

Nov. 27 - Dec. 3, 2019

FREE

# CityPULSE

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Locally owned • A newspaper for the rest of us

## 2019 Holiday Gift & Event Guide

See page 12

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

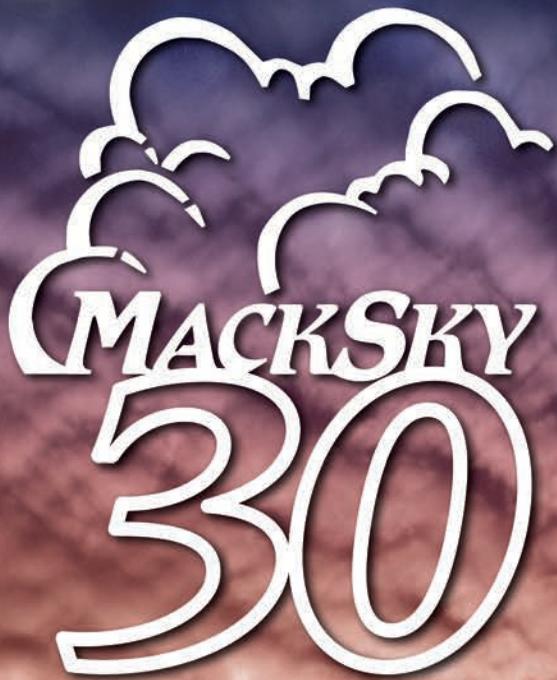
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LAW FIRM 1956

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**OUR LAST HOLIDAY SEASON and**

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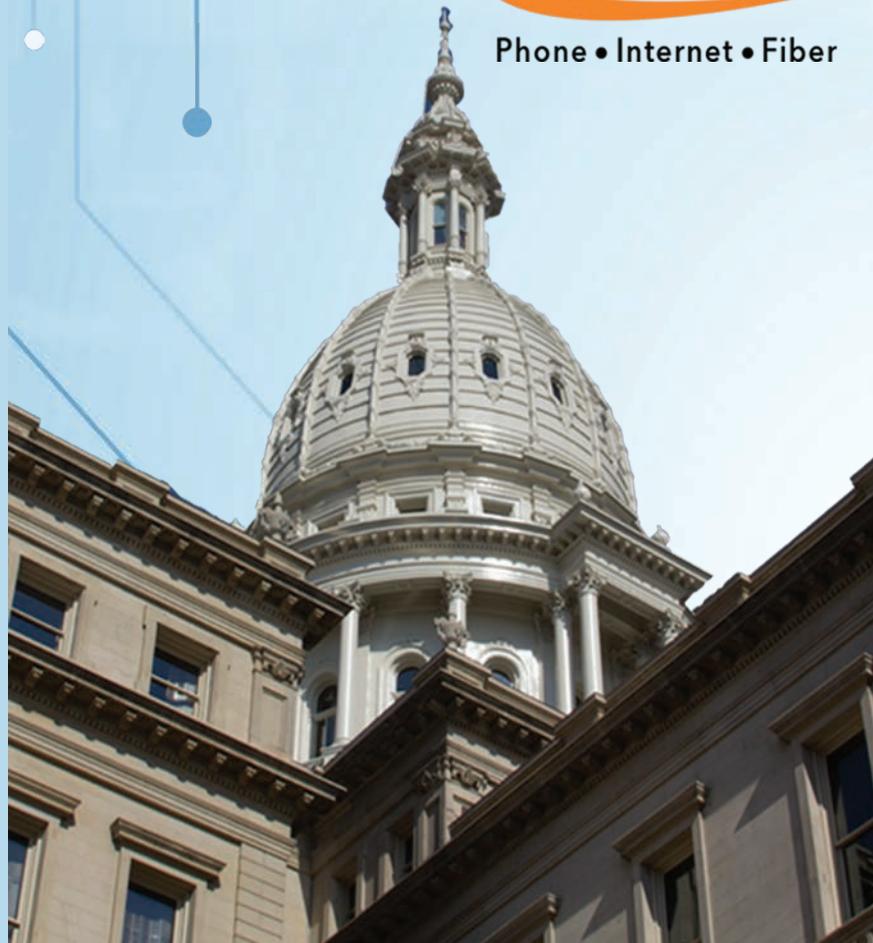
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2019

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# CityPULSE

**IMPEACHMENT RIDDLES**

If a president commits crimes, but 42% of the country doesn't believe it, did the crimes really happen?

I REJECT THE NOTION OF ANY A PRIORI REALITY THAT DOES NOT INVOLVE LIBS BEING OWNED.

How many testimonies does it take to confirm what we already know to be true?

HE DID IT. HE DID IT. HE DID IT.

I'M... NOT... SURE!

When the nation's top law enforcement officer doesn't follow laws, does the law exist?

I AM THE LAW!

If war criminals are now heroes, does that make impeachment an honor?

I DID IT AND IT WAS PERFECT. GOD BLESS AMERICA!

SORENSEN

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# CityPULSE

**VOL. 19  
ISSUE 16**

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



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Williamston Theatre brings six plays to life



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Wellness abounds at new East Lansing shop



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Queers Who Brunch will celebrate local ingredients



**Cover Art**

By Skyler Ashley

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SUNDAYS** on

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88.9FM

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**Wealthy Democrats Getting Worried**  
MY GOD, THIS PRIMARY IS GOING COMPLETELY OFF THE RAILS!

IF WARREN OR SANDERS BECOME PRESIDENT, WE'LL BE DESTITUTE!  
OR, AT LEAST, SLIGHTLY LESS RICH!

**WHERE IS THE CANDIDATE WHO CAN RALLY SUPPORT AND PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF OUR NATION'S MOST VULNERABLE MINORITY--**

--THE TOP ONE PERCENT?

**AT LEAST THERE'S A SMALL RAY OF HOPE, NOW THAT MICHAEL BLOOMBERG HAS OFFICIALLY ENTERED THE RACE!**

WE NEED SOMEBODY WHO UNDERSTANDS THE VALUE OF A DOLLAR!  
OR, MORE TO THE POINT, A BILLION OF THEM!

**I THOUGHT WE HAD OUR ANSWER WITH HOWARD SCHULTZ! I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT WENT WRONG THERE!**

IT MAKES NO SENSE! HIS COFFEE SHOPS ARE EXTREMELY POPULAR!

**THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO FIND A CANDIDATE WHO ISN'T FIXATED ON UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE AND FREE COLLEGE! REAL AMERICANS DON'T CARE ABOUT ANY OF THAT!**

REAL AMERICANS WORRY ABOUT TOP MARGINAL TAX RATES!

**I DON'T KNOW WHY THIS IS SO HARD FOR THE RANK-AND-FILE TO COMPREHEND.**

IT'S LIKE THEY WANT FOUR MORE YEARS OF TRUMP.  
WHICH WOULDN'T REALLY BE SO BAD.

AT LEAST, NOT FOR US.

TOM TOMORROW © 2019

# PULSE

# NEWS & OPINION

## Pondering public pool preservation

**\$1.24 million needed to keep pool afloat in Moores Park**

The future of one of the longest continuously operating public pools in the nation remains uncertain as city officials grapple with a \$1.2 million repair bill and the possibility of summertime heartbreak across Lansing.

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor announced last week he would consider “just about everything” to keep the 97-year-old Moores Park Pool open for another season. But with thousands of gallons leaking out every summer, pipes rusting and concrete cracking — and the possibility that the pool’s chlorinated water is seeping into the Grand River — its continued operation remains in jeopardy without some cash to fix it, he said.

“It’s time for us to address the problems with this pool rather than putting \$100,000 every year into Band-Aids, which aren’t working because it’s still leaking,” Schor said.

Schor said the whole job does not need to be done in one year, “but I need to fund some of the fixes.”

Schor and a few City Council members — with only so much cash to spread across more than 100 different parks — are hesitant to float the repair costs in their entirety. The city has since turned to the local philanthropic community to churn up suggestions. And it doesn’t look like the pool will sink without a fight.

“There’s always a big price tag with anything of architectural and historical significance, said Bill Castanier, president of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing. (Castanier is an editorial contributor to City Pulse.)

“The question this city really needs to answer is whether this is worth saving and whether we’d all be willing to put in some blood, sweat and tears in order to save the pool.”

Castanier said the Historical Society and Preservation Lansing are eyeing early plans to launch a joint fundraising campaign. Donations could flow from local businesses, developers and the more passionate neighborhood res-



Skyler Ashley/City Pulse

Dale Schrader (left) and Bill Castanier (right) are considering a joint fundraising effort to help fund the fixes.

idents.

“There’s a track record in Lansing of public and private partnerships, and I could certainly see this happening for the pool,” Castanier added. “This is important and could be part of our legacy for the next generation. We don’t often get the chance to look at something this significant and have an ability to do something about it.”

“This could find some broad support in the city,” added Preservation Lansing President Dale Schrader. “It’s unique, but it’s more than just a mere relic of our past. The community still uses this space. It makes our city more livable. It attracts tourists. It’s really something for Lansing to be proud of. We can’t afford to lose it.”

The egg-shaped public pool along Moores River Drive was built. Designed by former city engineer Wesley Bintz, the pool is believed to be one of only five of its design that have survived beyond the first half of the 20th century. Only a few still operate today.

But while the iconic pools, with their concrete archways and unique, above-ground design, serve a certain historical significance to the community, they can also be notoriously difficult (and

expensive) to maintain.

The city pays about \$100,000 annually to keep the pool open, but a recent Park Department report shows the cost of decades of neglected maintenance. Rusted piping needs to be replaced. Discharge valves spill directly into the Grand River and need to be rerouted. The concrete interior is forming several cracks.

The cost for the “needed” repairs rests at \$1.24 million — with room to grow.

Also, Schor said the pool — for unknown reasons — loses 8-10 inches of water daily. And given its proximity to the riverfront, the chlorinated pollution may be finding its way into the Grand River. That’ll need to be fix No. 1, Schor said.

“I don’t know how much it costs to continually refill, but between that and the damage that is done to the river and environment through leakage, it’s a big problem,” Schor added. “I didn’t know about the unknown drainage until the season was underway. Either way, it’s in really bad shape and this needs to be addressed.”

See Pool, Page 6

## SORE OF THE WEEK



**805 N. Seymour Ave., Lansing**  
Owner: Kevin Schoen

The massive brick house that has commanded the northwest corner of Seymour Avenue and Madison Street for 110 years is finally getting a makeover, according to its owner, Kevin Schoen.

Schoen, the CEO of internet provider ACD.net, bought the house at 805 N. Seymour in 2014 at a bank auction for \$20,500. He plans to convert the house into apartments.

Since Schoen bought the house five years ago, frustrated neighbors have watched the 1909 edifice slide downhill fast. The stately porches, held up by Ionic columns, appear on the verge of collapse, with yellow tape around the east porch. The main floor windows are boarded. Several upstairs windows are gone but not boarded up, leaving the interior vulnerable to the elements.

Dale Schrader, who lives near the house, is angry that Schoen has waited so long to restore it while it continues to deteriorate. Schrader is president of Preservation Lansing and has rehabbed several houses in the area.

His preservation instincts inflame every time he looks at the house.

“I drive by it every day and I can’t believe there are windows open, with rain and birds flying in,” he said. “Five years and very little progress is way too long. He should at least seal those windows off and

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](mailto:eye@lansingcitypulse.com) or call it in at 517-999-6715.

## Pool

from page 5

Castanier recognizes the funding challenge but plans to resist the possibility of closure by any means necessary.

“I’ve informally polled my board, and it sounds like we’re interested in getting behind an effort to help save it, whether that means private or public fundraising or something else altogether,” Castanier added. “This goes well beyond the city’s resources, but 50 years from now, if we allow it to disappear, we’ll regret that decision.”

The conversation surrounding the future of the Moores Park Pool — one of three city pools — is a familiar one: \$1.2 million could spruce up a lot of playgrounds in a lot of different parks. How much cash can the city justify pouring into one facility that only operates 10 weeks out of the year?

“We have other parks and equipment that need our attention and I just don’t see how we can justify spending all of this money on one pool,” explained Councilwoman Jody Washington. “I just don’t think it’s feasible. It saddens me. It really does, but I just don’t see what else can be done without some other revenue coming in.”

Lansing’s parks millage brings in about \$2.1 million annually, but last year about \$600,000 was used to subsidize the city’s cemeteries and Groesbeck Golf Course. Annual main-

tenance and other pet projects (like wireless Internet installation) usually only leave room for a few additional improvements each year.

And the City Council has to be mindful of the entire city — not just the nostalgic end of Moores River Drive.

“\$1.2 million is a lot of money,” said City Council Vice President Peter Spadafore. “It’s over half of our parks millage. Spending that on one project means numerous projects across the rest of the city will be neglected. I’m all ears for ways to try and save the pool, and I think the city should have some skin in the game, but I’m hoping the philanthropic and business communities are willing to come to the table and keep this local asset afloat.”

Schor is weighing alternative uses for the pool in the event of its closure, but noted demolition is not an option.

Bintz pools have been closing across the country for decades. The city of Weirton, West Virginia — faced with more than \$1 million in repair costs of its own — was forced to shutter its pool in 2007. Today, it’s nothing but a makeshift storage facility awaiting demolition. Officials there blamed unsurmountable costs for its demise.

“We’re thinking about maintaining the front part or an archway to preserve some of the original structure,” said Weirton Parks and Recreation Director Coty Shingle. “We’ve talked about opening up some type of skating rink. I think people realized this was a bit of a pipe dream. The easiest thing

now would be to knock it down.”

The city of Tampa, Florida, offered one of only a few — albeit expensive — success stories after it reopened its Bintz pool in 2016 at a cost of more than \$3.2 million. Leaks forced city officials to close the pool in 2009, and neighborhood residents rallied for five years to raise cash before the city allocated its own resources to the effort.

“I recognize the nostalgia,” added Councilwoman Patricia Spitzley. “But as an at-large member, I don’t know if I’m comfortable saying we’re going to spend \$1 million-plus to repair this thing. I’m still supportive of keeping the space natural or trying to find some other beneficial, recreational use like a splashpad. I’m still open to ideas.”

Councilman Brian Jackson, whose ward encompasses the Moores Park neighborhood, suggested the pool could be reopened next summer for less than \$1.2 million as officials track down a more sustainable way to pay for the long-term renovations. He’d like the city to put up some stopgap cash as the pool preservation efforts continue.

“It’s not so much about the preservation aspect for me, but it’s more about the service this pool provides to kids during the summer when they have nothing else to do,” Jackson added. “There are voices in that neighborhood that want to see these younger kids have something positive to do rather than sit around with idle hands.”

Ingham County Commissioner Thomas Morgan is also exploring plans

to split the cost of repairing the pool between the city, the county and other sources like state grants and private donations. Plans are far from solidified, but he’d also like to tap into the county’s parks and trails millage to supplant some of the repair costs.

“This pool means a lot to the community and to Lansing’s history,” Morgan said. “At the same time, it’s not fair to residents paying the city’s parks millage to have more than half going to any one single project. There are 100 parks across the city, and lots of projects waiting to get done.”

While the pool continues to deteriorate, records show its popularity among Lansing residents has only grown. City data shows the number of annual visits more than doubled from 2,969 in 2014 to 6,078 this year. It leaves officials with a million-dollar question: Is it worth keeping the investment alive?

“I look at this \$1.2 million and our robust park system — 16 miles of trails and 114 parks — and we’re still trying to make sure we can keep that whole system going,” said Third Ward Councilman Adam Hussain. “We need to look for different revenue sources to keep the pool open in perpetuity, but I do believe that money is out there.”

City officials encourage those with suggestions on the future operation of Moores Park Pool to contact the city’s Park Board at [parkboard@listserv.lansingmi.gov](mailto:parkboard@listserv.lansingmi.gov). Visit [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com) for previous and continued coverage. —KYLE KAMINSKI

## Eyesore

from page 5

be a better steward of that house for the neighborhood.”

Schoen said he has been gradually laying the groundwork. Last year, he put a new roof on the house at a cost of \$35,000. The interior plaster and truckloads of miscellaneous debris have been removed.

“Structurally, it’s in very good shape,” Schoen said. “That’s why it’s best to retain these older brick properties. It’s difficult to rebuild them or build something similar these days.”

The house’s red brick shell is as impressive as ever. When viewed from the corner, its sheer size and striking symmetry make it look like as if it’s multiplying into two or more houses.

Many homes of the period flaunt their filigrees or announce their owner’s wealth, but the Seymour house speaks in low tones of solidity and function.



None of the fancy Victorian architectural styles seem to apply. There isn’t much decoration, except for a delicate latticework pattern on top of the upstairs windows. If it’s a Queen Anne house, she’s not wearing any makeup. “Neoclassical” might be more apt, but the columned porches are only one story high instead of two, perhaps out of Midwestern modesty.

Schoen estimates it will cost him “easily a half million or more” to bring the 4,000-square-foot house up to snuff. He intends to turn the house into four market rate housing units. He said he’ll need to charge \$1,300 to \$1,400 monthly rent to make the project viable, but he fears that “the market for

upper-end housing is already saturated” in the area.

The house was originally a “fourplex,” an unusual layout of four separate units, so the conversion will not be a stretch, design-wise. Schoen expects the high ceilings to add to the units’ appeal.

But it will take a lot of work and material cost to make those four units inhabitable.

“The only way to get these things up to spec is to go full guts on them, bring all the plumbing and electrical to code,” Schoen said.

Inside, the plaster walls are gone and the house is stripped to its studs. The copper pipes were stolen from the house long ago. Even in the pitch-black gloom of the first floor, where the windows are boarded up, two spacious living rooms with bay windows and a fireplace make for an inviting space.

The stairway banister and upstairs railing, made of polished hardwood, is in excellent shape and will likely be a star attraction when the project is fin-

ished.

A funky, twisted set of steps to the second floor will probably have to go, though.

“We’ll have to reconstruct the stairways so they’re up to modern code,” Schoen said.

When rehab work is complete, the house will have two two-bedroom units and two three-bedroom units, Schoen said.

The third floor attic, with its low, angled ceiling and spectacular window views, will make a cozy set of bedrooms.

Schoen said he has no set timetable to finish the job.

“Realistically, if I do it correctly, it’s going to be two years,” he said.

Schoen said he never seriously considered pulling a permit for demolition.

“That’s a bad thing to do,” Schoen said. “It would just be an empty lot. Urban infill isn’t really occurring these days. It’s definitely best to keep these brick structures, even if it takes a while to rehab them.”

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

# LETTERS to the editor

## Try again, Andy

The train wreck that was the appointment of the latest BWL commissioner demonstrates a distinct lack of thought and consideration. The train started going off the rails when the mayor failed to consider a highly qualified candidate, choosing to “beat the bushes to find an applicant” instead. Apologizing for the “oversight” is not enough. Why was Payne ignored when she had already been contacted by the mayor’s office? Are these appointments taken so lightly that no one noticed that they had a qualified applicant? Or were there other considerations that led the mayor’s office to look elsewhere? In the absence of an explanation, it is easy to imagine palace intrigue accompanying this appointment.

The reaction from city council was equally distressing. With the exception of Brian Jackson, council downplayed the fact that the BWL Board of Commissioners oversees a highly technical, \$355 million a year company that is responsible for a large percentage of greenhouse gas emissions in the Lansing region. Instead they treat it as just another seat on one of Lansing’s many boards and commissions. Effective governance at BWL requires commissioners who have the background and understanding to evaluate information and data presented by management. It is not enough for an individual to be “willing to learn and engage” and “get up to speed.” Other city boards have subject expertise: the Mechanical Board has seats for contractors, and four of the six seats on the Board of Plumbing are allocated to plumbers. Given the scale of its operations and importance of its work, the BWL Board must have expert knowledge among its commissioners. It is right that some seats be open to any resident, but good governance requires a higher level of expertise on the BWL board.

The mayor will have the opportunity to appoint two new commissioners in 2020. The climate emergency demands commissioners who will bring innovative thinking to BWL. The Lansing Environmental Action Team will continue to insist that we can wait no longer for action, both at BWL and the city. For more about LEAT, visit our Facebook page or send email to [info@lansingenvironmentalactionteam.org](mailto:info@lansingenvironmentalactionteam.org).

**Randy Dykhuis**  
Lansing

**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](mailto:letters@lansingcitypulse.com)
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
- Fax: (517) 371-5800
- At [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com)

**2.) Write a guest column:**

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information:

[publisher@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto: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.

## ‘Forgotten’ BWL candidate speaks out

Regarding last week’s story that the mayor told the city council he had to dig deep to find a 3rd ward candidate for the BWL board because there were no applicants, while my application was there all along, my response is... *really*? Either his staff is incompetent and “forgot” to tell him there was an applicant (though they had just emailed me asking I was still interested) or Mayor Schor didn’t want me on the board.

I can only conclude that, since I have spoken out at BWL meetings and met with their leadership urging them to lower fossil-fuel use in the face of climate change, the mayor and BWL do not want a person with an environmental bent on their board.

Would having one person on the BWL’s board who recognizes the long-term costs of continuing with fossil-fuels mean that the lights would go out in Lansing? Hardly. So why am I so scary?

The Lansing Area Environmental Action Team, of which I am a member, gave the BWL a 10-point plan for lowering fossil fuel use with some practical and doable ideas, including building smaller decentralized power facilities, more reliance on solar and wind, using all-source bidding to open the power generating bidding to a wider range of options, and adding on-bill financing to help consumers pay for efficiency and green energy projects. I could go on. Some of these could actually save money and all would – of course – lower pollution, and the concomitant health issues. Nothing on that list screamed “radical” or “dangerous.”

This action by the mayor should be a wake-up call for those concerned with climate change. By bypassing someone who speaks out to lower fossil-fuel use, the mayor and BWL are letting us know they are not interested in moving out of their comfort zone to address the climate change emergency.

And that, my friends, is very scary.  
**Rebecca Payne**  
Lansing

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES LOCATED AT 3209 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019, AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Aten  
Trustees: Broughton, Harris, McKenzie, Bankson  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Treasurer Rodgers  
ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney

#### ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.  
Minutes of the meeting held on October 29, 2019 approved.  
Agenda approved.  
Authorized Supervisor to provide a letter in Support of Acquisition of Adjacent Property for the UAW Local 602.  
Rental fund budget approved.  
West Side Water budget approved.  
Designated Clerk as Chair Pro Tem in absence of Supervisor.  
Approved 2020 meeting dates.  
Claims approved.  
Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor  
Susan L. Aten, Clerk

**CP#19-341**

### CITY OF EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

#### NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 1468

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ZONING USE DISTRICT MAP OF CHAPTER 50 -- ZONING -- OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1468 was adopted by the City of East Lansing City Council at their meeting held on November 12, 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. 1468

##### THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Ordinance 1468 amends the Zoning Use District Map by rezoning the properties at 710, 722, and 722 ½ Grove Street from R-2, Medium Density Single-Family Residential District, to RM-32, City Center Multiple-Family Residential District.

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1468 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#19-342**

### CITY OF EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

#### NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 1459

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RENAME ARTICLE VI - DISTRIBUTED ANTENNA SYSTEMS AND SMALL CELL NETWORKS - AND AMEND SECTIONS 42-271, 42-272 AND 42-273 AND ADD SECTIONS 42-274 THROUGH 42-288 TO CHAPTER 42 - TELECOMMUNICATIONS - OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING TO REGULATE SMALL WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES DEPLOYMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1459 was adopted by the City of East Lansing City Council at their meeting held on November 19, 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. 1459

##### THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Ordinance 1459 amends and renames Article VI – Distributed Antenna Systems and Small Cell Networks and amends Sections 42-271, 42-272, and 42-273, and adds Sections 42-274 through 42-288 of the Code of the City of East Lansing by amending the requirements for small cell wireless communications facilities deployment to be consistent with Public Act 365 of 2018 and to require zoning review and approval in limited circumstances.

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1459 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#19-343**

# Alternate universe

Donald Trump isn't on trial. The Republican Party is.

The most incisive moment of the impeachment inquiry's public hearings came at the very end, on Thursday afternoon, courtesy of Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, the former federal prosecutor who had spent two weeks methodically constructing a case that Donald Trump had wantonly abused his office only to watch his Republican colleagues bury their heads in the sand.

"What we've seen here is far more serious than a third-rate burglary of the Democratic headquarters," Schiff said, referencing Watergate. This "is beyond anything Nixon did. The difference between then and now is not the difference between Nixon and Trump. It's the difference between that Congress and this one."

Richard Nixon, of course, resigned



JEFFERY C. BILLMAN

INDIAN DISSENT

in 1974 after top Republicans told him that the evidence of his crimes was too great to ignore. Forty-five years later, congressional Republicans are again faced with equally unassailable evidence of

their president's crimes; this time, they've closed ranks and chosen willful ignorance and and conspiratorial fantasies.

Schiff is correct: The impeachment of Donald Trump is no longer about Donald Trump. This is instead a trial of the Republican Party — and of the ability of our democratic institutions to serve as a check on a thoroughly corrupt would-be strongman.

And both are going to fail the test.

At the risk of beating a dead horse, there's no ambiguity about what happened. As Gordon Sondland, Trump's ambassador to the European Union — a hotel owner who literally purchased his post with a \$1 million donation to Trump's inaugural committee — had admitted a day earlier, there was a quid pro quo that came directly from the White House. Trump conditioned an Oval Office meeting with Ukraine's new president — who, while fighting a war with Russia, needed to demonstrate his deep ties to Washington — on the announcement of sham investigations into political rival Joe Biden and a debunked conspiracy theory that Ukraine had conspired with the Democrats to frame Russia for election interference in 2016.

To up the ante, Trump then overruled his advisers and blocked nearly \$400 million in military aid to assist Ukraine's war against Russia. Sondland and everyone else could read between the lines, but there was no need to: In a July 25 phone call, Trump directly linked a request for military assistance to the "favor" of opening the investigations.

Again, there's no real dispute over

the essential facts, and those facts show a president who solicited foreign interference in American elections and attempted to extort that foreign interference by withholding military aid to an ally.

If those aren't impeachable offenses, nothing is.

And yet, when all is said and done, every single Republican representative and senator is likely to vote against impeaching or removing Donald Trump, in the process both sanctioning his actions and delegitimizing the inquiry as — to borrow Trump's favorite phrase — a witch-hunt.

To be sure, this impeachment is a partisan affair, but viewing it through a red-versus-blue lens obscures a more dangerous reality: America's dominant political party is fundamentally broken, an authoritarian cult of personality locked in its own propaganda feedback loop.

As George W. Bush speechwriter David Frum explains in *The Atlantic*: "Rupert Murdoch, Roger Ailes, and the others have fenced off conservative Americans from the rest of American society. Within that safe space, insiders hear only what is familiar and comforting."

Within this safe space — which has its own language, a hallucinogenic hodgepodge of names and catch-phrases — the hearings didn't produce a straightforward narrative of corruption but evidence of a Deep State cover-up. There is a "fake whistleblower" and a "Russia hoax" and a "Black Ledger" and collusion between a DNC operative and the Ukrainian embassy and — courtesy of Glenn Beck — a rehash of the (((George Soros)))-as-puppet-master trope.

In this alternate universe, the real story isn't the president abusing his office to further his reelection cam-

paign but of sinister forces conspiring against him.

Rep. Devin Nunes and other Republicans on the Intelligence Committee used the hearings to put this alternate universe on full display and then became indignant when witnesses said they had no idea what the hell they were talking about. As Frum puts it: "To those not immersed in the fantasy franchise, people like Devin Nunes sound like crazy people. Which in turn, of course, only drives them crazier."

This would be amusing if the consequences weren't so dire, if this were just some Bircher fringe, not the driving force of the modern GOP, from the president to Congress to the propaganda machines from which tens of millions of Americans get their information. Being an elected Republican in 2019 means chugging the Kool-Aid — or at least pretending you have.

That's why Republicans are going to give Trump the pass their predecessors didn't give Nixon.

The Republican Party is broken. And the longer it stays in power, the more likely it is to break our entire democracy, too.

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

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Trust

TO ALL CREDITORS, the Settlor, Kenneth S. Parr, DOB: 12/09/1935 of 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing MI 48823, died 10/27/2019. There is no personal representative of the Settlor's estate to whom Letters of Administration have been issued. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Kenneth S. Parr and Carol M. Parr Living Trust, dated 02/27/2009, will be forever barred unless presented to co-trustees Philip S. Parr and Robert S. Sloan, within 4 months after the date of publication or attorney Bradley A. Vauter J.D. (P35762) of Bradley Vauter & Associates, P.C., 1193 Andre Dr. Ste. D, Grand Ledge MI 48837, (517) 853-8015.

Trustee Philip S. Parr  
313 W. Barnes Ave.  
Lansing MI 48910

Trustee Robert S. Sloan  
PO Box 173  
Goldenrod, FL 32733.

CP#19-346

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS INGHAM CONSERVATION DISTRICT

To all residents of the Ingham Conservation District, notice is hereby given that on the 15th day of January 2020, between the hours of 5:30 pm and 8:30 pm, at Piazano's, 1825 N. Grand River Ave., in the City of Lansing, an annual meeting and director's election will be held. Charlie Martin is on the ballot for a 4-year term as an Ingham Conservation District Board Director.

The event will include dinner, silent auction, natural resource conservation updates and a presentation entitled "Ingham County Rural – A Township Tour through the Seasons" by local conservationist Jim Hewitt. Dinner tickets are \$10.00 and are available at [www.inghamconservation.com](http://www.inghamconservation.com).

On the 2nd day of December, 2019, being the business day nearest to 45 days prior to the date of the annual meeting, absentee ballots are available for voting in this election at the Conservation District office located at 1031 W. Dexter Trail, in the City of Mason, during the regular business hours of the Conservation District which are 9:00 am and 3:00 pm Monday – Thursday. Residents are individuals of legal age who can demonstrate residency in the Conservation District (Ingham County) via one piece of identification.

CP#19-344

## CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, Monday, December 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend Chapter 404 of the Lansing Codified Ordinances by adding Section 404.13 to provide for the issuance of annual and temporary 2:00 a.m. to 5:00 a.m. street parking permits to City of Lansing residents; and to provide for permit applications, limitations and fees.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on the day of the Public Hearing at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov).

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC  
[www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk](http://www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk)  
[www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope](https://www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope)

## STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF INGHAM PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING FILE NO 19-1367-GM

In the matter of Ke'Ayah Elese Ariel Smith.  
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS including: Ashanna Smith, whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:  
TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on 12-5-2019 at 2:30 p.m. at 313 W. Kalamazoo, Lansing, before Judge Dunning, for the following purpose: for guardianship of Ke'Ayah Elese Ariel Smith.

Date: 11-21-19  
Kimberlyn Trice  
1119 Leslie St.  
Lansing, MI 48912

CP#19-345

CP#19-340

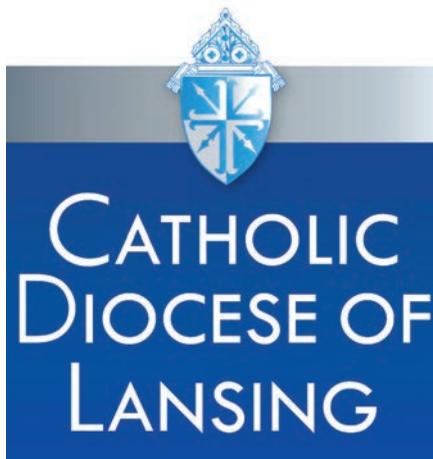
# Former tennis coach sues Lansing Catholic High

## Lawsuit: School officials misled parents on retirement

A former tennis coach at Lansing Catholic High School is suing the Catholic Diocese of Lansing, claiming school officials misled parents into thinking he was fired from the job when he had actually been able to retire.

Ron Landfair, longtime boys' varsity tennis coach and ministry director, filed a lawsuit in April alleging that school officials — in an intentionally misleading message to parents — implied they had fired Landfair in 2017 following “inappropriate” text messages with a student, when instead Landfair had been left to peacefully retire.

The lawsuit specifically names the Diocese of Lansing, Bishop Earl Boyea, Lansing Catholic High School and Principal Doug Moore and seeks to recover more than \$25,000 in



damages for defamation and intentional infliction of emotional distress. The complaint also contends school officials painted Landfair in a “false light.”

“Mr. Landfair retired with a superior record,” said Landfair’s attorney, Karen Lopez. “He had an excellent record, yet they put out this defamatory message that somehow he had been ‘let go.’ That implies he was fired. He

wasn’t fired. He retired.”

A copy of the high school’s 2017 message to parents wasn’t included in court records, but a retraction demand sent by Lopez before the lawsuit claimed it included the language “let go” rather than “retired” and had wrongly implied that Landfair was in some way involved with messages to students that were deemed “inappropriate.”

Landfair worked for the Diocese for more than 20 years, most recently as its director of multicultural ministries — an outreach position left unfilled since his departure in October 2017. He also served several years as varsity boys’ tennis coach at Lansing Catholic High School and repeatedly led the team to state championship games.

Landfair declined to comment for this story, but his lawsuit also claims the subsequent damage to his reputation caused by the implication of termination and misconduct has only caused emotional distress, embarrassment, humiliation, anxiety, depression

and has undoubtedly worsened any possible prospects for future employment.

Court records further state Landfair waited until this year to demand a retraction for the now 2-year-old message only because he was previously unaware that it had been sent.

Officials at the diocese didn’t return phone calls for this story, but court records show their attorneys dispute the bulk of Landfair’s contentions.

Tom Meagher, attorney for the diocese and Lansing Catholic High School, said the suit lacks merit. “He said he was intentionally defamed. We don’t think that’s the case.”

Meagher declined to elaborate on his defense as the case proceeds in 30th Circuit Court. Records show the lawsuit has been referred to third-party mediation in an attempt to reach a resolution ahead of a trial.

Visit [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com) for continued coverage as the litigation continues.

— KYLE KAMINSKI

**MSU Music**  
MSU Federal Credit Union

**Jazz Artist** IN RESIDENCE

**Kenny Washington, jazz drums**  
FAIRCHILD THEATRE, MSU AUDITORIUM  
Concert: Friday, Dec. 6, 8:00 p.m. with MSU Jazz Orchestras

Drummer Kenny Washington was a young hard-bop revivalist in the late 1970s, and since then he has built an impressive discography as a prolific freelancer and session player. He has tremendous knowledge of jazz history, some from his personal experience playing with legends like Lee Konitz, Betty Carter, Dizzy Gillespie and Clark Terry.

[music.msu.edu](http://music.msu.edu),  
517-353-5340

**MORE JAZZ GUESTS IN 2020**

FEB. 3-9, 2020  
Bruce Barth, piano

MAR. 23-29, 2020  
Terell Stafford, trumpet

College of Music  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

THE FRIENDS OF  
**Turner-Dodge House**  
& Lansing Parks and Recreation  
PRESENT  
**8th ANNUAL**  
*Festival of Trees*

Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> thru Wednesday January 1<sup>st</sup>  
**ADMISSION AT THE DOOR**  
\$5.00 per person  
Children 12 & under FREE  
please call 483-4220 for admission times  
[www.lansingmi.gov/938/Turner-Dodge-House](http://www.lansingmi.gov/938/Turner-Dodge-House)

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Old Town Community Association  
CITY OF LANSING  
Andy Schor, Mayor

# 'Unconscious bias' plagues Ingham Co. health insurance

Life-saving drugs excluded for HIV, gender transition

Ingham County could soon revamp its health insurance offerings after officials found that multiple employees have had difficulty accessing name-brand HIV treatment and other medications to facilitate gender transitions.

And some county commissioners contended an "unconscious bias" against those with HIV and the LGBTQ community could be blamed for the access issues as they look to level the playing field on prescription drugs.

"These medications can be a matter of life and death," said Commissioner Ryan Sebolt. "These are medications that are literally keeping some people alive. If you can't access them, it shows our coverage is lacking. Employees should not be jumping through hoops to access their medication. This really is a top priority for the county."

An unnamed county employee living with HIV confronted the commission's County Services Committee last week with complaints over difficulty accessing a name-brand treatment plan prescribed by his doctor. Those medications, for reasons still under investigation, were found to be specifically excluded from coverage.

City Pulse is withholding the identity of the employee in consideration

of the cultural stigmas attached to HIV.

"I fell victim to discriminatory prescription coverage and procedures that directly contradict the core values that Ingham County has laid out for me," he told commissioners. "I would have to switch to a generic drug. Without that prescription coverage, I'm forced to use temporary assistance programs. ... I'm here today to ask for help."

Ingham County this year funneled its employee health insurance offerings into a self-funded pool that includes employees in the city of Lansing and the Community Mental Health Authority amid efforts to save cash. Officials said the switchover is saving about \$2 million annually, but it also includes a new list of exclusions.

Among those excluded medications are standard fare for the health insurance industry: Botox; drugs to induce abortions; anabolic steroids; anti-wrinkle agents; sexual dysfunction medication; hair removal products; hair growth products. But it also specifically prohibits name-brand HIV drugs and treatment for gender dysphoria.



Sebolt



Crenshaw



Heywood



Naeyaert

"We're in a fortunate situation where we might be able to make some of these determinations for ourselves," Dolehanty added. "I don't know why this is

happening, but we'll be sure to find out so we can address the problem. The focus is all about getting employees access to their medication as efficiently as possible."

County employees, in theory, can still access excluded medications, but not without seeking an exception and repeatedly revealing their personal medical histories to the county's human resources department, an insurance benefits facilitator and numerous other third-party assistance programs to piece the prescriptions together.

And while that process might work for some, some officials said it can pose undue obstacles to proper coverage.

"It makes my skin crawl that someone would have to repeatedly disclose their medical history like this," said Commissioner Robin Naeyaert. "Patients shouldn't have to disclose that to anyone but their physicians. The idea that any employee would have to divulge such personal information like this makes me physically ill."

As an added consequence for Ingham County's prescription access issue, the Ingham Community Health Center this year was demoted to a "top performer" rather than a "leader" in the Human Rights Campaign's annual Healthcare Equality Index. Officials attributed the diminished status to the newfound coverage gaps.

"This creates a real question of hypocrisy in terms of county values and county procedures," Heywood added. "We have a non-discrimination ordinance, but this system deliberately discriminates against some of our own employees. There's absolutely an unconscious bias that plays into this. It's our job to see this thing gets fixed."

Visit [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com) for continued coverage as county officials continue to investigate the insurance shortfall.

—KYLE KAMINSKI

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing City Council on **December 17, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider a modified site plan and special use permit application from 341 Evergreen, LLC for the properties at 100 W. Grand River Avenue, 120-140 W. Grand River Avenue and 341-345 Evergreen Avenue for a 5-story residential building with one level of parking, including a mix of apartment types ranging from studios to three-bed units. The subject property zoned Conditional B-3, City Center Commercial District.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider a site plan and special use permit application from The Peabody Group for the property at 115 Albert Avenue to allow the establishment of a restaurant, including alcohol sales. The subject property is zoned B-3, City Center Commercial District.
3. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1431: An ordinance to amend the Zoning Use District Map of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to rezone the northeast corner of Haslett and Park Lake Roads from RA, Residential Agricultural to B-2, Retail Sales Business.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable accommodations, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting, upon notice to the City of East Lansing, prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations or services should write or call the City Manager's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-377.

Jennifer Shuster  
City Clerk

CP#19-347

"The policy as it exists literally excludes every transgender employee. That is unacceptable. That is discrimination," said Todd Heywood, board chairman at Ingham Community Health Center. "The only two chronic diseases or issues that require medication on the list of exclusions are for HIV and for gender identity. This whole system is deliberately designed to exclude people based on their otherness within the community."

Commissioners are largely unclear how those specific medications managed to find their way onto the list of exclusions for county employees, but they've launched an investigation to eventually lift the restrictions. A forthcoming report from county Controller Tim Dolehanty is designed to provide some answers next month.

"It's just not acceptable that our employees have to go through this type of stress or hassle in order to get life-saving drugs," said Commission Chairman Bryan Crenshaw. "We need to get this right and very quickly. The biggest issue is making sure employees have access to the medication they need and deserve."

Generic rather than name-brand HIV treatment medication, Heywood explained, is often behind the curve of constantly evolving research on the virus. Drugs that aren't on the cutting edge of medical technology often include a host of negative side effects and can lend to a substandard method of treatment for county employees.

And because the FDA has yet to formally approve any method of hormonal transition treatment for transgender patients, all medication for gender dysphoria is currently prohibited on the county's insurance plan as well. Ingham County, however, is not alone. Transgender-inclusive healthcare benefits are a nationwide scarcity. The Human Rights Campaign tracked fewer than 20 percent of its rated municipalities as offering those benefits.

# Schor lights fire under menorah movement

It was touch and go last Friday afternoon, but Lansing Mayor Andy Schor succeeded in lighting a 9-foot menorah next to the state's 61-foot state Christmas tree in front of the state Capitol during the Silver Bells in the City festivities.



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

a Nativity scene in a county courthouse was “indisputably religious” because the display came with the banner “Gloria in Excelsis Deo.” And in 1995, the Court ruled the KKK could stick a cross in the Ohio statehouse plaza during the holiday season. In that case, though, Ohio allowed other religious symbols in the plaza. They just didn’t want the KKK’s cross.

Back in 2006 when the Michigan House passed a resolution in support of a state Christmas tree and menorah display, then-Michigan Jewish Conference Director Susan Herman said such a setup would be an inappropriate mix of church and state.

Today, Rahbi Asher Lopatin, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Metropolitan Detroit and the American Jewish Committee, is convinced there is an equity argument.

“If there’s going to be a Christmas tree — and it’s a wonderful, beautiful Christian symbol — we should be able to put up a dignified Jewish symbol, as well,” he said.

Schor, who is Jewish, agrees. That’s why he is pushing the issue, even though Capitol Facilities initially told him no.

Schor said state Facilities Manager Robert Blackwell told city workers last Friday, allegedly, with a couple of Capitol security personnel nearby, that if the menorah was kept near the tree, the state would confiscate it.

Once news of this got out, the Capitol Commission chairman, Gary Randall -- fearing a national story with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer being in Israel of all places -- quickly told Blackwell to leave the menorah alone.

The city’s 9-foot menorah didn’t stay near the tree for long. Once Silver Bells was over, city workers moved it back to City Hall. That specific menorah isn’t designed for prolonged outdoor exposure.

Since the lighting, Schor said he’s received overwhelming support from the community. Whether he’ll be open to more congratulations later in December is yet to be seen.

*(Kyle Melinn, of the Capitol newsletter IRS, can be reached at melinnky@gmail.com.)*

Now the mayor is looking to feature a larger candelabra — contributed by a private citizen — next to the Christmas tree during the eight days of Hanukkah, starting Dec. 22. Whether that’s going to fly will likely be discussed Dec. 18 at a meeting of the state Capitol Commission, which by law oversees the Capitol grounds.

The issues here are many.

The Capitol Commission has rules on Capitol lawn displays. They can’t be taller than 4 feet. They must be taken down at night. Basically, the state doesn’t want a lot of large gaudy clutter. It also doesn’t want to be held responsible if a vandal tags something while on state property.

But if that’s the case, why the exception for the 61-foot conifer that clearly is a symbol for the Christian holiday of Christmas?

Next, is the property on which the massive evergreen sit on city right of way or state property? Because if it’s state property, why are city workers erecting the tree, trimming the tree and decorating the tree, Schor asks.

If it’s on city property, Schor argues he can put a menorah next to the tree if he wants.

The state says it has paperwork showing this small piece of concrete on the other side of the sideway is state property. It’s all part of the Capitol grounds.

Both sides are digging through their records for proof of their arguments.

In the meanwhile, there’s the whole freedom from religion argument. Is it appropriate to put a Jewish symbol for a religious holiday on government property?

Not surprisingly, the U.S. Supreme Court has looked into this very issue, but the results aren’t clear cut. In 1984, the court ruled a city-sponsored crèche in a public park did not violate the establishment clause because the display included other “secular” symbols.

Five years later, the court found that

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF TOWNHALL MEETING

A SPECIAL MEETING of the Meridian Township Board has been called for Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Okemos, Michigan 48864. This is the Annual Goal Setting Meeting of the Township Board at which they will discuss:

- 1) The Township Board 2020 Goals
- 2) The Township Manager’s Compensation and Contract Review
- 3) Closed Session to discuss the Township Manager’s Annual Performance Review

**BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC**  
TOWNSHIP CLERK  
CP#19-348

### 2020 TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Meridian Municipal Building, in said Township on the 19th day of November, 2019 at 6:00 p.m., local time.

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski

ABSENT:

**The following resolution was offered by Clerk Dreyfus and supported by Trustee Opsommer.**

WHEREAS, the Township Board desires to announce the time, date, and place of all regular meetings of the Board, pursuant to MCL 42.7; and

WHEREAS, the Township Board deems the 2020 regular meeting schedule sufficient to uphold the Board’s Policies and Procedures, and advance its Global Ends.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan that the Township Board adopts its regular 2020 meeting schedule as follows:

Tuesday, January 7, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 28, 2020	6:00 P.M. Joint Meeting (Township Boards and Commissions)
Tuesday, February 4, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 3, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 17, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 31, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, 2020	6:00 P.M. Joint Meeting (School Districts & Local Governments)
Tuesday, April 21, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 5, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 19, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 2, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 16, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, July 7, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, July 21, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 6, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, August 18, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 1, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting (Budget Hearing & Deliberations)
Tuesday, September 15, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 22, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 5, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 1, 2020	6:00 P.M. Town Hall Meeting
Tuesday, December 8, 2020	6:00 P.M. Regular Meeting

2. Each of the above meetings shall be held at the specified time in the Town Hall Room of the Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan (517) 853-4000, unless changed and noticed in accordance with MCL 15.265.

3. A summary of this resolution stating date, place, and time shall be posted in the Meridian Municipal Building within ten (10) days after the first regularly scheduled meeting of the year in accordance with MCL 15.265.

ADOPTED: YEAS: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Dreyfus, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Sundland, Wisinski

NAYS:

Resolution declared adopted.

STATE OF MICHIGAN)  
) ss.  
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and a complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 19th day of November, 2019.

**BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC**  
TOWNSHIP CLERK  
CP#19-349

### Correction

Because of a reporting error, the last name of Lansing City Councilman Adam Hussain was misspelled in a story in the Nov. 20 issue of City Pulse.



Skyler Ashley/City Pulse

# Humble gift suggestions from humble City Pulsers

## Retro Mini Video Game Consoles

By SKYLER ASHLEY

Honestly, I love the gift-giving potential of these things. As a gift, retro mini video game consoles strike a perfect generational balance in their capacity as an entertaining novelty. These bad boys have big stocking-stuffer energy. Give one to anybody between the ages 10 to 18, and you've given them an interactive toolbox to peruse the classic video games of yore. Give one to anybody above the age of 25, and you've supplied them with a fully loaded hypodermic needle of nostalgia.

If you're reading this, you've obviously

noticed that I've gone with the broad suggestion of any retro mini console, rather than a particular unit. There's an important, childhood-memory-specific reason for that. For most of us, asking our parents for a video game console was a meticulously researched pro-



cess. Chances are, your family couldn't afford a Sega Genesis AND a Super Nintendo. You had one shot to make the right choice. Therefore, most of us have a soul bond to the line of consoles we grew up with, and the daily middle school lunchroom debate over whether

Sega or Nintendo is "most awesome" will carry on within our hearts forever. Thankfully, just about every major game company has jumped on the mini console bandwagon. Was your loved one a PlayStation kid? Boom. Get them a PlayStation One Classic. Are they a Nintendo fan boy? Sega fanatic? Purchase accordingly. But if you were purchasing for somebody too young to have this deeply ingrained sense of electronic tribalism, I'd ultimately recommend the Super Nintendo Classic. As of now, it's probably the most difficult to obtain but it arguably has the best lineup of games among the competition. Most big stores such

See Gifts, Page 13



## Gifts

from page 12

as GameStop, Target, Amazon or Best Buy will carry retro game sets which can range from \$30 to \$130.

### Sriracha Key Chain

By SKYLER ASHLEY

What may seem like a gag gift actually has crucial utility. Obviously, you can always stock up on hot sauce at home, but out in the cruel world access to sauce is not always an option — until now. For a hot sauce addict, the benefits of having your favorite nonperishable condiment familiarly strapped to you like Harry Callahan’s fantastical .44 Magnum are immediately noticeable. Imagine, if you will, a world in which you possess the ability to proactively customize every fast food or take-out dish you cross paths with on your daily commute. Bland food will literally never be a threat again. The bad flavor threat level advisory system forever remains at green. You have a lifetime



passport to flavor town in your pocket, your purse, clipped to your belt loop, or whichever method you chose to carry your keys.

During my time at Michigan State University, my daily sustenance consisted of a gamut of sodium-packed miniature food dishes that were prepared with either boiling water or a microwave. My lifeblood was dull snacks, and in the rat race of academia you are already doused in a torrent of dullness. The ability to garnish those ramen

noodles with Sriracha, Tapatio or Texas Pete gave me a life-affirming splash of spice. I personally credit my survival of sophomore year to this hot sauce key chain. But, at the very least, it will get a cheap laugh. The hot sauce dispensers can be found on Amazon.com for anywhere between \$7 to \$15.

slipped Nancy into the 2010s without missing a single spike on her famous hairdo. Nancy still lives to loaf, squirms away from responsibility, strives to eat the maximum amount of candy and does all the other Nancy things, but

See Gifts, Page 14

### ‘Nancy,’ by Olivia Jaimes

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

The “Nancy” comic strip has been around since the ‘30s, but its 2018 makeover by the brilliant young creator Olivia Jaimes is a modern miracle. Finally, there is a book-length collection of the new “Nancy” — the first of many, I hope. It’s available at Schuler Books, Barnes & Noble and many other retailers. Most readers think of “Nancy” as baby simple and beyond corny, even though critics have long dissected “Nancy” creator Ernie Bushmiller’s solid-as-a-brick-house graphics like a Rosetta Stone. (See “How to Read Nancy,” a book length treatise that deconstructs one Nancy daily strip from 30 different scholarly standpoints.) When Jaimes took over the strip — the first woman to do so — she deftly



We will have great sales on new and used vinyl. Looking for a turntable or music system set up for Christmas? We have the best in vintage equipment and lots available. We will be open from 10am-7pm this Saturday. Come support local small business!

**The Record Lounge**  
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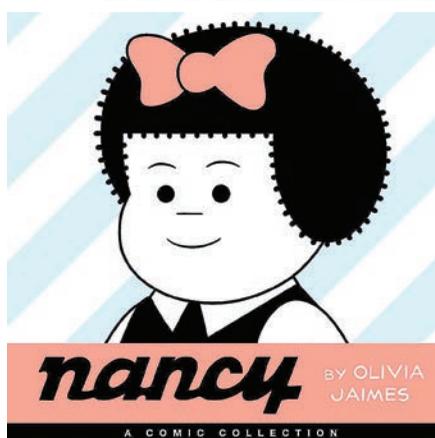
727 Lincoln Ct. Lansing, MI 48917      517-332-3294      [frontroomunderfashions.com](http://frontroomunderfashions.com)

# 2019 Holiday Gift Guide

## Gifts

from page 13

now there is always an irreverent twist: When a devil sits on Nancy's shoulder, urging her to steal Sluggo's hot dog, she uses the devil's pitchfork to help herself. The new Nancy is tech savvy and totally obsessed with her phone. She constantly texts her pal Sluggo and freaks out when the reply is less than instantaneous. She even studies robotics at school, albeit begrudgingly. The ubiquitous tech is not a superficial update. Who but Jaimes could have known that the constant paranoia and junk-food affirmations of social



media would fit so neatly into Nancy's picket fence world? Best of all, Jaimes has baked juicy layers of philosophy, self-awareness and meta-commentary into the cake. In a recent strip, Sluggo



go off-handedly tells Nancy that all good things come to an end. "They do WHAT??" she screams, in giant block letters, with a look of sheer terror on her face. I don't recall any stronger reminder of mortality since the doctor slapped my butt on the day I was born. Order a print of the comic at [gocomics.com](http://gocomics.com).

At his Grand Ledge garage just west of Fitzgerald Park, Mike Lunden can make a car, truck, jeep, van or whatever look better than new.

I bought an exterior detailing gift for my wife last Christmas. We liked the results so much, we bought a complete exterior, interior and engine cleaning for her daughter.

I was so pleased by how her car looked, I paid for a similar package done to my car— including the meticulous attention to wheels and tires. I will be taking it back to have it done again.

Lunden does all the work by hand and avoids hiring inexperienced help. His rubbed waxed jobs go through a three-step process. Interior and engine cleanings involve extensive steam cleaning. Lunden is a fussy guy who makes sure every facet and every job is showroom quality.

The base price for the complete works is \$200. That varies with the type and size of vehicle, and its condition. Clean-ups and dry times also vary. Lunden never rushes and at least a couple of days can be expected for his service.

He will negotiate levels of detailing and specific requests. Mike's Detail Shop is at 12872 Partlow Ave., Grand Ledge. Schedule an appointment at (517) 622-4435.

See Gifts, Page 15

*Grace*

### The Grace Holiday Party & Jenna Kator Trunk Show

**Fri. Dec. 6th 5pm-8pm**

Join us to visit with Jenna, have some bubbles and treats, and for the introduction of a new line of accessories from Portugal!

Grace Boutique of Old Town  
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### Car maintenance at Mike's Detail Shop

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

Only those without a vehicle won't welcome this gift. The rest will really appreciate a spruce-up from Mike's Detail Shop.

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# 2019 Holiday Gift Guide

## Gifts

from page 14



### MSU Dairy gift boxes

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

I adore the Michigan State University Dairy Store's 15 distinctive gift boxes. At least one of the selections is sure to make any Spartan fan happy. The choices can also please die-hard Ohio

State supporters or any cheese lovers. I can complete a shopping list at one site.

The boxes of dreams are made of premium milk from MSU cows with a high fat and protein count. I find their smoked cheddar to be especially flavorful with a firm texture.

The least expensive box is a 16 oz. block of MSU's unique chocolate cheese — not my favorite — for \$9.95. The priciest is a \$64.95 "Artisan Deluxe" package with 8-ounce blocks of Beaumont, grass-fed cheddar, aged Gouda and more.

If worried the awe of your gift will be gobbled up to soon, tack on some dairy store memorabilia including a mitten-shaped cutting board (\$29.95) or a "Go Green with Ice Cream" T-shirt (\$15.)

The MSU Meat Lab contributes summer sausage and snack sticks to the "Hunter's Box" and "Protein Pack" selections. The "Box" includes jalapeno and smoked cheddar and the "Pack" comes with a 1-pound bag of cheese curds.

My favorite combo is the "Spartan Sampler." Eight-ounce blocks of mild

cheddar, smoked cheddar, jalapeno pepper and Colby Jack are available for less than \$25.

For a complete menu and online ordering, go to [canr.msu.edu/dairystore/cheese](http://canr.msu.edu/dairystore/cheese). Boxes can be prepared at Anthony Hall (517-355-8466) or MSU Union Dairy Store (517-353-9988).

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# 2019 Holiday Happenings

## Nov. 28 - Thanksgiving Dinner at Cristo Rey Community Center

Every year, Cristo Rey holds a Thanksgiving Dinner that is open to all in need of food on this holiday. 11:30 a.m., 1717 N. High St., Lansing, (517) 253-8258, [cristoreycommunity.org](http://cristoreycommunity.org)

## Nov. 29 through Dec. 29

### 25th Annual Wonderland of Lights

Thousands of lights will line the Potter Park Zoo exhibits in its 24th annual holiday tradition with cookies, crafts and animal encounters. \$7, Thursday-Sunday, 5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing (517) 483-4222, [www.potterparkzoo.org](http://www.potterparkzoo.org)

### Nov. 29 - Mason's Lighted Parade

Mason brings in the holiday cheer with its annual 40-piece parade and tree

lighting with its Citizen of the Year. The parade kicks off at the corner of East Columbia Street and South Rogers Street.

6 p.m., Bond Park, 110 N. Rogers St. Mason (517) 676-1046, [www.masonchamber.org](http://www.masonchamber.org)

### Nov. 30 - Holiday Extravaganza Eleganza at Strange Matter Coffee

Get your weekend coffee and doughnut fix and sift through one-of-a-kind paper goods, jewelry and winter accessories for your loved ones.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 2010 E. Michigan Ave., (517) 224-5496, [strangemattercoffee.com](http://strangemattercoffee.com)

### Nov. 30 - Cocoa on the Corner — Small Business Saturday

Stop by Kean's for a complimentary letter to Santa, Bestsellers for a free cup of hot cocoa, LFA Farmers Market for a free tasty treat and Ware's Com-

merce will be helping families take pictures in front of the "Big Santa".

10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Mason Area Chamber of Commerce, 148 E. Ash St., Mason

### Nov. 30 - Small Business Saturday at Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center

Stop by Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center on Nov. 30 from 11 AM - 3 PM to shop small and support the work of Michigan artists and makers.

11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 119 N. Washington Sq., Ste. 101, Lansing (517) 374-6400, [www.lansingartgallery.org](http://www.lansingartgallery.org)

### Nov. 30 - Advent Calendar Print and Take Workshop at ALT Printing Co.

During this make and take workshop adults and children will work together to screen-print their own custom advent calendar. During this make and take workshop adults and children will work together to screen-print their own custom advent calendar.

10 a.m. to noon, \$15, 1139 S. Washington Ave, Lansing, [altprintingco.com](http://altprintingco.com)

### Dec. 1 - 3-D Snowflake workshop at CADL Okemos

Adults and teens can drop-in to make holiday crafts. Students receive community service credit when they donate their creation to area hospitals and nursing homes.

1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., Free, 4321 Okemos Road, Lansing, (517) 347-2021, [cadl.org](http://cadl.org)

### Dec. 3 - 40th Annual Holiday Glitter & Swing

Celebrate the 2019 Applause Award winners with music by David Klein Swing Band as well as tunes by John Dale Smith. Chad Swan-Badgero will MC.

6 p.m. \$75, University Club of Michigan State University, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing (517) 353-5111, [www.universityclubofmsu.org](http://www.universityclubofmsu.org)

### Dec. 5 - Winter Wine & Stein at Potter Park Zoo

Sample delectable hors d'oeuvres, beer

See Happenings, Page 20



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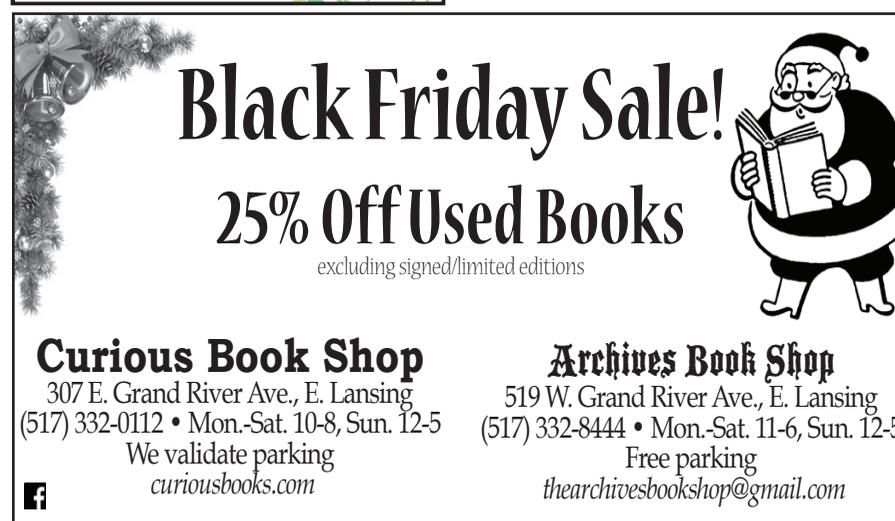
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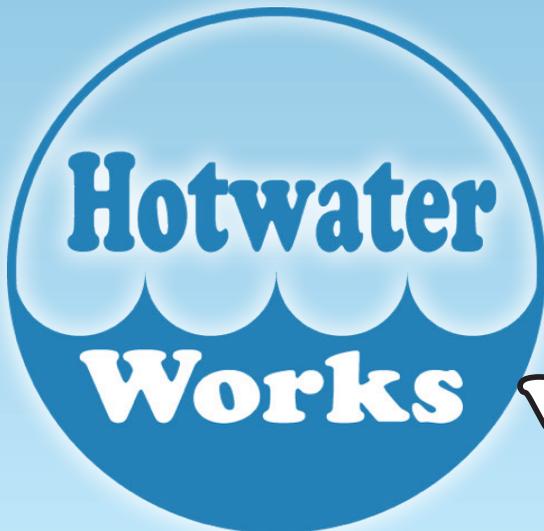
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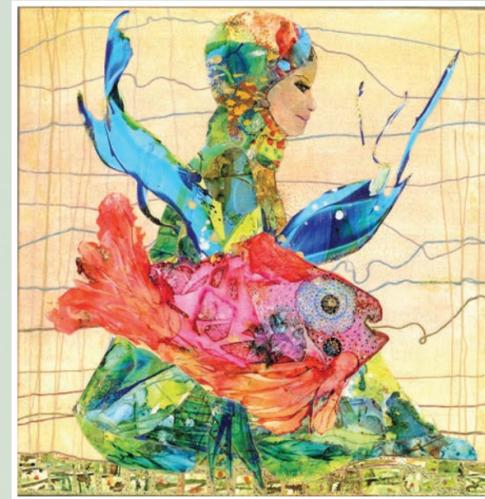
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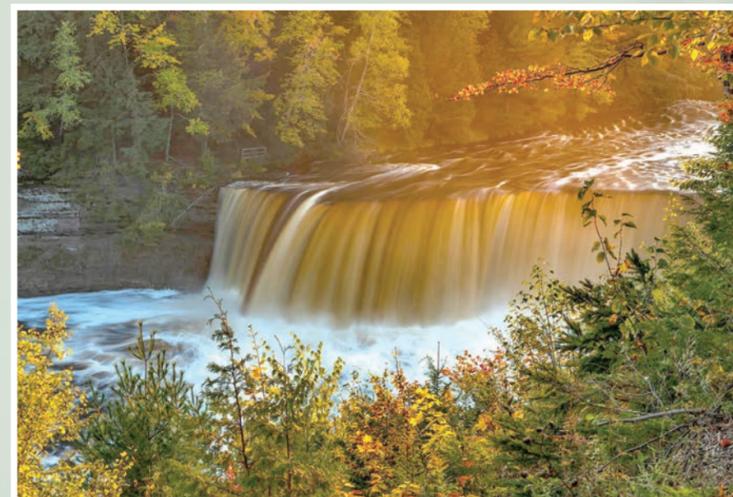
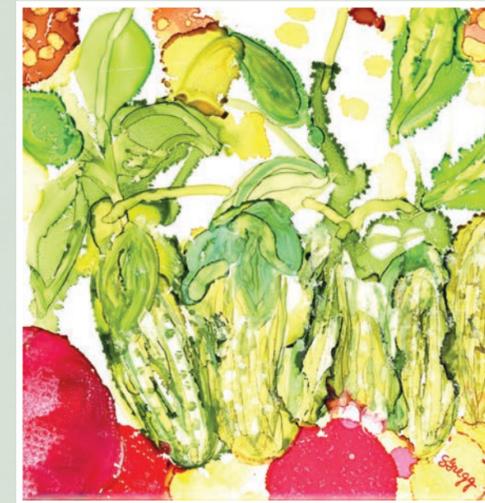


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**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY**  
November 30  
Absolute Gallery will be open from 9 am to 7 pm.

**Absolute Gallery holiday hours will be**  
**Monday - Saturday 11 - 7**  
**Sunday 11 - 5**



## Happenings

from page 16

and wine from local restaurants on an illuminated "Wonderland of Lights" path around the zoo. Attendees must be 21 and over to qualify.

\$25, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing Charter Township, MI 48912. (517) 483-4222, www.potterparkzoo.org

### Dec. 6 - Ten Pound Fiddle Holiday Sing

Seasonal, secular songs and a few hymns compose a warm evening of participatory music during the holidays for Ten Pound Fiddle's annual Holiday Sing concert. Vocals and accompaniment will be provided by Doug Berch, poet Ruelaine Stokes, Marzeih Ghiasi and Doug Austin on piano. Ten Pound

Fiddle booking manager Sally Potter hosts. Lyric sheets provided.

\$20, 7:30 p.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing

(517) 337-7744, www.tenpoundfiddle.org

### Dec. 7 - East Lansing's Winter Glow

East Lansing's free outdoor winter festival will feature ice carving, horse and carriage rides, a special outdoor holiday farmer's market, a heated music tent, free family portrait with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

2 p.m. to 5 p.m., 300 M. A. C. Ave, East Lansing

(517) 337-1731 www.downtownel.com

### Dec. 7 - DAOM Heavy Metal Holiday Meltdown at The Avenue Café

The Dark Arts of Michigan closes out a year of sheer horror with a dense line up of entertainment including Tater Tot Noxious, Prince Marsallis, Veronica Lockhart, Leena Allure, Eartha Kitten,

Caffeyne Luv and Darryn Storm. Two floors of vendors and readings at Triple Goddess Bookstore all night long. 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., \$10, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, facebook.com/

### Dec. 7 - Toys for Tots at Potter Park Zoo

An annual initiative to fill a moving truck with toys. Each person who brings in a new, unwrapped toy receives free admittance to Wonderland of Lights.

5 to 8 p.m., 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing Charter Township, MI 48912. (517) 483-4222,

www.potterparkzoo.org

### Dec. 7 - Scrooge Scramble 5K and Holiday Hullabaloo in Old Town

Around 400 runners will participate in a 5K "Scrooge Scramble" while Old Town businesses transform with Holiday goods and more for its annual Holiday Hullabaloo. Santa will be visiting as well.

10 a.m. to 7 p.m.,

1232 Turner St., Lansing

(517)-485-4283, www.iloveoldtown.org

### Dec. 7 - Phil Denny Christmas Show

National saxophonist Phil Denny puts his spin on Christmas classics and performs original music at this family friendly seventh annual event. Denny also welcomes trumpeter, songwriter and bandleader, Ryan Montano, Detroit's rare jewel vocalist Gwen Foxx and guitarist Wayne Gerard, who rounds out the list with elements of rock, blues, Hip-Hop, punk, funk and jazz.

\$28, 7 p.m. Margaret Livensparger Theater, 5885 W. Holt Road, Holt

hstheaterprogram@gmail.com,

www.pdcc.brownpapertickets.com

### Dec. 7 - Williamston Holiday Light Parade

With illuminated floats and vehicles, a marching band and tree lighting, check out Williamston's annual Holiday Light Parade with area businesses open extended hours. There will also be a costume contest with the winner receiving a stocking filled with Living Arts goodies and candy.

4 p.m., 201 School St., Williamston (517) 655-1549, www.williamston.org

### Dec. 7 through Dec. 31 Contra and Square Dance at Central United Methodist Church

All dances taught - no partner needed. Wear loose clothes, comfortable shoes, and be prepared to have a good time! Come early - at 6:30 - for a quick workshop on easy contra dance moves. 7 to 10 p.m., \$12, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, tenpoundfiddle.org, (517) 614-5858.

### Dec. 7 - Night Lights Christmas Parade and Festivities in Grand Ledge

Grand Ledge celebrates its Christmas tree lighting with a parade of floats and festivities starting from the Grand Ledge Fire Barn, 500 N. Clinton St., down Bridge Street. The Grand Marshal is Jill Mangrum, recently retired principal of Grand Ledge High School. 7 p.m. Grand Ledge Chamber, 310 Greenwood St., Grand Ledge (517) 627-2383, www.grandlegechamber.com

### Dec. 8 - Festive Sounds: A Holiday Concert

This annual holiday concert features the Lansing Concert Band with special guest Ralph Votapek, MSU's Professor Emeritus of Piano, who will take on George Gershwin's masterpiece, "Rhapsody in Blue."

4 to 6 p.m., \$10, Charlotte Performing Arts Center, 378 State St., Charlotte (517) 541-5690, www.charlotteperformingartscenter.com

### Dec. 8 - 8th Annual Festival of Trees

Tour the Turner Dodge House as all three floors will be decorated with individual artisan trees from local artists and organizations. The display will run until Jan. 1. Children under 12 years old are free.

12 p.m., \$5, Turner-Dodge House & Heritage Center, 100 E. North St., Lansing

(517) 483-4220, www.lansingmi.gov/938/Turner-Dodge-House

### Dec. 7 - REO Town Neighborhood Holiday Pop Up

Fifty different vendors in eight storefronts unite for this holiday pop up.



## Holiday Specials!

20% OFF Supplies

15% OFF Single MTG, Yu-Gi-Oh!, Pokemon Cards

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Limited to supply. Sale good until Dec. 20, 2019



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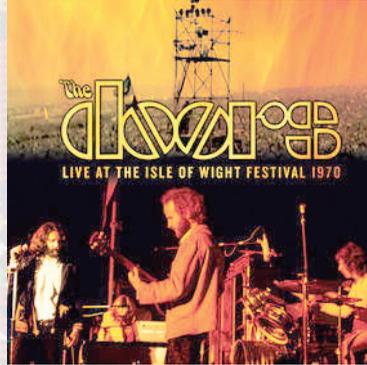
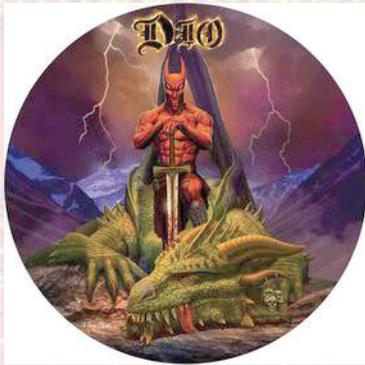
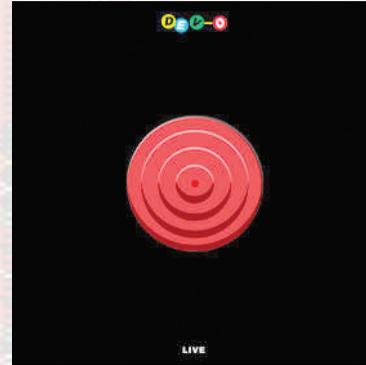
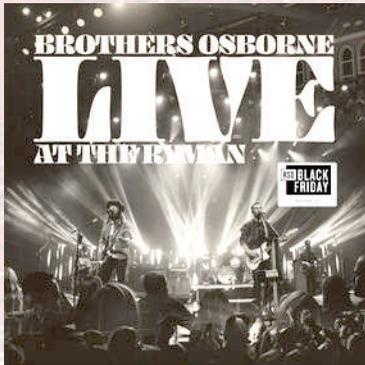
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# 2019 Holiday Happenings

## Happenings

from page 20

Goods range from local roasted coffee to wreaths and knitted apparel. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., REO Town, 1027 S. Washington Ave., Lansing

### Dec. 7 - 17th Annual St. Johns Christmas Festival at Clinton County RESA Building

Breakfast with Santa (8-10:30am), Craft Show & Festival of Trees (8am-3pm) and Kids Make-It and Take-It Crafts (12-3pm). 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., 1013 Old U.S. 27 Suite, (989) 224-7248, lansingfamilyfun.com

### Dec. 10 - FALCOERS Sensory-Friendly Wonderland of Lights

Thousands of lights will create extraordinary animal exhibits and holiday displays designed for people with unique challenges. Registration for free admission to the zoo and activities ends Dec. 9 at midnight.

5 to 8 p.m., 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing Charter Township, MI 48912. (517) 483-4222, www.potterparkzoo.org

### Dec. 13 - Holiday arrangement workshop at Where the Wild Things Bloom

Weave, trim and arrange the ideal holiday centerpiece with evergreens, pinecones, red roses an holiday trim. The event is food and alcohol friendly.

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., \$40, Where the Wild Things Bloom, 523 E. Cesar E. Chavez Ave., Lansing (517) 253-8519, www.wildthingsbloom.com

### Dec. 13 - Caroling with LUVS at Moores Park neighborhood

Join the Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle for an evening of caroling, community, and holiday spirit in the Moores Park neighborhood! All faiths, backgrounds and identities are wel-

come, and the LUVS will select a sackful of holiday tunes to share!

7 p.m., 400 Moores River Drive, Lansing, facebook.com/517LUVS

### Dec. 14 - Holiday Sing-A-Long with Carrie Quisenberry at MSU Community School

Carrie Quisenberry will lead a sing-along for folk enthusiasts from ages 3 to 13 and their family.

10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing, tenpoundfiddle.org, (517) 974-3751.

### Dec. 14 - Terri Davis-Hayden Christmas Cabaret at UrbanBeat

You're invited to "A Davis Family Christmas" featuring performances by the vocally-inclined bunch including Terri Davis-Hayden, Mike "Mr. Entertainment" Davis and Jeff Davis.

6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., 1213 Turner St., Lansing, urbanbeatevens.com, (517) 331-8440

### Dec. 20-22 - Holiday Cheer at Riverwalk Theatre

Directed by Meghan Eldred-Woolsey, the Holiday Cabaret will feature local performers singing classic Christmas songs alongside the John Dale Smith Trio and dancers from Karyn's Dance Place.

7 p.m., Sunday at 3 p.m., \$15, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing (517) 482-5700, www.riverwalktheatre.com

### Dec. 21 - Storytime & Cinnamon Rolls with Santa at Al!ve

A classic Christmas tale read by a storyteller and special guest, wish list making and cinnamon rolls. Families are encouraged to wear Christmas pajamas to this event.

10 a.m. to noon, \$25-\$30, 800 W. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, (517) 541-5800

### Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Salsa Party at UrbanBeat

Back by popular demand, dinner starts at 8 p.m. Salsa lessons for those who wish to partake will be given after dinner.

7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m., 1213 Turner St., Lansing, urbanbeatevens.com, (517) 331-8440



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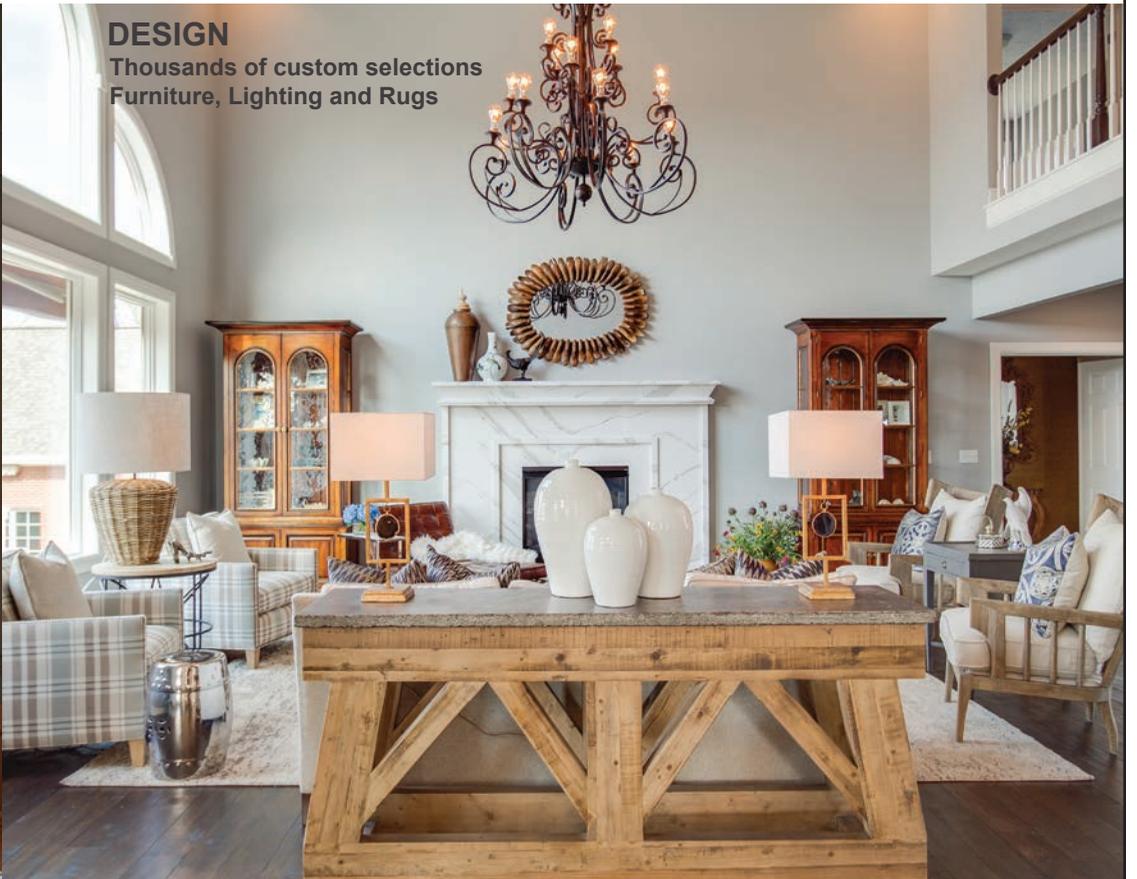
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# ARTS & CULTURE

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## Clarity inside chaos: Randy Napoleon buffers bebop into a balm

By LAWENCE COSENTINO

It wasn't in his job description, but MSU jazz guitar Professor Randy Napoleon has quietly taken on a big task — make the world make sense.

Napoleon's new CD, "Common Tones," sublimates today's trouble in mind into positive musical energy. The album is hot in the jazz world, garnering good reviews and brisk sales nationwide. Napoleon is backing the release by touring all over the world, from Detroit to Japan to Senegal in West Africa.

Napoleon's local stop of choice these days is Red Cedar Spirits in East Lansing, the latest haven for live jazz in the area. Napoleon and his student quartet played a generous set at Red Cedar last week and will return Tuesday

### Randy Napoleon Quartet at Red Cedar Spirits

Free  
Thursday, Dec. 5, 7-10 p.m.  
2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing  
(517) 908-9950

simplify the avian aerobatics and pinball ricochets of bebop, but rather etches them into the air with perfect logic and clarity.

"Bebop is something you have to reach for your whole life," Napoleon said. "The rhythmic and harmonic language is everything to me."

The co-creators of bebop, saxophonist Charlie Parker and trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie, played with blinding speed and virtuosity. Napoleon always gravitates to the songful nucleus inside bebop's blurring electron shells.

"They are both highly melodic," he said of Parker and Gillespie. "Charlie Parker has unbelievable speed, but there are always moments, where he'll play a nursery rhyme, something we could all sing. It always comes back to a direct, memorable melody, or to the blues."

Napoleon is always careful to keep the audience in mind.

"If you just play too many notes all the time, it becomes hard to follow," he said. "You need to put up signposts."

On about half the album, Napoleon is joined by his fellow MSU Professors

of Jazz, playing at the height of relaxed virtuosity. Napoleon's students, featured on the other half, hold their own and more.

Despite the CD's relaxed vibe, there is a pensive undercurrent. The names of Napoleon's original tunes on the album say it all — "You've Got to Hang On," "Saber Rattle," "Where it Ends," "How it Might Have Been" and "Lessons Learned."

"We're going through a period of extreme strife," Napoleon said. "Some of those tunes were directly geared to that."

Even the giddy joy of the Beach Boys' "Wouldn't It Be Nice," the album's first track, masks a feeling of hopelessness. The song envisions a place "where we belong," but there is no such place.

Or is there? If paradise is anywhere, it's surely on the album's most centered track — "Signed Dizzy, With Love." This corner of bebop heaven was written by soulful Detroit saxophonist Donald Walden, one of Napoleon's most revered mentors. It's a confident, muscular stroll on a sunny day with warm ensemble touches and a perfect solo by saxophonist Diego Rivera. "Signed Dizzy" is one of two tunes on the album dedicated to Walden, who died in 2008. ("If DW Were Here" is the other.)

You won't hear Napoleon play stock licks or jazz clichés, thanks in part to Walden's tutelage.

"The thing that was so great about him is that there was no one more rooted in the bebop language, and knowledge of tunes and repertoire," Napoleon said. "But he was very exploratory, and stressed avoiding clichés. If I played something that was too 1940s, he'd just say, 'That's corny.'"

The other unseen presence on "Common Tones" is Ann Arbor-based trumpeter Louis Smith, an under-appreciated jazz giant who died in 2016.

"Louis was the absolute essence of early bebop," Napoleon said. "There was almost like a mathematical purity and clarity to his thinking. Everything was balanced, almost like a Platonic ideal."



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Guitarist Randy Napoleon brought his quartet to Red Cedar Spirits Thursday and will return Dec. 5. Joining Napoleon Thursday were Lucas Lafave (left, on bass), Will Crandall (drums) and Andre Crawford on piano (not pictured).

He was the same way off the bandstand, Napoleon said.

"If you asked him a question, it was not a mysterious answer," Napoleon said. When Napoleon asked Smith how he deals with bebop's fast tempos, Smith had a simple answer.

"He didn't say anything about looking at the moon on the third Thursday,

or imagining some mysterious energy — just practice," Napoleon said.

At Thursday's gig at Red Cedar, Napoleon seemed to clasp Smith's clarity as if it were a lifeline.

"The world is so chaotic," Napoleon said. "I think about Louis a lot because everything about him made sense."

# Williamston Theatre runs six plays in one day for 'Giving Tuesday'

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

Recalibrate your impulses to binge on holiday ham and feast your ears on contemporary scripts in bone-deep readings by Williamston Theatre's finest.

A day focused on community engagement is the perfect balance to the hype over Cyber Monday deals. The original works read on #Giving Tuesday range from screwball sex comedies to tales of epic loneliness and the fight against obsolescence in a fast-moving world.

"We read fascinating plays, all written in the past two to three years," said Emily Sutton-Smith, the development director. "It's very different from a fully staged production, but it's also very different from just reading a play from a page."

Three years ago, Sutton-Smith became the troupe's expert on the funds-giving holiday and worked with Tony Casella, the creative director, to include his vision of cramming a whole season into one day.

"It's great because we can just share stories with people," Sutton-Smith said. In its three years of existence, the theater fest has come to draw "stalwart, die-hard people who come at 10 o'clock in the morning and want to hear plays all day."

Sutton-Smith said eight people stayed for the entirety of last year's micro-fest, but the individual shows continue to fill the theater as the evening progresses. The subject matter in the line-up could be described as PG-13 plus, and will not appeal to younger audiences.

While the event is free, smiling faces with red buckets, minus the ringing bells, will be on standby to collect donations. Sutton said a small table for brochures from "a handful" of Williamston-based charities is to be set aside for the community to take home.

"It's a reminder during the giving season that 'hey, this is what we do.' It's about engagement," Sutton-Smith said.

Here in the lineup:

**10 a.m. : "Tracy Jones," by Stephen Kaplan**

Tracy Jones is throwing a party to which she's invited every woman in the world who is also named Tracy Jones.



Courtesy Photo

Emily Sutton-Smith is the development director for Williamston Theatre and has coordinated Giving Tuesday for three years.

**Noon: "Seven Homeless Mammoths Wander New England," by Madeleine George**

A screwball sex comedy about the perils of monogamy, certainty and academic administration.

**2 p.m. : "SHOCK! The Spine-Tingling Tale of Miss Spidra," by Joseph Zettelmaier**

Starting as a struggling actress trying to make her mark, Joyce finds herself becoming an icon, a celebrity. But her efforts to keep her beloved show alive cost her more than she could have guessed.

**4 p.m. : "Creating Claire," by Joe DiPietro**

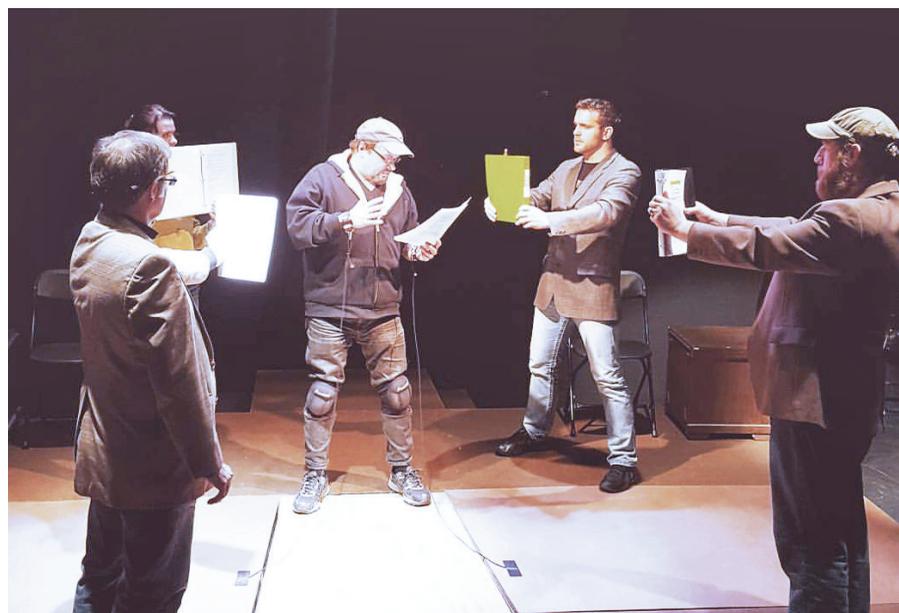
Employed as a docent at a natural history museum, nice, middle-aged Claire comes under fire when her tour-guide patter deviates from the strict scientific beliefs of her formidable supervisor and heads down a path that espouses intelligent design. Claire's spiritual slant attracts extra visitors but soon leads to legal action. A powerful exploration of the supernova that results when science, faith and politics collide.

**6 p.m. : "Fortune," by Deborah Zoe Laufer**

Maude, a lonely, surly, storefront psychic, has accepted that love is not in the cards for her. She can see the future and knows this to be true. But when Jeremy, a despondent love-hungry accountant, threatens to kill himself if she sees no love for him, she must wrestle with fate and in changing his destiny change her own.

**8 p.m. : "Maytag Virgin," by Audrey Cefaly**

A classic Southern love story. May-



Courtesy Photo

Creative Director Tony Caselli (center) leading actors through a script reading. The Giving Tuesday event will feature six scripts, read by professional actors on a bare bones set.

tag Virgin follows Alabama teacher Lizzy Nash and her new neighbor, Jack Key, over the year following the tragic death of Lizzy's husband. The

play explores the ideas of inertia and self-enlightenment, and the bridge between the two.

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# More than just a church

How Central United Methodist Church is fighting obsolescence by working with local arts

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

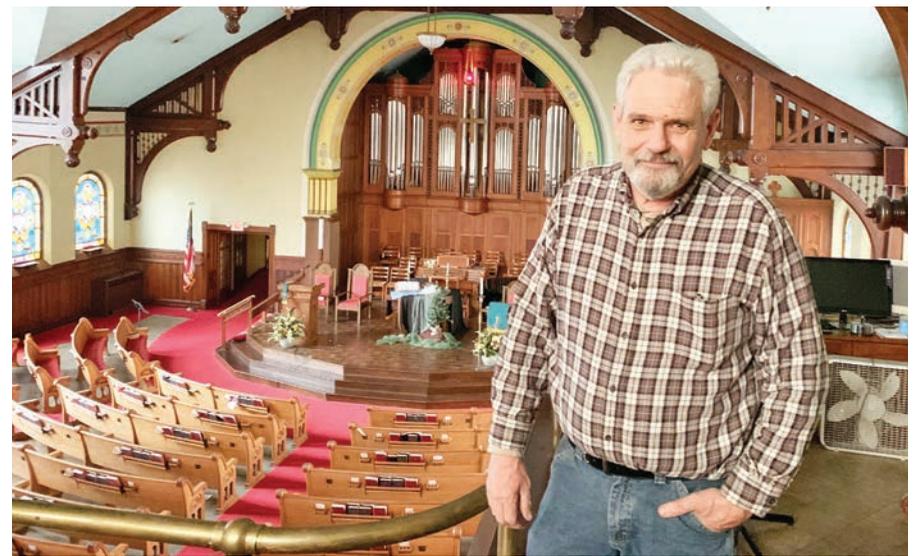
With its original Ionia stone exterior, colossal stained glass windows and four-story communal center, the Central United Methodist Church is a magnificent structure in downtown Lansing. By opening its doors to the community and groups like the Peppermint Creek Theatre Co., the church is more than just a religious landmark.

For 170 years, the Central United Methodist Church has served as a place of worship for Lansing residents. In the '20s, it developed a second arm for

entertainment. Paul Walker, the full-time facilities manager, said with a declining congregation, renting facilities helps offset the costs of maintaining the massive and ornate church. He said having a five-production contract with Peppermint Creek is one way to alleviate costs.

Walker added that during the church's earlier years, it served residents beyond their religious needs during an era without TVs, malls and modern amusements.

"What did people do?" Walker asked. "They went to the church. That was



David Winkelstern

Paul Walker, Central United Methodist Church's facilities manager, inside the chapel.

their entertainment."

The cornerstone for the modified Romanesque-style sanctuary, including its 33-foot high ceiling, was set in 1889. The designer was Elijah E. Myers, the same architect for the Capitol Building across the street. "I am very much in awe of the craftsmanship that went into the construction of the building at the time it was built," Walker said.

To serve more than parishioners, the community began drafting plans for a community center in 1921. Two years later, the Temple House was built under the vision of designer Lee Black.

The Temple House features a basketball court, bowling alley and a 200-seat social hall with a large kitchen with a 10-burner stove. "There are four floors to the Temple House portion of the church, and all are used in some fashion," Walker said.

A nursery, elevator and a full library are part of the church's features.

Although homeless lodging is no longer affordable, the library sometimes becomes a respite for them.

Since the auditorium is so close to the Capitol, Walker said it is often sought as a meeting place for lobbying groups to strategize.

The main floor, Fellowship Hall, boasts a 22-foot-wide and 20-foot-deep

stage with a curved back wall. Its original, movie theater-style floor seating is gone. In the balcony, 90 of the novel seats with top hat racks remain intact.

"There are actual metal brackets on the bottom of the seats that you slid your top hat into to keep it up off the floor and free from damage," Walker said.

Throughout the runs of its plays, Peppermint Creek Theatre Co. leaves its sets onstage. Unlike the Miller Auditorium, which housed the theatre company for its last seven seasons, there is no storage space. With many groups renting the hall, 24/7 stage access can be an issue. "The church has been tremendously flexible and accommodating," said Chad Swan-Badgero, the founder and co-artistic director for the theater company.

He added that the church's central location, accessible parking and proximity to several bars and restaurants makes Central United an ideal location for art organizations to host their events.

Staging plays at the church has also afforded Peppermint Creek a chance to experiment with the hall's unfixed seating arrangement.

"A space without anchored seating allows us flexibility for staging productions in a variety of ways," Swan-Badgero said.

When the company was looking for a new place to perform, a congregation member — and a supporter of Peppermint Creek — made the contact that led to its current contract with the church. "That's how we found it," Swan-Badgero said.

In September, Peppermint Creek's



Swan-Badgero



## Holiday Celebration

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MSU Broad Art Museum  
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Questions: Call Melody Angel, M.D. at 989-550-1181

This space donated in part by City Pulse

See Peppermint, Page 27

# East Lansing gains store for zen and wellness on Grand River

By DENNIS BURCK

Longtime East Lansing massage business Massage and Wellness expanded last week into a 2,000-square-foot operation, adding a store with local and fair trade artisan goods.

Owner Allan Glanz said the expansion adds more goods for students and

## Massage & Wellness

Daily, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
541 E. Grand River Ave #5,  
East Lansing  
(517) 203-1113  
massageandwellnessonline.com

residents to relax and restore from stress. The store has an assortment of low-lit salt lamps,

scented candles, massage oils and soaps.

“We are all about well-being. Over the months, it turned into some local products and some fair trade global products,” Glanz said. “But we want things to be affordable. We want people to be able to give a gift to a sorority sister or something.”

Glanz said he went for an industrial aesthetic with more rustic products. “When you think Michigan, you think of cabins and cottages. That is part of our well-being here.”

One of his fair-trade pieces is an organic shea butter made by a Michigan State University professor with part of the proceeds going to build an orphanage in Ghana, Glanz added.

“We’ve got walls so far,” he said.

A stone’s throw from the shea butter sees journals marketed to where someone can jot down their unsavory thoughts and lock them in a box. “Some of it is just fun. Some of it is just irreverent. But humor is part of well-being,” he said.

Glanz got into the massage and wellness business after receiving massages after swimming in Hawaii.

“I actually went to engineering

school with a mechanical engineering degree from Western. I then segued into software, talked to a massage therapist and got my certification in 2004.”

The space next door had been vacant for a year and Glanz said he looked to expand. Massage and Wellness had to leave its previous location for the Micro Target that opened on Grand River in July.

“As far as I know, no massage place has done this before in Lansing. You’ll see a little rack with products at most, but not a store.”

Glanz also stocks CBD products like tinctures, gummies and massage creams. “When you hear the stories about animals with arthritis being able to walk well again, I don’t think it can be a placebo effect.”

He plans to offer deals for both sides of his business with 10% off anything in the store with a massage and 10% off a massage or facial with a sufficient purchase from the store.

A door to access both sections without walking outside is in the works, he added.

Among the fair trade products is also a focus on Himalayan goods with salts, prayer flags and candles. The multicolored Himalayan prayer flags on a ribbon are most often seen at the base camps of Mt. Everest.

Glanz keeps a portrait of his mom in the new store as well. He said she was a big influence on the development of his holistic lifestyle.

“Back when I was a kid, she was told she needed back surgery. Chiropractors were voodoo back then and she came to the holistic mindset because she never needed back surgery,” Glanz said. “We have inscribed around the photo something she believed: ‘Worry about nothing, pray about everything.’”

venue is about three times as large as our previous space and allows us a lot of diversity as far as staging,” Swan-Badgero said.

The company’s last show of the year is “Gloria,” a 2016 Pulitzer Prize-winner written by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins. It opens on Jan. 16 for a two-week run including onstage gun-slinging and “a shocking twist of events,” Swan-Badgero said.

He added that in January, a decision will be made about negotiating a new contract with the church.



Photo by Dennis Burck

Owner of Massage and Wellness Alan Glanz added holistic goods to his shop.



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Settle into the Christmas season with the beautiful and uplifting sounds of more than 200 singers and instrumentalists from Choral Union, University Chorale and the MSU Symphony Orchestra as they perform selections from *Messiah* by George Frideric Handel featuring the triumphant “Hallelujah Chorus,” and Francis Poulenc’s most celebrated work, *Gloria*. Jonathan Reed, Conductor.

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# Peppermint

from page 26

first production in the new space was “Bright Star” in which he utilized the entire Fellowship Hall floorplan with movable set pieces and lined the audience in folding chairs along the walls.

The second play, “The Humans,” featured an exposed, two-story house that fit easily on the expansive stage. “The

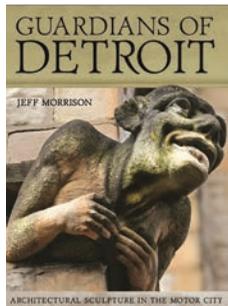
# Ten best reads for 2019: From ancestry to housing insecurity

By **BILL CASTANIER**

I reviewed and read some fantastic books this past year which I condensed into a list to help you be the star of this season's gift giving. This list is ideal for the family historian who is eager to dive into ancestry at the dinner table, or is looking to brush up on their mitten facts.

## "Guardians of Detroit: Architectural Sculpture in the Motor City"

By **Jeff Morrison**



Jeff Morrison's "Guardians" is a beautiful and exhausting tour of Detroit's classic buildings, as well as the gargoyles, griffins and various creatures which adorn them. The 350-page book has more than 750 photographs which are accompanied by a crisp history of the building and the men who built them.

## "Where Today Meets Tomorrow: Eero Saarinen and the General Motors Technical Center"

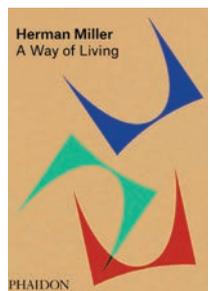
By **Susan Skarsgard**



Susan Skarsgard takes us inside the seldom seen world of the General Motors Technical Center in Warren. Skarsgard worked as designer for General Motors and analyzes the architecture of her former stomping grounds with the careful eye of an engineer. Her book is illustrated with photography and art preserved by the company and the two generations of Saarinens who were primarily responsible for the design of the Tech Center.

## "Herman Miller: A Way of Living"

By **Herman Miller, Inc.**

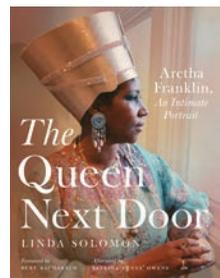


Herman Miller is considered one of the movers and shakers of the international Modernism movement. Locally, George Nelson, the company's former design director of four decades, befriended the owners of Lieberman's gift store, located at 113 S. Washington

Square, redesigned the retail storefront and interior. The downtown Lansing building used to also be the home of the Lansing Art Gallery and is for sale.

## "The Queen Next Door: Aretha Franklin, an Intimate Portrait"

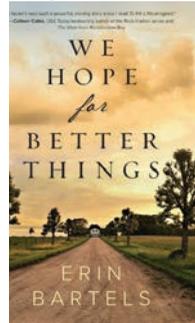
By **Linda Solomon**



As a 29-year-old journalist and photographer, Linda Solomon was in the right place at the right time. A visit to document a speaking engagement with Aretha Franklin for the Detroit Metro Times enabled her to gain the life-long trust of the shutter shy star. The result is a sparkling photographic journey of Aretha Franklin in some of her private moments. This book is a must for Franklin's loyal fans, but it will also win over those with affections for lavish costuming.

## "We Hope for Better Things"

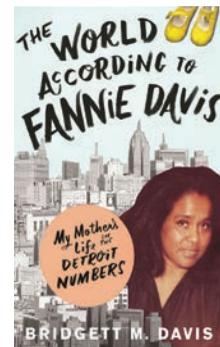
By **Erin Bartels**



Lansing author Erin Bartels may have struck gold with her debut work of historical fiction. The plot revolves around race, long-held family secrets and a cache of photographs, and ultimately ties race relations in Detroit together with the Civil War and nearby rural communities. Bartels follows three generations of a family as they learn more about their past while navigating perilous waters.

## "The World According to Fannie Davis: My Mother's Life in the Detroit Numbers"

By **Bridgett M. Davis**

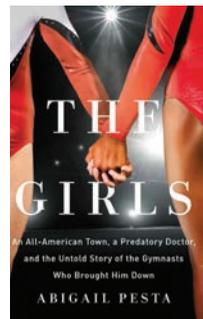


Bridgett M. Davis' memoir is a fast-paced gallop through a world couched in secrecy that we seldom get to see. Her mother, Fannie Davis, supported the family by running numbers, a game very similar to the modern lottery where betters pick lucky numbers and hope for a big payout. The numbers game in Detroit, unlike other areas in the country, was run by moms and pops rather than organized crime

syndicates.

## "The Girls: An All-American Town, a Predatory Doctor, and the Untold Story of the Gymnasts Who Brought Him Down"

By **Abigail Pesta**

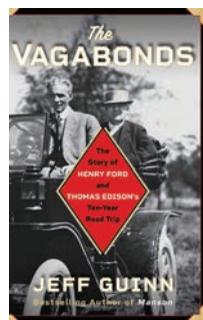


Abigail Pesta has applied a journalist's measured factual approach in her book "The Girls," which takes an in-depth look at 25 survivors of the horrors of Larry Nassar's sexual abuse. Pesta's compassionate in-depth reporting is startling in its candor and should be read by coaches, counselors, therapists, parents and athletes.

The vivid detail in the words of the victims makes this book a tough read. Pesta said the editors thought the story would soon grow cold. She said, "They couldn't have been more wrong."

## "Vagabonds: The Story of Henry Ford and Thomas Edison's Ten-Year Road Trip"

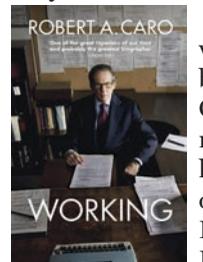
By **Jeff Guinn**



One of America's most famous road trips is documented in Jeff Guinn's book "Vagabonds: The Story of Henry Ford and Thomas Edison's Ten-Year Road Trip." Ford, Edison and Harvey Firestone took to the road in the '20s camping as they crisscrossed the United States shilling for Ford's Model T and Edison's inventions. The book is a heck of a look at America and small towns with a major focus on the troupe's stops in rural Michigan.

## "Working"

By **Robert A. Caro**

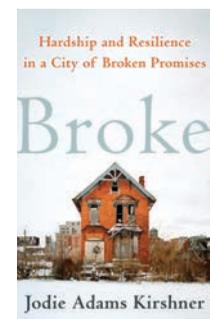


This book is for writers and would-be writers. Robert Caro is a man on a mission to finish his last book in a series of five on President Lyndon B. Johnson. He's working on the fifth volume of LBJ chronicles, but took time to publish a memoir, "Working," of his 50-year-plus career as a writer. His insight into research, interviewing and writing provides a fascinating look at one of the 21st century's greatest writ-

ers.

## "Broke: Hardship and Resilience in a City of Broken Promises"

By **Jodie Adams Kirshner**



If you want to know more about what the impact of the Detroit bankruptcy had on everyday citizens, look no further. In her book, she follows seven residents as they struggle holding onto their homes. She also contrasts the city's revival with the average citizen's inability to connect with the turn around.

# SCHULER BOOKS

## STORY TIME WITH MICHAEL WOODWORTH December 7 · 11am

Local author Michael Woodworth will be reading his newest title, *The Crab*, at storytime! Joining him will be the book's illustrator Morgan Ferland. A signing will follow. These gorgeous picture books make great holiday gifts. Join us for story time and activities.

## STORYTIME WITH MRS. CLAU December 14 · 11am

Mrs. Claus is taking a break from helping Santa and is joining us for storytime! Stop in and enjoy some holiday stories straight from the North Pole.

## 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

# OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://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 27

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Astronomy & Astrophysics Seminar** - Speakers and topics vary. 1:30 p.m. 122 Wells Hall, MSU, East Lansing. [events.msu.edu](http://events.msu.edu).

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Adventure Club Storytimes** - 4-5 p.m. Grand Ledge Area Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. [grandledge.lib.mi.us](http://grandledge.lib.mi.us).

**Book on Every Bed** - Give the Gift of Reading this Christmas! Grand Ledge District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge.

**Family Storytime (Ages up to 6)** - build early literacy skills. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. CADL Webberville, 115 N. Main St.. [cadl.org](http://cadl.org).

**NaNoWriMo Writing Space (Adults)** - Do you need a dedicated quiet space to work on your writing? 2-4 p.m. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 N. Aurelius Rd., Holt. [cadl.org](http://cadl.org)

**Rock n' Read Storytime** - This storytime combines books, music and movement. 10:30-11 a.m. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. [cadl.org](http://cadl.org)

### EVENTS

**Allen Farmers Market** - 3-6:30 p.m. with Deacon Earl, musical guest, 5-6 p.m. 1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911. [allenneighborhoodcenter.org](http://allenneighborhoodcenter.org).

**College Visit:** Siena Heights University - 3 p.m. LCC, University Center, Lansing. [lcc.edu](http://lcc.edu).

**Coworking at The Grid** - Folks can cowork in their space! 9 a.m.-12 p.m. The Grid, 226 E. Cesar Chavez, Lansing.

**Egypt Krohn at Senior Discovery Center** - pretty good coffee and great conversation! 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1611 E Kalamazoo, Lansing. 517-367-2468.

**Lansing Area Mindfulness Community** - 7-9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S MLK Blvd., Lansing. 517-420-5820. [lamc.info](http://lamc.info).

**Tiny Tots Tumbling Tour** - introduction to tumbling that kids can do with their parent. 10-11 a.m. World Tour Cheer and Tumble, 1860 1/2 W Grand River, Okemos.

### ARTS

**Exhibition: We Can Begin Again: Moving Through Trauma #BeginAgainMSU** - Noon -3 p.m. Michigan State University, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing. [rcah.msu.edu](http://rcah.msu.edu).

**The Rainmakers Come to The Peoples Church:** All week 12-4 p.m. 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-6073. [thepeopleschurch.com](http://thepeopleschurch.com).

## Thursday, November 28

### EVENTS

**Thanksgiving Dinner** - Open to all in need of food on this holiday. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N High St, Lansing. [cristoreycommunity.org](http://cristoreycommunity.org).

## Friday, November 29

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**American Fifth Spirits Black Friday Cocktail Class** - You have the day off anyway...so, spend some of it at our Tasting Room! 1:30-3:30 p.m. 112 N. Larch St., Lansing.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Carrie Cunningham, Author, Book Signing and Reading** - Meaning Train: Essays on Religion and Politics - Book signing and reading. 1 p.m. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

### EVENTS

**70s and 80s Soul Train Party** - 9-2 p.m. Silver Leaf Lodge, 5334 S MLK, Lansing.

**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.

**Mason's Lighted Parade** - The Mason Area Chamber of Commerce is hosting the 19th Annual Mason Holidays Celebration! 6-7:30 p.m.

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



## 'You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown' at Riverwalk Theatre

The 1967 musical comedy is revisited on the Riverwalk stage with original numbers about happiness and wintertime.

**'You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown'**  
8 to 10 p.m. Friday (Nov. 29) to Sunday (Nov. 30), 2 to 4 p.m., 228 Museum Drive, Lansing, (517) 482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com)

fully intact. Directed by Bob Purosky, the small cast brings the "Peanuts" cartoonist Charles M. Schulz's work to life, including Charlie Brown's four-legged companion, Snoopy.

Musical director Jeff English takes on Clark Gesner's original music and lyrics. The original published script of the

show is credited to John Gordon, which Gesner later revealed was a pseudonym encompassing himself, cast members and the production staff. The original plan for the project was to release a concept album, which Gesner did in 1966. The story goes that Gesner had no intention of taking the music to the stage; however, after producer Arthur Whitelaw worked on a staged show inspired by the album, it spurred Gesner to write one of his own.

Tickets for Riverwalk's production of this classic, upbeat tale can be ordered at [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com) Monday through Friday before 5:30 p.m. or 30 minutes before the show at the box office window.

**TGIF Dance Party** - all welcome! 7 p.m.-12 a.m. Hawk Hollow, 15101 Chandler Rd., Bath. 734-604-5095. [tgifdance.com](http://tgifdance.com).

### ARTS

**You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown** - 8-10:30 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

## Saturday, November 30

### EVENTS

**Black 'N' Blue** - Michigan's largest mixed scrimmage is back, hosted by East Lansing Roller Derby. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing.

**Charlotte Celebrates Small Business Saturday** - 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Courthouse Square Museum, 100 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte.

**Cocoa on the Corner** - Small Business Saturday - Tis the season to shop small! 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Mason Area Chamber of Commerce, 148 E Ash St, Mason.

**Holt Farmers Market** - 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Holt Farmers Market, 2150 Cedar St, Holt. [delhitownship.com](http://delhitownship.com).

**How-To-Holiday!** - Kick off your holiday shopping by making your own handmade gifts or purchase from local artists! 12-6 p.m. Lansing Makers Network, 2400 W. St. Joseph St., STE F, Lansing. 517-234-4566.

**STEM Toy Expo** - Explore the surprises inside Impression 5 that allows you to test and play with cool STEM-focused gadgets, kits & toys. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Impression 5, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116.

**Super Best Holiday Extravaganza Eleganza** - 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Strange Matter Coffee Co (Eastside), 2010 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. 517-224-5495. [strangemattercoffee.com](http://strangemattercoffee.com)

**Williamston Pop Up Art & Craft Show** - 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Keller's Plaza, 100 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston.

### ARTS

**Advent Calendar Print and Take Workshop** - 10 a.m.-12 p.m. ALT Printing Co, 1139 S. Washington Ave., Lansing.

**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](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**Melik Brown** - Gallivant, a photography collection - 12-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado, 204 E Mt Hope Ave, Lansing. 517-402-0282.

**You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown** - 8-10:30 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

## SATURDAY, NOV. 30 >> SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY IN REO TOWN



An alternative shopping spree for those who don't consider camping with your aunts outside of a chain department store in sub-40-degree weather as a family gathering. Several shopping centers in the Greater Lansing area, including REO Town Marketplace, will bear local gems that will make for the perfect holiday gift.

11 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
1027 S. Washington Ave., Lansing  
(517) 927-7576  
[reotownmarketplace.com](http://reotownmarketplace.com)

# Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"I Strain"—each has three in a row.

by Matt Jones

**Across**

- 1 Sporty British car, for short
- 4 Pharmacy bottle
- 8 Military helicopter
- 14 Prosecutor's need
- 16 Yokels
- 17 Drawn-out lyric in "The 12 Days of Christmas"
- 19 Fairly matched
- 20 Bathroom floor furnishings
- 21 Rockstar Games title, to fans
- 22 Chinese general on menus
- 24 Gp. that's supposed to be green
- 26 Monarch who gives an annual Christmas speech, briefly
- 27 "Captain Underpants" creator Pilkey
- 30 Drag
- 32 Shakes awake
- 34 Panel game show dating back to the 1950s
- 38 "The Jeffersons" actress Gibbs
- 39 It's multifaceted
- 40 German camera company
- 43 Activity involving a few windmills, maybe
- 46 Brent who played Data
- 48 Vast expanse
- 49 Badminton divider
- 50 Mediation asset
- 51 "You've got mail" ISP
- 54 Strands in a crime lab

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14			15					16					
17							18						
19				20						21			
			22	23		24		25		26			
27	28	29		30		31		32	33				
34			35			36	37						
38						39			40		41	42	
			43			44			45				
46	47						48				49		
50					51	52	53		54		55		
56						57		58		59	60	61	62
63			64	65	66				67				
68							69						
70							71				72		

- 56 Rice-Eccles Stadium footballer
  - 57 Pointed file
  - 59 Online post caption with someone pointing upward
  - 63 Come through
  - 68 Embedded, as tiles
  - 69 Diner sandwich
  - 70 Ear affliction
  - 71 Crafter's website
  - 72 Part of GPS
- Down**
- 1 Boss, in Barcelona
  - 2 Tel \_\_\_\_, Israel
  - 3 Yield
  - 4 Relax, with "out"
  - 5 Question for an indecisive housecat
  - 6 "Defending our rights" org.
  - 7 Pigeon's perching place
  - 8 "Atlas Shrugged" writer Rand
  - 9 Average score
  - 10 Fish on a sushi menu
  - 11 Cold medicine target
  - 12 Thwart completely
  - 13 Classic French work by Montaigne (which inspired a literary form)
  - 15 Body shop challenge
  - 18 Clairvoyant's claim
  - 23 "Miss \_\_\_\_" (2016 Jessica Chastain political thriller)
  - 25 Multi-episode story
  - 26 Bogart's role in "The Caine Mutiny"
  - 27 Low-lit
  - 28 "Selma" director DuVernay
  - 29 Very thin pasta
  - 31 "Alejandro" singer, casually
  - 33 "The Orchid Thief" author Susan
  - 35 Brief flash
  - 36 Game with 81 different cards
  - 37 Grounded birds
  - 41 The Cavs, on scoreboards
  - 42 Naval direction
  - 44 Retirement nest egg
  - 45 "See me after class" writers?
  - 46 Artist's workroom
  - 47 Inventor's acquisition
  - 52 Rinkmaster Bobby
  - 53 The L in PSL
  - 55 "\_\_\_\_ Heart Mother" (Pink Floyd album)
  - 58 Securely closed
  - 60 Works the garden
  - 61 Casually
  - They flew at Mach 2
  - 64 "Can \_\_\_\_ least think it over?"
  - 65 Edward \_\_\_\_ (Victoria's successor)
  - 66 Mag wheels?
  - 67 Part of LGBTQIA+

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Answers Page 31

# SUDOKU

# Beginner

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

## 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 31

# Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

Nov. 27 - Dec. 3, 2019

**ARIES (March 21–April 19):** Humans invented the plow in 4,500 BC, the wheel in 4,000 BC, and writing in 3,400 BC. But long before that, by 6,000 BC, they had learned how to brew beer and make psychoactive drugs from plants. Psychopharmacologist Ronald Siegel points to this evidence to support his hypothesis that the yearning to transform our normal waking consciousness is a basic drive akin to our need to eat and drink. Of course, there are many ways to accomplish this shift besides alcohol and drugs. They include dancing, singing, praying, drumming, meditating, and having sex. What are your favorite modes? According to my astrological analysis, it'll be extra important for you to alter your habitual perceptions and thinking patterns during the coming weeks.

**TAURUS (April 20–May 20):** What's something you're afraid of, but pretty confident you could become unafraid of? The coming weeks will be a favorable time to dismantle or dissolve that fear. Your levels of courage will be higher than usual, and your imagination will be unusually ingenious in devising methods and actions to free you of the unnecessary burden. Step one: Formulate an image or scene that symbolizes the dread, and visualize yourself blowing it up with a "bomb" made of a hundred roses.

**GEMINI (May 21–June 20):** The word "enantiodromia" refers to a phenomenon that occurs when a vivid form of expression turns into its opposite, often in dramatic fashion. Yang becomes yin; resistance transforms into welcome; loss morphs into gain. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you Geminis are the sign of the zodiac that's most likely to experience enantiodromia in the coming weeks. Will it be a good thing or a bad thing? You can have a lot of influence over how that question resolves. For best results, don't fear or demonize contradictions and paradoxes. Love and embrace them.

**CANCER (June 21–July 22):** There are Americans who speak only one language, English, and yet imagine they are smarter than bilingual immigrants. That fact amazes me, and inspires me to advise me and all my fellow Cancerians to engage in humble reflection about how we judge our fellow humans. Now is a favorable time for us to take inventory of any inclinations we might have to regard ourselves as superior to others; to question why we might imagine others aren't as worthy of love and respect as we are; or to be skeptical of any tendency we might have to dismiss and devalue those who don't act and think as we do. I'm not saying we Cancerians are more guilty of these sins than everyone else; I'm merely letting you know that the coming weeks are our special time to make corrections.

**LEO (July 23–Aug. 22):** "Erotic love is one of the highest forms of contemplation," wrote the sensually wise poet Kenneth Rexroth. That's a provocative and profitable inspiration for you to tap into. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you're in the Season of Lucky Plucky Delight, when brave love can save you from wrong turns and irrelevant ideas; when the grandeur of amour can be your teacher and catalyst. If you have a partner with whom you can conduct these educational experiments, wonderful. If you don't, be extra sweet and intimate with yourself.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22):** In the follow-up story to "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland", our heroine uses a magic mirror as a portal into a fantastical land. There she encounters the Red Queen, and soon the two of them are holding hands as they run as fast as they can. Alice notices that despite their great effort, they don't seem to be moving forward. What's happening? The Queen clears up the mystery: In her realm, you must run as hard as possible just to remain in the same spot. Sound familiar, Virgo? I'm wondering whether you've had a similar experience lately. If so, here's my advice: Stop running. Sit back, relax, and allow the world to zoom by you. Yes, you might temporarily fall behind. But in the meantime, you'll get fully recharged. No more than three weeks from now,

you'll be so energized that you'll make up for all the lost time—and more.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22):** Most sane people wish there could be less animosity between groups that have different beliefs and interests. How much better the world would be if everyone felt a generous acceptance toward those who are unlike them. But the problem goes even deeper: Most of us are at odds with ourselves. Here's how author Rebecca West described it: Even the different parts of the same person do not often converse among themselves, do not succeed in learning from each other. That's the bad news, Libra. The good news is that the coming weeks will be a favorable time for you to promote unity and harmony among all the various parts of yourself. I urge you to entice them to enter into earnest conversations with each other!

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21):** Poet Cecilia Woloch asks, "How to un-want what the body has wanted, explain how the flesh in its wisdom was wrong?" Did the apparent error occur because of some "some ghost in the mind?" she adds. Was it due to "some blue chemical rushing the blood" or "some demon or god"? I'm sure that you, like most of us, have experienced this mystery. But the good news is that in the coming weeks you will have the power to un-want inappropriate or unhealthy experiences that your body has wanted. Step one: Have a talk with yourself about why the thing your body has wanted isn't in alignment with your highest good.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21):** Sagittarian composer Ludwig van Beethoven was inclined to get deeply absorbed in his work. Even when he took time to attend to the details of daily necessity, he allowed himself to be spontaneously responsive to compelling musical inspirations that suddenly welled up in him. On more than a few occasions, he lathered his face with the nineteenth-century equivalent of shaving cream, then got waylaid by a burst of brilliance and forgot to actually shave. His servants found that amusing. I suspect that the coming weeks may be Beethoven-like for you, Sagittarius. I bet you'll be surprised by worthy fascinations and subject to impromptu illuminations.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19):** During the next eleven months, you could initiate fundamental improvements in the way you live from day to day. It's conceivable you'll discover or generate innovations that permanently raise your life's possibilities to a higher octave. At the risk of sounding grandiose, I'm tempted to predict that you'll celebrate at least one improvement that is your personal equivalent of the invention of the wheel or the compass or the calendar.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18):** The only thing we learn from history is that we never learn anything from history. Philosopher Georg Hegel said that. But I think you will have an excellent chance to disprove this theory in the coming months. I suspect you will be inclined and motivated to study your own past in detail; you'll be skilled at drawing useful lessons from it; and you will apply those lessons with wise panache as you re-route your destiny.

**PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20):** In his own time, poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807–1882) was acclaimed and beloved. At the height of his fame, he earned \$3,000 per poem. But modern literary critics think that most of what he created is derivative, sentimental, and unworthy of serious appreciation. In dramatic contrast is poet Emily Dickinson (1830–1886). Her writing was virtually unknown in her lifetime, but is now regarded as among the best ever. In accordance with astrological omens, I invite you to sort through your own past so as to determine which of your work, like Longfellow's, should be archived as unimportant or irrelevant, and which, like Dickinson's, deserves to be a continuing inspiration as you glide into the future.

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

# TURN IT DOWN!

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

Sat. Nov. 30

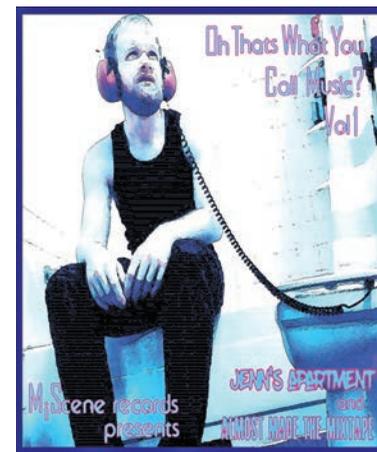
## JENN'S APARTMENT RELEASES SPLIT EP AT MAC'S BAR



Jenn's Apartment performing live at Mac's Bar in August. The band returns to Mac's Saturday for its EP release show. (photo by Donte Smith)



Jenn's Apartment has perfected its poppy brand of rock 'n' roll blending "dark subject matter with an upbeat melody," according to songwriter Roy Kirby, the band's guitarist/vocalist. (photo by Donte Smith)



Album art for "Oh! That's What You Call Music?! Volume 1," which features tracks from Jenn's Apartment and Almost Made The Mixtape.

### Local rock outfit partners with Almost Made The Mixtape on new disc

Saturday, Nov. 30 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$10, \$8 adv., 7 p.m.

Lansing rock band Jenn's Apartment has hustled its way through 2019 and is ending the year with yet another bang — a split EP with Almost Made The Mixtape, a Detroit pop-punk outfit. The disc, "Oh! That's What You Call Music?! Volume 1," is the group's fourth release of the year. The EP will be released Saturday at Mac's Bar with openers Common Nonsense, Idiobliss and, of course, Almost Made The Mixtape.

Earlier this year, Jenn's Apartment released an EP, "The Band on the Throne," to celebrate the final season of "Game of Thrones." Beyond that, they dropped "The Plastic Pickles" EP and a full-length album, "90's School Bus."

"We also built our own studio, allowing us to record and produce on our own schedule," said Justin Pine, 28, Jenn's Apartment drummer and back-

ing vocalist. "The EP has six songs on it — three from Almost Made the Mixtape and three from us. Almost Made the Mixtape covers a previous release by us, 'The Show Must Go Wrong,' and we cover a previous release by them, 'Anyways.'"

Chris Davis, 34, the band's bassist, said he's happy the band was able to release a classic format in the world of DIY music.

"Almost Made the Mixtape is a dope band of super nice dudes," Davis said. "Also, I just personally enjoy and miss the split EP/split 7-inch culture of punk and hardcore bands — we wanted to throw our hat in the ring."

Jenn's Apartment might be a pop-punk power trio, but the muse for the new EP was an iconic New York City rap group, according to Roy Kirby, 33, guitar and lead vocals.

"I had the idea for the split because of my love for Wu-Tang Clan," Kirby said. "They're all separate artists, with their own records and careers, but they also make these albums together ... their albums almost just act like a compilation record of all these different artists who have this common goal and aesthetic. It's such a cool concept that is just completely lacking in rock music. I wanted to do something similar."

Over the past year, the band has played its signature brand of crunchy, jangly guitar riffs across the state, from Lansing to Detroit and from Grand Rapids to Ann Arbor. In that time, the trio's sound has evolved melodically, delivering a noticeable contrast from where it was at in 2015, the year they formed.

"We are definitely incorporating more and more multipart harmonies

into our song writing," Kirby said. "So you can expect to hear more of all of us singing on future releases."

Of course, the band mines from a trusty batch of classic alternative rock albums, most notably The Promise Ring, The Replacements, Jawbreaker and the Get Up Kids. Kirby said Jenn's Apartment aims to create a similar timeless sound, but with a personal twist.

"Lyrically, I tend to mine the more negative experiences in my life," Kirby said. "Like my divorce and relationship wrongs — plus things like drug dealing, addiction, alcoholism and life in poverty. It's hard to beat the kind of contrast you get from putting a dark subject matter with an upbeat melody. We still manage to squeeze in the love songs, though. Life can't be all doom and gloom and music shouldn't be either."



Upcoming show? Contact [Suzi@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:Suzi@lansingcitypulse.com)

DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>The Avenue Café</b> , 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	GTG Punksgiving Free		Black Friday Karaoke Free	Thanks Potato! Free
<b>Coach's Pub &amp; Grill</b> , 6201 Bishop Rd.				Sonic Voodoo 9PM
<b>Crunchy's</b> , 254 W. Grand River, East Lansing			Karaoke 9PM	Karaoke 9PM
<b>The Exchange</b> , 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Wednesday Vibes w/Eddie Bandz	Old School Thursdays w/Jalese 8:30PM	Be Kind Rewind 9PM	Be Kind Rewind 9PM
<b>Green Door</b> , 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Star Farm 9:30PM		Fragment of Soul 9:30PM	
<b>Lansing Brewing Co.</b> , 518 E. Shiawassee	Trivia with Sporele 9PM		Live Music with The Aimcriers 8PM	Live Music with Rachel Curtis 8PM
<b>The Loft</b> , 414 E. Michigan Ave.	In Search of Solace 7PM		DJ Butcher 10PM	Rittz, Dizzy Wright 6:30PM
<b>Mac's Bar</b> , 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Danksgiving Funknighit 7PM		Black Friday Mixtape Showcase 8PM	Jenn's Apartment 7PM
<b>Reno's West</b> , 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.	Invasion Band/Tony Thompson 7PM			
<b>Spiral</b> , 1247 Center St.	Thanksgiving Eve Bash 9PM			
<b>Unicorn</b> , 327 Cesar E. Chavez, Lansing	Open Mic 9:30PM		Live Music with Shelby & Jake 9PM	Live Music with Gina Garner Band 9PM

From Page 28

## Sunday, December 1

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Authors Reading and Book Sale** - 4 local authors will read from their work, 2-3 pm: Joyce Benvenuto, Dawn Chevoya, Lyn Farquhar, and Lana Jackson. 1-4 p.m. Haslett Public Library, 1590 Franklin, Haslett.

### EVENTS

**Black 'N' Blue** - Michigan's largest mixed scrimmage is back, hosted by East Lansing Roller Derby. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Court One Training Center, 7868 Old M-78, East Lansing.

**Scandinavian Society of Greater Lansing's Santa Lucia and Christmas Celebration** - 2-5 p.m. Bretton Woods Covenant Church, 925 Bretton Rd., Lansing. 517-482-9350.

### ARTS

**Art House: Open Studio Time** - Need space to work on an art project, need inspiration, or want to meet other art makers? 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 119 N Washington Sq, Ste 101, Lansing. 517-374-6400.

**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.

**Melik Brown**- Gallivant, a Photography Collection. 12-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado, 204 E Mt Hope Ave, Lansing. 517-402-0282.

**Learn to Screen Print Workshop** - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. ALT Printing Co, 1139 S. Washington

Ave., Lansing.

**You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown** - 2-4:30 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com.

### MUSIC

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

**Ryan Shadbolt LIVE at Ellison Brewery + Spirits** - Ryan Shadbolt celebrates his family's return to East Lansing. 4-6 p.m. Ellison Brewery + Spirits, 4903 Dawn Ave, East Lansing.

## Monday, December 2

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Aqua Fitness** - Fun for all fitness levels. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

**Homeschool Study Group** - 1-4 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014.

**Intro to Italian Conversation** - 3-4 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

**Professional Speaker Series: Medicare Education** - Educational workshop about Medicare including options available. 6-7 p.m. Alive, 800 W Lawrence Ave, Charlotte.

### EVENTS

**Game Night** - Board and card games. 7 p.m. to close every Monday at the Fledge, 1300 Eureka, Lansing. Info at 517-203-9287.

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

**Pet Photos with Santa** - Bring your furry

friends! 6-9 p.m. Meridian Mall, Grand River Ave., Okemos. meridianmall.com.

**Refuge Recovery Lansing** - All are welcome! 6-7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka St., Lansing.

### ARTS

**Drawing Foundations** - With Christopher Russel. 4:30-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

## Tuesday, December 3

### CLASSES AND SEMINARS

**Aqua Fitness** - Fun for all fitness levels. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

**Drop-in Citizenship Test Prep** - Join us on Tuesdays to practice for the USCIS Naturalization Test in a relaxed setting. 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. cadl.org

**High Energy Physics Seminars** - presented at 1:45 p.m. on Tuesdays in 1400 Biomedical & Physical Sciences Building, MSU, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

**Microbiology & Molecular Genetics Seminar** - Weekly research seminars hosted by the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics. 4:10 p.m. 122 Wells Hall, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

### LITERATURE AND POETRY

**Paws for Reading at GLADL** - Come and read to a therapy dog! 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand

Ledge. 517-627-7014.

**Preschool Storytime** - 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014.

### EVENTS

**Holiday Glitter & Swing** - 6-9 p.m. University Club of Michigan State University, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing.

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

**Prime Time Crime Time** - Featuring the Movies of the 60s and 70s. Dec. 3: A Study in Terror, 1965, 95 min. 1-3 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. 517-337-1113.

**Trials, Triumphs and Trailblazers: Inspirational Concert** - 5 p.m. LCC, Dart Auditorium, 500 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing. 517-483-1122. lcc.edu.

### ARTS

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

**Kid's Clay: Beginners** - 4:30-5:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

**YourSelf YourStory** - Your story is important, tell it your way! 6-8 p.m. MSU Broad Art Lab, 565 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing.

### MUSIC

**Women's Glee Club and Men's Glee Club** - 7:30-8:30 p.m. Martin Luther King High School, 2001 E Grand River Ave, East Lansing. 517-353-5340. music.msu.edu.



## SUNDAY, DEC. 1 >> HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE AT ROSIE + MATILDA VINTAGE



Old Town's best kept secrets lie inside this antique paradise. From vintage-inspired boutique apparel to minted obsolescence, this is a one-stop shop for your eclectic loved one. First 25 in the door will receive a special gift bag. Treats from Dewitt's Sweetielicious and refreshments will be available.

Noon to 3 p.m.  
1219 Turner St., Lansing  
(517) 290-0826  
rosieandmatilda.com

## TUESDAY, DEC. 3 >> PRIME TIME CRIME TIME AT HANNAH COMMUNITY CENTER



Featuring classic mysteries, crime and whodunit flicks from the '60 and '70s. This film fest series is presented by Prime Time, a nationally accredited seniors program built to enrich the lives of community members who are age 55+. The initiative offers more than 200 wellness programs and courses in the arts, film, finances and more.

1 to 3 p.m., \$13-18  
819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing  
(517) 337-1113  
Irichey@cityofeastlansing.com

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 29

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

## CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 29

J	A	G	V	I	A	L	A	P	A	C	H	E			
E	V	I	D	E	N	C	E	Y	A	H	O	O	S		
F	I	V	E	G	O	L	D	E	N	R	I	N	G	S	
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S	P	I	N	E	R	S	E	A	N	E	T				
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## TUESDAY, DEC. 3 >> TRIALS, TRIUMPHS AND TRAILBLAZERS AT LCC



Lansing Community College concludes its year-long programming honoring 400 years of African-American History with a bounty of live performances. The finale performance will recognize pioneers in pop culture, poetry as well as traditional African drum and dance routines. Registration and reception begins at 5 p.m. The program kicks off at 5:45 pm.

5 p.m., Free  
Dart Auditorium  
500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing  
lansingcommcollege@gmail.com

# FOOD & DRINK

## DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

### Queers Who Brunch menu highlights Michigan-made produce

Pop-up event puts LGBTQ+ discourse into a full meal

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

The holidays come with precious family time. The question for many LGBTQ people is, what makes a family — the genetic hand you're dealt or the group where you feel you belong? Queers Who Brunch offers both a safe place and a sumptuous feast for body, mind and soul — a medley of local produce decked in seasonal sauces served with herbaceous cocktails while the feminist anthems of Janelle Monáe play on heavy rotation.

Chef Kyle Holsinger-Johnson and event planner Isabella Copeland, fans of local food and Monáe, started the event

#### Queers Who Brunch

Saturday, Dec. 7  
10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
\$45 w/o alcohol, \$60 with alcohol  
Allen Neighborhood Center  
1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing  
Purchase tickets at  
experiencefare.com

to give  
L G B T Q  
identifiers  
and allies  
a chance to  
celebrate  
with their

chosen families. The pop-up brunch will take place at Allen Neighborhood Center at 10 a.m. and feature three courses of gluten-free meals and original cocktails provided by Michigrain Distillery. The addition of drag and burlesque performances by Eartha Kitten, Caffeyne and Kiki Boudreaux will add more flavor to the early afternoon meal.

As the founder of FARE, a catering business, Holsinger-Johnson, who prefers using they/them pronouns, said they have curated courses using Michigan grown ingredients for three years, but never intentionally for the LGBTQ community.

"This is something that I've wanted to pursue for awhile," Holsinger-Johnson said. "Then Izze and I met and we both care about queers, art and culture and food, so this just really makes sense for us to collaborate."

Earlier this year, they met Chicago transplant Isabella "Izze" Copeland, who recently started hosting LGBTQ-centered meet ups and discussion groups in downtown Lansing through her organization, the Thought Club. The result was a perfect pairing of carefully curated plates with community engagement as the featured ingredient.

"There are a lot of intersections between the tough themes we discuss



Courtesy

Isabella Copeland and Kyle Holsinger-Johnson are the co-creators of Queers Who Brunch.

in our queer discussion group and the challenges that queer folks experience during the holiday," Copeland said. "I think it's important to recognize that there may be pain associated with a holiday season, so let's speak on it and open the conversation up to the community."

While the idea for the event steams from a shared trauma in the LGBTQ community of having a family resistant to homosexuality, Copeland emphasized that Queers Who Brunch is a celebration of family and good food.

Each of the three courses will feature a cocktail pairing and coffee pairing brewed by Strange Matter Coffee Co.

#### First Course

The first course stars three variations of deviled eggs. One of the eggs will be filled with hollandaise sauce, another will be "Creole-inspired." The third will be a surprise recipe crafted by a veteran FARE chef.

"The eggs will be paired with a side of roasted beets tossed in a citrus, elderflower vinaigrette, house-made ricotta and then we are going to have granola crunch. The elderflower syrup that we are going to use is from Swallow Tail Farm in Mason."

The drink that will be paired with the first course is Michigrain's take on a winter mimosa featuring champagne, orange juice, mango nectar as well as lemon juice, honey, turmeric and ginger. The head chef described the drink as anti-inflammatory with "a little snap to it."

"One cool thing about the entire meal is it's gluten-free. It's turned into one of my niche specialties because eating at a lot of restaurants when you are glu-



Courtesy of FARE

The menu for Queers Who Brunch was designed with gluten-free eaters in mind and features a healthy dose of anti-inflammatory ingredients.

ten-free or vegetarian can be a little difficult," they said.

#### Second Course

To keep rolling with the crunch from the protein-packed starter dish, guests will be served a poached egg with fried polenta. The polenta will be brought to new heights with housemade pancetta, which is a cured pork belly.

For a touch of sour, the chef added pickled lychee and persimmon, a winter fruit high in nutrients and fiber.

"The pickled lychee is kind of a play on pickled watermelon rind because the pickling liquid will be sweeter and thicker, then spicy," said Holsinger-Johnson.

The plate will be topped off with toasted pepitas, which is Spanish for pumpkin seeds.

The paired drink will be a play on a gin and tonic, Holsinger-Johnson called "A Wrinkle in Time." The time-stopping concoction comprises activated charcoal, lavender, maple syrup, thyme and simple syrup.

#### Third Course

The meal will come to a sweet and spicy conclusion — chocolate torte with pistachio brittle, rose petals, honey and cardamom whipped cream.

"We'll be using Detroit Hives honey in the third course and they are beekeepers of color," Holsinger-Johnson said. "The fact that we are giving money to a beekeeper of color is important to us."

For those who purchased an alcohol ticket, the sweet finale will be joined by a pink cocktail, which for the event will

be spelled "pynk," to honor Holsinger-Johnson's favorite singer.

"I've thought about doing a whole Janelle Monáe themed brunch where I go through her career with the courses and her music inspires the concept of each dish," they said.

Ticket sales for the Queers Who Brunch pop up ends at midnight Dec. 2. Tickets start at \$45, and Planned Parenthood has donated free tickets for those seeking alternatives. Those interested in attending at a reduced rate should email [contact@thoughtclub.com](mailto:contact@thoughtclub.com).

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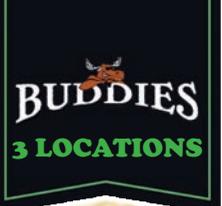
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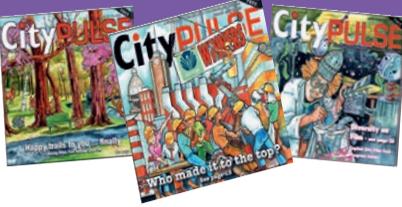
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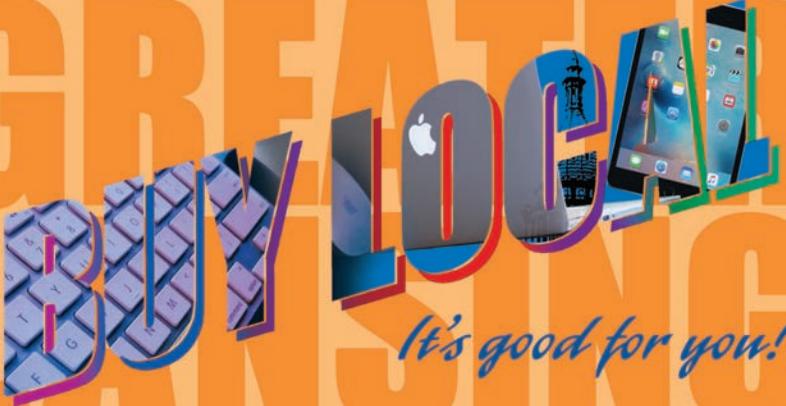
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