s riverfront.

land is a rare opportunity. Is a restaurant the building’s highest and best use? What comes next on the riverfront? Is there a plan?

‘NO DONE DEAL’

Across the country, cities large and small are turning their riverfronts into vibrant recreation, restaurant and shopping districts. The word urban planners love to use is “activation.”

Most of these towns, but not all, have at least one major, distinctive attraction on the river. The resurgent riverfront in Wilmington, N.C. (pop. 119,000, almost the same as Lansing’s) even has a battleship — the U.S.S. North Carolina. Davenport, Iowa, (pop. 102,000) has a bustling riverfront district anchored by the River Music Experience, a perform-

ing arts venue, and a glass sky bridge where pedestrians can look down into the water.

The riverfront district in Dubuque, Iowa, with a population about half of Lansing’s, has the Smithsonian-affiliated National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium. The revitalized riverfront in Chattanooga, Tennessee, has a spectacular pedestrian-only bridge, the Tennessee Aquarium, an arts district and an amphitheater. Cincinnati’s Smale Riverfront Park has the grand and historic Roebling Bridge. Detroit’s revitalized riverfront, run by a Riverfront Conservancy, has its River Carousel, where kids can ride local beasts like a heron or a walleye.

Lansing’s downtown riverfront has its attractions, from the Impression

5 Museum to Riverwalk Theatre and the new Rotary Park, but the vacant City Market shell, has unique potential, and will be smack in the center of any downtown riverfront renaissance, whatever form it takes.

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said the city sent out a “request for information” for the City Market shell a year ago.

“We’ve had people who say it could be a dance hall, it could be this, it could be that,” Schor said. “There’s a lot of people with a lot of ideas, but very few people who can finance something. It would be great to have a water park, a roller rink, or a city market that works and isn’t subsidized. I’m not interested in the old model of the city subsidi-

See Riverfront, Page 13

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Riverfront

from page 12

dizing it.”

As far back as the summer of 2018, when the City Market closed for good, Schor said he wanted to fast-track the building’s “re-activation.”

“I don’t want to have an empty building for a year, two years, a blight on the river,” Schor said. “I want to activate the space. Anyone with a proposal that can be financed by outside assets, not by the city — we are willing to listen.” Schor said the city would keep the request for information open for “a few more weeks.”

If there are no results, he said, the city would issue “a strict Request for Proposal and set a deadline.”

It’s been widely rumored that a brewpub based in Jackson is a front-runner for the lease, but Schor said there’s “no done deal.”

Paul Brogan, co-owner of River Town Adventures, has seen the river burgeon with activity in his six years renting kayaks and canoes from his riverside station in the shadow of the City Market shell.

“I’ve heard the rumors about the brew pub, and I’m not sure I love that idea,” Brogan said. “This space is unique, especially as the riverfront continues to see positive changes like Rotary Park. It feels like this space deserves something creative.”

The nonprofit Urban Land Institute gave some cover to brew pub advocates this month. After visiting Lansing and conducting a study in July, the planning group sent recommendations to the Community Foundation and a coalition of about 20 area businesses, nonprofits and neighborhood organizations Oct. 17 with recommendations for riverfront development. A final report will be available in January.

The experts advised the city to pick a “strong, F&B (Food and Beverage) anchor tenant” for the City Market shell.

Bob Trezise, CEO of the Lansing Economic Area Partnership, strongly backs that idea.

“There’s a lot of people throughout this region who would like to regularly come to downtown Lansing and sit outside, or sit in front of big, beautiful windows, and look out on a big-city skyline, lights, kayaks going by,” Trezise said. “As far as I can tell, the only possibility of that happening is in that building.”

Trezise said the bare-bones mar-



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

A new “pole barn” on a concrete pedestal overlooking the Grand River, seen here under construction in 2008, failed to revive the Lansing City Market. The building’s last tenant, Riverfront Bar & Grill, was evicted by the city this fall to make room for a new tenant, yet to be announced.

ket building is “perfect” for such a use, and would require little external modification, except to install bigger windows into the side facing the river. “We built what we could for \$1.6 million,” he said. “It doesn’t work well for a lot of things, but it works really well for a craft beer/restaurant. It has high ceilings, spectacular views, an artsy feel. If you built one new, it would look about like that.”

SHOOTING IN THE DARK

It’s no wonder a brewpub and restaurant looks like a safe choice to some city leaders. The empty shell of the City Market can be seen as an object lesson in civic over-reaching. In 2008, the city struck a deal with developer Pat Gillespie, ostensibly to rescue the old City Market, which had succumbed to changing urban demographics and the rise of big grocery chains and dwindled to a shadow of its former, bustling self.

Gillespie bought the surrounding land to develop into condos, leaving the market in city hands, and agreed to build a new, \$1.8 million market, closer to the river.

A key part of the plan was to wrap the new market in a built-in customer base of condo dwellers. But the condos took longer than expected to build, in

part because of the Great Recession, while vendors withered.

The new building, wedged between the condos and the river, was invisible to auto traffic.

“I take some of the blame for it,” former Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero said. “It was dying on the vine for months, if not years.”

Schor considered asking Lansing residents to sell the property, which sits on parkland and requires a vote to sell, but thought better of it. He wants the city to hang on to the market building and lease it to a third party.

“That way, whatever the next thing is, if that doesn’t succeed, we don’t lose control and end up with a use that we don’t want,” Schor said. “It’s a prime piece of property, right on the river, and we’d like to hold on to control of it.”

Bernero favors going to the voters to sell the property. Otherwise, he said, no developer would put the investment for a major conversion to a new use.

Bernero is not opposed to a restaurant, but he had questions about the decision-making process.

“Where’s the plan?” Bernero asked. “It’s a significant piece of property, no question. Where’s the constructive leadership? If time is of the essence,

what about the last two years? That was the time to engage the community in a big way. Now you’re under the gun.”

The usefulness of a plan also screams out to Scott Witter, retired director of MSU’s School of Planning, Design and Construction. Witter was on the Community Foundation board that reviewed community surveys with ideas for Rotary Park.

“One of the things in Lansing’s history is, they’ve just filled buildings,” Witter said. “You drive up and down Michigan Avenue and you see this and that, but it doesn’t all fit together.”

A landlocked exception to this rule is the downtown ballpark, with its surrounding bars, restaurants and housing, but no such vision exists for the riverfront.

“We need more like that,” Witter said. “Without a plan, you’re shooting in the dark. No one is going to invest \$10 million or \$100 million if it’s part of a hodge-podge.”

A serious plan, Witter said, could assess the “possibilities and needs” of the City Market building.

“I don’t know that a roller rink would make a tremendous amount of money,” he said. “Brew pubs tend to bring in more, but the question is, is that how you want to use that?”

A riverfront plan, he said, could “be up and running in three or four months.” “It’s a living document that could evolve as you move along and new opportunities come about,” he said.

MODEL RIVER

Lansing has come a long way since the mid-20th century, when the Grand River was ignored at best and used as an industrial dump at worst. Environmental cleanup and the visionary beginnings of the Lansing River Trail began to reverse that neglect in the 1970s.

The pivot to the river is due to go into overdrive in the 21st century, as more people opt to live in urban settings. One indicator is the dramatic boom in kayak traffic on the Grand and Red Cedar rivers, from almost zero activity six years ago to dozens of jostling orange vessels on a nice summer day.

Chris Chamberlain, owner of the Grand River Princess, has plied the Grand and Red Cedar rivers all his life, in vessels large and small.

“It’s really nice to see people interested in the downtown area again,” he said. “People are waking up to it and embracing it in Lansing, and it’s not

See Riverfront, Page 14

Riverfront

from page 13

just Rotary Park. There's a lot of forward momentum."

Witter said it's time to take this surge in interest "to the next level."

Many cities have turned to public-private partnerships, offshoots of the Chamber of Commerce or other hybrid organizations to put together a plan that balances green space and new development while "activating" the riverfront. Since 2004, Davenport has been guided by RiverVision, a "publicly vetted consensus plan" with the help of Hargreaves, a major landscape architecture firm. Louisville, Kentucky, has the Waterfront Development Corp., a river-focused version of an economic development corporation. Detroit has the Riverfront Conservancy, a non-profit founded by public and private city leaders.

The gold standard of riverfronts in the United States is San Antonio.

"I'm a big fan of San Antonio," Schor said. "We're not going to be San Antonio, but I wouldn't mind activating our riverfront like they do there and in other communities."

San Antonio, too, had the advantage of a plan. A brilliant engineer, Robert Hugman, redesigned the city's riverfront in the 1920s, in the wake of a disastrous flood that had people talking about capping the river in concrete. Now it's a silver thread of hundreds of restaurants, shops and parks, employing tens of thousands, linked by cobblestone streets and arched bridges — the area's biggest tourist



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

(Above) Lansing's River Trail near the now defunct City Market.

draw this side of The Alamo.

The closest thing to a riverfront vision in Lansing sits in the offices of the nonprofit Capital Region Community Foundation. A glass case with a 6-foot-long scale model of the Lansing riverfront, painstakingly cut and pasted together by Port Huron artist Bob May, showcases the "string of pearls" the Foundation has planned for the downtown riverfront, from the Brenke Fish Ladder in Old Town through the heart of downtown to the I-496 overpass and the Cherry Hill neighborhood.

Six years ago, the foundation looked for a way it could make a major difference in Lansing, with limited resources, and zeroed in on a glaring vacuum — the riverfront.

"It's low-hanging fruit," Laurie Baumer said. Baumer is the foundation's vice president. "Nobody else is doing it. We're filling a gap."

Rotary Park was the first "pearl" in

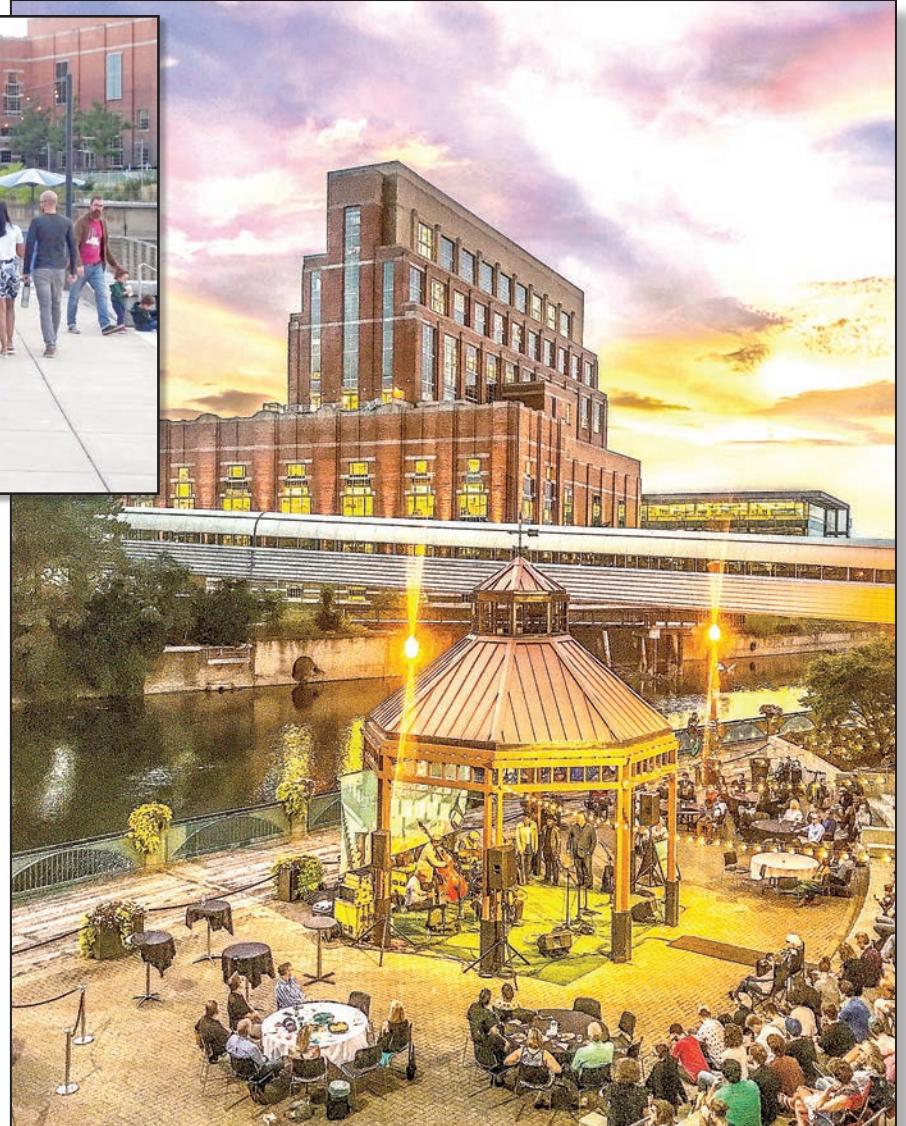


Photo by Penelope Farber Millman

Lansing's downtown riverfront came alive Sept. 10 with a big slate of events, including a concert by the MSU Professors of Jazz at the convention center pavilion (pictured) and the opening of Rotary Park a few hundred feet upstream.

the showcase to become reality. The foundation developed the park with input from community surveys, private partners and MSU urban planning experts.

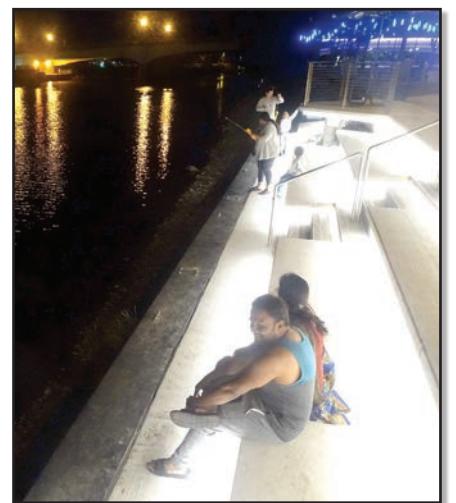
Future riverfront "pearls" visible in the glass case include an outdoor classroom near the Impression 5 Museum, "fishing holes" made of large flat rocks, an all-abilities childrens' playground and a community stage in Old Town. All of these projects are in development, depending on funding and public support.

"Rotary Park is the central piece," Schor said. "We'd like to stretch activation in both directions, up and down the riverfront."

In mid-July, a panel of experts from the Michigan chapter of the Urban Land Institute visited Lansing to look into "how to maximize the riverfront as a world-class public space, gathering place and vibrant community center."

Their strongest recommendation was to establish year-round programming along the downtown riverfront and forming an entity that could manage it. Get a couple of dozen days a year as "activated" as Sept. 10 in Lansing, or even half as busy, and you start to reach a critical mass.

"Their suggestion was to create another entity, perhaps a public-private venture, that could manage this," Baumer said. "It's pretty lofty, but it's possible."



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

A fishing spot in at Rotary Park

Witter said the time is ripe for a broader vision to take shape.

"Somebody has to be responsible for continually moving it forward," Witter said. "You need leaders. It's great that the foundation started this push, but how to you keep that rolling?"

Whatever ends up inside the City Market shell, Paul Brogan of River Town Adventures intends to support it.

"That building, where it's placed, is crucial to the success of Rotary Park," Brogan said. "I have mixed emotions about the situation, but those decisions aren't mine to make, and I'm here to support positive development, whichever way it goes."

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ARTS & CULTURE

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Women in the Arts Festival honors women and their experiences

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

All women have a story worth sharing. That story can be told through lyrical steps, through brush strokes or through written biographies of heroines in history. Goldenrod Music and Artist Service's annual Women in the Arts Festival will celebrate all forms of narrative in its 34th installation.

This Friday, Nov. 8, and Saturday, Nov. 9, the women-centered festival will host local and national acts at the Edgewood United Church. The two-day festival will include workshops, music

Women in the Arts Festival

Friday, Nov. 8,
5 to 9 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 9,
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Edgewood United Church
469 N. Hagadorn Road,
East Lansing
(517) 484-1712

classes, an artist market and seven musical performances. New this year, all performances will have American Sign Language interpreters.

Regulars of the Ten Pound Fiddle concert series or the sadly defunct Michigan Women's Music Festival will recognize Friday's headliner Natalia Zukerman. The New York guitarist and singer-songwriter had her original music featured on the soundtracks of "The L Word" and ABC Family's "Chasing Life." She has also opened for some acoustic greats such as Janis Ian, Ani DiFranco and Willy Porter.

Zukerman gives a spellbinding one-woman show in her latest project, "The Women Who Road Away," while showing painted watercolor visuals for

each song. The body of work is a tribute to nine women whom Zukerman credits as guides in her own quest for liberation.

The album consists of nine "portrait songs," based on attributes of the women she profiles in each song, said Zukerman. The characters depicted include Zukerman's fiancé, maternal grandmother, bisexual poet Edna St. Vincent Millay and other women in history who steered toward the unknown. Tickets for the 7:30 p.m. Friday set are \$20 for the general public.

"They are all amazing women who because of the time they lived in, they didn't get to live out their dreams," Zukerman said of some of her muses. "I feel like in some ways that I get to do it, so I do it for them, because of them and through them."

Zukerman will also perform "infectiously joyful and deeply connected songs to spirit" Saturday alongside Lisa Ferraro. The duo will lead a workshop Saturday called "The Power of Presence, Creating with Intention."

Saturday's headliner is poetry and dance duo Nia & Ness from New York. Nia & Ness are an up-and-coming performance act that turn their day-to-day experiences as unabashedly proud black lesbians into staged, visceral displays of survival. Saturday's hourlong performance is entitled "home" and dives deep into the real-life couples "ship and anchor" relationship, as well as their experiences with homophobia, racism and



Courtesy photo

Nia (left) and Ness turn their day-to-day experiences as unabashedly proud black lesbians into staged, visceral displays of survival.

mental health.

"This piece is a lot more intense and scarier to perform because it's extremely personal," said Nia Shand, the ship and dancer in the duet. "It's also about how we help each other through all of it. We hold hands a lot in the work and we connect a lot visually in the piece."

Unlike the streets of Brooklyn, where a lot of "home" was inspired, the duo's strong presence silences onlookers, giving the audience no choice but to hear their truth. Tickets to see Nia & Ness Saturday at 6 p.m. are \$15.

Lansing's own women's chorus, Sistrum, will take the stage at 3 p.m. Sat-

urday, filling the dome-like cathedral ceiling with sonic hope and glory. The choral performance will be followed with original music from pianist Anne Heaton who will share work from her new album "To the Light." The final slot in the daytime lineup is held by Ann Arbor's Jennifer Jones, known for her brand of folk-infused gospel.

Those interested in volunteering at the festival can do so at witafestival.com. Ticket prices for individual performances are also listed on the website. Reduced prices are available to anyone, but will need to be ordered prior by contacting producer@witafestival.com.

Thanksgiving dinner with 'The Humans' hits home

By **DAVID WINKELSTERN**

I've never complained about good acting, but I am sorry. The players in "The Humans" are so damn good.

It's easier to watch afflictions when the melancholy is merely a fabrication by actors. But when good acting makes the suffering seem real, it can be hard to endure.

Rick Dethlefsen is Erik Blake, an aging father dealing with shame. Gini

"The Humans"

Thursday, Nov. 7-
Saturday, Nov. 9, 8 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 10, 2 p.m.
\$10-15
Central United
Methodist Church
215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing
(517) 927-3016
Peppermintcreek.org

Larson is his wife, Deirdre, who's trying to control her impulses. They struggle caring for Fiona "Momo" Blake — played by Barbara Stauffer — who has serious dementia. Leigh Christopher

is Aimee Blake — the daughter with intestinal troubles and recent loses.

In "The Humans," the foursome gathers at a dubious New York City apartment to share Thanksgiving with another daughter, and her new, live-in boyfriend. Sally Hecksel is the often callous Bridgid Blake, and Joe Clark plays an out-of-place Richard Saad.

After some drinking, bickering turns to arguing. Ribbing turns to insults. Horrific secrets are revealed. What starts as an uncomfortable get-together turns into the Thanksgiving from Hell.

Sad moments earn tears. Jokes and funny bits peppered throughout the play win genuine laughs.

Having a fantastic, two-story set with a spiral staircase adds to the authenticity. The design by Tracy Smith and Geoff Stauffer had to be built off-site. It required a building



Trumpie Photography

Peppermint Creek's "The Human's" features an elaborate, two-story set designed by Tracy Smith and Geoff Stauffer.

code approval before the actors could move from floor to floor.

At times, voices get lost inside the cavernous Central United Methodist Church. Their padded folding chairs

can be tough to inhabit during a 100-minute play without intermission. For "The Humans," I think I would squirm in my seat no matter the chair.

LCC's 'Belle Moral' wards off headache with humor

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

Lansing Community College Performing Art's, "Belle Moral," has four instances of manufactured fog that drifts across the stage. Another kind of "fogginess" can be found throughout the play.

Anne-Marie MacDonald's script is set in 1899 Scotland. Unamplified lines delivered with appropriate accents — often, with backs turned to the audience — can cause foggy comprehension. The play's

dialogue touches on morality, evolution, rights of women, eugenics, marriage, science, art, paleontology, new thought, the meaning of life and more.

For most of "Belle Moral," we are kept in the dark about who or what is hidden in the attic.

Mystery and anticipated reveals

"Belle Moral"

Nov. 8-9, 8 p.m.

Nov. 10, 2 p.m.

\$5-15

Dart Auditorium
500 N. Capitol Ave.,
Lansing
(517) 483-1122
lcc.edu/services



Courtesy photo

Rachael Steffens as Pearl MacIsaac and Dillon Smith as Dr. Seamus Reid.

are welcome facets to the over-two-hour-with-intermission play. Besides sophisticated topics and an intellectual foundation, "Belle Moral" is also a

suspenseful, gothic, who-dunnit.

Occasional chuckles are truly moments of comic relief from shadowy and erudite speech. Mike Shalley

as Young Farleigh, gets the most laughs as a doddering old servant.

As Victor MacIsaac, Caleb Tracy earns guffaws with bawdy humor, wit and sharp insults. Tracy splendidly portrays a volatile and brash-yet-educated brother.

Rachael Steffens shines the brightest in the role of Pearl MacIsaac, a young scientist. Steffens masters endless, complex discourse and dramatic mood changes.

Bartley Bauer's striking and multi-part, two-level, 3-D set fills the wide Dart Auditorium stage. Extensive and detailed properties by Kelly McNabb and classy period costumes by Chelle Peterson — who also designed spot-on, authentic sounds — contributed much to the gothic atmosphere.

"Belle Moral" can be thought provoking and mind-boggling. Maybe it's best to not over-analyze it. As Victor said, "The question used to be what is the meaning of life. Now we ask, 'Is there any meaning?'"

LSO gives 'Resurrection' symphony clarity, lightness

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Several minutes into Mahler's "Resurrection" Symphony, the sole work in Saturday's Lansing

Symphony concert, the nervous, bear-like pacing that dominates the first movement was stripped of its fury, layer by layer. The fur, skin, meat and bones of this symphonic beast fell away until all that was left were exposed heartbeats from the harps.

But it was only a brief letup. The nervous pacing resumed, erupting in horrific explosions from the timpani and low strings. It's a long road to resurrection.

The most memorable thing about Saturday's historic performance, the LSO's first run at "Resurrection" in 37 years, was the simplicity, transparency and lightness music director Timothy Muffitt and the musicians gave to this heavy lift.

How did they get it off the ground so gracefully? Birds' bones are riddled with air pockets to help them fly.

Air and light streamed through every crevice of Saturday's performance. The string section spread

itself into layers that drifted, settled and dispersed like luminous banks of clouds. The orchestra flew through the third movement, a mercurial, whirling waltz, so nimbly and lightly it seemed to go by in about five seconds, despite the deliberate pace.

The clarity of every detail made the experience almost hallucinatory. There are times when this symphony seems to border on insanity — cascading episodes of horror, romance, sweetness, dancing and more horror, with that inexorable death march never far from your mind.

Mahler's music is often described as a chronicle of a world coming apart, a fraught, proto-modernist canvas of quiet villages and Alpine meadows about to devolve into bloody battlefields and death camps. Without forcing it to make sense — which it probably shouldn't — Maestro Timothy Muffitt and the orchestra made it easy to take in the whole, fractured mosaic, in granular detail and grand sweep.

As if to explain the preceding overload of input, mezzo-soprano Susan Platts did an intervention in the late innings. She serenely sang of her longing for heaven, in tones that

soothed like butterscotch. The brass and woodwinds, along with concertmaster Eliot Heaton, enfolded her yearning soul with heartbreaking tenderness.

By now, the spell cast by this hyper-sensitive performance had tightened to near rapture. All that heavy lifting was paying off. Gravity was beginning to fail.

After another devastating crash, with wispy reverberations from the woodwinds, a perfectly timed off-stage call from the horns drew forth a mysterious, tingly shudder of percussion. Slowly, the winds and brass on stage took up the call as the strings plucked out a field of stars behind them.

There was a genuine feeling that anything could happen, even though this music was written down more than a century ago.

After a drum roll to end all drum rolls, things got truly unpredictable. A knot of offstage trumpets tried to march through the holes in the music, like signals from a fragment of Mahler's brain in a jar, stuck on the wrong idea.

What followed then is truly past description — at least by me. Worlds

were born, rejected and reborn. The offstage horns entered into unearthly communion with principal flutist Richard Sherman, spreading a slim thread of spider silk between this world and the next. At last, the chorus joined the fray, softly at first, then with stunningly full-throated affirmations that stopped the death march once and for all. Platts and soprano Ilana Davidson wove tender words into the music's upward pull.

Plenty of symphonies end with major chords, but Saturday night, they sounded like brand new inventions — anti-bombs of impossible joy, refutations of death and despair.

The final chords brought all forces together — with an organ for extra thrust — and flew the ship out of death's jurisdiction once and for all. The whole great weight of this audacious, mad symphony and the burden of life itself, fell up.

Correction

Last week's play review of Riverwalk Theatre's "My Heart" used the incorrect photo credit. The correct photographer is Ariniko O'Meara

Vibes from The Tribe: Two legends bring Detroit history to MSU

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

This Friday, MSU's Jazz Studies program will take a dive into a fascinating chapter of jazz history and offer a rare chance to hear two Detroit legends play with top MSU students.

Trombonist Phil Ranelin and saxophonist Wendell Harrison are founding

Wendell Harrison and Phil Ranelin with MSU Jazz Octets

Fri., Nov. 8, 8 p.m.
\$10-12
MSU Fairchild Auditorium
542 Auditorium Road,
East Lansing
(517) 353-5340
Music.msu.edu/event-listing

Discussion:

"Jazz From Detroit"

Mark Stryker, Phil Ranelin,
Wendell Harrison
Wed., Nov. 6, 5 p.m.
Free
Music Practice Building,
Room 103
345 W. Circle Drive,
East Lansing

join top MSU jazz students for a concert that is likely to stretch beyond the customary confines of student-guest artist recitals.

Ranelin, 80, and Harrison, 76, both are active musicians and educators. In Detroit, they are still best known as the guiding spirits of a multifaceted musical and cultural movement.

The Tribe mixed avant-garde, funk and spiritual jazz in an earthy, uncommercial style rooted in Detroit's black community. They managed their own music label and successful magazine from 1971 to 1978.

"The word 'tribe' possessed near magic proportion in the African American community," Ranelin wrote in his notes to the 2001 re-issue of "Vibes from The Tribe." "The Tribe was more than a band, a record company and a maga-

zine publication. It was a movement of black pride and self-determination."

The Tribe got the keys to the city from Detroit Mayor Coleman Young in 1974 and represented the United States at the World Music Festival in Lagos, Nigeria in 1976.

In the '90s, music lovers around the world, especially in the United States and Great Britain, rediscovered the music of the Tribe when the label's catalogue was re-issued.

On trombone, Ranelin embodies a long tradition of jazz that pulls deep strings in your soul, from the New Orleans style of "Kid" Ory through the supreme mid-century artistry of Melba Liston and J.J. Johnson (with whom Ranelin is often compared) through the spiritual modes of John Coltrane and Pharoah Sanders. He's now based in Los Angeles, where he's been designated a "cultural treasure" by the county board and the state legislature.

A killer CD compilation, "Collected Works 2002-2019," shows what he's been up to in recent years — a non-stop steamroller of spiritual grooves, inventive arrangements and unusual time signatures.

Wendell Harrison was born in Detroit, where he studied with Barry Harris, and moved to New York to play with many jazz greats. After a stint in California, he came back to Detroit in 1971 and met Ranelin, who had moved there from his native Indianapolis a few years earlier. They found that they shared the same dreams of playing, publishing and recording their own music.

Passionate provocation, deep tenderness and high musicianship were all part of the Tribe's formula.

In 2018, Harrison was named a Kresge Eminent Artist, a lifetime award. He still performs regularly, but



Courtesy photo

Phil Ranelin, co-founder of the 1970s Detroit music collective The Tribe.

concentrates mostly on education.

To sweeten an extraordinary week, the guest artists will join longtime Detroit Free Press journalist, Mark

Stryker, author of the recent history "Jazz From Detroit" for a discussion on the city's jazz history Wednesday at 5 p.m.

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Auto wizard takes on Batmobile project for Lansing Batman

By DENNIS BURCK

CATA driver Aaron Aikman is no stranger to building odd automobiles. Among the 15 cars parked at his home on Lansing's westside, he created a replica Mystery Machine from Scooby-Doo, Ecto 1 from Ghostbusters, Kit from Night Rider and a coffin mobile. Now he sets his sights and engineering prowess on the Batmobile, a six-wheeled mish-mash of a dune buggy, Oldsmobile Toronado and Dodge Ram truck.

At 26 feet in length, the car barely fits into his large garage.

"I love Batman and the show, but I never thought about owning one," Aikman said.

He's building the car for Shamus Smith, more commonly known as the Lansing Batman. Smith is part of the League of Enchantment, a group of superhero impersonators who make appearances for sick children and community events.

The car originally started as a broken-down dune buggy.

"My best friend had left this buggy outside for six years. All the rainwater got in the engine and locked it up," Aikman said.

"I came up with the idea it would be really nice with Oldsmobile power as a mid-engine vehicle," he added. "I thought that was a lot of work, so why don't we just take an Olds Toronado and weld it to the frame."

After finding a Toronado that hadn't started in 20 years, Aikman was in luck.

"I came with a gallon of gasoline and a good battery. I cranked it over for about five minutes to get the oil pressure going through it. I hooked up the gasoline to the fuel pump and it fired right up, purring like a kitten. That's why I love Oldsmobiles."

However, combining two cars into one presents several problems. The first was that Aikman needed to find six wheels that resembled those on the Batmobile to move the beast. A set of 1994 Dodge Ram truck wheels gave the Batmobile a tank-like look. But finding a way to mount the wheels required hours of custom fabrication work.

"I had to make my own wheel adapters for this thing. You are going from General Motors 5 lug to Dodge 8 lug. Then we are going from Volkswagen 5 lug to Dodge 8 lug. It was a lot of work," he said.

Aikman further fabricated all of the body from sheet metal and is working



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

The six wheeled batmobile is made up of a Volkswagen dune buggy, 1977 Oldsmobile Toronado and a Dodge Ram pickup.

on handcrafting a cockpit akin to a Star Wars X Wing. Some components like the Batmobile weapons will be custom 3D-printed, Aikman said.

Since most of the vehicle is based on the Oldsmobile chassis, Aikman was able to use its VIN. He hopes the Frankenstein creation catches the attention of the R.E. Olds Museum.

"We are trying to use the original dashboard from the Oldsmobile to preserve as much of it as possible. We actually want to dedicate this to Oldsmobile when it's done."

He further plans to make the vehicle street legal and drivable.

"Its biggest problem is that the steering radius on it is really bad. We actually have the back tires that were on the dune buggy on the front of the vehicle," he said.

The vehicle's signature jet engines are made from a pair of metal trash cans with a flared-out tailpiece. One of the engines actually hides the steering column of the former Oldsmobile, which is not removable.

"I spent the last month busting my butt on this. I gave up \$2,000 of overtime to do this within these last two weeks," Aikman said.

"It's been a lot of fun and a lot of stress. The goal is to have this ready for a proper reveal next May at Olympic Broil."

The next phase for Aikman is making the body paneling streamlined. The sheet metal still has sharp edges and some still needs to be bolted onto the

body.

Aikman estimates he put in more than 1,600 hours of work on the car in the last six months.

"Though it's a lot of work, it is also a lot of fun for me. I love building these cars."



Thursday, November 14, 2019 • 7:30 PM

Johannes Brahms piano quintet in F Minor Op. 34

Antonin Dvorak piano quintet No. 2 in A Major Op. 81

with guest Richard Sherman, Flute

Music, Myth and Mystery

The Absolute Music Chamber Series offers its eleventh season at the acoustically-superior Urban Beat Event Center in Lansing's old Town. In this highly welcoming space, everyone sits only a few feet away from the musicians to experience chamber music up close and personal.

Concert guides introduce the artists and their programs and facilitate an after-concert discussion among the audience and the musicians. This talk-back provides a chance for the audience to connect with the musicians and understand the passionate process that creates a performance. Concert Guide: Jody Knol.

In the Old World soirée tradition, light refreshments are served following every concert.

**Buy tickets online: absolutemusiclansing.org or at the door
Urban Beat Event Center, 1213 Turner Street Lansing, Michigan 48906 in Old Town**

MSU political scientist recites the 'Red State Blues'

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Matt Grossman, author of the new book "Red State Blues," has some unusual advice for Democrats and Republicans concerned about the outcome of next year's national elections.

The basic premise of his well-researched book, subtitled "How the Conservative Revolution Stalled in the States," is best characterized by the sage words of Mad magazine's cover boy Alfred E. Neuman, "What, me worry?"

For Democrats, there's no need to worry, according to the Michigan State University political scientist. Keep in mind that Republicans have made

huge strides since 1994, taking control of 24 state governments.

After compiling and analyzing an impressive array of statistics, he's concluded that despite liberals' fears, the conservative state governments have failed to enact legislation or apply policies that forward a conservative agenda.

Not everyone will agree with his findings, especially voters living in states which have seriously curtailed access to abortions, passed right-to-work laws or can't get the roads fixed. Other states can point to pro-business and reduced taxes for the rich which have tipped the economic scale.

There's no question Grossman has done his research. Each of his six chapters are deeply footnoted and there are 14 pages of detailed references.

"Despite a more conservative and ascendant national party, Republican-controlled state governments have not reduced the size or scope of state governments, overcome long-standing state idiosyncrasies in policy and practice, reversed liberal gains or enacted a substantive policy agenda that advances conservative values and goals," wrote Grossman.

His conclusion: "The Republican Revolution has been less transformational than advertised."

He underlines his conclusions by analyzing two important policy areas, abortion and Medicaid expansion under the Affordable Care Act.

He acknowledges that just between the years 2011 and 2015, states enacted more than 288 restrictions on abortions. While abortions may have fallen dramatically, he concludes that declining abortions can be partly attributed to a broad decline in pregnancies due



Courtesy

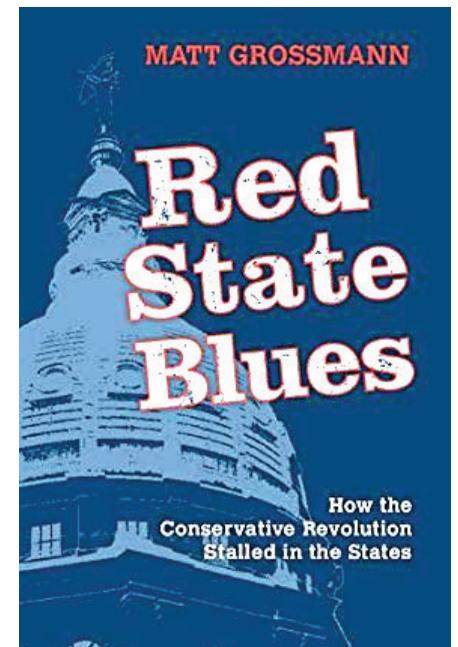
Grossman

to increased access to contraceptives and changing demographics. Grossman also contended that courts have restricted the ways that states can change abortion law.

When it comes to fighting Medicaid expansion, even though red states have unleashed their conservative agenda, 36 states have doubled the size of their largest program. He concluded that Republican-controlled state governments made a dramatic impact on individual health, but "has not fully disrupted the liberal direction of policy change nationwide."

Grossman also took discerning looks at the impact of the Koch Brothers, the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), the size of state government and income redistribution — which he argued may have been the Republicans greatest success.

"There has been no mass privatiza-



tion; state government employment has tripled in size from 1960-1992 and has kept steady since leveling off in 2002. ALEC, a conservative national legislative organization that focuses on enacting new or changing legacy state laws, has had successes such as 'stand-your-ground' laws and education reform that helped create a surge in charter schools, but their power may be diminishing," wrote Grossman.

Notable successes for "liberals," according to Grossman, are gay marriages, drug law liberalization and the passage of environmental policies. Recent correction reform in Oklahoma, not known as a liberal hotbed, provides proof that conservative agendas are becoming more liberal in some policy areas.

It's easy to nitpick Grossman's conclusions by applying anecdotal examples of changes made because of Republican control. However, the author prefer that readers focus on the larger, broad implications of policy. He's basically telling the reader to look at the "numbers" and not get stuck in the weeds.

It would be worth another book by Grossman to look at the longer-term implications of how the imbalance in governance has ceded electoral votes to conservatives, noting the plausible implications on state and federal courts including the U.S. Supreme Court.

The book will help liberals arm themselves with facts, even though anecdotal contortions are much more emotional.

SCHULER BOOKS

**SPEAKING FOR THE DYING
W/ SUSAN SHAPIRO**
November 13 • 7pm

Susan P. Shapiro is joining us to share her book, *Speaking for the Dying*. Her publications examine the role of law at life's end, ethics, agency theory, conflict of interest, the professions, securities fraud and regulation, and white-collar crime.

MR. ROGERS STORY TIME
November 16 • 11am

Hello Neighbor! It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood! Grab your sweater, your sneakers and join us in the Neighborhood of Make-Believe. We'll read about being a good neighbor and make a special craft!

**MAGIC/KEYFORGE
GAME NIGHT**
Tuesdays • 6pm

Play Magic or KeyForge in a casual, friendly environment. All Magic products are 20% off for those who attend the event.

KID'S STORY TIME
Saturdays • 11am

Jump into the pages of our favorite books! We will sing songs, make a craft and go on a new adventure.

SchulerBooks.com / Event
Meridian Mall • Okemos



25%
Off



Movie Books, Magazines and Cookbooks
Now through Tuesday

Exclusions: behind counter/under glass, signed & Limited Editions



Curious Book Shop

307 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
(517) 332-0112 • Mon.-Sat. 10-8, Sun. 12-5
We validate parking • curiousbooks.com

Archives Book Shop

519 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
(517) 332-8444 • Mon.-Sat. 11-6, Sun. 12-5
Free parking • thearchivesbookshop@gmail.com

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, November 6

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Beginning American Style Waltz - Group Dance Class. 7:15-8:05 p.m. The MAC, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Beginning Salsa Group Dance Class - 7:15-8:05 p.m. The MAC, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Independence Village of Grand Ledge Memory Matters Symposium - 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Eagle Eye Golf Club, 15500 Chandler, Bath.

Traditional Russian Cooking Class - 6-7:30 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

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

NaNoWriMo Writing Space (Adults) - 2-4 p.m. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 N. Aurelius Rd., Holt.

Rock n' Read Storytime - This storytime combines books, music and movement. 10:30-11 a.m. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett.

EVENTS

Allen Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. 1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911. alleneighborhoodcenter.org.

American Red Cross Blood Drive - 11 a.m.-5 p.m. MSU WKAR - Studio F, 283 Communication Arts and Sciences Building, East Lansing. 517-256-8414. redcrossblood.org.

Brain Injury Assoc. Capital Area Chapter Support Group - 6-8 p.m. Peckham Inc., 3510 Capital City Blvd., Lansing. 505-3340.

Charlie Booher @ Senior Discovery

Group - coffee and great conversation! 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E Kalamazoo St, Lansing. 517-367-2468.

Israeli Leaders Who Made Historic Decisions-What Inspired Them? - 7-8:30 p.m. Kellogg Center, 219 S Harrison Rd, East Lansing. 517-432-3493. events.msu.edu.

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

ARTS

East Lansing Film Festival - 4-11 p.m. Studio C!, 1999 Central Park Dr., Okemos. 517-381-8100. elff.com.

Lessie Jo Frazier Lecture - 7 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

MUSIC

Fleetwood Four Quartet at Allen Farmers Market - 5-6 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1629 East Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Suren Bagratuni, cello, with Camerata Michigan - 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. 517-355-1855.

Thursday, November 7

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Beginning East Coast Swing Dance Class - 7:15-8:05 p.m. The MAC, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Beginning East Coast Swing Dance Class - 7:15-8:05 p.m. The MAC, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

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

Conversational Spanish (Adults) - 10:30-11:30 a.m. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Rd., Okemos. cadl.org.

Culinary Medicine - 6-7 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

Strength & Balance (Adults) - 2:30-3:30 p.m. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Rd., Okemos. cadl.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Meet Author Dedria Humphries Barker (Adults) - 6-7 p.m. CADL South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. cadl.org.

PJ Storytime (Sensory Friendly) - 6:30-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014.

Thursday Book Group (Adults) - Call or stop in for titles. 1-2:30 p.m. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing.

EVENTS

Bath Township Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. Bath Community Center, 5959 Park Lake Rd, Bath. bathtownship.us.

Capital Area Audubon Society - 7-9 p.m. Michigan Nature Association, 2310 Science Parkway, Okemos. capitalareaaudubon.org.



11th annual JAMM tribute concert

The Jazz Alliance of Mid-Michigan will pay tribute to Mike Stratton for his 20-plus-year career cultivating Michigan's jazz scene.

Since 1997, Stratton has been the volunteer producer and host of WLNZ's

JAMM

Sunday, Nov. 10, 2-5 p.m. \$20 general admission, member \$15, UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner Road, Lansing (517) 331-8440

“Vinyl Side of Midnight,” a weekly radio special and one of the longest running jazz programs in Michigan. As a DJ he pays homage to the big cats such as Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk and Billie Holiday while opening audiences’ ears to current acts like Dianna Krall and Dave Douglas, according to Stratton’s website.

Stratton’s presence in the scene has extended past the airwaves and taken him to jazz festivals across Michigan as

an emcee. He’s addressed audiences at the Wharton Center for Performing Arts through several lectures over the years.

A local pioneer in communication arts, in 2014, Stratton led an informal series of museum tours at the Broad Art Museum, fusing jazz improvisation, dreams, creativity and healing as a basis for guiding guests through contemporary art exhibits.

The tribute show will include performances by Rodney Whitaker, Betty Joplin, Randy Gelispie, Jeff Shoup and other local hot shots Stratton interviewed on his radio show.

The JAMM Scholarship Band will be under the direction of Doug Fritch, which will share the line up with Jim Alfredson, Gene Rebeck, Sunny Wilkinson, Ron Newman, Betty Baxter, Jeff Kressler, and more. Student tickets available at the door for \$5. Advanced tickets can be found at jazzjamm.com.

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

Gift of Heart - Offering support for parents of foster and adopted children. 6-8 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

International Holiday Bake Sale - 11 a.m.-7 p.m. St Joseph Melite Catholic Church, 725 W. Mt Hope, Lansing. 517-303-6212.

MSU Libraries’ Therapy Dog Thursdays - Take a study break and “paws” to play with our therapy dog friends! 3-4:30 p.m. MSU Libraries, 366 West Circle Dr., East Lansing. 517-420-8593.

Social Hour at Michigrairain presented by Thought Club - Thought Club is a social club for queers. 6-9 p.m. Michigrairain Distillery, 523 E Shiawassee St, Lansing. 517-220-0560. thethoughtclub.com.

Tri-County Office on Aging 34th Annual Dinner and Auction - 6-8 p.m. Eagle Eye Banquet Center, 15500 Chandler Rd., Bath. tooa.org.

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

Veterans Recognition Ceremony - Honor those who have served our country. 9 a.m. State Capitol Rotunda, 100 N. Capitol, Lansing.

ARTS

Block Printing with Regina Pericini - Workshop. 6-8 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N Washington Sq, Ste 101, Lansing. 517-374-6400.

Crafternoon for Kids (Ages 6-12) - Register 517-676-9088 or cadl.org/events 4:30-5:30 p.m. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash St., Mason.

Crafting with a Cause - 4-5:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014.

East Lansing Film Festival - 4-11 p.m. Studio C!, 1999 Central Park Dr., Okemos. 517-381-8100.

Intro to Clay on the Pottery Wheel - 6:30-8 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

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

See Out on the town, Page 24

FRIDAY, NOV. 8 >> MICHIGAN MADE | HOLIDAY EXHIBITIONS



Seasonal depression? Nah. Ring in the new season with local makers and their fine art ranging from small gifts to jewelry, leather goods, sculpture, pottery, ornaments and more. Light refreshments will be available while you shop

5-8 p.m.
Lansing Art Gallery and Education Center
119 N. Washington Square, Ste 101
(517) 374-6400
lansingartgallery.org

FRIDAY, NOV. 8 >> HOLIDAY STEAM MARKET AT IMPRESSION 5 SCIENCE CENTER



Explore hands-on STEM-focused gifts, toys, books, kits, and more. There will be onsite demonstrations of products and to help you decide the perfect holiday gifts for the little scientist in your life. This is a 21+ event, light refreshments will be available.

6-9 p.m., Free, 21+
200 Museum Drive, Lansing
impression5.org
(517) 485-8116

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Nothing Is As It Seems" -- themeless this time.

by Matt Jones

Across

- 1 They may be moved higher to prevent stealing
- 11 Green beans, e.g.
- 15 Line from a permissive judge
- 16 Moving feature of a Jurassic Park pinball machine
- 17 Skype predecessor
- 18 Onetime "Fashion Emergency" host
- 19 Pandora releases
- 20 Like notation in some high school classes
- 22 Make equal
- 23 "Grand Ole Opry Live" channel, once
- 25 Filing material?
- 26 Manuscript enclosure, for short
- 28 Trickster god of African folklore
- 30 "George of the Jungle" creature
- 33 Yielded under pressure
- 35 Lucky Charms bit
- 37 World's oldest active endurance car race
- 41 Saffron-and-rice dish
- 42 Concert add-on?
- 43 Patient observers, for short
- 44 Daughter of Cyrus and mother of Xerxes (hidden in LOS GATOS-SARATOGA)
- 46 Meal prep boxes
- 50 Kristen of the upcoming "Wonder Woman 1984"
- 51 X-___ large
- 53 Dance-drama of Japan
- 54 Bars and clubs, say

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	14
15											16			
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41							42							
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54	55	56					57			58	59			
60						61				62				
63						64								
65						66								

- 58 Czech Republic capital, to locals
- 60 "Largo al factotum," e.g.
- 61 Too steep
- 63 Phrase
- 64 Like a field for horses, perhaps?
- 65 City that hosted the Winter Olympics 8 days after Elizabeth II took the throne
- 66 Sextant forerunners
- Down**
- 1 Musk-making mammals
- 2 Rachel's "The Favorite" costar
- 3 Radio staples
- 4 "When the Lights Go Down" critic Pauline
- 5 "___ on Jeopardy" ("Weird Al" Yankovic parody)
- 6 '70s prog rock supergroup, for short
- 7 Astronomer Kepler
- 8 Deserter status
- 9 Greet (the new year)
- 10 Stays away
- 11 Rigid
- 12 "Harry Potter" librarian ___ Pince
- 13 "...chame la Culpa" singer Lovato
- 14 Boardroom fixture?
- 21 Basement fixture
- 24 Athlete who once said "Labels are for filing. Labels are for clothing. Labels are not for people."
- 27 Green New Deal concern, for short
- 29 "___ Life" (Peter Mayle book)
- 30 "13th" documentarian DuVernay
- 31 Cross product
- 32 Unsure syllables
- 34 Cafe designation
- 36 Stop on the Trans-Siberian Railway
- 37 1400, for legionnaires?
- 38 Record label for acts like Cocteau Twins and Bon Iver (and a year in the reign of Emperor Augustus)
- 39 "___ a real nowhere man"
- 40 Nurturing sort
- 45 Gothic arches
- 47 Riding with the meter running
- 48 "I've had it up ___!"
- 49 "___ back, tell a friend" (Eminem lyric)
- 50 Company that makes the Slip 'N Slide and Frisbee
- 52 Earth Day setting
- 54 Its HQ is in Brussels
- 55 Mad moods
- 56 Word in a series of Larsson titles
- 57 Boba not found in tea
- 59 First Atlantic hurricane "R" name to be used twice
- 62 Con con

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Answers Page 24

SUDOKU

Beginner

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

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 24

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

November 6-12, 2019

ARIES (March 21–April 19): Aries psychologist James Hillman said we keep "our images and fantasies at arm's length because they are so full of love." They're also quite flammable, he added. They are always on the verge of catching fire, metaphorically speaking. That's why many people wrap their love-filled images and fantasies in metaphorical asbestos: to prevent them from igniting a blaze in their psyches. In my astrological opinion, you Aries folks always have a mandate to use less asbestos than all the other signs—even none at all. That's even truer than usual right now. Keep your images and fantasies extra close and raw and wild.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Poet James Merrill was ecstatic when he learned the Greek language. According to his biographer, he felt he could articulate his needs "with more force and clarity, with greater simplicity and less self-consciousness, than he ever could in his own language." He concluded, "Freedom to be oneself is all very well; the greater freedom is not to be oneself." Personally, I think that's an exaggeration. I believe the freedom to be yourself is very, very important. But for you in the coming weeks, Taurus, the freedom to not be yourself could indeed be quite liberating. What might you do to stretch your capacities beyond what you've assumed is true about you? Are you willing to rebel against and transcend your previous self-conceptions?

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): Musician Brian Eno made a deck of oracular cards called Oblique Strategies. Each card has a suggestion designed to trigger creative thinking about a project or process you're working on. You Geminis might find it useful to call on Oblique Strategies right now, since you're navigating your way through a phase of adjustment and rearrangement. The card I drew for you is "Honor thy error as hidden intention." Here's how I interpret it: An apparent lapse or misstep will actually be the result of your deeper mind guiding you to take a fruitful detour.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): We devote a lot of energy to wishing and hoping about the meaningful joys we'd love to bring into our lives. And yet few of us have been trained in the best strategies for manifesting our wishes and hopes. That's the bad news. The good news is that now is a favorable time for you to upgrade your skills at getting what you want. With that in mind, I present you with the simple but potent wisdom of author Maya Angelou: "Ask for what you want and be prepared to get it." To flesh that out, I'll add: Formulate a precise statement describing your heart's yearning, and then work hard to make yourself ready for its fulfillment.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): What are the key parts of your life—the sources and influences that enable you to be your most soulful self? I urge you to nourish them intensely during the next three weeks. Next question: What are the marginally important parts of your life—the activities and proclivities that aren't essential for your long-term success and happiness? I urge you to corral all the energy you give to those marginally important things, and instead pour it into what's most important. Now is a crucial time in the evolution of your relationship with your primal fuels, your indispensable resources, your sustaining foundations.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): "When she spoke of beauty, he spoke of the fatty tissue supporting the epidermis," wrote short story author Robert Musil. He was describing a conversation between a man and woman who were on different wavelengths. "When she mentioned love," Musil continued, "he responded with the statistical curve that indicates the rise and fall in the annual birthrate." Many of you Virgos have the flexibility to express yourself well on both of those wavelengths. But in the coming months, I hope you'll emphasize the beauty and love wavelength rather than the fatty tissue and statistical curve wavelength. It'll be an excellent strategy for getting the healing you need.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): Libran blogger Ana-

Sofia Cardelle was asked, "What is your signature perfume?" She said she hadn't found one. But then she described how she would like to smell: "somewhere between fresh and earthy: cinnamon and honey, a rose garden, saltwater baked in the sun." The coming days will be an excellent time to indulge in your own fantasies about the special fragrance you'd like to emanate. Moreover, I bet you'll be energized by pinpointing a host of qualities you would like to serve as cornerstones of your identity: traits that embody and express your uniqueness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): Studies suggest that on average each of us has a social network of about 250 people, of whom 120 we regard as a closer group of friendly acquaintances. But most of us have no more than twenty folks we trust, and only two or three whom we regard as confidants. I suspect that these numbers will be in flux for you during the next twelve months, Scorpio. I bet you'll make more new friends than usual, and will also expand your inner circle. On the other hand, I expect that some people who are now in your sphere will depart. Net result: stronger alliances and more collaboration.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): I blame and thank the Sagittarian part of me when I get brave and brazen enough to follow my strongest emotions where they want to lead me. I also blame and thank the Sagittarian part of me when I strip off my defense mechanisms and invite the world to regard my vulnerabilities as interesting and beautiful. I furthermore blame and thank the Sagittarian side of me on those occasions when I run three miles down the beach at dawn, hoping to thereby jolt loose the secrets I've been concealing from myself. I suspect the coming weeks will be a favorable time to blame and thank the Sagittarian part of you for similar experiences.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): Persian polymath Avicenna (980–1037) wrote 450 books on many topics, including medicine, philosophy, astronomy, geography, mathematics, theology, and poetry. While young, he tried to study the "Metaphysics" of Aristotle, but had difficulty grasping it. Forty times he read the text, even committing it to memory. But he made little progress toward fathoming it. Years later, he was browsing at an outdoor market and found a brief, cheap book about the "Metaphysics" by an author named al-Farabi. He read it quickly, and for the first time understood Aristotle's great work. He was so delighted he went out to the streets and gave away gifts to poor people. I foresee a comparable milestone for you, Capricorn: something that has eluded your comprehension will become clear, at least in part due to a lucky accident.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): In addition to being a key figure in Renaissance art, fifteenth-century Italian painter Filippo Lippi had a colorful life. According to legend, he was once held prisoner by Barbary pirates, but gained his freedom by drawing a riveting portrait of their leader. Inspired by the astrological factors affecting you right now, I'm fantasizing about the possibility of a liberating event arriving in your life. Maybe you'll call on one of your skills in a dramatic way, thereby enhancing your leeway or generating a breakthrough or unleashing an opportunity. (Please also re-read your horoscope from last week.)

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): "Stand high long enough and your lightning will come," writes Piscean novelist William Gibson. He isn't suggesting that we literally stand on top of a treeless hill in a thunderstorm and invite the lightning to shoot down through us. More realistically, I think he means that we should devotedly cultivate and discipline our highest forms of expression so that when inspiration finds us, we'll be primed to receive and use its full power. That's an excellent oracle for you.

TURN IT DOWN!

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

Sun. Nov. 10

Sat. Nov. 9

THE LANSING COLLECTABLE TOY COMIC AND RECORD SHOW RETURNS

PLANET D NONET AT URBANBEAT



The Lansing Collectable Toy Comic and Record Show returns Sunday to Okemos. It offers up everything from vintage toys to Beatles albums.



Tesco Vee (right), the co-organizer of Lansing's toy show, chats with a fan and toy-show attendee. Vee is best known as the lead vocalist of The Meatmen.



Detroit's own Planet D Nonet brings its fiery old-school jazz to UrbanBeat in Old Town on Saturday.

'Pop culture explosion' heads back to Okemos Conference Center

Sunday, Nov. 10 @ Okemos Conference Center, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos. FREE, all ages, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Hosted by Tesco's Toys, an imprint owned by Lansing-punk legend Tesco Vee, The Lansing Collectable Toy Comic and Record Show spans 117 tables filled with retro goodies. The event is stacked with plenty of pop-culture collectibles from the '50s to now. Enthusiasts of old-school toys, television, music, movies, posters and comics, may want to check out the sale, which covers two floors of the Okemos Conference Center.

Now in its fourth installment, the free, all-ages event typically ushers in more than 1,200 fans from across the region. As for the sellers, they span far beyond Mid-Michigan.

"We will have new dealers at this show," said Vee, best known as the lead vocalist of The Meatmen, the legendary Lansing punk band. "These sellers are from all over the place — Michigan, Indiana, Ohio and Illinois. We sold out of vendor tables again. On

top of that, Blue Owl Coffee will be slinging the joe and we'll have a donation box for Punks With Lunch, which benefits Lansing's homeless population — they accept gloves, scarves, hats, toiletries and snack items."

As for Vee, at this show, he said his table will be stocked with "lots of vintage monster toys this time, along with tons of records and much more."

Beyond selling, Vee said this re-occurring shindig is the perfect meeting place for like-minded folks, who all enjoy hunting for obscure gems.

"Mostly, I look forward to getting together with all my fellow toy geeks," he said. "They all buy, sell and trade. People can bring anything they would like to sell. Dealers love buying at this show, as well."

To keep up to date, follow Tesco Vee at facebook.com/TescosToys.

PD9 brings throwback jazz to Old Town venue

Saturday, Nov. 9 @ 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 18+, \$15, \$10 adv., 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Specializing in swing, jump and hot jazz, Planet D Nonet (PD9) is Detroit's own down-and-dirty little big band, known nationally for breathing new life into some of the best in early jazz traditions and musical influences of the '20s, '30s and '40s.

Entertainment writer Brian McCollum of the Detroit Free Press called Planet D Nonet "one of Detroit's great party bands," with a "sweeping field of vision." Catch that throwback vision Saturday, when the PD9 plays UrbanBeat in Old Town. A cash bar and food will be available.

Since 2007, the band's slick vintage style has paid tribute to the groundbreaking days of Louis Armstrong, Fats Waller and Louis Jordan. Aside from also playing plenty of New Orleans classics, past Planet D Nonet

shows have delved back to Duke Ellington's time at the Cotton Club in New York and the proto-R&B sounds of Buddy & Ella Johnson.

PD9 cofounder and bandleader RJ Spangler, who started the nine-piece ensemble with longtime musical partner James O'Donnell (trumpet), released the group's latest album back in March, "Kings of Kansas City Swing: Bennie Moten & Count Basie on Eastlawn Records." The 10-track disc is available on the PD9's Bandcamp page and includes spirited takes of "Kater Street Rag," "Good Morning Blues" and "Lotus Blossom (Sweet Marijuana)."

To sample some PD9 tunes, visit planetdnonet.bandcamp.com. Tickets to the show are available at urbanbeatevents.com.



Upcoming show? Contact Suzi@lansingcitypulse.com

DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Trivia Night: American Horror Story 10PM	GTG Records Free 8PM	Millenium Karaoke 9PM	Dark Arts Presents 9PM
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.				The New Rule 9PM
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River, East Lansing	North of Five 8PM	Karaoke 9PM	Karaoke 9PM	Karaoke 9PM
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.		Old School Thursdays w/Jalese 8:30PM		
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.		Karaoke 8:30PM	DJ E-Nyce & DJ Crazy Caz 9PM	Frog & the Beeftones 9PM
Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee	Trivia with Sporcle 9PM		Live Music with Larry McCray 8PM	Live Music with Ma Puckett 8PM
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.		Mac Powell & The Family Reunion 7:30PM	Black Out or Get Out 8PM	
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	America Part Two 5PM		Drip Fest Reloaded 8PM	Bars of Gold 7PM
Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave.	Smomid 8PM		Power Moves 7PM	
Unicorn, 327 Cesar E. Chavez, Lansing			Live Music with Stan Budzynski, 3rd Degree 9PM	Live Music with Time 2 Play 9PM
Urban Beat, 1213 Turner	Suits and the City 5:30PM	Jack Brandfield's Four Spartans 7PM		Planet D Nonet 7PM
VFW Post 701, 123 N. Rosemary St.			The New Rule 8PM	

From Page 21

MUSIC

Imani Winds: Entrepreneurial Musical Artist in Residence - 4:30 p.m. MSU Community Music School Recital Hall, East Lansing.

Percussion Ensemble - 7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

Friday, November 8

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Body Science - 10 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Continuing Meditation - 2:30-3:30 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd. East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

MSU Libraries' Special Collections Friday Pop-Up - Display of rare, unusual, and historical titles! 12-2 p.m. MSU Libraries, 366 West Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-420-8593.

EVENTS

American Red Cross Blood Drive - 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. St. John Catholic Church & Student Center, 1800 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-256-8414. redcrossblood.org.

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

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

Howl at the Moon: Guided Night Walk - Dogs welcome. 7-8 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

International Holiday Bake Sale - 11 a.m.-7 p.m. St Joseph Melite Catholic Church, 725 W. Mt Hope, Lansing. 517-303-6212.

Park Lake Creamery Fall Festival and Market - First annual Fall Festival & Market over 3 days. 12-7 p.m. 6320 Park Lake Rd, Bath. 517-657-4400. parklakecreamery.com.

Refuge Recovery Lansing - 7:30-8:30 p.m. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing.

ARTS

The Broadcast Exhibition Opening Preview - 6-8 p.m. Broad Art Lab, 565 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare - 8-10:30 p.m. Arena Theatre at MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Rd., East Lansing. 517-355-6690.

MUSIC

Jazz Octets - MSU Jazz. 8 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. 517-355-1855. music.msu.edu.

Saturday, November 9

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Body Science - 11 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

Taste of Blacksmithing - Have you always wanted to try it? 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Lansing Makers Network, 2400 W.St.Joseph St., Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Sing, Dance, and Move Storytime - 3:30-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014.

EVENTS

2019 Fall Family History Event Featuring Diahn Southard - 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Michigan Historical Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Bath American Legion Auxiliary Craft Show - 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Bath American Legion, 5480 Clark Rd, Bath.

Color Quest - Secrets Lives of Michigan Objects. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Michigan History Center, 702 W Kalamazoo St, Lansing.

Environmental Stewardship Work Day - Volunteer for natural area work days. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

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

Meridian Mall 50th Anniversary Celebration & Santa Arrival - 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Meridian Mall, Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridianmall.com.

Park Lake Creamery Fall Festival and Market - 12-7 p.m. 6320 Park Lake Rd, Bath. 517-657-4400. parklakecreamery.com.

Second Saturday Supper - 5-6 p.m. May-flower Congregational Church, 2901 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing. 517-484-3139. mayflowerchurch.com.

Women's Health Experience - Annual event. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. ALIVE, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte. myalive.com.

ARTS

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

Nia & Ness at Women in the Arts Festival - 6-7 p.m. Edgewood United Church, 469 Hagadorn Rd, East Lansing. 517-449-8767. witafestival.com.

Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare - 8-10:30 p.m. Arena Theatre at MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Rd., East Lansing. 517-355-6690.

Sunday, November 10

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Azteca Danza - All ages are welcome. 6-8 p.m. Casa de Rosado, 204 E Mt Hope Ave, Lansing. 517-402-0282.

Juggling - Learn how to juggle! 2-4 p.m. Orchard

Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing.

EVENTS

Celebrate Michigan's First Year of Legal Cannabis Dinner and Dance - 6-9 p.m. Radisson Hotel, 111 N. Grand Ave, Lansing.

Lansing Model Train Show and Sale - Over 500 tables. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. MSU Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, East Lansing. lmrc.org.

Park Lake Creamery Fall Festival and Market - 12-7 p.m. 6320 Park Lake Rd., Bath. 517-657-4400. parklakecreamery.com.

ARTS

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

Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare - T 2-4:30 p.m. Arena Theatre at MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Rd., East Lansing. 517-355-6690.

Watch + Make - 2:30-3 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-884-4800.

MUSIC

Deacon Earl - 4-6 p.m. Ellison Brewery + Spirits, 4903 Dawn Ave, East Lansing.

Melanie Helton, soprano, and Derek Polischuk, piano - 3 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

Stephen Page, saxophone - 7 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

Monday, November 11

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Beginning West Coast Swing Dance Class - 7:15-8:05 p.m. The MAC, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

EVENTS

Lansing Veterans Day Tribute - 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Thomas M. Cooley Law School, 300 S Capitol Ave, Lansing.

Pet Photos with Santa - 6-9 p.m. Meridian Mall, Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridianmall.com

Refuge Recovery Lansing - 6-7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing.

Veterans Day Free Admission - All Military and Their Families. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

ARTS

Drawing Foundations - With Christopher

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

MUSIC

The Freshman Tour Pop Up & Concert - 2-9 p.m. MSU Union Building, Ballroom 2nd Floor, 49 Abbot Dr., East Lansing. freshmantour.com.

Tuesday, November 12

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Beginning Cha Cha Dance Class - 8:15-9:05 p.m. The MAC, 2900 Hannah Blvd, East Lansing. 517-364-8888.

Continuing Italian Conversation - 1-2 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

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

ESOL Discussion Group for Kids (Grade 3 & up) - 4-5:30 p.m. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Rd., Okemos.

EVENTS

Capital Area Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Support Group - 6:30-8:30 p.m. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Rd. 231-403-1395.

Depression & Bipolar Support Alliance Support Groups - 7-8:30 p.m. Sparrow Professional Bldg. 2nd Floor, Room 1-A, 1200 Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-643-7671.

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

Yawn Patrol Toastmasters - 7-8:30 a.m. Two Men and Truck Corporate, 3400 Belle Chase Way, Lansing. 517-214-3327. yawnpatrol.com.

ARTS

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

MSU Libraries' Knit In Tuesdays - All materials and assistance are provided. 12-1 p.m. MSU Libraries, 366 West Circle Dr., East Lansing. 517-420-8593.

Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare - 7:30-10 p.m. Arena Theatre at MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Rd., East Lansing. 517-355-6690.

MUSIC

Richard Sherman, flute, and Ralph Votapek, piano - 7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, 333 W Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.

SATURDAY, NOV. 9 >> ADOPTION EVENT WITH INGHAM COUNTY AT SOLDAN'S PET SUPPLIES



Numerous dogs, cats and kittens will be available for adoption and ready to meet their new human companions. Visit the felines in the Kitty Kingdom and Kitty Highrise. Dogs can be taken outside in one of the three fenced in areas. Apply to volunteer at ac.ingham.org/Volunteer.aspx

Noon to 4 p.m.
1802 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos
(517) 349-8435
ac.ingham.org/Adoptions.aspx

CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 22

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SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 22

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

FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

The best wine for Thanksgiving? Just drink what you like

BY JUSTIN KING

Thanksgiving dinner means different things depending on what room you're in.

Chances are good that there's a "kids table," no matter the location.

Sure, there are some American traditional plates and preparations involving turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberries, pumpkin pie ... you get the idea. But you do you, boo.

Searching for the proper Thanksgiving wine seems pointless. We all know you'll be forcing 3-4 pounds of food into your body, rendering your motor skills minimal and sense of alertness completely ineffective. Embrace the mess.

Drink what you like to drink. It's as simple as that. But if you want to find some hints of flavor balance, refreshment, and just really good wine at a decent price — I have some ideas.

The 2016 Ancient Peaks cabernet sauvignon (\$20) is a brilliant selection for all chaotic family meals. Depth of red fruits seems obvious here, but this wine is not some jammy mess. It's a great pick for anyone's everyday red wine, if you prefer California wine. This comes from Paso Robles, California — a region roughly halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

The Ancient Peaks should work extremely well with any large meal heavy in meat or other hearty, rich foods.

People love to constantly pair pinot noir or gamay with turkey, which makes complete sense. These are lighter red wines and turkey is a lean bird. But don't sleep on Cotes-du-Rhone rouge.

If Cotes-du-Rhone is on the label of a bottle (Cotes-du-Rhone is made as either red wine, white or rosé) that means it comes from the Rhone river valley, mostly near the city of Avignon. These wines are usually blends.

The 2017 J.L. Chave "Mon Coeur" Cotes-du-Rhone is arguably the best



Justin King/City Pulse

Wine from the Alsace region of France may be perfect for Thanksgiving.

"CDR" blend I've had this year. It's about half-and-half grenache and syrah. Don't expect to spend more than \$20 on this. It's surprising graceful for wines at this price point. Rhone wines are often noted for their higher alcohol levels, red pepper/anise spiciness, and funky and earthy aromas.

While "Mon Coeur" alludes to all of these obvious reference points, it's a well-made wine first and foremost — full-bodied, slightly earthy and spicy, savory, but no messy flaws that can plague these kinds of wines.

It's not as tannic and fruit-driven as that Ancient Peaks cabernet sauvignon (nor most California cabernets), so if you're trying to find a crowd pleaser for both the worldly curious and the full-on big red wine lovers, this is an affordable path.

Going north from Rhone, there are some fantastic turkey-pairing options in the form of white wine. Alsace is generally not the most obvious wine region of France.

Alsace is a region of both French and German influence, located in the northeast of France, with many key vineyards a few minutes drive from the German border.

From time to time, in random talk in a wine shop, you may hear the term "noble grape." For clarification, a noble grape variety is one that reflects the best and location-specific styles of wine from that region. This is not an official term for all governing wine regulatory bodies, but rather a cultural touchstone and shortcut for explaining a — often

French — wine region's specialties.

There are four "noble" grapes of Alsace: riesling, pinot gris, muscat and gewurztraminer. Alsace is unique as a French region, in that it tends to put the grape variety most obviously on the bottle, instead of its place of origin. Which means that most wines are single varietal bottlings.

There are some exceptions, and many of them are Gentil bottlings. If a wine bottle says Gentil on it that means that at least half of the wine is from those four noble grape varieties, with the difference coming from sylvaner, chasselas and pinot blanc.

The skinny on this white blend: it is dry, crisp, but with a lot of green apples, nectarines, lemon pith. It's begging for light meats and seafood. And it's so damn cheap. If you put this in front of any (non-oaky chardonnay) white wine drinker, this should make them happy — even if the Lions aren't helping you on turkey day.

Justin King is an Advanced Sommelier through the Court of Master Sommeliers, and owner of Bridge Street Social, a wine and cocktails-focused restaurant in DeWitt, and Bar Mitena, a Spanish wine bar opening soon on Lansing's Eastside.

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(517) 349-5150
- 2. Bridge Street Social**
107 S. Bridge St., Dewitt • bridgestreetsocial.com
(517) 668-1837
- 3. Capital Prime**
2324 Showtime Dr., Lansing • capitalprimelansing.com
(517) 377-7463
- 4. Beggar's Banquet**
218 Abbot Rd., East Lansing • beggarsbanquet.com
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BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

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