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Sept. 28 - Oct. 4, 2022

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### Far-right candidates in Greater Lansing

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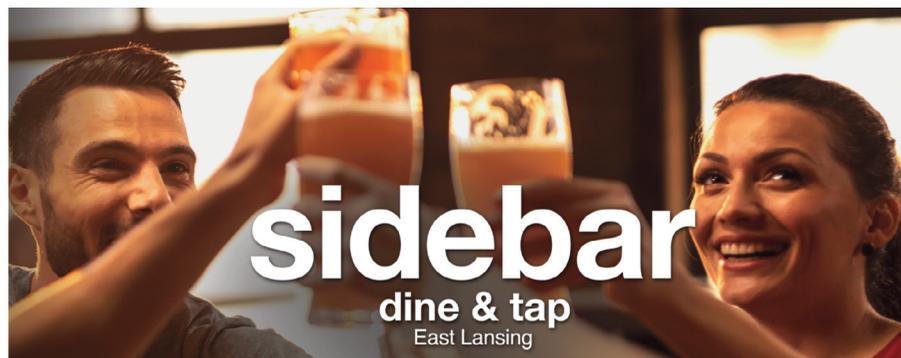


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# CityPULSE

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Art**

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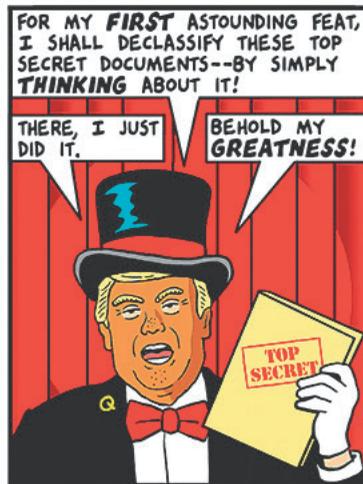
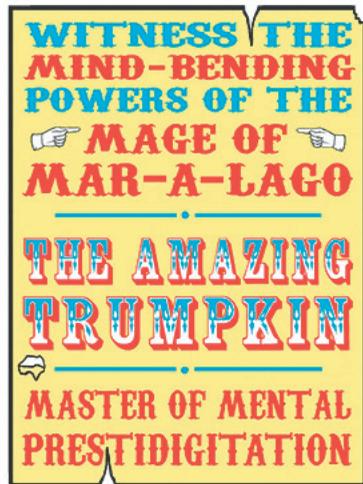
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## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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# PULSE

# NEWS & OPINION

## First Ward Lansing City Council candidates differ on issues

Meet Brian Daniels and Ryan Kost, who are running to represent the First Ward on the Lansing City Council on Nov. 8.

Daniels, 36, served in Iraq where he was injured. As part of his journey to heal from his physical and psychic wounds, he found boxing his salve. He grew up in the Lansing area, attended Grand Ledge Public Schools and joined the Army. He returned to Lansing with his family and started a gym featuring boxing as the key activity. He was appointed to the City Council in February to fill a seat left empty when former Councilmember Brandon Betz resigned.

"I want to give him a chance to complete the partial term," said Lansing Mayor Andy Schor on his endorsement of Daniels. "I appreciate that he can work with me, but at the end of the day he will do what he thinks is necessary. That's OK."

Kost, 34, is a fourth-generation Lansing resident and son of a retired Ingham County sheriff's deputy. He spends his days working for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and his off time as a one-man park improvement team. He's also on the board of Foster Your Neighborhood, The Eastside Neighborhood Organization and the Friends of Bancroft Park. The Council interviewed him for the empty First Ward seat in February, but he didn't garner enough votes to move forward in selection.

Leslie Arnell, a resident near Bancroft Park, said she was disappointed by the times she has interacted with Daniels. As a result she's backing Kost.

"It was a perfect storm for me," said Arnell, explain that Daniels "just doesn't represent my voice. Ryan just gets things done, by ignoring and going around the bureaucracy and red tape. I like that."

Both men are fighting to serve on Council for one year representing an area that roughly spans from Sheridan



Brian Daniels (left) and Ryan Kost working the doors on Saturday afternoon on Francis Avenue on Lansing's east side as they compete for a seat on the Lansing City Council.



Road on the north the Grand River on the west to Red Cedar River on the south and the city of East Lansing to the east.

City Pulse editor and publisher Berl Schwartz and this reporter spent an hour in discussion with both men last week. Here's a truncated version of the conversation.

**Do you support the Lansing Board of Water & Light proposed rate increase in electricity and water? And would you support renegotiating rates for larger employers like GM?**

**Kost:** Just like other residents, I'm upset about it. I've seen some numbers that they have published and the reasons why. I would not favor raising this. I'm not anti-business, but at some point we have to stop putting all the water that we carry on the backs of my neighbors and Brian's neighbors and your guys' neighbors. It is too heavy a burden to carry

**Daniels:** I obviously don't support the increases. I think that the people of Lansing are already having to make tough decisions every day, and adding these increased utility bills isn't neces-

sarily going to make life easier. I think that we should be negotiating with the bigger organizations in the city to give the city more money and to help support these finances so that it doesn't come down to us. I think that the Board of Water & Light does offer, compared to other utilities in the area, lower rates, but that doesn't mean that they should automatically get to jump like a large rate jump.

**What is your perspective on Mayor Andy Schor's \$175 million bond proposal for public safety?**

**Kost:** I am against it a hundred percent. There's many reasons why. One of them is this whole campaign. I have told people, it's your voice, not mine. And people have very strongly said they do not want to build this, not because they don't want more police officers or our firefighters to have the proper equipment. They can't afford another tax increase on their property taxes.

**Daniels:** I actually do support this because I think that it's necessary, not only from the presentations that we've seen, the ride-alongs that I've gone on and speaking with the officers, but

understanding that while violent crime might be down this year, we've seen steady rising crime. We know that our department was gutted after the recession. We know that our firefighters need better gear and off-gassing opportunities to prevent cancer. So we have to do something about it. And so this, I think, is that opportunity.

**Would you have supported Lansing becoming a sanctuary city for undocumented immigrants, even if your constituents disagreed with you?**

**Kost:** I would've voted no on it because there were federal dollars that we would've lost here in the city, money in our budget that hurts citizens, literally will hurt citizens. That would be a major, major hole in our budget. So yes. Am I a robot that says that every vote will get every voice? No. There are issues where I do

have to stand up.

**Daniels:** To pretend that immigrants still aren't under attack, ask Martha's Vineyard. The reality is that nationwide, this is still very much an issue. Losing federal dollars because of becoming a sanctuary city is obviously a risk. I personally won't sell out my moral belief that protecting immigrants is and should be a top priority. Being a sanctuary city and having an idea of how to handle illegal immigration is a whole other topic, but I would support sanctuary city, personally, I understand the uproar. I understand that it's not easy, and I understand that it's a complicated decision. But I personally would not be able to sleep at night if I pretended that America isn't capable and that we, as a community, aren't capable of figuring out how to take care of people.

See P. 10 for City Pulse's endorsement in this race.

— TODD HEYWOOD

For the full conversation, visit [LansingCityPulse.com](http://LansingCityPulse.com).

# Is there space for ArtSpace in East Lansing? Maybe.

In the not-too-distant future, fledgling artists here may get the support they need to spread their wings through a space in East Lansing where they can both live and work comfortably.

ArtSpace, a nonprofit organization, has its roots in Minneapolis, where it began in 1979. Since then, the concept has spread throughout the country to many cities much larger than East Lansing.

Elsewhere in Michigan, there is an ArtSpace complex in downtown Dearborn. The city's website describes a complex with 53 living/working units intended for low-income residents, although preference is given to working artists.

The first artists moved into the City Hall complex in Dearborn in 2016 and quickly found themselves surrounded by inspiration.

"Being here and living in my studio, I can change my mind," artist Monica Cavacece Feliciano told *Metromade* magazine in 2019.

"I can get up one morning and work on a painting and put it aside for a moment and then go back to it. I can leave everything out and not have to pack it all away every night and pull it back out

the next morning."

What would it take for an East Lansing ArtSpace to become reality?

East Lansing Mayor Pro Tem Jessy Gregg is the liaison between the city and residents who have been exploring the possibility of having an ArtSpace complex built.

The concept has passed through the first phase of inquiry. Whether it will advance to the next phase, Gregg said, will depend on whether the Council is willing to spend an additional \$30,000 beyond what it has already disbursed.

Gregg said she was already acquainted with ArtSpace, having grown up along the Minnesota-North Dakota border and graduated from Hamline College in St. Paul.

ArtSpace's first three complexes were built in St. Paul in the early 1990s. By sheer coincidence, Gregg — herself an art major — had friends who moved into ArtSpace buildings after graduation.

While she is familiar with the projects, Gregg said she was not part of the group who did the preparatory work for a potential East Lansing complex.

"They've got a pretty elaborate process

for determining if they want to work with a community, and it puts a lot of the ownership on the community," Gregg said.

East Lansing resident Elinor Holbrook was part of a group who worked with ArtSpace staff who visited East Lansing in the summer of 2021.

The group, she said, "was impressed by the overwhelming positive response from local leadership, the Arts Community and city residents to the prospect of attainable live/work lofts for artists in our downtown and the resultant economic ballast they provide," Holbrook said.

A preliminary feasibility study completed by ArtSpace is available under Economic Development at [www.cityofeastlansing.org](http://www.cityofeastlansing.org).

"After visiting well-established ArtSpace sites in Minneapolis and Seattle and talking to artists living and working there," Holbrook said, "I hope there will continue to be discussions regarding ArtSpace in our City of the Arts, particularly with surrounding neighborhoods."

The city is required to continue to buy into the process at different stages, she continued, which includes providing money for studies. The first phase consisted of market analysis by inviting ArtSpace staff to town, having them interact with residents and determining whether there is community interest.

A large part of the activity on ArtSpace's side, Gregg said, is determining whether there is enough community interest to move forward. The city must also assess whether there is enough community support to foot the bill for the next phase.

That next level, Gregg said, would answer questions like what size building to build and what an appropriate monthly rent would be. The next-level study would likely be an additional \$30,000 and would include figuring out what resources the city already possesses and what it still needs.



Photo by Dawn Parker

The building which hosts the Active Living for Adults program at Valley Court Park in East Lansing could host an ArtSpace complex.

Each level of study takes around two months to complete, Gregg said.

There are two central concerns with such a project: Where do you locate it, and where do you find the estimated \$5 million needed to build it?

There are a couple of city-owned parcels in the area around Valley Court Park that offer potential.

Gregg said the small brick building which has long housed the ALFA (Active Living for Adults) program would be a candidate for redevelopment, rather than repair or remodeling, plus there are other parcels purchased by the city's Downtown Development Authority that have yet to be fully utilized.

The city has a memorandum of understanding with East Lansing's RiverCaddis Development on those properties, however, and would have to reach an agreement with RiverCaddis if it wanted to develop them instead.

It's not just about the money, however, but ways in which an artist can become part of their adopted community.

"All of the grand talking about public art and placemaking is very frequently focused on the observer of that art, as opposed to the creator of that art," Gregg said.

"ArtSpace — part of their philosophy is putting artists first and making sure the artist's quality of life informs the space, rather than the community consuming the artwork that's created.

"Art is not always seen as a commodity, but it is a commodity, so the people who are producing it need to be paid for their work."

— DAWN PARKER

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# Belle Isle study lights way for saving energy and electricity

LANSING — The installation of a state-of-the-art street lighting system on Belle Isle – located on the Michigan side of the Detroit River across from Windsor, Ontario – was a major step forward in saving energy and electricity while improving safety for visitors.

Now five years later, a new study says computer optimization modeling could lead to even further savings and other benefits, such as fewer crashes, for communities that upgrade their street light systems.

In 2017, Detroit's Public Lighting Authority replaced 506 high-pressure sodium lights with 193 solar-powered lights for Belle Isle's major roads and intersections.

New computer modeling shows the number of replacement lights could have been as low as 170 while providing maximum coverage on the 987-acre island and saving about \$100,000 on new poles and operating costs, according to the study by researchers at the University of Toledo, Metro Engineering Solutions in Livonia, which designed and installed Belle Isle's replacement lights, Southern Illinois University and China's Wuhan University in China.

Belle Isle was established as a city park in 1845 and became a state park in 2014 under a 30-year lease. Major attractions include the Belle Isle Aquarium, Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conser-

vatory, Belle Isle Nature Center and Dossin Great Lakes Museum.

It drew 5.2 million visitors in fiscal year 2021, according to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which manages the park.

"We would like more people to be aware of this optimization model, especially nontechnical people who may not be aware of these tools," said study coauthor Yue Zhang, an associate professor in the Department of Information Operations and Technology Management at the University of Toledo.

The planning process considers such factors as height and spacing of lamp posts, type of road surface, glare, and coverage distance. For example, street lights should cover the centerline of every road and at least two lights should



Belle Isle, where state-of-the-art lighting was installed five years ago. A new study says computer optimization modeling could lead to even further savings and other benefits, such as fewer crashes, for communities that upgrade their street light systems.

cover intersections, according to the study.

The study, recently published in the "International Journal of Geo-Information," emphasized societal payoffs from more effective street lighting beyond economic and energy savings and improved traffic safety.

"Street lighting plays an indispensable role in supporting economic, social and environmental activities," it said. "There are profound perceived benefits for human well-being, such as increasing opportunities for economically productive activity, energy-saving activity and social interaction activity."

Street lighting, it continued "reduces time consumption for work and social activities, facilitates leisure and recreational activities and reduces crime and

vehicle accident rates."

Replacement lighting in Belle Isle Park benefits public safety there, said Ed Golder, a DNR public information officer.

However, he said, "the presence of personnel from the DNR Law Enforcement Division and the State Police has had a more significant impact." Most of DNR's enforcement activity there relates to traffic violations.

The University of Toledo's Zhang said mathematical optimization methodology has been used in manufacturing for decades, but his team's work integrates it with geographic information systems, or GIS, for large-scale applications such as street lighting planning.

It's the "science of better," he said.

Had the same planning approach been implemented citywide when the authority rebuilt Detroit 65,000 street lights in 2016, that savings would have been at least \$28 million, the study said.

The intensity of the savings is quite significant, the study said, and the extra money could have been used for other projects, such as improved lighting in specific areas or "places with a high crime rate, where the incidence of traffic accidents is high or where there are many pedestrians at night."

— ERIC FREEDMAN  
Capital News Service

We don't virtue signal, we just speak on uncomfortable truths, and tell you where we side on issues that are important to us. We are triggered by much of the news, but not by your hateful comments or voicemails. I save them as fuel for future ads. It would be better, if instead of using profanity and screaming, you'd actually try to have a conversation. We may not change each other's minds, but at least we could be civilized and act like adults. You don't want to use our services? Than you should thank us for showing who we are and save both of us some time and energy. It's a free country, if you don't like our platform, than don't hire us. There are a lot of people who think mixing business and politics is bad, but I think it's my patriotic duty to use my platform to speak on what many are afraid to say. Maybe the reason things are so divided is because people have become too comfortable spewing hate, and if many would've spoke up sooner, maybe people wouldn't be so comfortable today. Silence is apathy. Apathy is lethal. #blacklivesmatter

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# Frandor evicts CATA over safety concerns about shelters and riders

Frandor is kicking out CATA in three weeks because the shopping center's management says bus shelters and some riders pose "many safety concerns for our customers and employees."

"Lansing Police are not effectively helping us with vagrancy, public intoxication/open container, aggressive panhandling, public urination and other major incidents at these stops," Patrick Corr, president of Corr Commercial Real Estate, which manages Frandor, told the Capital Area Transportation Authority.

As a result, the company has ended an agreement to allow the publicly funded transportation agency to run its routes through its property, effective

Oct. 17. The 1, 13 and 15 routes cross there. CATA will remove its two bus shelters, leaving cement pads.

Corr notified CATA in a letter dated



Bert Schwartz/City Pulse

A CATA bus in Frandor Shopping Center on Monday evening.

Aug. 1. The letter, however, was sent to the agency's downtown bus station, instead of the business offices located on Tranter Street in south Lansing. As a result, CATA didn't find out until Aug. 17, setting in motion two months' notice to end the agreement.

The letter provides no details for Corr's decision. However, in a follow-up email on Aug. 30 from Corr to Dustin Hagfors, CATA's director of planning and development, Corr explained his decision.

"As we discussed, there have been many safety concerns for our customers and employees

that are not being addressed," he wrote.

"Unfortunately, the changes to various laws/ordinances the City have put in place have greatly hindered the ability of police to affect significant progress. The CATA shelters are being used as a 'safe haven' from LPD and our security staff and, almost daily, are used as a roof over their heads for the purpose of sleeping, living, drinking and loitering. And, when called, the police do not remove them from the property for the above referenced issues we continue to have here. Also, when violators find out LPD won't remove them, it emboldens them and word spreads. Usually, the police just let someone get on the bus.... and they sometimes return the same day by bus."

Corr claimed LPD has been called "over 150" times by mall staff and retailers.

"A majority of those calls involved the two bus stops in one way or another," Corr wrote to Hagfors. "The stops have become a conduit in addition to a hangout for these individuals."

He did not respond Monday to a phone message left at his office in Frandor.

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said concerns about the shelters were first raised in February. In meetings with the police, he was told there had been one report to the Lansing Police Department. He said he spoke with Corr, and he was set on the end of the bus shelters and stops in Frandor's interior.

"He was clear that they needed to go," Schor said. "There were homeless people living in the shelters. People who worked in Frandor or shopped and used the bus complained. We can't have a police officer stationed there 24 hours a day. If they want they could trespass people, but that's not really what the officers want to be dealing with."

Despite Corr's expressed concerns about panhandling, it's legal. In Aug. 2013, the U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld a decision by a Western District of Michigan Court Judge Robert Jonker that found the state's panhandling law violated the First Amendment, reported MLive.com.

Schor said ultimately the issues Frandor was struggling with are present in other parts of the city. He pointed his finger at an inadequate safety net, particularly for the area's homeless population.

"Many of the people who are homeless are struggling with substance abuse issues," he said. "And as you know our shelter system just isn't set

See CATA, Page 13

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Endorsed by UA Local 333, Capital Area UAW, the Lansing Regional Chamber and the Greater Lansing Association of Realtors.

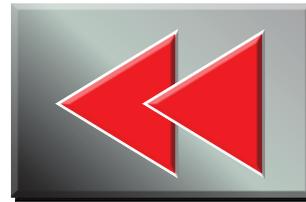


Paid for by Citizens for Brian Daniels, 1514 Ormond St., Lansing, MI 48906.

# REWIND

## NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

BY DAWN PARKER



Grand Ledge Public Schools must pay former superintendent Brian Metcalf nearly \$880,000 to buy out what was left of his contract when he was fired and for compensatory damages. The settlement, negotiated by an arbitrator, will likely be higher because former Michigan Supreme Court Justice Robert Young Jr. also directed the district to pay Metcalf's legal fees, which have yet to be determined. In his 58-page written finding, Young

said the process used by the district's Board of Education to fire Metcalf for comments he made about George Floyd "was fatally tainted and pretextual" and the decision "was made in bad faith."

**A portion of Lake Lansing Road could shrink from four to three lanes next year under work the Ingham County Road Department is considering.** According to the Lansing State Journal, a virtual public hearing on the project will be held via Zoom at 5 p.m. Oct. 4. The milling and resurfacing project is planned for 2023 on Lake Lansing Road from Abbot Road to Hart Street, west of Hagadorn Road, on the border between Meridian Township and East Lansing. The roughly mile-long section of road is four lanes, two in each direction. The road department proposes converting the four lanes to three: one in each direction,



a third for a center left turn lane and adding paved nonmotorized paths on each side of the three-lane road.

**A new report shows teenage traffic deaths, already on the rise, are at their highest number in close to a decade.**

As seen on WLNS, Zutobi's latest report shows the number of teen road deaths increased by 19.5% in 2020 to 2,966 fatalities. The most common age group dying in crashes is 15- to 20-year olds. Officials say the most common distraction for young drivers is their phone. According to Zutobi's report, speaking on the phone increases your risk of a crash by two times and texting increases it by up to six times.



**An outstanding warrant for the crimes of torture and domestic violence resulted in the arrest Monday of a Williamston man by the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office.** As reported by Fox 47 News, according to a news release from the Williamston Police Department, this arrest is in connection to an ongoing



investigation into a suspicious death that occurred in May 2021. The Michigan State Police Fugitive Team and the Michigan Intelligence Operations Center assisted Williamston police in the arrest and the ongoing investigation, the statement said, and "additional charges may be filed in the future."

**Gas prices across the United States are ticking up again.**

For nearly 100 days, gas prices across the country have steadily declined after crossing the \$4 mark in spring, but that streak has come to an end. Closer to home, Michiganders are encouraged not to drive with an empty gas tank because running on vapors can eventually burn out your fuel pump. "It can cause that fuel pump to get too hot," mechanic Thor Taylor said. "When that level gets below a quarter of a tank, the pump is exposed to regular air. If you run it like that over a long period of time, that can cause the pump to burn up and shorten the life of the fuel pump."



**Charlotte is looking to hire a fire chief for the second time in six months.** Chief Mark Jordan, chosen by Charlotte City Council in June, stepped down due to medical issues, City Manager Erin LaPere said in an email. As reported by the Lansing State Journal, the city is accepting applications for the job through the end of September and plans to review candidates starting next month. It's been an eventful year for the department, which is staffed by six full-time firefighters and 22 on-call, volunteer firefighters. In March, all then-23 volunteer firefighters resigned from their jobs citing differences with the city government, and then-Fire Chief Robert Vogel departed one day later. After two weeks of meetings and deliberations, all volunteers were reinstated.



**A Bennington Township man accused of killing a man and eating part of his body more than two years ago in Shiawassee County recently pleaded guilty to two criminal charges, including open murder.** According to the Lansing State Journal, Mark Latunski, then 50, was charged after the body of 25-year-old Kevin Bacon, of Swartz Creek, was found hanging in the basement of Latunski's home on West Tyrrell Road on Dec. 28, 2019, authorities said. Bacon had been reported missing three days earlier. Court records show Latunski pleaded guilty to charges of open murder and mutilation and disinterment of a body. An open murder charge encompasses first-degree murder, second-degree murder and manslaughter.

Shiawassee County Circuit Judge Matthew Stewart will determine which of those crimes were committed in a hearing Oct. 18 and Oct. 19, attorneys said. A separate sentencing hearing will follow.



919 E. Saginaw St., Lansing

Standing near the busy intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue and East Saginaw Street is a two-story building with boarded-up windows and apparent structural damage on the upper, back side. This 1904, 1,368-square-foot single-family home is in a commercial zone and owned by developer Harry Hepler.

Hepler is behind the renovations of several historic properties in the city as well as the redevelopment of the former MotorWheel factory site — turning it from a blighted and abandoned factory to apartments. He said he bought the property in a foreclosure sale two years ago and is planning community developments in the surrounding area. The house, he said, will serve as an anchor to those improvements. But he's not been inside the property to assess its structural stability. All that's been done to the property is boarding it up to protect it from vandals and prevent anyone from being harmed who might try to sleep in it. "Keep on eye on it," he said. "I will let you know when we have things ready to go."

— TODD HEYWOOD

"Eyesore of the Week" is our weekly look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eye Candy of the Week and Eye for Design. Have a suggestion? Email [eye@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:eye@lansingcitypulse.com) or call in a nomination at 517-999-5061.

Lansing's First Ward has had uneven representation on the City Council for decades, culminating in Brandon Betz's resignation after the Council censored him for his abusive verbal treatment of Lansing activist Michael Lynn Jr. The Council appointed Brian Daniels, who has emerged as a thoughtful, articulate and progressive Council member. We encourage voters in the northeast section of the city to elect him on Nov. 8.

Those voters are fortunate in that they have two good choices in the General Election. Ryan Kost, who ran second to Daniels in the nonpartisan August primary election, has proved his dedication to his community. He serves on the boards of the Eastside Neighborhood Organization and Friends of Bancroft Park and is vice president of Foster Your Neighborhood. He is often seen leading cleanup efforts. And he is determined: Last June when a vandal kept destroying the Pride flags he helped plant on Michigan Avenue, Kost kept replacing them. He has a fighter instinct.

But so does Daniels — literally. He teaches boxing at a gym that he opened on Michigan Avenue four and a half years ago. Behind that choice is a compelling story of a man determined to overcome obstacles.

Daniels, 36, is a Lansing native who returned here after serving in the U.S. Army in Iraq. In 2005, he had to learn to walk again after he was injured by an attack on a Humvee that killed his killed everyone else. He took up boxing as part of his therapy, which included coping with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Four and a half years ago, he opened emPOWER Lansing. "We spend every day just trying to help people not only be healthier with an affordable fitness facility, but also fight their demons."

The two candidates have a very different approach to public service. Kost is an eastside joiner and activist, and his campaign slogan reflects this: "Your voice, not mine." Daniels has taken a more political route in his desire to be a public servant: He supported Mayor Andy Schor's reelection last year and is being repaid with Schor's support this year.

Of the two approaches, we think Daniels' will be more beneficial to the First Ward. Lansing's is a strong mayor system. An alliance with Schor — who in his second term is embracing the power a strong mayor can wield — will make for a more effective Council member.

Moreover, Kost has gotten sidewise with the mayor in the Bancroft Park driv-

ing range brouhaha. In pointed remarks aimed at Kost, Schor decried misinformation that he claimed ardent opponents were spreading. And in the same statement, Schor praised Daniels — also opposed to the driving range — for how he handled the controversy by dealing directly with the mayor on it. Two different approaches: One confrontational, the other collaborative, and both clues to how the candidates are likely to perform if elected. In Lansing, the latter is more likely to be effective.

Daniels also supports the mayor's \$175 million public safety proposal on the Nov. 8 ballot, which on balance City Pulse does as well. (See The Edit next week for why.) Kost is right that taxpayers are already struggling as inflation takes its toll. But Daniels has a broader perspective in seeing that Schor's bold plan will pay dividends for all citizens by making our homes and streets safer.

This is not to suggest that Daniels is a sycophant. The mayor and the Council are often in sync, but Daniels demonstrated his independence when he joined colleague Brian Jackson in being the only two members to vote against Schor's proposal for how to spend \$25 million in American Rescue Plan federal funds.

In fact, one of the biggest differences that emerged from interviews with both candidates was their very disparate takes on what it means to be a leader. Despite his progressive personal views, Kost said he would have voted against the resolution five years ago to declare Lansing a sanctuary city because of the threat by the Trump administration to cut off federal funds to communities that sought to protect immigrants from the italicize — the view that prevailed after a public uproar over the Council's initial support for the resolution. Daniels, on the other hand, said he would have stood up to Washington's bullying, despite the risk — which never materialized nationally — to federal funding.

We are not without qualms about Daniels. He does not have a track record of public service to the First Ward. We've heard complaints that he's not as responsive as citizens would like (a complaint every Council member gets, though). Some

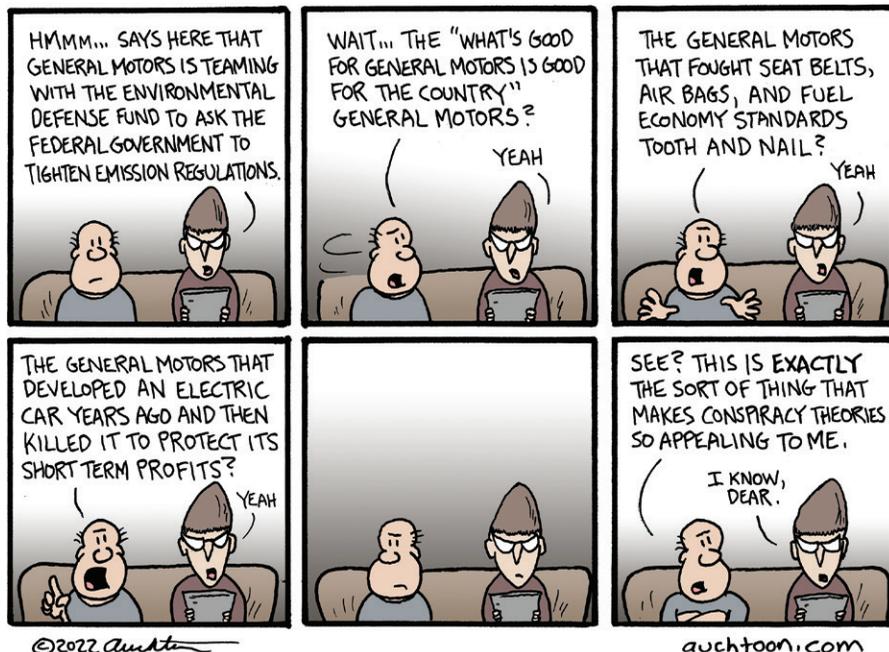
view him as wishy-washy and suffering from the Sandy Allen Snyderome, named for a late Councilmember who was famous for changing her vote at the last minute, depending on the last person to get her ear.

However, voters should consider that Daniels, if elected, would face them again in a year, if he were to choose to run for a full term. We think it is worth taking the risk to see if he grows in office. If he doesn't, he can and should be replaced.

# Daniels for City Council

## The CP Edit

Opinion



### 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.)

# More details, please, on Michigan Parents Council appointees

By **DEDRIA HUMPHRIES BARKER**

I gave my journalism students an assignment to use the internet to discover information about public people. One was Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero. We looked for his residence, his spouse, her occupation, the number of children he had, their schools.

The information was right there on the internet. My students were outraged. It felt slimy, they said, to get his personal information without his knowledge.

Surprised, I pointed out, your generation shares all this personal information on the internet, on social media. You tell all your business.

That was the start of our era of too much information, misinformation and a lack of privacy. So it may seem odd for me to talk about missing information. But what I want is reliable sources providing necessary information.

I believe that Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's office is a reliable source, but last week it did not share necessary information about the 11 people appointed to her creation, the Michigan Parents Council. The Council is to advise her on the policymaking process involved in the state education budget.

There are all sorts of people on there. One I like particularly is LaQuitta Brown of Detroit. She is employed as a certified nursing assistant at Boulevard Temple Care Center, a nursing home. My grandma lived there at the end of her life and was treated very well. Our family was pleased. Brown also works as a COVID 19 screener.

Yes, work or vocation is one aspect that has great effect on parenting students. For instance, Brown, CNA, may be able to share with the governor what it's like to parent while working a 24/7 job situation.

I appreciated these job facts about Brown, but it seemed a little strange to learn about her employment and nothing about her parental experience. After all, she was appointed to a parents' council.

The governor's news release did say, "Appointees include parents of children in public, private and home school learning environments, children in early child-

hood learning programs, and elementary, middle, and high school students. They also include parents of children with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), children who speak English as a second language (ESL) and children who are in foster or kinship care."

That group statement attempts to protect privacy and ease fears of individuals living in our state where people went to trial for plotting to kidnap the governor at her vacation home. And generally, few parents want to broadcast information about their beloved minor children.

But politicians do it all the time, despite the issue of security, and safety. They post photos of themselves and their families on their campaign literature. Full color photos of their kids. The implication is, vote for me because I have three children.

And????

In most cases, the family configuration of a public servant is irrelevant to public service. Back in the day, employers used to wrongly justify decent living wages for men because they had a family to support. Women who also had families were given no such consideration.

Occasionally, being a parent is a qualification. Like for the Michigan Parents Council. However, excepting one appointee, Stacy Ann Sipes, no information forthcoming about parenting or school affiliation. Sipes is the president of the Potterville school board. I assume she has at least one child in that district; that she is a Potterville parent. But that I had to guess.

Guessing is as close as we get to knowing. Did the appointees write their own biography? That is a common practice. If so, kudos to Sipes for including this important qualification. Other appointees should have been asked to include something on parenting.

Parenting would be the point to being on a parents council.

I trust that these members were vetted for parentage. However, at this moment in the Michigan, U.S.A., trust is in short supply. Let's be mindful of that, and attend to it.

The problem with selecting based on personal characteristics is its yeast for per-

sonal attacks. Like when the Republican candidate Tudor Dixon called the governor a "birthing vessel." Black people call that kind of attack "playing the dozens." Whether or not, or what kind of mother the governor and her challenger are, has nothing to do with running the state. Shame to the Republicans and their focus on our personal lives.

Selecting people on their personal characteristics is tricky, but selecting on character is worthwhile. Does the person have a sense of decency, or is so clueless about what it is to be a mother, that they value a mass of cells over an already living person.

I laud Whitmer for wanting parents to gather together. Parents must be involved to improve education in Michigan. Generally, that has been through the Parent Teacher Association. One appointee, Tracey Troy, of Dewitt, is the president of the Michigan PTA. But her parenting, her school is what? I just

want clarity.

It could be handled through a generic statement on each appointee. Number of children; I don't need their names or ages. And more importantly, include the appointee's school district, or private school association, or if they home school. Something like, "Ms. Brown parents two Detroit Community Schools' students."

Maybe she does; maybe not. I don't know. I guessed. That's what happens with missing information. Some people dig around to find it, but others make it up. It's easier.

Tell me the appointees are qualified, and how. Do it generally so as not to put anyone in danger of the crazies out there. But provide some specifics to also move the needle forward on trust. It's a tricky communication, but worth the effort to build trust. That's what education, especially public education, needs today.

(Dedria Humphries Barker, a Lansing resident, is the author of "Mother of Orphans: The True and Curious Story of Irish Alice, A Colored Man's Widow." Her opinion column appears on the last Wednesday of each month. She will join author Thomas C. Foster and City Pulse editor & publisher Berl Schwartz for a panel discussion on writing, which is free and open to the public at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 13, in the Lake Erie Room of the Library of Michigan, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.)



## VOTE Rob Sumbler for East Lansing School Board



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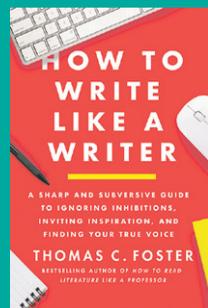
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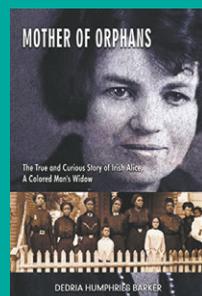
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**Dedria Humphries Barker,**  
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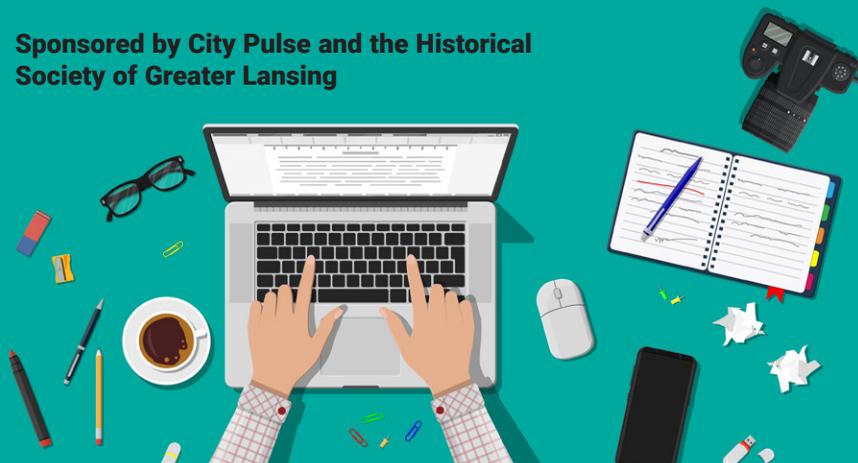
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## Slotkin is living in Hollister's condo until Thanksgiving. We can move on.

U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin is renting an Old Town condo from Niowave government relations director Jerry Hollister until after the election. Predictably, the Republicans are making their voices hoarse yelling about how something nefarious is going on.

Hollister, after all, could be called a lobbyist, even though he's not. Neither at the federal or state level does he make a living schmoozing elected officials, taking them out to dinner or ball games or whatever.

His job has always been to navigate bureaucratic mumbo jumbo to nail down contracts. He works with elected officials so rarely, he's figured, "Why bother?" when it comes to registering as a lobbyist.

Regardless, you can see how an opposing political party would go bonkers over this. We Lansingites immediately associate the name "Hollister" with politics.

Jerry's dad, David Hollister, was Lansing's gold standard mayor for a decade and a state rep for two decades before that. Jerry sat on the Lansing Community College board and ran for state rep, too.

It's natural for the mind to slide into something scandalous.

Could Hollister be cutting Slotkin a sweet deal in return for some Capitol Hill favors? By the way, why is Hollister still registered to vote at the residence? Could these married individuals even be living together?!? The imagination can run wild!

Or could it simply be that life took Hollister and his wife, Kathy, out of Lansing in 2022? Work demands made a move to Connecticut for a few months a better idea. It also allowed the couple to live closer to their college-aged kids and extended family until December, when they planned on returning.

If the Lansing condo was sitting empty, why not rent it?

Could it be that Slotkin, who represents the soon-to-be-gone 8th District, wanted to move from her family's Holly farm into the new 7th Congressional District she seeks to represent? She could buy a house, but what if she didn't win? She could rent

something for 12 months, but if she could find something that runs until a week after the election, that would be even better.

If she wins, she can work with a real estate agent on a longer-term option when the market isn't so crazy. If she loses, she can plan her next life steps with fewer commitments.

A short-term lease would be perfect for both sides.

A couple of points worth making here. First of all, it's surprising two politically savvy individuals wouldn't have seen the arrangement — regardless of how innocent it may be — as something Republican-paid background checkers wouldn't have caught and exploited.

Partisan control of the U.S. House of Representatives may be at stake. That's pretty big time.

But that aside, I'd hope we remember the adage that "you will always find what you're looking for."

If you want to find the worst in people, you can either find it or convince yourself that you have.

In this case, Hollister hadn't met Slotkin more than a time or two before the \$2,000-a-month lease started April 15. Even if Hollister's job was to rub shoulders with Congress critters, Slotkin isn't on a committee where a relationship would make much of a difference.

He's given to her campaign before, but if you're a good Mid-Michigan Democrat, that shouldn't be a surprise. Literally, thousands of others have, too.

Besides, the last time Congress kicked out grants for medical isotopes, Niowave received \$13 million compared to \$35 million to and \$37 million grants to two Wisconsin companies.

It's good the question was raised. Quality reporters investigated the matter and presented their findings to the public.

But, from my view, the connection between the two is a stretch that only political imagination can bridge. If we had proof something going on, that would be one thing. At this point, we don't.

The best we have is the coincidence of two people using their personal connections to work out a mutually beneficial deal, which sounds an awful lot like life to me.

*(Email Kyle Melinn of the Capitol news service at melinnky@gmail.com.)*



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

**CITY OF LANSING  
NOTICE OF REGISTRATION  
FOR THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, ELECTION**

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing:

Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold an Election on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

**For the purpose of electing candidates to the following offices:**

**State:** Governor and Lieutenant, Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General; **Congressional:** Representative in Congress; **Legislative:** State Senator, Representative in State Legislature; **State Boards:** Member of State Board of Education, Regent of University of Michigan, Trustee of Michigan State University, Governor of Wayne State University; **County:** County Commissioner; Treasurer (Ingham County ONLY); **Judicial:** Justice of Supreme Court, Judge of Court of Appeals, Judge of Circuit Court, Judge of Probate Court, Judge of District Court; **Community College:** Board of Trustees Member; **City:** Council Member Ward 1; **Local School District:** Board Member.

For the purpose of voting on the following proposals:

**State: Proposal 22-1** A proposal to amend the state constitution to require annual public financial disclosure reports by legislators and other state officers and change state legislator term limit to 12 total years in legislature; **Proposal 22-2** A proposal to amend the state constitution to add provisions regarding elections.; **Proposal 22-3** A proposal to amend the state constitution to establish new individual right to reproductive freedom, including right to make all decisions about pregnancy and abortion; allow state to regulate abortion in some cases; and forbid prosecution of individuals exercising established right **Eaton County:** County Parks & Open Space Millage Question  
**City:** City of Lansing Charter Amendment Proposal; Bonding Proposal

Any qualified elector who is not already registered, may register to vote at the office of their local clerk, the office of their county clerk, a Secretary of State branch office, or other designated state agency. Registration forms may be obtained at [www.Michigan.gov/vote](http://www.Michigan.gov/vote) and mailed to or dropped off at the office of the of the local clerk. Any qualified elector that has a Michigan Driver's License or Personal ID can also register to vote at [www.Michigan.gov/vote](http://www.Michigan.gov/vote). Voters who are already registered may update their voter registration at [www.Michigan.gov/vote](http://www.Michigan.gov/vote).

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the Lansing City Clerk's Office is **Monday, October 24, 2022.**

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

Location	Address	Regular Business Hours September 29 – November 4
Lansing City Clerk – City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933	Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
Lansing City Clerk – Election Unit	2500 S Washington Ave Lansing, MI 48910	Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm  Wednesdays 8am – 7pm

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

Location	Address	Additional Hours
Foster Community Center	200 N Foster Lansing, MI 48912	October 25 – November 4 Mon – Fri 1pm – 6pm  Monday November 7 8am – 4pm  Election Day November 8 7am – 8pm
Lansing City Clerk – City Hall	200 N Foster Lansing, MI 48912	Monday November 7 8am – 4pm  Election Day November 8 7am – 8pm

Lansing City Clerk – Election Unit	2500 S Washington Ave Lansing, MI 48910	Saturday October 29 10am – 6pm
		Saturday November 5 10am – 6pm
		Sunday November 6 10am – 6pm
		Monday November 7 8am – 4pm
		Election Day November 8 7am – 8pm

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

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

The Lansing City Clerk's Office must have a signed application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at the locations referenced in the above table or by visiting our website at [www.lansingvotes.gov](http://www.lansingvotes.gov).

Monday, November 7, 2022 at 4:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot except for those who register to vote on Election Day. Ballots issued on Monday, November 7, 2022 must be requested and voted in person at the Lansing City Clerk's Office, locations referenced in the above table.

Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2022, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk's Office, locations referenced in the above table.

**Chris Swope, MMC/MIPMC  
Lansing City Clerk  
Phone: 517-483-4131  
Email: [city.clerk@lansingmi.gov](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov)  
Website: [www.lansingvotes.gov](http://www.lansingvotes.gov)  
[www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope](https://www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope)**

**CP#22-208**

## CATA

from page 8

up to handle that. They require people to be sober to sleep there and they ask people to leave during the day without any place to go. It's a problem facing the whole city."

Corr noted that stops on Clippert Street to the west of Frandor, Michigan Avenue on the south and Saginaw Street on the north will continue to operate unhindered.

The distance from the Kroger store to Staples, where the major stop at Michigan Avenue is located, is three-tenths of mile, according to Google. One woman who was waiting for a bus Monday evening said she did not know how she would be able to grocery shop without CATA, since she does not own a car.

CATA board member Mark Grebner said Monday that CATA is in talks with developer Pat Gillespie, who owns the old Sears building, about possibly using property there for a stop.

"Gillespie seems to be friendly to transit," said Grebner, who is also an

Ingham County commissioner. He said the CATA board has been holding its meetings in the Sears building at Gillespie's invitation.

Grebner said CATA is unlikely to fight Frandor's decision, but he wondered if organizations representing the disabled might. He said he was certain that Frandor could not keep out Spec-Tran, CATA's service for riders unable to use regular buses.

CATA spokesperson Lolo Robison called the decision "disappointing."

"We are particularly concerned about senior citizens and people with disabilities getting to vital services like pharmacies and the grocery store from the bus," she said. "There are few if any sidewalks."

Robison said it is unclear what the agency will do to assist those in need, or what new route configurations will look like come Oct. 17.

**– TODD HEYWOOD AND  
BERL SCHWARTZ**

# ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

## 'Someday' is today

Williamston Theatre celebrates liberation from poles

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

It's almost October. What's holding up Williamston Theatre's 2022-'23 season?

Nothing. Literally — nothing.

People who go to the first production of the season, Terry Guest's "Magnolia Ballet, Part 1," beginning Oct. 13, will be shocked to discover that four view-obstructing, creativity-cramping pillars have vanished into thin air.

In an engineering coup nearly as im-

pressive as making it through the three toughest years in American theater history, the Williamston

team has finally gotten rid of a 15-year-long headache, part of a bold \$500,000 investment in their home and mission.

Sunday afternoon, the Williamston crew was busy bolting down crimson seats in a transformed space.

Actress Karen Sheridan, who portrayed the divine Sarah Bernhardt in "Memoir" at Williamston in 2018, played the humble role of "lady with vacuum" Sunday. She dragged the vacuum along, spiffing up each row of seats as soon as her "Memoir" co-star, Williamston co-founder John Lepard, could bolt them down.

"It's a great day," Sheridan said, turning off the vacuum to be heard.

The poles obstructed the view from over a dozen seats, interfered with lighting and projection by casting unwanted shadows and penumbras and, worst of all, distanced the actors from the audience and the audience from itself.

"They divided the audience into slices," Sheridan said. "Now the audience will feel like it's experiencing the story together, and we'll feel closer to them on stage."

Three days before, Williamston Theatre director and

co-founder Emily Sutton-Smith walked into the theater for the first time since it was liberated from the poles and cried joyfully.

"For 15 years, it was 'someday, someday,' she said. "Now, someday is today."

The four poles weren't there for show. They held up a supporting beam that, in turn, held up the entire second floor and the roof of the building.

Scott Walkowicz, a structural engineer based in East Lansing, said it's the most unusual project he's worked on in his 30-year career.

When stores or restaurants are renovated, Walkowicz explained, nobody thinks of removing poles. On the contrary, people find them reassuring.

With no textbook to consult, Walkowicz came up with an original solution, as far as he knows. To remove the need for support from below, Laux Construction installed a steel girdele on top of the roof and dropped rods down through the roof and the first-floor ceiling, supporting the second floor from above.

Sharp-eyed patrons will spot three giant beams lining the back wall of the house. The south wall, a shared wall owned by the neighbor, was unavailable for support.

"We couldn't touch that wall," Walkowicz said. "So we had to drop columns all the way down through the roof, the second floor, the first floor, the base-



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Williamston Theatre executive director Emily Sutton-Smith (upper left) and her colleagues painted the theater. They bolted down seats over the weekend to prepare for the Oct. 13 opening night of "Magnolia Ballet, Part One."



Courtesy photo

Steel columns supporting the Williamston Theatre's new, pole-free superstructure were swung into place in August of this year.

ment and into the earth."

To embed the new superstructure into the foundation, the team used helical piers, long rods with propeller-like blades that drill deep below the frost line to stabilize the tons of weight above. Contractors squeezed into a 2-foot crawlspace to cap the piers with concrete.

The vertical columns were swung over and dropped into place by crane on a sunny morning in August, as Putnam Road was closed to traffic.

Walkowicz's team worked out detailed computer models of the brick and wood "swaying loads" (a queasy engineering term for typical wall wobble) to determine where the beams should go.

Steel rods over an inch thick were hung from the beams, like the cables on a suspension bridge, and affixed to brackets below. The doomed first-floor poles were fitted with heavy steel collars attached to the brackets.

In a tradition going back to ancient Rome, Walkowicz

himself, as a design engineer, stood in the middle of the floor below as the poles were detached last week.

"It's like making the engineer cross the bridge first," he said. The new steel skeleton held up perfectly.

It's the most significant change in infrastructure at Williamston since artistic director and co-founder Tony Caselli took down the "For Sale" sign in front of the former Mr. G's Furniture building 15 years ago, using a Phillips head screwdriver donated by the Tru-Valu hardware store across the street.

Back then, the box office was a card table stacked with cookies. A three-quarter "thrust" stage, instead of a traditional proscenium arch, gave the theater a unique intimacy. Still, the four founding members — Sutton-Smith, Lepard, Caselli and managing director Chris Purchis — had their sights on the poles from the start.

As far back as 2005, a structural engineer told them it was possible to remove the poles, but it would be expensive.

Meanwhile, the staff concentrated on making more pressing (and affordable) improvements, such as adding bathrooms, putting in a box office, adding a door to the stage left aisle, upgrading to LED lights, and adding projection capability that has become essential in modern theaters.

In 2014, after the theater bought the building and paid off the mortgage, the pole project seemed within reach.

In the first phase of renovations, the "Wizard of Oz" booth, where the stage manager controls the lights, sound and other theater magic, was moved from a remote corner of the stage to a commanding spot in the middle of the back lobby.

Fundraising was underway for the pole removal phase when the pandemic hit. The theater was closed for 20 months — the entire 2020-'21 season and parts of the season before and after.

"There were definitely moments during the pandemic when the four of us looked at each other and went, 'Well, we've had a good run,'" Sutton-Smith said.

See Williamston Theatre, Page 17

# The battle over K-12 education

## Extremism rises in local school board races

By **TODD HEYWOOD**

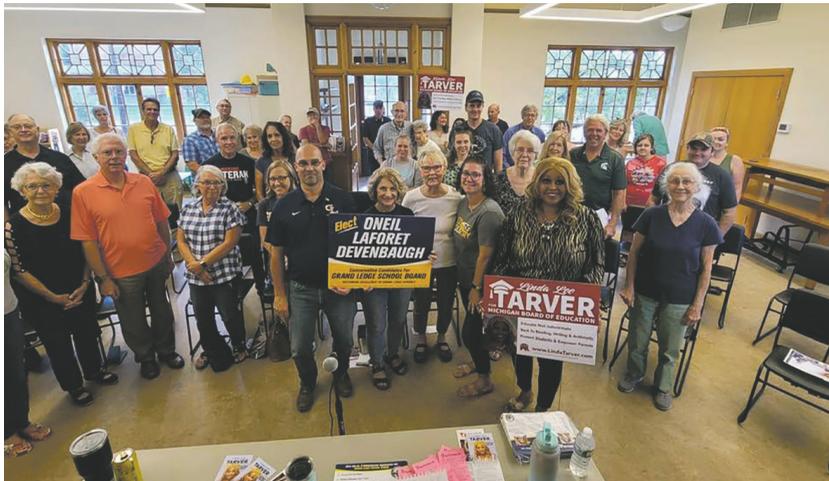
Three candidates for the Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education sat quietly at a table in the Grand Ledge Public Library. They listened as Linda Lee Tarver, a GOP activist and candidate for the state Board of Education, provided her own opinions on controversies and issues facing K-12 education in Michigan.

She told a group of politically conservative Grand Ledge residents attending a Sept. 18 forum that she doesn't believe in systemic racism. Yet she was on the Michigan Civil Rights Commission that voted to approve the report that explicitly tracks the Flint water crisis back nearly a century, showing how redlining and white flight set the city up for the crisis.

The three self-billed conservative school board candidates were Ashley Oneil, Kim LaForet and Jason Devenbaugh. Also running are Ashley Kuykendoll and incumbents Toni Hughes Glasscoe and Denise Dufort. They are vying for three seats: two full, six-year terms and one partial term. And the conservatives have been a lightning rod of controversy in this generally calm community. The district includes eight school buildings and serves nearly 5,000 students from Eaton and Clinton counties.

Those six candidates are part of the swelling ranks of citizens seeking to serve on nonpartisan, unpaid school boards in Ingham and Eaton counties. Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum said over the years she has served as clerk, she has witnessed more candidates seeking the positions. Historic election data, she said, supports that observation.

Time magazine and The New York Times have both reported that COVID and measures to control it are partially responsible. But COVID measures — masks, social distancing, vaccination — are only part of the fight being waged at local school boards. Activists are fighting to remove books they deem objectionable — often LGBTQ themed — and a supposed inundation of critical race theory



Jason Devenbaugh's Facebook campaign page

Linda Lee Tarver (in the right foreground with her campaign sign) is one of two GOP nominees for the State Board of Education. Here she poses with Kim LaForet, Jason Devenbaugh and Ashley Oneil, three self-described “conservatives” in the nonpartisan Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education race. Behind them are attendees of a town hall event held by the conservatives on Sept. 18.

teachings and gender transition supports.

It is the culture wars writ large — and unscored nationally by growing threats to school board members' safety. In February, Reuters reported 220 documented cases of threats against school board members, and in October 2021 the U.S. Department of Justice began an initiative to combat threats and violence against school boards, Time reported.

To better understand the perspectives of candidates for local school boards, City Pulse sent a survey to all official candidates in select education races in Ingham and Eaton counties. The survey went to 69 school board candidates, of whom 25 responded. Their responses can be found at [www.lansingcitypulse.com](http://www.lansingcitypulse.com).

Nowhere in the area has the debate been more front and center than in Grand Ledge. Beginning in January 2021, parents and residents chided, yelled and harassed school board members and officials alleging the district was teaching

critical race theory — CRT for short. That's a college-level academic argument that previous structural inequities created by race continue to influence the economic lives and health of people of color.

A meeting in June 2021 was ended before board members could vote on a contract for Marcus Davenport, the district's new superintendent, reported the Lansing State Journal. Why? Audience members were raising the roof over CRT and ongoing COVID mitigation measures.

Oneil LaForet and Devenbaugh did not respond to the City Pulse candidate survey, which asked, among other questions, if candidates believed there was a cabal of power elites in Washington engaged in a pedophile ring, if Donald Trump won the 2020 election and whether the candidate supported removing books community members objected to from public school libraries.

LaForet expressed concern with the City Pulse questions, which she failed to answer. She said that seeking her “opinion” on the 2020 election “has nothing to do with being on the school board.” The survey asked whether the candidate would accept a loss either before a recount, or after.

Last week, she was standing directly behind Republican gubernatorial nominee Tudor Dixon as the one-time actress and political commentator attacked public school officials of support a “sex and gender agenda” in the public schools. LaForet enthusiastically applauded Dixon's challenges to “biological boys competing against girls” and false claims that schools would be able to dispense puberty-blocking agents to children without parental knowledge or consent.

Despite her not answering the City Pulse survey, her social media footprint provided a wealth of information.

She and her two fel-  
See Schools, Page 16

For City Pulse surveys completed by school board candidates in Greater Lansing, please see [www.lansingcitypulse.com/elections-2022-candidates/](http://www.lansingcitypulse.com/elections-2022-candidates/). It also includes surveys completed by candidates for the state House of Representatives in the 73rd District.



Kim LaForet



Ashley Oneil



Jason Devenbaugh

# Schools

from page 15

low slate members have proudly shared a Facebook image of an endorsement from Dr. David J. Smith, a primary care physician in Grand Ledge. He contends that “missteps” with education and COVID have harmed students, although he has never explained the alleged missteps. He further states the district is being run on a “political agenda” and references the “WOKE/PC culture.”

The trio has also accepted the endorsements of the Michigan Health Choice Alliance. The group opposes masks. It is also very active in the campaign of Republican John Gibbs as he tries to win the 3rd Congressional seat on the west side of the state. While a student at Stanford University, Gibbs started a think tank called the Society for the Critique of Feminism. The organization argued, according to a CNN report, “women did not ‘possess (sic) the characteristics necessary to govern,’ and said men were smarter than women because they are more likely to ‘think logically about broad and abstract ideas in order to deduce a suitable conclusion, without relying upon emotional reasoning.’”

The three candidates have a history in the district of challenging the school board and officials. Oneil challenged the district to end its mask mandate in a video from a Feb. 17 board meeting. Her children stood when she approached the podium and they were asked to sit, Oneil telling the board they were her children and then telling the youth to stand behind her in spite of a directive from the board.

Devenbaugh filed a complaint with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights alleging he was discriminated against because he is white. He alleges school officials, including then-superintendent Marcus Davenport, refused to meet with him. The district’s attorneys countered that claim, noting Devenbaugh met more often with school officials and Davenport than most parents, according to a report in the Lansing State Journal.

On his candidate Facebook page, Devenbaugh shared videos from “Libsof-



A series of political signs just outside of downtown Grand Ledge supporting the other three candidates in the school board race.



A political yard sign supporting three conservative candidates for Grand Ledge Public Schools Board of Education as well as a sign from the Eaton County Patriots group.



Denise Dufort



Toni Hughes Glasscoe



Ashley Kuykendoll

Denise Dufort and Toni Hughes Glasscoe, both incumbents, and Ashley Kuykendoll face competition from a right-wing slate seeking election to the Grand Ledge Board of Education.

TikTok” arguing LGBTQ people want more than equality — they want children, the video implies by citing one case of a Mt. Pleasant Schools employee who was arrested for alleged trying to meet a minor for sex. The employee had spoken in support of an LGBTQ inclusive curriculum in the schools. In his post July 24, he said the accused was “trying to groom our students.” On July 22, he shared a post from the Michigan Liberty Leaders, writing in his comment, “We can’t let the staff groom our kids.”

In the Sept. 18 “town hall event” featuring Tarver and as well as the three self-labeled “conservatives,” Devenbaugh claimed the district has not been transparent in how the COVID relief dollars allocated to the school district — just over \$2.5 million in all — has been spent. In fact, the district has that breakdown available from the district and was recently highlighted in a “Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)” section launched by the administration.

Grand Ledge is not the only district in Ingham and Eaton counties facing extreme candidates. In Pottersville, former City Councilwoman Katherine Schmidt

(now Bussard because she married a former Council colleague) refused to answer City Pulse survey questions about political affiliations and whether Donald Trump won the 2020 presidential election, among others. Her Facebook page revealed she’s an active Republican precinct delegate and organized a GOP women’s group in Eaton County. It also revealed she shares items from Salt and Light Global, a ministry that has long opposed LGBTQ equality and abortion. It is connected with the Great Lakes Justice Project, run by Delta Township attorney David Kallman.

In Waverly, Mary Ann Martin, who did not respond to the City Pulse survey, shared a video link to a conspiracy website, The Truth About Vaccines, in which mandatory vaccines are called “draconian” and a violation of choice. She’s a fan of the Ingraham Angle from Fox News on her Instagram and is an advocate for breast feeding.

In a June 28, 2020, Facebook post, she alleged

“Christianity” was under attack.

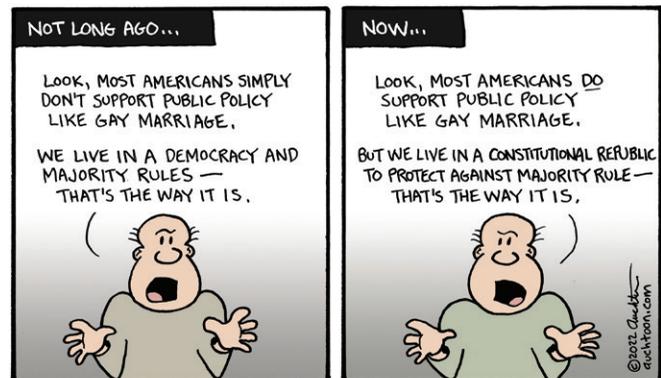
Also in Waverly, Principal Vince Perkins also did not respond to the survey. But when he was principal of Waverly High School, he was handed a two-week unpaid suspension for failing to fill out teacher evaluations, according to the Lansing State Journal. His LinkedIn profile lists

him as working at the district for the last 10 years as the director of human resources.

Conservative groups and political action committees are pouring millions of dollars into local school board races, reported Politico. Groups like The American Principles Project and the 1776 PAC are hitting hard, slamming candidates with allegations of teaching critical race theory, a gender agenda and more.

It’s been fueled, in part, to Florida’s GOP Gov. Ron DeSantis. DeSantis signed a law earlier this year, dubbed “Don’t Say Gay,” barring conversations about sex and sexuality in grades K-3 and requiring they be kept “age appropriate” after that. DeSantis is chomping at the heels of former President Donald Trump in consideration of a run for president in 2024. His brash take-no-prisoners political style has played well with the GOP establishment infuriated by COVID restrictions, LGBTQ equality activity, racial equity protests and demands and more. His spokesperson accused anyone opposed to the “Don’t Say Gay” legislation as supporting child sexual grooming.

But this extremism is on display in Michigan from school boards to the governor’s race. It’s rising up through allegations of a stolen election and focusing “culture war” virtue signaling onto the electorate.



CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC: THE NEW “STATES RIGHTS” FOR JUSTIFYING THE RESULTS YOU WANT

**STATE OF MICHIGAN. INGHAM COUNTY PROBATE COURT. NOTICE TO CREDITORS. Decedent's Estate. Case No. 22-1183-DE.** Estate of Royce Ann Mathis. Date of birth: 1/19/1948. **TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS:** The decedent, Royce Ann Mathis, died 9/5/2022. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Nadia Ludell Mathis, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice. 9/22/2022. Daniel E. Nickerson, Jr. P36294, 4116 Harbour Cove, Lansing, MI 48911. 517-927-3173. Nadia Ludell Mathis, 20410 Van Antwerp St., Detroit, MI 48225. 517-574-6783. **CP#22-209**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN LEGAL NOTICE VARIANCE REQUEST 22-10-19-1 BLAINE S. SCHULTZ PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Board of Appeals of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 19, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meridian Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI, 48864 to hear all persons interested in a variance request for a single-family home at 2205 Hamilton Road. Blaine S. Schultz is proposing to construct a new single-family home that does not meet the front yard setback. The subject site is zoned RA, Single Family-Medium Density.

Information may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development (phone 517-853-4560), 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864-1198, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Written comments may be sent prior to the public hearing to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to chapman@meridian.mi.us, or at the public hearing.

Deborah Guthrie  
Township Clerk **CP#22-210**

**Public Notice**

The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting qualifications for **Snow Removal**. The Request for Qualifications packet is available September 28, 2022 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at [www.inghamlandbank.org](http://www.inghamlandbank.org). Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 11:00am on October 12, 2022 and will be opened at 11:00am October 12, 2022. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFQ#: SNOW REMOVAL 2022-25 **CP#22-211**

**Public Notice**

The Ingham County Land Bank is requesting qualifications for **Snow Removal on For Sale Properties**. The Request for Qualifications packet is available September 28, 2022 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at [www.inghamlandbank.org](http://www.inghamlandbank.org). Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 11:00am on October 12, 2022 and will be opened at 11:00am October 12, 2022. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFQ#: SNOW FOR SALE 2022-25. **CP#22-212**

# A FIRST

## The entire League of Women Voters Voter Guide in City Pulse

For over 100 years, the men and women of the League of Women Voters have been soliciting the visions and ideas of candidates for all levels of political office as well as representatives of ballot initiatives and hosting public forums. That tradition continues this week with a 52-page supplement to City Pulse, produced by the local branch of the League and paid for by the City Pulse Fund for Community Journalism. It includes candidates and ballot issues in Ingham County and the portions of Eaton and Clinton counties that are part of Greater Lansing. Both organizations received grants for the project as well as advertising support from the Lansing City Clerk's Office.

Months ago, Donna Mullins, president of the LWV, and her team began shaping questions for candidates at the local level in the tri-county area.

"We have to craft those questions," Mullins, a 75-year-old retired social worker, said. "And we want it to be fair. Not everyone knows what certain positions do, so we try to focus on broader issues each candidate can address."

With those created, they are uploaded to the back end of the Vote411.org website.

That's when the all-volunteer work begins in earnest. Joanne Winkelman, a retired special education teacher and Michigan Department of Education employee who serves as the local vice president for voter services, said it's her job to make sure candidates

are provided individualized links with questions specific to their race.

"I do read them, each and everyone," said Winkelman. "because the league is very concerned you may not talk about your opponent."

And there's strict word limits for each answer: 150.

Any concerns, and a candidate might hear from Mullins or Winkelman, gently persuading the candidate to edit an answer for clarity and brevity.

From there, the responses go to two places.

First they're approved for the Vote411.org website.

That site allows voters to compare candidates, find their election districts and polling locations and more.

At the same time, they are sent to Dorothy Engelman. She's another volunteer who takes all the information for

the candidates and puts into a format to make it ready for designing. That, said Mullins, is an important part of what the organization does.

"Some people may want to look at it in a paper form, and have it with them while voting," she said. "So, it's really im-

portant to us that we make sure we have this available in ways that people can use it."

And it's also important, Mullins and Winkelman said, that the leaders and organization are beyond reproach as nonpartisan.

"We identify as a progressive organization," Mullins said. "But we are very nonpartisan."

"We keep that nonpartisan thing sacred," said Winkelman. "We want everyone to vote."

How seriously? Neither Mullins

nor Winkelman is allowed to donate to candidates or display their campaign signs while holding office for the organization.

"The league is nonpartisan and, if it wasn't, I wouldn't belong," said Mullins. "I think voting is important, and so does Joanne. I mean, it's the very least we can do, and the founders risked their lives, their family; they risked everything in order to do that. When I was growing up, that's when I saw the civil rights movement, the black civil rights movement, and saw people like John Lewis nearly die fighting for his rights, and the very least I can do is honor that." She referred to the late U.S. representative from Georgia.

The three women said they easily work more than 40 hours a week to produce the candidate surveys for voters.

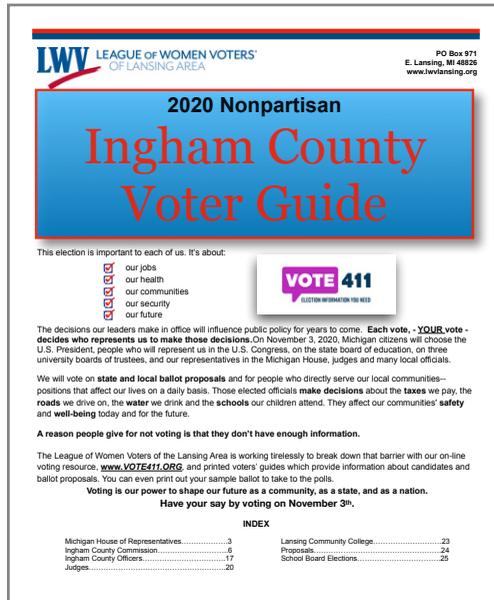
In addition to putting together the voter guides, Mullins said the local league chapter is active in registering voters.

"We registered thousands of students in 2020," she said. "And we were at East Lansing High School recently talking with students about registering. There were a lot who were interested in working the polls, which is very exciting."

City Pulse has published portions of the league's surveys several times, but this year marks the first time the paper is distributing the entire guide.

"It's been a longtime goal, and it finally came together this year," editor and publisher Berl Schwartz. "We share the league's desire to equip voters with as much unbiased information about candidates as possible. We hope to do it again in 2024."

— TODD HEYWOOD



The front cover of the 2022 Voters Guide, a supplement to this week's issue of City Pulse. It follows Page 16.

## Williamston Theatre

from page 14

Two rounds of PPP funds, a Shuttered Venue Operating Grant and a LEAP grant, helped keep the theater alive. A three-year renovation plan was split into four years. The delay had an upside because it gave the staff time to raise more private funds. Donors stepped up and demonstrated their faith that the theater would bounce back better than before.

But the fight for survival isn't over for the Lansing area's only professional theater. According to an Aug. 21 report in The New York Times, theaters across the country, from Broadway to regional theaters, are reporting downward attendance trends. The numbers are almost shockingly consistent from market to market. For example, attendance at the Metropolitan Opera fell from 75 percent of capacity to 61 percent in the 2021-22 season. At the Williamston Theatre, attendance dropped from 75 percent capacity to around 40 percent. A much-vaunted boost from pent-up demand hasn't materialized, especially in venues with an older clientele.

"We honestly expected everyone to come back last year, and they didn't," Sutton-Smith said. "So we are looking at a slightly more precarious financial situation that we are very conscious of."

There were times when the staff and

board questioned the need for an extensive renovation project when attendance was in decline, but it would have been a nightmare to give back the grants and donations earmarked for the renovation.

"There's a moment when you say, is this really what we want to spend our savings on? But the flip side is, if we don't do it now, it will never happen," Sutton-Smith said.

The theater borrowed on its own savings to get the job to the finish line.

Last month, Williamston received \$10,000 in National Recovery Act funds from the Gaining Recovery in Transition, or GRIT, program administered by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing.

People ask Caselli why the theater didn't simply move to another building.

"We love where we are — easy parking, easy access to restaurants and bars," he said. "We're open to all kinds of collaborations, but this is our home. This is where we want to be."

Tickets are already on sale for the seats Sutton-Smith and her team bolted into place Sunday. The season's first play, "Magnolia Ballet Part 1," continues the theater's collaboration with the National New Play Network, a "rolling world premiere" program that supports new plays and playwrights.

"Magnolia Ballet" also furthers Williamston's mission of bringing new plays to Michigan and fulfills a firm commitment to bring diverse voices to the stage.

Williamston's January 2022 production of Heather Raffo's "Nine Parts of Desire" followed the lives of nine Iraqi women over the two Gulf Wars and U.S. occupation, all played by actress Sarab Kamoo in a one-woman tour de force. "Magnolia Ballet" fleshes out a similarly rich mine of life experiences that may be unfamiliar to many audience members.

"Terry is a wonderful Black queer playwright, such a lyrical writer," Sutton-Smith said. "It's a father-son story, but it's got all of these layers about queerness, racial heritage, family relationships."

On an engineer's pad or a playwright's script, this season as Williamston is all about removing obstructions and bringing people closer together. Half a million dollars is a lot of money, but Sutton-Smith feels the investment will start paying off on opening night.

"It's important to us that we make sure the organization has a future beyond us," she said, "so the next generation of artists can come in, be part of the community, tell great stories and touch people's lives — and not have any beams to deal with."

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**CityPULSE**

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October

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# On the ground at Pure Roots' grand opening

By LUCAS HENKEL

Last week, I attended the grand opening of Pure Roots' first Lansing location, at 515 N. Larch St. And while some locals might question if yet another dispensary is needed, this top-notch pot shop's customer-centric and transparent approach to cannabis is a puff of fresh air.

The 4,000-square-foot retail store, formerly Ellis Cleaning Co., is connected to a 16,000-square-foot small batch cultivation and processing operations. The retail layout is virtually all glass. Patrons can see everything, including fellow shoppers, from the waiting room. It had strong Apple Store vibes: clean and modern.

The "pure" in Pure Roots comes from the company's pledge to never sell remediated cannabis. To save you the Google search, "remediated cannabis" is marijuana that failed regulatory testing for contaminants and is then treated to remove mold, yeast or other

microbial grossness you don't want to smoke.

For each of its three locations (including Ann Arbor and Center Line), Pure Roots sends an employee to tour and pre-screen facilities, ensuring the potential partner doesn't have any remediation machines. So, if you're looking for a clean smoke, Pure Roots delivers quality flower every time.

"The quality of our flower, the shop-

ping experience and our budtenders' knowledge sets us apart," said Reni George, Pure Roots' vice president of governmental affairs.

Speaking of flower, for customer clarity, Pure Roots sorts all of its cannabis strains into four categories based on that specific strain's effects: Rest, Relief, Revive and Reflect. According to my helpful budtender, here's what they each do.



**in Review:**

**Pure Roots**  
Grand Opening event  
515 N. Larch St.  
pureroots.com

Rest strains help you catch some Zs, Relief strains help with muscle relaxation and pain relief. Revive offers strains that give you that euphoric mood boost needed on rough days (or any day). Reflect strains offer a cerebral head-high ideal for creative folks. I sniffed the Dosi-lato x Slurrricane buds in their Relief category and was blasted with sweet smells of berries and lavender (shoutout to linalool, my favorite terpene — love you, girl!). Most eighths from these categories went for around \$20-\$30 each, perfect for folks like me who ball on a budget.

See Lansterdam, Page 20



Photo by Lucas Henkel

Lansing Mayor Andy Schor cuts the ribbon Tuesday (Sept. 20) at Pure Roots' grand opening event at its new location Tuesday (Sept. 20) at 515 N. Larch St.



Courtesy photo

Pure Roots sorts all of its cannabis strains into four categories based on that specific strain's effects: Rest, Relief, Revive and Reflect

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# Spellbound

Riverwalk's 'Bell, Book, and Candle' conjures the past and present

By **CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS**

Riverwalk Theatre's "Bell, Book, and Candle" successfully stages a play written in 1950 about a witch who loses (almost) everything for love. At first, I wasn't sure about the director Amy Rickett's choice to mount this production in the original period.

After all, I'm a thoroughly modern woman. How would I connect with these people from almost a century ago? Come

## "Bell, Book and Candle"

Riverwalk Theatre  
Black Box Stage  
Sept. 29–Oct 2, 2022  
Drama by John Van Druten  
Directed by Amy Rickett  
Tickets at:  
riverwalktheatre.com

to find out, I'm very familiar with the central character's conflict despite 70 years of progress that

is supposed to separate us.

Gillian Holroyd (played with range by Caila Conklin) is a self-sufficient New York witch who just returned from Mexico. While across the border, she pursued her hobbies like spell-casting, potion-making, incantations and collecting haunted artifacts from the in-

temperate Sidney Redlitch (played with gusto by Jeff Magnuson).

She is often visited by her brother (the coy and circumspect Nick Lemmer) and her Aunt Queenie (played with levity and fabulous presence by Margo Guillory). Gillian's family is "out" in the modern sense. They frequent witch clubs and witch parties. They talk about witchy things and are only passingly interested in the human world.

An inattentive crush on one of her tenants intensifies when Gillian discovers the man upstairs is marrying one of her old college rivals. To kill two birds with one spell, she steals this man away from his fiancé by literally bewitching him.

Shep Henderson (played by Lewis C. Elson) has no clue what is happening to him. The successful publisher, just about to settle down with a Southern belle, finds himself instantly wrapped in a powerful, seductive charmer's arms (and legs). His life is nearly destroyed by how hard he falls in love — and Elson portrays this with excellent comedic timing and consistency.

Throughout the show, Gillian struggles to choose between her fun-witch family and the mainstream promise of 1950s marital bliss. Compounding her conflict is the old wives' tale: If a witch falls in love, she loses her powers.

Although it was billed as a comedy, I found the play to be rather profound, thought-provoking and timely. As Conklin's character learns what it

means to be human, her vulnerability in the third act challenged me. Her performance spoke to our foundational need for connection, how much power we are willing to cede and under what circumstances we will surrender it. Ultimately, I watched a play about what a woman can and cannot choose.

But enough feminism, let's talk stage magic. One actor nearly stole the show with a performance that changed every-



Courtesy photo

The original "Bell, Book, and Candle" debuted in 1950 on Broadway and was written by John Van Druten.

thing I know about theatre. It was a cat. Not a puppet of a cat. Not a "cat" hinted at with shadow and sound effects. A real, actual black cat with yellow eyes. It even hissed! It thrilled me entirely. I will never be the same.

Combined with other bits of magic, beautiful props, set dressings, and lavish period costumes, this production transported me to another time. On balance, it didn't take that long to get there.



Courtesy photo

The cast of "Bell, Book, and Candle." The Riverwalk Theatre production runs through Oct. 2.

## Lansterdam

from page 19

For those preferring to eat their cannabis, Pure Roots also offers an array of edibles from brands like Dixie, Wyld, Choice, Mojo, Monster Xtracts and On the Green, to name only a few. I picked up some of Choice's chocolate-covered pretzels and some of the blue raspberry gummy coins from Platinum, but I will return for their Wyld Gummy lineup.

There are also plenty of options for the dabbers and vape heads: Sauce and Crude Boy disposables, Stiiizy and Select pods and carts, Element cured and live resins, and so much more. Can't decide between flower and concentrate? Have both with one of the many infused preroll and blunt options from Glorious Cannabis Co.

With so many options, it's easy for even the most experienced cannabis connoisseur to get overwhelmed. Thankfully, Pure Roots has a solution. After a quick ID check, customers are buzzed into the vast and colorful waiting room where touchscreen point-of-sale stations line the back wall. Customers can log into one of these stations by entering their birthdate and phone number.

New customers are asked various introductory questions to identify tolerance levels, like how they consume cannabis and how often they consume cannabis. From there, the app does its magic.

"Using the iPad app we created, our system will match them with products available in our inventory with the appropriate level of THC," George said. "Beyond that, our budtenders will also ask them questions, make recommendations, and give information. A customized budtender guided tour will give customers shopping for Cannabis and CBD a unique and world-class experience."

Clients can then choose whether they want to shop on the app and check out from the lobby or have a consultation where a Pure Roots budtender delivers a more classic dispensary experience. Either way, you shop, the app helps keep the customers informed and helps the budtender make better recommendations.

If you're interested in checking out Pure Roots for yourself, it's open for in-store shopping and curbside pickup and offers delivery seven days a week.

Hours are 10 a.m.-9 p.m. For a full menu and specials or to schedule a delivery or pick-up, visit pureroots.com.



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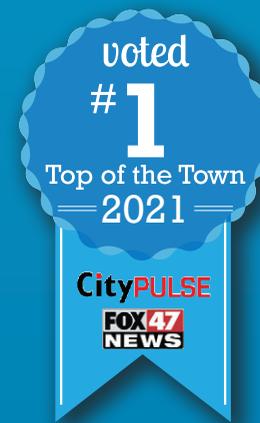


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# Harrison un-earthed

'The Search for the Genuine' delivers nonfiction to the late author's devotees

By **BILL CASTANIER**

The hallowed desk of the renowned author Jim Harrison now sits in the Rare Book Room at the Library of Michigan.

In his 78 years, the simple wood desk is where he wrote nearly 40 books of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, memoirs and an illustrated children's book. In his near-perfect penmanship, he also authored hundreds of nonfiction articles for publications as varied as "Sports Illustrated," "Esquire," "Field and Stream" and "Psychoanalytic Review." In 2016, the late wordsmith wrote his last poem while sitting at the desk. Prolific would be a grand understatement in describing his non-fiction work, and a new compilation, "The Search for the Genuine: Nonfiction, 1970-2015," offers further proof of his productivity. It was published last week by Grove Press, one of Harrison's long-time and well-loved publishers.

Since his March 2016 death at his winter home in Arizona, four books of previously unreleased works have been

published. In the mix are two books of poetry and two nonfiction titles. Looking forward, there could be more projects, according to archivists working through his papers and manuscripts.

"Search for the Genuine" is filled with more than 40 nonfiction works divided into five categories. In a broad sense, the book covers Harrison's love for dogs, the outdoors, hunting and fishing, his ruminations on water and his favorite locales, such as Michigan, Montana, Key West and Arizona.

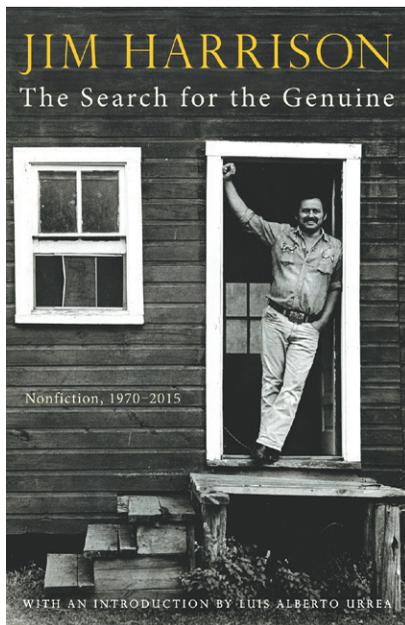
Amy Hundley, a Grove Press editor who shepherded his work to publication, said their imprint was "amazed at how many pieces he wrote." She also said the book contains pieces like "Life on the Border," a previously unissued work from 2001.

"Life on the Border" is about a young migrant girl crossing the border," Hundley said. "It's one of my favorite pieces."

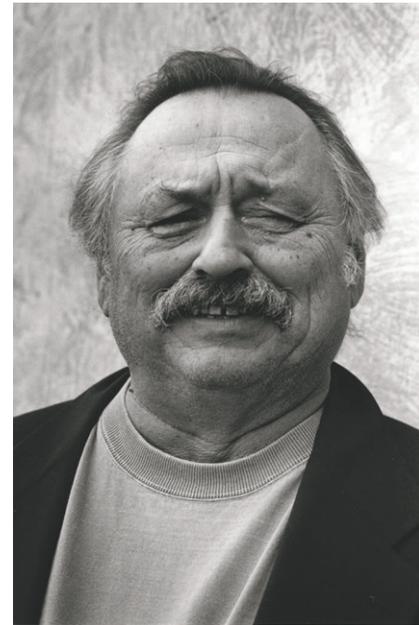
Joyce Bahle, Harrison's long-time literary as-

stant and default archivist of his work, said: "The story of the Mexican girl crossing the border brought tears of angst to me. It stands as a piece of singular importance."

From there, an 11-page, 1970s-era gem titled "A Delicate Creature" details Harrison's trip with ecologists to tag sharks.



"The Search for the Genuine" is out now via Grove Press.



Courtesy photo

Jim Harrison (Dec. 11, 1937-March 26, 2016) was a prolific and versatile American poet, novelist and essayist.

Following Harrison's death, Bahle consolidated Harrison's work from his various residences and began compiling detailed notebooks of his nonfiction work. His official archives are held by Grand Valley State University and were underwritten by Hank Meijer and the Meijer Foundation. In addition, Michigan State University Archives has additional material of Harrison's, some of which have been sealed, such as the letters between Harrison and his long-time writer pal Tom McGuane.

Bahle said that after Harrison's death, she sat on the floor of her home in northwest Michigan sorting through "piles and piles" of magazines she had saved containing Harrison's essays. She also worked diligently to clear copyrights for Harrison's work, allowing them to be republished.

Previously, she had overseen the posthumous "A Really Big Lunch" book, which contained Harrison's essays on food and cooking. Bahle remembers early in Harrison's career getting some vital advice from a literary friend of Harrison's: save everything.

"I pulled everything from the wastebasket and sent it to Grand Valley," Bahle said.

The new book contains numerous photographs from a variety of photographers. The images trace Harrison's vast interests

and detail his deeply ridged face. One photographer whose work is included is Bud Schulz, a long-time friend of Harrison now living in the St. Johns area.

"The title for the new book was something Jim coined," Bahle said.

She said another title that was considered was "A River Never Sleeps," which would've represented Harrison's passion for water.

Followers of the life and work of Harrison will find the essays populated with some of his favorite people. The cast includes his fishing and hunting partners McGuane, Guy de la Valdene and painter Russell Chatham, who illustrated the dust jackets for most of Harrison's fiction. Together, in the 1970s, they were wild and crazy guys who cut a wide swath in Key West, Leelanau and Montana.

I encourage both the lovers of Harrison's work and those just discovering his legacy to buy this book and

put it away until the long hard winter strikes. Each night, read just one essay — then reread them while making notes in the margin. You will see the world in a different light and soon realize you are reading the work of a genius. Many readers will also learn he was a lot like you (and me). Yes, he could name and quote almost every famous poet, but he could also treasure the simple beauty of a walk in the woods.

Harrison was never honored with a Pulitzer or a National Book Award during his lifetime, but reading his work is the best way to honor him anyway.

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Courtesy photos

FILMETRY Festival was co-founded in 2018 by Cindy Hunter Morgan (left). Kathryn Darnell (right) is one of a long roster of filmmakers and poets who'll be showcased at the event.

## Bringing poems to the big screen

FILMETRY Festival melds poetry and film

By RICH TUPICA

Inspired by notions of “home,” filmmakers, poets, readers, listeners and viewers will converge for the 4th annual FILMETRY Festival, which showcases 12

### 2022 FILMETRY Festival

Friday, Sept. 30  
Lansing Public Media Center  
2500 S. Washington Ave.,  
Lansing  
7 p.m., FREE

short films adapted from poems — all informed by explorations of “what it means to dwell somewhere.”

Hosted at the Lansing Public Media Center, this year's theme

was centered on building campus relationships by connecting the FILMETRY project with the MSU Libraries Short Edition project and engaging with a recent home-themed exhibit at the MSU Broad Art Museum.

This year, filmmakers and poets from around the world will be represented in the event for the first time. Co-founded in 2018 by Cindy Hunter Morgan and Peter Johnston, both teachers in the College of Arts and Letters at Michigan State University, this fourth-year fest presents its most diverse roster.

“This year, for the first time, we invited and received submissions from throughout the world,” Hunter Morgan said. “The films are all short — less than five minutes each — but they are all different. They are informed by different poems, different experiences and different aesthetic choices.

“We're delighted that Kate Darnell, a local filmmaker, will be part of the festival this year,” Hunter Morgan added. “She adapted a poem by Wally Swist, who lives in Massachusetts.”

Kathryn (Kate) Darnell found poetry film after decades as a professional calligrapher and illustrator in traditional media. According to her bio, her

“animated calligraphics” grew from experimental work on paper — layering translucent words to create abstract manuscripts and calligraphic paintings. The intent is to express shapes and rhythms inherent to the act of writing and the poetry she represents.

Darnell said interpreting and animating another person's work for FILMETRY is a welcomed challenge.

“When I write a poem out in calligraphy, whether it is animated or not, I “hear” and understand it in ways I might not with a simple reading through,” Darnell said. “Grace’ struck me with its vivid imagery but also with the way the words shifted perspective. I sensed both an internal and external landscape against which something quite gem-like could appear. This is what informed my process as I worked my way through this animated poem.”

Of course, there is plenty of other artists on the diverse bill. And while plenty of locals are represented, Hunter Morgan is thrilled about the international lineup of poets and filmmakers.

“We received submissions from throughout the world,” she said. “Charles Olsen, a filmmaker from New Zealand who now lives in Spain, adapted a poem by Christine Jones, who lives in Massachusetts. Olsen's films have won many prizes and been shown worldwide. Lori Ersolmaz, a filmmaker from Naples, adapted a poem by Linda Nemece Foster, who lives in Grand Rapids.”

Also on the FILMETRY schedule is Jim Hall, a two-time Peabody Award winner for his work in television as part of an investigative team. He adapted a poem by Brian Gilmore, a Lansing resident for many years but now living in Washington, D.C.

FILMETRY is sponsored by the MSU Libraries, MSU Department of English, MSU Film Studies Program, and the Lansing Public Media Center. For more information, visit [filmetry.org](http://filmetry.org).

# Live & Local CityPULSE

## Eaton Rapids Craft Co.

204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids

### DJ E-Nyce

Thurs., Sept. 29, 7-10 p.m.

### Kurt Stone

Fri., Sept. 30, 7-10 p.m.

### Brian Smalley

Sat., Oct. 1, 7-10 p.m.



## The Exchange

314 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

### Darin Lerner Jr.

Fri., Sept. 30, 9:30 p.m.

### The Knockoffs

Sat., Oct. 1, 9:30 p.m.



## The Green Door

2005 E. Michigan, Lansing

### Fragment of Soul

Fri., Sept. 30, 9 p.m.

### The Corzo Effect

Sat., October 1, 9 p.m.



## Lansing Brewing Co.

518 E. Shiawassee, Lansing

### The Devil Elvis Show

Fri., Sept. 30, 7-10 p.m.



## Robin Theatre

1105 S. Washington, Lansing

### Dixon's Violin

Thurs., Sept. 29, 8 p.m.



## Urban Beat

1213 Turner, Lansing

### Absolute Music Chamber Series

Thurs., Sept. 29, 7-9 p.m.

### Brotha Earth

Fri., Sept. 30, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

### Orquesta Ritmo

Sat., Oct. 1, 8-11 p.m.



# Jonesin' Crossword

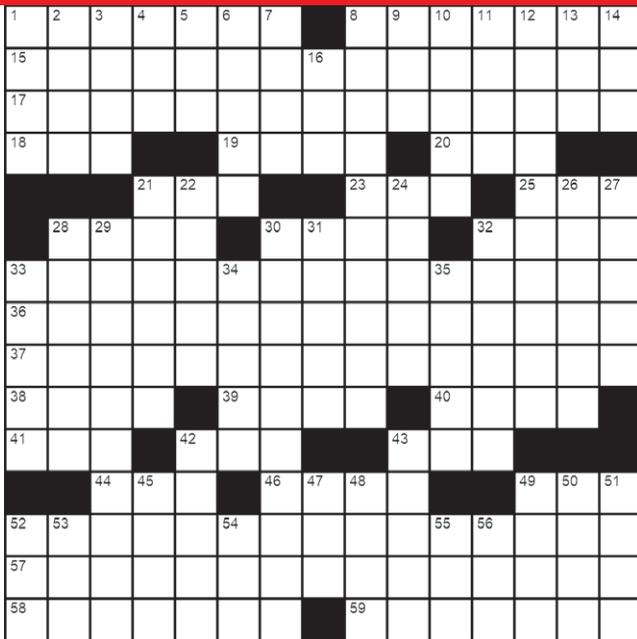
By Matt Jones

“Freefall”--another themeless puzzle for y'all.

by Matt Jones  
2022 Matt Jones

### Across

- 1. Vegetarian cookout option
- 8. Hammered hard
- 15. Silent partner, to others?
- 17. Cryptozoologist's subject
- 18. Fifth of a foot
- 19. Like, last week
- 20. Robot attachment?
- 21. Stylist's job
- 23. Venerating verse
- 25. “Stepped away for a break” acronym
- 28. Angler's accessory
- 30. Lhasa \_\_\_ (shaggy dog)
- 32. Exuberance
- 33. Kid-lit series with side characters Too-Tall Grizzly and Professor Actual Factual
- 36. Dad-joke punchline that ends a 1978 REO Speedwagon album title
- 37. Title for Haile Selassie, with “His”
- 38. Really secure, in some brand names
- 39. Some crafting projects, initially
- 40. Futbol cheers
- 41. GPS lines
- 42. “I Can Barely Take Care of Myself” author/comedian Kirkman
- 43. Carson Daly's former MTV show with screaming fans
- 44. “Special Agent \_\_\_” (Disney Channel series voiced by Sean Astin)
- 46. Like some fireplaces
- 49. Pronoun sometimes



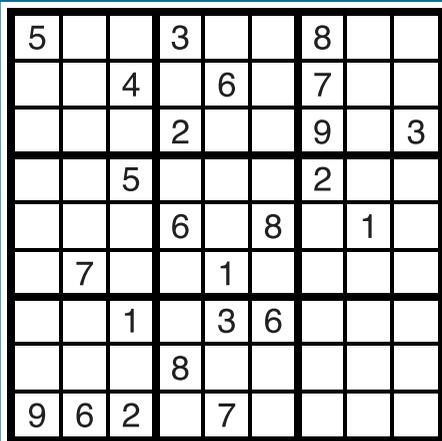
- 2. Paired with they
- 52. Approval that may influence a purchase
- 57. Daytime show with the euphemism “making whoopee”
- 58. It might as well be sprig
- 59. Everything usually includes them
- 3. Down
- 1. Table warning, maybe
- 2. Melville novel published 4 years before “Moby-Dick”
- 3. D20 side
- 4. “Not that again!”
- 5. Tumultuous sound
- 6. \_\_\_ a time
- 7. Tenacious D bandmate Kyle
- 8. Scholarly gatherings
- 9. Band with the 1999 hit “Summer Girls”
- 10. Muppet with a duckie
- 11. Medium for Myst,
- 12. Earns more at work
- 13. Suffix with butyl
- 14. Mus. arcade game with lots of descending arrows
- 16. World Cup host with the wuvuzelas, for short
- 21. \_\_\_ Chapman, Favorite Country New Artist nominee at the 1990 AMAs
- 22. Radial counterpart
- 24. Summer in the club
- 26. Guinness Book entries
- 27. Host Liza of “Dancing With Myself” and the “Double Dare” reboot
- 28. Leave off the list again (how'd that get in there?)
- 29. Blows up about, as in an argument
- 30. How some goals can be met
- 31. In a glib manner
- 32. Happened to
- 33. Book-cover filler?
- 34. Subtly obnoxious
- 35. Home planet of Ensign Ro and many subsequent “Star Trek” characters
- 42. Russell Crowe, in “Man of Steel”
- 43. “Atlanta” actor Brian \_\_\_ Henry
- 45. Word on Steinway pianos
- 47. Underhanded
- 48. Conforms (to)
- 49. Thailand, in the past
- 50. Iron-rich blood pigment
- 51. Some pasture animals
- 52. Letters in uploading to servers, once
- 53. “A clue!”
- 54. Wowed condition
- 55. Wired workers, briefly
- 56. Upscale computer monitor letters, in the '80s

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Answers on page 26

# SUDOKU

## Intermediate



### 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 26

# Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy September 28-October 4, 2022

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** When you Aries folks are at your best, you are drawn to people who tell you exactly what they think, who aren't intimidated by your high energy, and who dare to be as vigorous as you. I hope you have an array of allies like that in your sphere right now. In my astrological opinion, you especially need their kind of stimulation. It's an excellent time to invite influences that will nudge you out of your status quo and help you glide into a new groove. Are you willing to be challenged and changed?

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Author Toni Morrison thought that beauty was “an absolute necessity” and not “a privilege or an indulgence.” She said that “finding, incorporating, and then representing beauty is what humans do.” In her view, we can't live without beauty “any more than we can do without dreams or oxygen.” All she said is even truer for Taurus and Libras than the other signs. And you Bulls have an extra wrinkle: It's optimal if at least some of the beauty in your life is useful. Your mandate is summed up well by author Anne Michaels: “Find a way to make beauty necessary; find a way to make necessity beautiful.” I hope you'll do a lot of that in the coming weeks.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Philosopher Alfred North Whitehead said, “It requires a very unusual mind to make an analysis of the obvious.” I nominate you to perform that service in the coming days, both for yourself and your allies. No one will be better able than you to discern the complexities of seemingly simple situations. You will also have extraordinary power to help people appreciate and even embrace paradox. So be a crafty master of candor and transparency, Gemini. Demonstrate the benefits of being loyal to the objective evidence rather than to the easy and popular delusions. Tell the interesting truths.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Cancerian poet Lucille Clifton sent us all an invitation: “Won't you celebrate with me what I have shaped into a kind of life? I had no model. I made it up here on this bridge between starshine and clay, my one hand holding tight my other hand.” During October, fellow Cancerian, I propose you draw inspiration from her heroic efforts to create herself. The coming weeks will be a time when you can achieve small miracles as you bolster your roots, nourish your soulful confidence, and ripen your uniqueness.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** “Dear Rob the Astrologer: This morning I put extra mousse on my hair and blow-dried the hell out of it, so now it is huge and curly and impossibly irresistible. I'm wearing bright orange shoes so everyone will stare at my feet, and a blue silk blouse that is much too high-fashion to wear to work. It has princess seams and matches my eyes. I look fantastic. How could anyone of any gender resist drinking in my magnificence? I realize you're a spiritual type and may not approve of my showmanship, but I wanted you to know that what I'm doing is a totally valid way to be a Leo. —Your Leo teacher Brooke.” Dear Brooke: Thank you for your helpful instruction! It's true that I periodically need to loosen my tight grip on my high principles. I must be more open to appreciating life's raw feed. I hope you will perform a similar service for everyone you encounter in the coming weeks.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** How to be the best Virgo you can be during the coming weeks: 1. You must relish, not apologize for, your precise obsessions. 2. Be as nosy as you need to be to discover the core truths hidden beneath the surface. Risk asking almost too many questions in your subtle drive to know everything. 3. Help loved ones and allies shrink and heal their insecurities. 4. Generate beauty and truth through your skill at knowing what needs to be purged and shed. 5. Always have your Bullshit Detector with you. Use it liberally. 6. Keep in close touch with the conversations between your mind and body.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** The Libran approach

to fighting for what's right shouldn't involve getting into loud arguments or trying to manipulate people into seeing things your way. If you're doing what you were born to do, you rely on gentler styles of persuasion. Are you doing what you were born to do? Have you become skilled at using clear, elegant language to say what you mean? Do you work on behalf of the best outcome rather than merely serving your ego? Do you try to understand why others feel the way they do, even if you disagree with their conclusions? I hope you call on these superpowers in the coming weeks. We all need you to be at the height of your potency.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** “One bad apple spoils the rest” is an idiom in the English language. It refers to the idea that if one apple rots as it rests in a pile of apples, the rest will quickly rot, too. It's based on a scientific fact. As an apple decays, it emanates the gas ethylene, which speeds up decay in nearby apples. A variant of this idiom has recently evolved in relation to police misconduct, however. When law enforcement officials respond to such allegations, they say that a few “bad apples” in the police force aren't representative of all the other cops. So, I'm wondering which side of the metaphor is at work for you right now, Scorpio. Should you immediately expunge the bad apple in your life? Or should you critique and tolerate it? Should you worry about the possibility of contamination, or can you successfully enforce damage control? Only you know the correct answer.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Of all the signs in the zodiac, you Sagittarians know best how to have fun even when life sucks. Your daily rhythm may temporarily become a tangle of boring or annoying tasks, yet you can still summon a knack for enjoying yourself. But let me ask you this: How are your instincts for drumming up amusement when life doesn't suck? Are you as talented at whipping up glee and inspiration when the daily rhythm is smooth and groovy? I suspect we will gather evidence to answer those questions in the coming weeks. Here's my prediction: The good times will spur you to new heights of creating even more good times.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** More than you might realize, people look to you for leadership and regard you as a role model. This will be extra true in the coming weeks. Your statements and actions will have an even bigger impact than usual. Your influence will ripple out far beyond your sphere. In light of these developments, which may sometimes be subtle, I encourage you to upgrade your sense of responsibility. Make sure your integrity is impeccable. Another piece of advice, too: Be an inspiring example to people without making them feel like they owe you anything.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Rapper-songwriter Nicki Minaj says, “You should never feel afraid to become a piece of art. It's exhilarating.” I will go further, Aquarius. I invite you to summon ingenuity and joy in your efforts to be a work of art. The coming weeks will be an ideal time for you to tease out more of your inner beauty so that more people can benefit from it. I hope you will be dramatic and expressive about showing the world the full array of your interesting qualities. PS: Please call on the entertainment value of surprise and unpredictability.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Author Robertson Davies declared, “One learns one's mystery at the price of one's innocence.” It sounds poetic, but it doesn't apply to most of you Pisceans—especially now. Here's what I've concluded: The more you learn your mystery, the more innocent you become. Please note I'm using the word “innocence” in the sense defined by author Clarissa Pinkola Estés. She wrote: “Ignorance is not knowing anything and being attracted to the good. Innocence is knowing everything and still being attracted to the good.”

# OUT on the TOWN

## Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

Events must be entered through the calendar at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com).  
 Deadline is 9 a.m. Monday for the upcoming Wednesday edition. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Hannah at (517) 999-6704.

### Wednesday, September 28

**50 over Fitness** - The Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Rd. Okemos. [meridian50plus.com](http://meridian50plus.com).

**Allen Farmers Market** - 2:30-7 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1611 E Kalamazoo, Lansing.

**Essays on Invisibility by Paloma Nunez-Regueiro** - October. 11 a.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S Washington Square #100, Lansing. [lansingartgallery.org](http://lansingartgallery.org).

**Intro to CNC Routing for Beginners** - 4-5 p.m. MSU Libraries, 366 W Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-884-0901. [bookings.lib.msu.edu](http://bookings.lib.msu.edu).

**Meditation in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition** - weekly practice. 7-9 p.m. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. MLK Jr Blvd., Lansing. [lamc.info](http://lamc.info).

**Meridian Democrats Public Meeting** - 6-8 p.m. Henry's Place, 4926 Marsh Road, Okemos. Meridian Farmers' Market - 3-7 p.m. 1995 Central Park Dr., Okemos.

**Michigan - A Warm Embrace** - through October. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Framer's Edge, 1856 W. Grand River, Okemos. [framersedge.net](http://framersedge.net).

**Muslim Journeys at the MSU Broad Art Museum** - view the exhibition Zaha Hadid Design: Untold. 6-9 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**New Art Exhibit Showcases Powerful Array of Artistic Techniques and Images** - "Dreaming Between the Lines" - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing.

**Paint with Bob Ross** - Paint happy little trees with Bob at the Library! 5-6 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main, Eaton Rapids. [eradl.org](http://eradl.org).

**PeaceQuest Greater Lansing 2022** - Various times and locations at [peacequestgreaterlansing.org](http://peacequestgreaterlansing.org).

**Weaving the Web: Water** - 6-8 p.m. Weavers of the Web, ATC, 809 Center Street, Suite 7A, Lansing. [weaversoftheweb.org](http://weaversoftheweb.org).

**Zaha Hadid Design: Untold** - exhibit through

February 12, 2023. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr., East Lansing. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

### Thursday, September 29

**"A Course in Miracles" Group Discussion** - via zoom. 7-8:30 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing. [unitylansing.org](http://unitylansing.org).

**Bell, Book & Candle** - 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

**Dimondale Farmers' Market** - 3-7 p.m. 136 N Bridge St, Dimondale.

**Empty Faces: The Woods** - Supernatural Investigation. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St, Charlotte. [charlottelibrary.org](http://charlottelibrary.org).

**Essays on Invisibility by Paloma Nunez-Regueiro** - collection of linoleum prints, monoprints, and monotypes. 11 a.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S Washington Square, #100, Lansing. [lansingartgallery.org](http://lansingartgallery.org).

**Fall Canvas Painting** - Join Beck Wychers of "Fun Times Painting" for a painting evening! 5:45-8:30 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main, Eaton Rapids. [eradl.org](http://eradl.org).

**Farmers Market at the Capitol** - 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Michigan State Capitol, 100 N Capitol Ave, Lansing.

**Ladies Silver Blades Skating Club** - fun, exercise, friendship and skating practice. 9:30-11:20 a.m. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. [ladiessilverblades.org](http://ladiessilverblades.org).

**Stitch 'n Bitch** - Come hang out with some fellow stitching witches! 5-8 p.m. Keys To Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. [manifestlansing.com](http://manifestlansing.com).

**Trivia** - 9-11 p.m. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E Michigan, Lansing. [avenuecafelansing.com](http://avenuecafelansing.com).

**Zaha Hadid Design: Untold** - exhibit 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr., East Lansing. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

### Friday, September 30

**50 over Fitness** - The Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group - 9-10 a.m. 5151

## Brotha Earth at UrbanBeat

Friday, Sept. 30  
 1213 Turner St., Lansing.

7:30-10:30 p.m.  
 5 p.m., 18+

\$20, \$15 advance, \$5 w/ student ID  
[urbanbeatevents.com](http://urbanbeatevents.com)



Brotha Earth is a five-piece band featuring three former touring members of the legendary Motown band, Rare Earth. Floyd Stokes Jr., the dynamite drummer-vocalist for Rare Earth for nearly three decades, is showcased in the group. He's shared stages with legends like James Brown, Blood Sweat and Tears and Kansas. Rounding out the lineup is Rick Warner (keys), Jerry Lew Patterson (guitar), Mocha (saxophone, flute, lead vocals) and bassist James Williams — who is also a co-founder of Root Doctor. Friday, check out the band at UrbanBeat in Old Town.

Marsh Road, Okemos. [meridian50plus.com](http://meridian50plus.com).

**Bell, Book & Candle** - 8-10 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

**Craft Club** - Make some Light Up Constellation Art! Grades 4-12. 4-5:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St, Charlotte. [charlottelibrary.org](http://charlottelibrary.org).

**Cruise to** - Weekly cruise-ins .5-8 p.m. Holt Farmers' Market, 2150 Cedar St, Holt. [delhitownship.com](http://delhitownship.com).

**East Lansing Welcomes the World** - 6:30-8:30 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. [cityofeastlansing.com](http://cityofeastlansing.com).

**Faculty Open House** - Curious about university class visits at the MSU Broad Art Museum? 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu).

**TGIF dinner & Dance** - 7-11:59 p.m. Hawk Hollow, 15101 Chandler Rd. Bath, MI 48808, Bath. [tgifdance.com](http://tgifdance.com).

### Saturday, October 1

**2nd Annual Grand River Color Tour Triathlon** - 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Mill Pointe Park, 114 Mill St., Eaton Rapids. [runsignup.com](http://runsignup.com).

**37th Annual Powwow of Love** - MSU North American Indigenous Student Organization. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. IM East Field, East Lansing. [events.msu.edu](http://events.msu.edu).

**Autumn Art Show** - during October. View fall-inspired mandalas and artwork. 12-4 p.m. Haslett Branch Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. [retreadart.com](http://retreadart.com).

**Bell, Book & Candle** - 8-10 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

**Contra and Square Dance** - Vaccination cards and masks are required for Fall dances. 7-10 p.m. Central United Methodist

Church, 215 N. Capitol, Lansing. [tenpoundfiddle.org](http://tenpoundfiddle.org). Fall Native Plant Sale - 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Rd., Okemos. 517-349-3866.

See Events, Page 26

## Ingham County Animal Shelter

To adopt one of these pets, visit the ICAS at 600 Buhl St., Mason, call (517) 676-8370 to make an appt. or go to [ac.ingham.org](http://ac.ingham.org).

Sponsor a pet on the next Adoption Page for only \$35, \$6 goes to the shelter. To sponsor, call 999-5061 now! Adopt a pet on this page and Soldan's will thank you with a \$10 gift certificate. Contact (517) 999-5061 after you adopt.



**Matthew** is a sweet old man who pretty much takes life as it comes! He'd love a quiet, easygoing home to chill out and relax in.



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**Conklin** is a big goofy lab/dane senior who is looking for a quieter home with a nice large yard and a companion to go on long rambling walks with him.

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**Mr. Sir** is a handsome gentleman who's a super friendly, energetic guy with a rumbling purr who loves attention. Would do fine with other cats.

City Pulse



**Elya Yelnats** loves attention and gentle petting. Laid back and affectionate, Elya should do well with kids, cats, and a well-behaved dog.

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**Dancer** is a friendly, outgoing girl! Her motto is "reach out and pat someone," especially if you stop petting her too soon. Would do fine in any home.

In Memory of Rodica's cats.

# Events

from page 25

**Fiesta!** – Celebrating Hispanic Heritage in Michigan, the exhibit - 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado Galeria and Cultural Center, 204 E. Mt. Hope Avenue, Lansing.

**Gun Buyback (for cash)** – Cash for firearms as defined by MI state legislative code. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. parking lot St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Dr., Lansing.

**Ingham County Free Day 2022** – Ingham County & Lansing City residents receive free admission today 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

**Tim Cunningham Concert and CD Release Party** – 6-11 p.m. The Venue, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy, Lansing. timcunningham.ticketleap.com.

**Witches Night Out: Corn Maze!** – 6-10 p.m. Bestmaze Corn Maze, 3803 Noble Rd., Williamston. weaversoftheweb.org.

## Sunday, October 2

**2022 Walk to End Alzheimer's** - 9 a.m.-1 p.m. State Capitol, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. act.alz.org.

**Bell, Book & Candle** – 2-4 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com.

**College Day** – all college students enter free with valid college ID. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. potterparkzoo.org.

**East Lansing Farmers Market** -10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 280 Valley Court, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

**Fiesta!** Celebrating Hispanic Heritage In Michigan exhibit. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Casa de Rosado Galeria and Cultural Center, 204 E. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing.

**Free Formal Giveaway Cinderella's Closet** – 1-4 p.m. Ever After Opportunities located in the Lansing Mall, 5330 W. Saginaw, Lansing. 517-885-5646. everafteropportunities.org.

**Free Public Zoom Talk Featuring Steven M. Girvin of Yale University** - The Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) invites the community to the next Advanced Studies Gateway public talk event. 1-3 p.m. Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, East Lansing. frib.msu.edu.

**Partnered Dynamic Meditations with Alfred Silverstar** – 3-4:30 p.m. Keys To Manifestation, 809 Center St., 7A, Lansing. manifestlansing.com.

## Monday, October 3

**50 over Fitness** - The Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Rd., Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

**"A Course in Abundance"**– 9 Week Workshop with Maureen Muldoon. 7:30-9 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 S. Washington, Lansing. 517- 371-3010.

**Book Discussion Group** – Join us for a lively discussion. 1-2 p.m. Mason City Hall, 201 W. Ash St., Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

**Dan Mattson, Trombone** – 3 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

**Karaoke** – 9 p.m.-1 a.m. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E Michigan, Lansing. avenuecafelansing.com.

**Meaningful Mondays** – 8-9 p.m. Self Realization Centre, Michigan, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath.

**"Mirari, the Way of the Marys"**with Lucille Olson. Group discussion. 1:30 p.m. Unity

Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 S. Washington, Lansing. unitylansing.org.

## Tuesday, October 4

**Board Game Meet Up** – 6:30-8:30 p.m. Spare Time Bowling Alley, 3101 E Grand River, Lansing.

**Free Tutoring for Youth 12-18** - 5:30-7:30 p.m. Ever After Opportunities, located in the Lansing Mall, 5330 W. Saginaw, Lansing. 517-885-5646. everafteropportunities.org.

**How to use Airbnb: Ethical Pathways to Hosting Guests** – 5:30-7:30 p.m. Umaja House, Lansing. 517-667- 8178. umaja.house.

**It's a Breast Thing Fundraiser** – 5-8 p.m. Eagle Eye Golf Club, 15500 Chandler Rd., Bath. itsabreastthing.org.

**Parent Happy Hour** – Storytime for kids

and wine flight specials for parents. 5-7 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

**Preschool Family Storytime** – for 1-6 year olds. 11-11:30 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge.

**Preschool Storytime at CADL Mason Library** -10:30-11 a.m. 145 W. Ash St., Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

**Preteen Reads Book Club** – Our monthly book club for students in grades 4 through 6. 6-7 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St, Charlotte. charlottelibrary.org.

**Sporcle Live! Trivia** – 2 games 7:30 & 8:30 p.m. Crunchy's, 254 W Grand River Ave, East Lansing. crunchyseastlansing.com.

**University Archives Pop-up:** Exploring scrapbooks! 12-2 p.m. Main Library, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

**CROSSWORD SOLUTION**  
From Pg. 24

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**SUDOKU SOLUTION**  
From Pg. 24

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# Lansing-based, plant-based

The long road to opening Veg-Head in downtown Lansing

By **CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS**

For the local plant-based eaters continuously on the hunt for new meatless menus, a new veggie spot, Veg-Head, is headed to downtown Lansing.

Chef Kari Magee opens the new restaurant on Friday, October 7 at 11 a.m. for quick-service lunch and a full-service dinner. Located



## Veg-Head

208 S. Washington Sq.,  
Lansing  
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a.m.-8 p.m.  
facebook.com/  
vegheadllc

on the first floor of the Ranney Building at 208 S. Washington St., the freshly curated menu offers entirely plant-based selections that reimagine Americana dishes described as comfort food.

“It’s ‘normal green,’” Magee said. “Everyone can come in and find something

they will recognize.” This chef’s approach is nothing like the high-energy television personalities you’re used to seeing. She is relaxed, kind and a self-described “hippie.”

And to those who say that vegan food is bland or isn’t tasty, she smiles, shrugs, and says, “Try it.” It’s an invitation and a challenge that this reporter happily accepted. For starters, I dug into cauliflower tacos al pastor. They were perfectly spicy, chewy, juicy and filling. Veg-Head’s dynamic menu also includes plant-based burgers and sandwiches, mushroom steaks, upscale pasta and crab(less) cakes. For those with a sweet tooth, there are freshly-baked vegan chocolate chip cookies and gluten-free avocado chocolate cake.

Magee’s goal is to delight you, which may mean some surprises. At heart, she is a creative professional with an absolute passion for the product. “Food is a centerpiece of life, and some of my best memories are tied to that. I’ve always found myself in the kitchen,” she said.

As a child, Magee used to get in trouble for critiquing her mother’s cooking. She remembers those times with a smile but says: “Well, look where we are now.”

Initially, Magee fell into the restaurant business to help pay for her art degree but soon realized that making food was her artistic practice. Over the years, she has paid her dues at various gigs, including a stint in the food service industry in Great Britain. “I was so hungry to learn everything I could,” she recalled, emphasizing the life skills and fundamentals learned in the kitchen: Team, time, taste, criticism, cleaning and pushing yourself. The adrenaline kicks in, and you have to make things work.

One career milestone for Magee was her time as the first executive chef of retail at Michigan State University. She developed 16 different venues and did concept development for allergen-friendly meals and healthier options at sporting events. At MSU, Magee trained under the award-winning Chef Kurt Kwiatkowski, senior executive chef of culinary services. He offered Magee the job after watching her practical exam.

“The way she carried herself in the kitchen, you could see she was passionate about food,” Kwiatkowski said. “She’s super smart. She wants to find that right flavor, and she’s okay with feedback.”

Eventually, Magee oversaw about

500 people on campus and continued her professional development through training and certifications.

By 2019, she completed a corporate chef plant-based certification and switched to a plant-based, vegan lifestyle. Magee doesn’t go on for long about this part of her journey. She’s conscious of the stereotypes about veganism and doesn’t want to bore or even offend me. “You think you know some of the benefits (of a vegan lifestyle), but this was an awakening,” she said.



Chelsea Lake Roberts

Veg-Head owner Kari Magee and developer Shawn Elliot.

After incorporating her new vision into her professional work, Magee became known as the “vegan chef” around campus. She delighted in getting students to try vegan food — a project made easier when the food looked like something they were used to eating: a burger, nachos or pizza. But she didn’t stop there. She explored her creative side, experimenting with dishes like hibiscus tacos, banana blossom fish and chips and watermelon steaks.

In 2021, Magee received a gold medal in an American Culinary Federation competition. She competed and won with a vegan dish. I asked her old boss about Magee’s switch to the plant-based lifestyle and its impact on her career.

Kwiatkowski said: “She wants to make the best food possible; it just happens to be vegan.”

But opening a new restaurant is more than just creating a flavorsome menu — it’s also about creating a vibe in the location. The space redesign has been a fulfilling journey for the building’s owner and local developer, Shawn Elliot. Elliot is redesigning the interior with low booths and various textures like exposed bricks, wood grain, smooth columns and repurposed countertops. He said Magee’s canvas is the plate and that his canvas is the building. “We’re going to spend time on your five senses here,” he said.

Elliot added that he is passionate about Lansing’s historic architecture and people, including Dr. George E. Ranney. Elliot said it’s so appropriate for Veg-Head to be in this location because Ranney was one of the first environmentalists in the world. The Civil War hero, surgeon, physician and public health advocate famously led the planting of over 14,000 trees in the City of Lansing and bequeathed what is now Ranney Park. “Having this restaurant here feels like we’re carrying his baton forward,” said Elliot, who has worked with Magee on Veg-head plans since March 2021.

In the weeks leading up to the opening, the response from the community has humbled Chef Magee. She said that in the past few years, she has seen more people getting interested in eating plant-based meals for various reasons. All it takes, she said, is one family member going vegan or vegetarian for others to explore the movement.

Looking back, she considers opening her own restaurant a natural evolution after years of hard work and experience. “It just came down to the fundamentals of what makes you happy,” Magee said. “On campus, I had to cook meat, which didn’t make me happy anymore. I wanted something bigger.”



Chelsea Lake Roberts

Various Veg-Head dishes, including charred Brussel sprouts with balsamic reduction, fried shallots and vegan feta and Cauliflower al pastor tacos with guacamole and pickled onion.

# A South Indian comfort food fix



## Mysore Masala Dosa is a balance of comfort and complexity

By LIZY FERGUSON

On a Tuesday evening, my friend and I found ourselves running around Hannah Plaza in a rainstorm, searching for our supper. We had a movie to make, so we abandoned the busy dinner rush

happening at Sindhu, an East Lansing mainstay. A quick Google revealed another Indian option right across the way: Sree Saffron. I hadn't been there in so long that I'd forgotten it existed, but I'm happy that circumstance and Michigan weather brought me back.

The remarkable thing about the Mysore Masala Dosa I ordered is how much you get for your money. To outline it in plain Midwestern-ese: a potato-stuffed pancake, a bowl of soup, and two dipping sauces, all for just \$12.99.

In short, a dosa is a South Indian crepe made from a fermented batter of rice and lentils. It is a very thin, very large pancake that, when unfurled, is about the circumference of a Parisian café table top. It is folded over itself and, in this case, filled with aloo masala — mashed potatoes cooked with onion, garlic, ginger, chiles for heat and turmeric for a golden color. Cumin and mustard seeds add a nutty flavor and texture to the mix.

The dosa was seasoned with paprika and fried in oil to a crispy, golden brown. Next to the sambar (lentil vegetable soup), and given my soaked, chilly

state, it brought to mind the perfect grilled cheese next to a warm bowl of Campbell's. Considering that a thick layer of mashed potatoes is included, you've got a major comfort food experience on your hands. (You should use your hands.)

You will often find sambar served with dosa, which speaks to how universal it is to want the rich satisfaction of these textures and flavors together. Sree's sambar was a tomato soup of elevated, complex proportions with a smoky flavor and the sour twist of tamarind, with some hearty chunks of carrot, onion and squash. Really, it's more accurately classified as a stew.

### Sree Saffron: Mysore Masala Dosa

4750 Hagadorn Rd #60, East Lansing (517) 993-5979

Finally, we come to my favorite part of ordering dosa. The chutneys! You never know when ordering a dosa exactly which

chutneys you'll get or how many. Sree served up coconut and tomato chutney, which is a respectable variety (one is too few). I prefer mint to tomato, but coconut is my favorite, so I was pleased. If you ever tire of dipping slabs of crispy-outside, creamy-inside potato/dosa in your sambar, you've also got tangy, bright tomato and sweet yet cool-but-also-spicy coconut to choose from.

Even if the ingredients are unfamiliar at first, the Mysore Masala Dosa is a dish that provides the balance of comfort and complexity we all crave when it's dinner time, and our raincoat turns out to be less waterproof than advertised.



Photo by Lizy Ferguson

Mysore Masala Dosa at Sree Saffron

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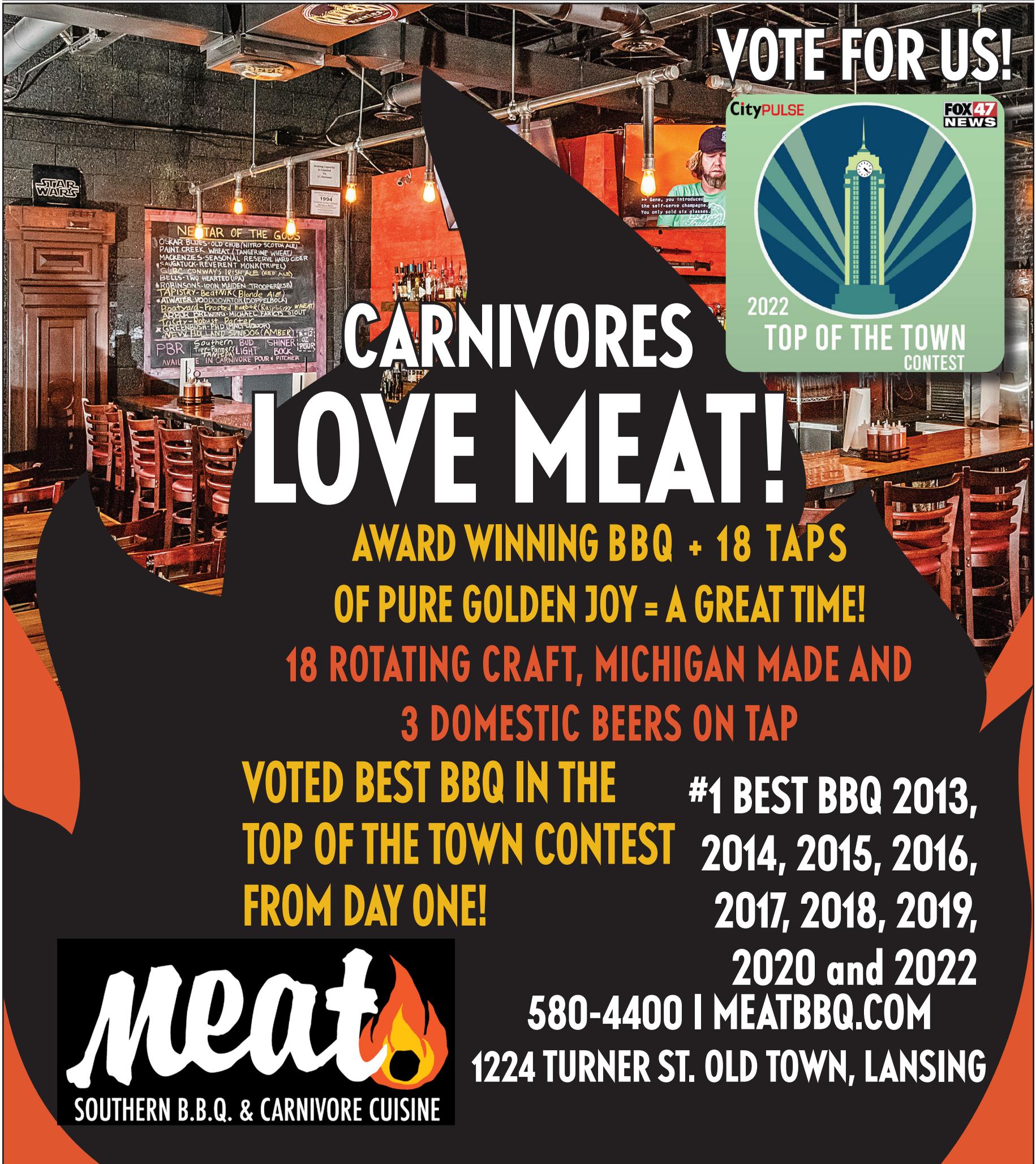
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# Never mind the cauliflower crust, here's zucchini pizza



By ARI LEVAUX

At my local farmers market the other day, I was watching the stand of a farmer friend as he made the rounds. I chatted with shoppers, taking their money as if I were the farmer and silently taking credit for all the amazing produce I did not grow.

One of my customers bought a pile of 8-ball summer squash, a type of round zucchini. "What are you going to do with them?" I asked. "Slice them up and cover the slices with pizza toppings," she said, "and bake them into little zucchini pizzas."

Move over cauliflower crust pizza, I thought. This was a brilliant addition to the arsenal in the never-ending hunt to find ways to use zucchini.

I returned home laden with zucchini, including the normal ones, long and slender like cucumbers. I also had some of my friend's 8-balls and a few patty pan summer squash shaped like flying saucers. Once back in the lab, I started experimenting.

I tried several toppings, including a traditional style pizza with red sauce, cheese and sliced hot dogs, hoping to lure the children on board. I made some with fresh tomatoes rather than red sauce. I made some "white" pizzas without tomatoes, which makes zero sense this time of year, but I gave it a shot in the spirit of research. The best combinations were the aforementioned traditional style with red sauce and cheese and a BLT-inspired pizza — aka BLTizza — with bacon and tomatoes. I served it with a mixture of fresh onions and mayo. But everyone's favorite was the Caprese salad of tomato, mozzarella and basil. I call it the "Caprizza."

It's mandatory that you salt the zucchini after you slice it. This step, called disgorgement, is worth doing on all watery vegetables, like eggplant and sometimes

cucumber, depending on the context, as well as zucchini and other forms of summer squash. The salt draws water out of the plant cells and prevents the dish from becoming a soggy, watery mess.

To disgorge zucchini, slice it and sprinkle the cut sides with salt. Let sit for 20-30 minutes, then pat the slices dry.

Using round, 8-ball style zucchini, you can salt both sides of each slice. If you're using "normal" long, tube-shaped zucchini, slice them end to end into boats, and cut a flat spot on the opposite side of each slice so it can sit flat and not roll over. These slices will then also have two cut sides to salt. If using pattypan squash,

sprinkle with salt. Wait 20-30 minutes and pat dry.

Arrange the disgorged zucchini on a baking tray. Add a tablespoon of olive oil to each piece and spread it around. Add a few tablespoons of sauce, spread it around, and then sprinkle with cheese. Add the toppings until it looks like pizza, and then bake for 20 minutes at 400.

### BLTizza

- Zucchini
- Salt
- Olive oil
- Sliced tomatoes
- Sliced bacon
- Minced onion
- Mayo

Slice the zucchini as appropriate, with no slice greater than 3/4 -inch. Sprinkle with salt. Wait 20-30 minutes and pat dry. Mix the onions and mayo.

Arrange the disgorged zucchini on a baking tray. Add a tablespoon of olive oil to each piece and spread it around.

Add the tomato slices and then the bacon slices. Bake at 400 for 20 minutes. Remove and allow to cool.

When cool, top with the mayo onion mixture, and serve.

### Caprizza

- Zucchini
- Salt
- Olive oil
- Fresh basil leaves
- Fresh tomato slices
- Fresh, sliced mozzarella cheese
- Aged balsamic vinegar (optional)

Slice the zucchini as appropriate, with no slice greater than 3/4 -inch. Sprinkle with salt. Wait 20-30 minutes and pat dry.

Arrange the disgorged zucchini on a baking tray. Add a tablespoon of olive oil to each piece and spread it around.

Add the basil leaves to each piece of zucchini. Cover the leaves with mozzarella slices. Lay tomato slices over the mozzarella.

Bake at 400 for 20 minutes. Remove and allow to cool. Drizzle with balsamic vinegar, if using, and serve.



Courtesy photo

Ari LeVaux's zucchini pizzas.

slice them through their equators and cut off the blossom and stem ends to create flat spots to keep them from rolling. These will also have two cut ends to salt.

### Normal Pizza (aka pizza margherita)

- Zucchini
- Salt
- Olive oil
- Tomato-based spaghetti or pizza sauce
- Grated parmesan or Italian cheese blend
- Sliced meat or vegetable for toppings
- Slice the zucchini as appropriate, with no slice greater than 3/4 -inch, and



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- By calling or visiting your city or township clerk's office

YOUR COMMUNITY IS DEPENDING ON YOU TO VOTE THIS ELECTION.

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