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Nov.23-Nov.29, 2022

CityPULSE

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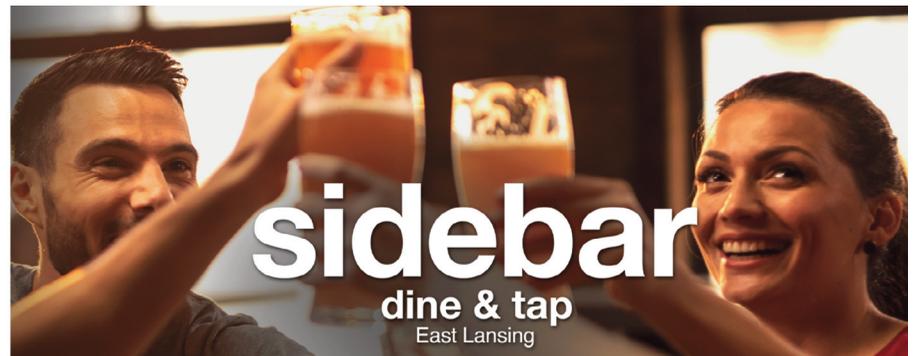
**SILVER BELLS
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THE CITY...
AND THE SKY**

See p. 21

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sidebar

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(While Supply Last)




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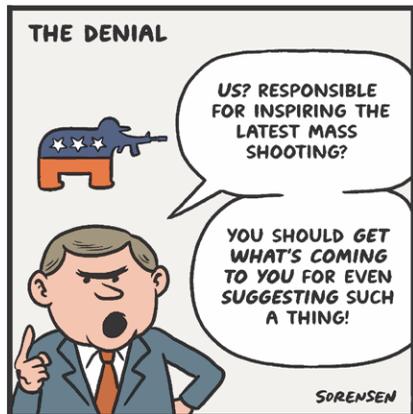
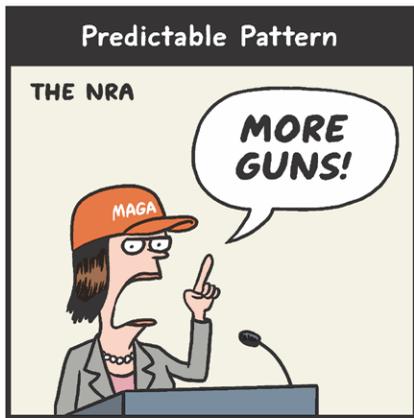


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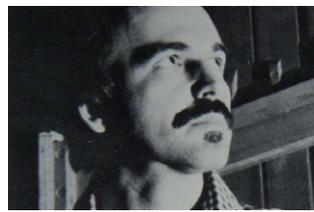
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World AIDS Day brings Calvin Hampton's music to local church

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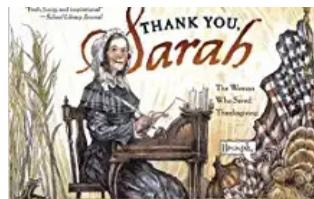
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Giving thanks to Sarah Hale

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Silver Bells in the City illuminates downtown Lansing

Cover photo by Roxanne Frith

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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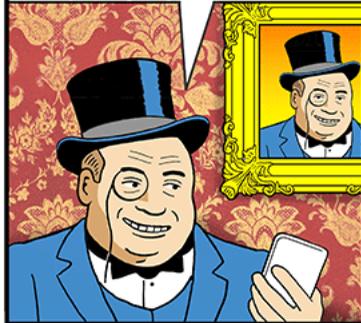
EVERY WEDNESDAY!

We work hard to keep you informed and up to date on the issues that matter most to you.

Stay aware with local news right at your fingertips!

THE WORLD'S RICHEST MAN GROWS ADDICTED TO HIS FAVORITE SOCIAL MEDIA SITE, BLITHER.

I LOVE PLAYFULLY INTERACTING WITH ONLINE FRIENDS SUCH AS @NAZIBOIFOURTEEN88! HIS MEMES ARE AMUSINGLY DANK!



BUT THE SITE BEGINS TO ANNOY HIM. HOW DARE BLITHER BAN "BLEATS" FROM @NAZIBOIFOURTEEN88? HAVE THEY EVER HEARD OF FREE SPEECH?

I SHALL PURCHASE THE COMPANY AT A MASSIVELY INFLATED PRICE-- AND GET RID OF THE WOKE LIBERAL THOUGHT POLICE!



AND A FEW MONTHS LATER-- IT'S ME, THE WORLD'S RICHEST MAN-- WHIMSICALLY ACTING OUT A POPULAR MEME! COMEDY IS LEGAL AGAIN!

HA HA! GOOD JOKE, SIR! IT MEANS YOU'RE GOING TO SINK THIS MAN'S PLACE, RIGHT?



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NEXT: MOVING FAST AND BREAKING EVERYTHING.

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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

If you can, please support City Pulse with a donation

In this week's issue, you will find our annual donation envelope. If you can, we at City Pulse hope you will show your support with a gift in any amount.

Each week, we strive to do our best to bring you an informative and entertaining newspaper. We do it on a tight budget and with a small staff. As you can see on Page 4, only a handful of people work full time to produce a weekly paper and a daily website, with the vital support of freelance writers and deliv-

ery drivers who brave inclement weather to be sure you can find a paper at our more than 300 locations.

Like everywhere, our costs have risen as a result of supply chain issues. The cost of newsprint has risen dramatically this year. After salaries, paper is the biggest expense. Moreover, we have increased what we pay freelancers and also drivers to offset the cost of gas.

City Pulse is in our 22nd year, and we are pleased that we have grown from a scruffy publication that got by week to week to one that can provide more pages and more content that help to

fill the increasing need for local news as the daily paper – which has just been hit with another round of layoffs – unfortunately continues to decline. Your support truly makes a difference, so I hope you will contribute in any amount. You can use the envelope for checks or you can call (517) 999-6704 and contribute by credit card.

City Pulse is free, both in print and online. Your support helps make that possible.

Thank you and happy holidays.

Berl Schwartz
Editor and publisher

Rooftop dining replaces apartments in city's arts center

Apartments are out, but a rooftop restaurant and bar are in the latest plan for a three-story downtown performing arts center as the Lansing City Council appears poised to approve up to \$20 million in bonds to build it.

The proposal for The Ovation, at the corner of Washington Square and Lenawee Street, that Mayor Andy Schor unveiled Feb. 1 included the prospect of 40 affordable “live and work spaces” designed to attract working artists. However, due to building height regulations that significantly increase fire safety protocols and architectural requirements, those have been cut, said Dominick Cochran, who is overseeing the project for the city. Had the project included the proposed apartments, which Cochran numbered at 68, the project would have cost an estimated \$27 million. Without the apartments, the project has an estimated \$17 million price tag.

“It’s just really complicated for the city to get into the housing business,” Cochran said. “But what we have, as a result of that, are an exciting bar and rooftop restaurant.”

Cochran described it as “hybrid. Half of the rooftop space will be heated and will work on all but the coldest days.”

He said they are conservatively estimating first-year revenues from the new eatery and bar at \$150,000. “We can expect that to be probably quite a bit higher than that,” but the planning group is trying to be conservative.

The main hall will be on the first floor, with balconies and a “lobby/performance space” on floor two, he said.

The rooftop will include a large screen to show movies, he added.

He noted that the bar and restaurant will be open even when the venue does not have performances.

“That whole area is being activated with new housing,” he said. “The people who

move there are going to want something to do in the evenings.”

City View Apartments, located in the former Lake Trust building next to the arts center site, just opened this month. This is the first phase of the housing project, which will be offering 55 studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments. Developers are continuing on that project to add additional housing. The former YMCA plot downtown has given rise to new apartments as well.

“That whole area is being newly activated,” said Lansing Mayor Andy Schor.

The Lansing City Council is likely to approve a proposal to authorize up to \$20 million in bonds for construction when it meets Dec. 5.

The Council has tabled that resolution and two others for a month as members have pushed for more details on the project.

“I just need to make sure we’re not going to end up subsidizing this project like we do the Lansing Center, the stadium and Groesbeck Golf Course,” said Patricia Spitzley, an at-large member of Council. Joining Spitzley in questioning the proposal is Councilmember Carol Wood.

Council will consider three resolutions on Dec. 5, including the authorization to bond for up to \$20 million. Another would accept the \$5 million in Strategic Fund grant money from the Michigan Economic Development Corp., and a third resolution would create a quasi-public body to oversee the facility like the one that operates the Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority. Board members would be nominated by the mayor and subject to City Council approval.

Cochran is the director the Lansing Public Media Center, which is playing a pivotal funding role in the arts center. He explained why the bonding was necessary.

“The MEDC money comes in tranches,” he said. “Bonds will allow us to do the work and then have the money released to us. When it’s all done and the doors open, the city will carry on its books about \$6 million in bond debt. We know we have that covered with future PEG dollars.”

PEG is short for Public, Education and Governmental money, which comes from a franchise fee paid by cable providers to create public access programming. The city recently renegotiated its PEG agreements with AT&T, Metronet and Comcast. Past deals have been 10-year contracts, but the new contracts are for 20 years, delivering about \$2.5 million a year in franchise fees. That money, Cochran said, will cover the bond debt.

“They are very supportive of this project,” Cochran said of the cable providers.

In addition to the PEG and MEDC money, Cochran said the city has put aside \$2.5 million. The state has appropriated another \$2 million for the project.

Cochran said the project is expecting another \$750,000 in federal cash and up to \$7 million in private naming rights income.

Cash from naming rights, along with additional initial private gifts during the fundraising, will go into the operational fund to be a fiduciary backstop preventing a need to rely on a city subsidy.

“That’s something that came out during the private fundraising endeavor. Nobody wanted to build something that would be a burden to the city in the future,” Cochran said.

Schor is onboard with the current plans. “This is important and exciting for Lansing,” Schor said. “At the end of the day, the bonding will get us through the construction, and the plan has contingencies to fund the building operations in the event of an unforeseen crisis. In the worst-case scenario, the building can be sold to

pay off any debt. Council is not under any obligation to fund a subsidy for anything, including this. They simply reject it during budget time.”

The main performance space will remain at a 2,000-person standing capacity, but a proposed black box theater has been scrapped for four smaller rooms. The large space could be partitioned off for professional touring shows with smaller audiences. Cochran said creating a performance space at the South Washington Office Complex would be less costly for community theaters to rent and use, and make more sense for them as well.

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co. did a trial performance in the SWOC this year with a production of Stephen Sondheim’s “Merrily We Roll Along.” The big room requires pipes and curtain sections to create a more intimate space but is functionally flexible enough to host theater performances in the evenings and conferences and lectures by day.

The new facility will focus on up-and-coming musical acts, as well as groups on the wane.

Cochran said a marketing study found that what Lansing was missing was “an intersectional place like St. Andrews Hall,” referencing a popular 1,000-person performance venue in Detroit. “The fact is we have a major university and we’re a capital city with no venue like that — it’s pretty wild.”

The marketing study found students from MSU were willing to commute to Grand Rapids and Detroit for performances. While many in-person venues are still struggling to stand back up after the pandemic shutdown, Cochran said there is a “certain demographic” that is “ready to party,” creating “more demand, ironically, than before COVID.”

-TODD HEYWOOD

(Berl Schwartz contributed to this story.)

Two years' retired, Knight keeps an eye on LCC from afar

As president of Lansing Community College, Brent Knight was known for scooting around campus on a golf cart.

So it seems appropriate that in retirement he is living next to a golf course.

"We live in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, home of the University of Alabama. I'm standing in my living room looking at the 17th hole on a golf course," Knight, who turned 76 three weeks ago, said over the phone recently. "Today, I picked up two golf balls, which I'm not complaining" about.

Knight and his wife, Rise, settled not far from her native state of Louisiana. Born in Bay City, Knight said he thought it was only fair to head south after having subjected his wife to the winter climes of Chicago and Lansing as he pursued his career.

Knight said that he's been watching both the Michigan State Spartans and the Alabama Crimson Tide on Saturdays. He also enjoys being in another part of the country and learning about different places. And keeping busy around the house.

"I'm always doing something, tinkering, painting, fixing, I like working with my hands," Knight said.

Knight still feels connected to Lansing and LCC, where he was president from 2008 to 2020.

"I was president for 12 years in Lansing and very much a part of the community, and knew the college from end to end and all the good people who work there," Knight said. "I miss the fun parts of the job, you might say, but on the other hand it's a hard job, and I don't miss those parts."

Asked about student costs for community colleges, Knight said he favors low- to no-cost tuition.

"When I came to LCC in 2008, one of my goals was to keep tuition low," Knight said. "By that, I meant when you compare LCC to other community colleges in Michigan, is tuition lower than most? And, yes, it was."

"Colleges and universities should offer programs that lead to employment at a decent wage," he added. "Cost of higher education has gone up more than almost anything. Tuition is a high cost. No matter what, you have to manage your debt."

Knight said he keeps up with doings in Lansing and the college, including this year's decision to send \$600,000 to improve the façade of the Rogers-Carrier House in Lansing, also



Skyler Ashley/City Pulse

Brent Knight says goodbye to well-wishers during a surprise farewell parade on Capital Avenue in 2020 as he ended 12 years as president of Lansing Community College.

known as the Moon House because it was designed by local architect Darius Moon.

"I was just delighted. It would have been a tragedy had that building collapsed," Knight said. "It's a unique home, great architecture, historic. Those homes, you can't replace them."

Knight led the effort to restore the Hermann House, next door on Capital Avenue, at a cost of \$900,000, and lived in it starting in 2013. His successor, Steve Robinson, and his family are the current occupants.

In May 2022, Knight was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the American Association of Community Colleges. He said he was very flattered.

"I was a community college president for 29 years, and very few people are included in the Hall of Fame. Some of the greatest in the history of American community colleges are included," Knight said.

Knight was known for long-term planning at LCC. Many of his visions have come to fruition.

LCC Board of Trustees Vice Chair Angela Mathews praised his foresight.

"We are a community college with a Big Ten feel because of Dr. Knight and his vision and ingenuity." As an example, she cited the new, bigger parking ramp on Grand Avenue, which had long been needed.

"It was completed because he saw it.

his philosophy that an attractive campus will attract students.

Trustee Andrew Abood called Knight "such an asset."

"He reached out as soon as I won the election. He provided a lot of guidance and talked to me in confidence."

Abood sponsored the "Upward Bound" sculpture in the middle of LCC's campus, which he said signifies the uplifting of students. He called it a "signature" for the college.

The sculpture is one that Knight, who brought many pieces of art to the campus inside and out, calls one of his children.

"They're all my children truly, I'm fond of all of them," Knight said.

He said he left some things undone before his retirement but that he was happy with what he was able to accomplish before he left.

"The moment COVID-19 hit, we stopped all the projects that I could, because people couldn't come to work," Knight said. "We didn't get all the projects done that we were working on because of COVID-19, but that's OK."

— JAYDEN HEWITT

(Berl Schwartz contributed to this story.)

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, December 5, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan to amend the Lansing Codified Ordinances by Adding Chapter 291, Sections 291.01-291.04, to establish a conflict of interest policy and regulations for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Programs and Funding; including, but not limited to, Continuum of Care (24 CFR 578.95); Emergency Services Grants (24 CFR 576.404); and CDBG (24 CFR 570.611, 24 CFR 578.95, 24 CFR 576.404); and to provide penalties for any violations of the provisions of this ordinance.

Persons with disabilities who need an accommodation to fully participate in these meetings should contact the City Council Office at 517-483-4177 (TDD (517) 483-4479) 24-hour notice may be needed for certain accommodations. An attempt will be made to grant all reasonable accommodation requests.

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

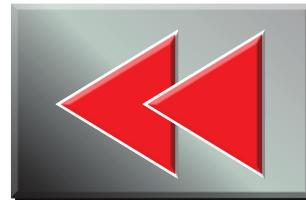
Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/MiPMC
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CP#22-271

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

BY NICOLE NOECHEL



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer plans to appoint state Rep. Kyra Harris Bolden to the Michigan Supreme Court, a spokesman said Tuesday, making her the first Black woman to serve on the state's highest court. Bolden, who hails from the Detroit area, was a Democratic nominee for the Supreme Court in the Nov. 8 election but finished third in a race for two seats. She will replace Justice Bridget McCormack, who is resigning. "She will bring a unique perspective to our high court as a Black woman — and as a new working mom — that has too long been left out," Whitmer said.



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer delivered a near-Shermanesque statement that she won't run for president in 2024.

Whitmer defeated GOP candidate Tudor Dixon by 11 points on Nov. 8, leading the way against a GOP "red wave" in Michigan. The New York Times and others quickly named her one of the top three or four contenders if President Biden doesn't seek reelection. However, Whitmer told the Detroit Free Press she does not foresee herself ever running for president.

The Lansing School District Board of Education may reconsider its choice for J.W. Sexton High School's new mascot following backlash from community members. In July, the school announced it would choose a new character to replace the Native American-themed "Big Reds" mascot. After polling more than 2,500 students, staff and community members on four mascot ideas, "J-Dubbs," named for the late educator Jay Wesley Sexton, won the most votes. But

the school board chose the runner-up, the "Scorpions," as the school's new mascot. Some community members voiced concerns about not being represented in the selection process at the school board's meeting Thursday. The discussion has been postponed until the next meeting on Dec. 1.



Michigan's Cannabis Regulatory Agency fined ACT Laboratories Inc., a Lansing-based cannabis testing laboratory, \$9,000 for failing to comply with deadlines for reporting annual financial statements. Reports were due 30 days after the end of the state's fiscal year on Sept. 30 last year, but the agency says the laboratory didn't submit the statements until Nov. 19. The CRA



left a message with the laboratory's Lansing office. ACT Laboratories, which is located across the Northeast and Midwest, was one of 12 licensed companies to receive formal complaints or disciplinary action from the agency.



A historic home on Moores River Drive is receiving the TLC it deserves. New owners Holli Seabury, executive director of the Delta Dental Foundation, and her husband, Mark, a chemist at Pratt & Whitney, purchased the fixer-upper this year with the intent to remodel the 93-year-old home while maintaining its charm. And there is a lot of charm to maintain.

Consistent with the English Tudor style, the home has steeply pitched roofs, half-timber accents on its gables and groupings of tall, narrow windows. Limestone is used to accent the ornate windows and front door of the home, and green slate tiles decorate the roof. The interior is just as rich.

"We looked at the house with no intent to buy it," Hollie recalls, "but the open floor plan and the paneled library sold me. I am still in awe of the leaded-glass windows and the grand staircase."

While it appears to be in good condition, the building is in serious need of some updates, including structural restoration and modernizing the electric and climate control systems. No strangers to major renovations, the Seaburys anticipate tending to every square inch of the house, inside and out: "We will be working on it for years, but the first priority is to get a functional kitchen and bathrooms."

The home was built by the Estes family, owners of a local furniture store and funeral home. For the last 40 years, it has served as a parsonage for a local church.

— JAMES KNARIAN

**CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Please take notice that the Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on a proposed agreement between the City Of Lansing and the Charter Township of Windsor for the conditional transfer of property pursuant to 1984 P.A. 425 on December 5, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the Tony Benavides Lansing City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing.

A copy of the proposed agreement and the description of this land to be transferred is on file with the Lansing City Clerk.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

A parcel of land in the North 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 10, Township 3 North, Range 3 West, Windsor Township, Eaton County, Michigan described as follows: Beginning at the North 1/4 corner of said Section; thence South 00 degrees 44 minutes 21 seconds East, on the North & South 1/4 line of said Section, 1332.08 feet to the North 1/8 line of said Section; thence North 89 degrees 46 minutes 39 seconds West, on said North 1/8 line, 2646.67 feet to the West line of said Section; thence North 00 degrees 13 minutes 11 seconds West, on said West Section line, 325.28 feet; thence North 89 degrees 46 minutes 49 seconds East, perpendicular to said West Section line, 60.00 feet; thence North 00 degrees 13 minutes 11 seconds West, parallel with said West Section line, 459.79 feet to a point of curvature; thence 246.15 feet on a curve to the left, having a radius of 878.51 feet, a central angle of 16 degrees 03 minutes 13 seconds, and a long chord which bears North 08 degrees 14 minutes 47 seconds West, 245.35 feet to the beginning of an existing Limited Access Right of Way; thence North 23 degrees 05 minutes 11 seconds East, on said Limited Access Right of Way line, 127.96 feet; thence North 64 degrees 59 minutes 25 seconds East, on said Limited Access Right of Way line, 66.86 feet to the end of said Limited Access Right of Way; thence continuing North 64 degrees 59 minutes 25 seconds East, 45.87 feet to a point of curvature; thence 332.12 feet on a curve to the right, having a radius of 758.51 feet, a central angle of 25 degrees 05 minutes 15 seconds, and a long chord which bears North 77 degrees 32 minutes 03 seconds East, 329.47 feet; thence North 00 degrees 04 minutes 40 seconds East, perpendicular to the North line of said Section, 60.00 feet to said North Section line; thence South 89 degrees 55 minutes 20 seconds East, on said North Section line, 2133.55 feet to the point of beginning.

Parcel Number 080-010-100-010-01

Commonly Known as 7000 N. Canal Rd, Dimondale, MI 48821

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

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMCC

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CP#22-270

**CITY OF LANSING
SUMMARY OF
ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1307**

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend the Lansing Codified Ordinances by amending Chapter 822, Sections 822.01 through 822.05, 822.11, 822.18, and 822.19, and repealing Chapter 822, Sections 822.16, 822.17, and 822.20, to eliminate City licensing requirements for massage therapists.

Effective date: December 14, 2022

Notice:

The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk's Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan. A copy of the full text of this Ordinance may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan at a fee determined by City Council.

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

CP#22-272

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



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1.800.WHARTON (942-7866)



College of Social Science
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Midterm elections deliver power to Lansing as local pols rise to top leadership roles

We have the Capitol. We have the Governor's Residence. We have the Hall of Justice and several administrative buildings downtown.

But starting on Jan. 1, Lansing will be the most politically powerful city in Michigan based on who will be sitting in those offices.

We know East Lansing's own Gretchen Whitmer will be serving her second term as governor. Another East Lansing resident, Justice Elizabeth Clement, will be the chief justice of the Supreme Court.

Yet another East Lansing resident, Sen.-elect Sam Singh, will be the next Senate majority floor leader, giving him the power to put agenda items on the session calendar.

Over in Lansing, Sen.-elect Sarah Anthony will chair the Senate Appropriations Committee, giving her the power of the purse strings on that side of the Capitol.

On the other side of the Capitol, Rep. Angela Witwer of Delta Township will be in charge of the House Appropriations Committee, making her the lead budget person over there and among the top three or four most powerful people in the 110-member state House of Representatives.

She isn't in state government, but let's not forget U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow, who also lives in Delta Township. With the Democrats still in control of the upper chamber in Washington D.C., she's expected to retain her position as the Senate Agriculture Committee chair.

If this has happened before -- where a city has been able to lay claim to having this type of political representation in all three branches of government -- Bill Ballenger of The Ballenger Report doesn't remember it, and he goes back at least 70 years.

Back when Detroit and Metro Detroit made up a larger share of the state's population, it's possible Mott-town legislators claimed this type of influence in legislative leadership, but it's something that hasn't happened in recent memory.

The Capital City doesn't have any especially powerful pull that created this confluence of leadership. How each appointment came about is a completely different dynamic.

Clement worked in state government for the Senate Republicans before mov-

ing to Gov. Rick Snyder's office, eventually becoming his chief legal counsel. Snyder moved her to the Supreme Court to fill a vacancy and, once there, she worked well with her colleagues, regardless of party affiliation.

With Chief Justice Bridget McCormack leaving to pursue a seven-figure job, Clement emerged as a consensus pick to hold the top spot.

Witwer has long been the righthand of incoming Speaker Joe Tate, having been the head of the campaign arm of the House Democrats. Singh is a former House minority leader and floor leader with leadership experience as a prior East Lansing mayor.

Anthony has appropriations experience dating back to her time as a House staffer 15 years ago. With the Senate only having three Black members, Anthony's ascension allows the Senate Democrats to present a truly diverse leadership mix that also elevates the role of first-termers.

The Lansing area has had influential legislators in key positions in years past. Former Rep. Lynn Jondahl chaired the House Taxation Committee. Former Rep. David Hollister chaired the Social Services subcommittee. To have both Appropriations Committee chair positions is unique.

To have Lansing legislators chair an appropriations subcommittee is a big deal. To have Lansing legislators chair both committees? It's an historic confluence of events that likely won't happen again.

It shows that we have been fortunate to have good people willing to serve and we, as a community, have done a good job supporting and voting for these folks.

First, the Democrats won all three branches of Michigan government, which hasn't happened in 40 years. Next, we have legislators who put themselves in positions to be part of leadership.

It's to the good fortune of Lansing and its residents. Outgoing-Sen. Curtis Hertel always did well bringing home the bacon as the ranking minority member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Lansing was taken care of. To now have two Appropriations Committee chairs?

Lansing should not be forgotten when it comes to dividing up money, let's put it that way.

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



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Concert celebrates musical genius lost to AIDS in 1984

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

If you hung out in Manhattan in the early 1980s and wanted to light up your night, Studio 54 wasn't the only place to go. Fridays at midnight, at Calvary Episcopal Church in Gramercy Park, people came from miles around to hear Calvin Hampton's soaring, chest-rattling organ music, often augmented by a dazzling light show.

Hampton encouraged listeners to lie on the floor as he steamrolled them with everything from towering Bach fugues to his own ravishing, sonically adventurous compositions, shattering the air and shaking the soul as only a mighty pipe organ can.

On Dec. 1, at All Saints Episcopal Church in East Lansing, music director and organist Quincy Dobbs will bring Hampton's music to life on the church's grand organ, with the All Saints Choir and guest speakers, to mark World AIDS Day.

Hampton died of AIDS in 1984, just before his 46th birthday.

For Dobbs, it's the concert of a lifetime.

"This is the highest level of concert music that you can play," he said.

Anyone expecting sleep-inducing hymns or funereal background music from an organ concert will be stunned by the vitality and force of Hampton's music.

"There is nothing soothing about it," Dobbs said. "It's filled with the passion and emotion of a creative person's life."

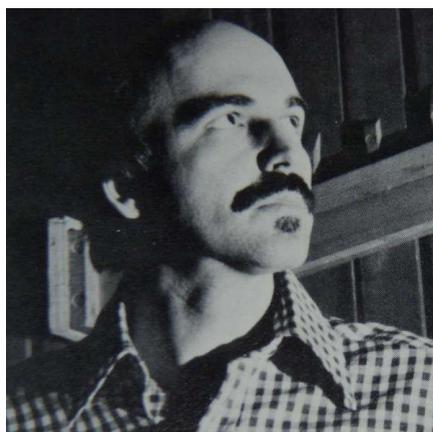
Although Dobbs has a doctorate in music, all he could come up with to describe the first dance, "The Primitive," was, "Oh my God, no one will fall asleep."

The major piece on the program, "Five Dances for Organ," is a 40-minute epic that juxtaposes profound meditations with righteous rage and full-throated yelps of joy.

A yearning for love and community fills Hampton's music, but it's fractured by conflict and doubt.

"Being in the gay community, he was in and he was out," Hampton said.

Dobbs described one of the dances, "An Exalted Ritual," as a "long, plaintive, repetitive piece, as if the whole audience



Calvin Hampton, a musical genius and a revered figure in the organ world, died of AIDS in 1984.

World AIDS Day concert Celebrating Calvin Hampton

Quincy Dobbs, organist, with All Saints Choir
7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 1
All Saints Episcopal Church
800 Abbot Road, East Lansing
FREE

was in a personal atmosphere of their own ritual. It's just gorgeous."

The dance, in part, unfolds by chance — one of many cutting-edge

techniques Hampton deployed along with more traditional styles — over a repeated bass line "that brings everything to a center for every individual to listen."

Hampton was a musical omnivore who played everything from ancient to modern music and also led a rock band, Sevenfold Gift. The finale, "Everybody Dance," bursts with spiky melody, unexpected harmonies and what Dobbs called "rhythmic stuff."

"I'm not sure you could dance to it," he admitted, "but it's an invitation." His description ended almost with a warning: "It's for full organ, and I'm not scared to use the resources of the full organ."

At the Dec. 1 concert, Kristina Schmidgall, director of the Lansing Area AIDS Network, or LAAN, will talk about the history of World AIDS Day, HIV in the Lansing community and the services LAAN offers.

"We've made progress, but the AIDS crisis is not over," Dobbs said. Worldwide, about 650,000 people died of AIDS-related illnesses in 2021, accord-



Courtesy photo

Quincy Dobbs, music director of All Saints Episcopal Church, is on fire to introduce the sublime music of Calvin Hampton to local audiences.

ing to the World Health Organization.

"We will never know what Calvin Hampton could have done for the next 40 years of his life," Dobbs said. "The loss to the creative community, from Broadway to theater to the organ world, and everything behind the scenes — it just fills me with sadness to think of what we lost."

In his heyday, Hampton was widely acclaimed as the greatest writer of hymns in America. The All Saints choir will join Dobbs Dec. 1 to play two of them.

The meandering melody and rolling bass line of Hampton's haunting hymn, "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy," washes the soul like a tranquil, tirelessly flowing woodland stream.

Dobbs grew up in north Florida in a musical family with a fundamentalist bent, so "not playing music was never an option."

After getting his doctorate in music at Arizona State University (his dissertation was on the mesmerizing organ music of Finnish minimalist Arvo Pärt, who is still writing music), Dobbs took a job at a church in Flint to be closer to his family. After a while, the church gig became "stale bread," in his words, and he joined the Flint School of Performing Arts, where he still teaches. Dobbs joined All Saints Church as organist and music director nearly four years ago.

"I have free rein there," he said. "I wanted to do this AIDS Day concert to let LGBTQ people in Lansing and East Lansing know that there is a church where they can go to and that cares about every aspect of their lives."

Dobbs also hopes the concert will rec-

World AIDS Day events

AIDS quilt on display

Nov. 23-30 Lansing City Hall
Dec. 1-9 Forest Community Health Center

Community Health Fair

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Dec. 1
Forest Community Health Center
2316 S. Cedar St., Lansing

HIV/AIDS Today Educational Event

Noon-1 p.m. Sat., Dec. 3
Salus Center

408 S. Washington Square, Lansing

Candlelight Vigil

6:30 p.m. Sat., Dec. 3

The Junction

410 S. Clippert St., Lansing

Drag Show

8 p.m. Sat., Dec. 3

The Junction

410 S. Clippert St., Lansing

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Dec. 1

8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Forest Community Health Center

Noon - 5 p.m. Lansing Area AIDS Network

Dec. 3

1-4 p.m. Salus Center

Dec. 7

3-5 p.m. CADL Downtown Branch

5-7 p.m. Salus Center

Dec. 8

2-4 p.m. The Fledge

visit www.laaonline.org for more testing options and information

reate the energy of Hampton's midnight recitals at his Gramercy Park church.

"From 1974 to 1984, this was Studio 54 for the religious minded," he said. "I'm not sure Andy Warhol or Twiggy was there, but they could have been."

Hampton played after midnight because that's when the subway stopped running and the vibrations wouldn't shake the church, Dobbs said, but also because "the leadership of the church might not be there and find out what he was doing."

Hampton is pretty sure the church leaders at All Saints in East Lansing haven't heard this stuff before, either.

"It's kind of like Calvin Hampton," he said. "I practiced it at midnight on Fridays."

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Serving up cannabis strains with a smile

By LUCAS HENKEL

A “budtender” is someone who works in a dispensary or store where medical or recreational cannabis is sold. They answer questions, showcase products and do their best to provide an enjoyable experience for every customer. Hundreds of votes were counted in this year’s Top of the Town Best Budtender category, and the people of Lansing have spoken. Juan Moody of Dispo, formerly First Class Cannabis, has been named Best Budtender of 2022. I caught up with him to get his feedback on the news and ask him a few questions about his position.

How long have you been at your current job?

“I started working in the industry six months ago as a budtender at Dispo, but I’ve been around cannabis for the majority of my life. My goal is to be a sales rep for a reputable company in the future.”

What inspired you to work in the cannabis industry?



Budtender Juan Moody shows off the goods at Dispo in Lansing.

“I am inspired to work in the industry because of my love for cannabis. It’s more than an industry to me; it’s a passion and a lifestyle.”

How do you, personally, like to consume cannabis (smoke, vape, dab, eat, etc.)?

“I personally like all forms of cannabis. My two favorite ways to consume cannabis are flower and concentrates.”

What’s your favorite product and/or brand right now?

“That’s hard to say, because it constantly changes for me. At the moment I really enjoy 517 Rainbow Runtz from Premier Cannab



bis Farms for flower and concentrates from 710 Savant.”

Describe a typical day at your job.

“There really isn’t a typical day at the shop. Every day is a new experience. It keeps me on my toes, but I wouldn’t have it any other way.”

What’s the best part of your job as a budtender?

“My favorite part about being a budtender is making the patient laugh, smile and leave excited about what they purchased.”

Dispo, 2515 N. Grand River Ave., on the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, is open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday. Dispo is open for

See Lansterdam, Page 14



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Lansterdam

from page 12

in-store and curbside pick-up. Check Weedmaps for a current list of specials and other available products.

Company spotlight: Premier Cannabis Farms

Premier Cannabis Farms is a woman and minority-owned commercial growing company based here in Lansing. Each plant is hand-watered and trimmed, then cold stored. From the seed to the labeled jar, Premier Cannabis Farms takes care of everything in-house. This allows the company to get up close and personal with every bud that grows in the facility.

Premier takes pride in its propri-

etary genetics that features a lineup of tasty strains like 517 Trix, a smooth hybrid with gorgeous, deep purple buds; Hippy Cologne, an earthy and sweet hybrid that is reminiscent of OG strains of yesteryear; 517 Headband, a super relaxing Indica-hybrid that is gassy as it is pungent; Verde Limon Sherbert, a citrusy Sativa-hybrid with dense buds and Juan Moody's personal favorite, Rainbow Runtz, a fruity hybrid that's great for any day that ends with "y."

In addition to growing kick-ass cannabis, Premier Cannabis Farms is committed to giving back to the Lansing community with its various community development projects. Premier sponsors a local softball league that qualified three times

for the National Softball Association's Men's Super World Qualifiers. Off the field, the cannabis company works with nonprofit organizations like Ever After Opportunities to ensure the success of local youth. Ever After Opportunities, located in the Lansing Mall, works with youth ages 12-18 and offers programs such as free tutoring and life skills classes for participants. The nonprofit even offers participants formal clothes to wear during homecoming and prom at no cost. Aaron Rivera, head grower and co-owner of Premier Cannabis Farms, is on the board that oversees the young men's programs at Ever After Opportunities.

Premier Cannabis Farms is not just producing high-quality, terpene-heavy cannabis at an affordable price; it is



Courtesy image

"Hippy Cologne," one of Premier Cannabis Farms' many top-notch cannabis strains.

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Abraham Lincoln, Sarah Josepha Hale and the story of Thanksgiving Day

By **BILL CASTANIER**

This year, when you sit down for Thanksgiving dinner with all the fixings, give thanks to Sarah Josepha Hale for creating Thanksgiving Day and its celebration on the fourth Thursday of November. How Thanksgiving, President Abraham Lincoln and Sarah Hale are intertwined makes for an interesting story.

New Yorker Laurie Halse Anderson thought the same thing when she decided to write “Thank You, Sarah,” a delightful children’s book illustrated by Ann Arbor artist Matt Faulkner. The book, which tells the story of Hale’s effort to establish Thanksgiving as a national holiday, makes for a perfect read-a-long for youngsters.

The roots of Thanksgiving can be traced to Native American harvest festivals and later to Pilgrim celebrations, which incorporated many late fall rituals alongside the Pilgrims’ own festivities.

As early as 1824, Michigan, then a territory, began celebrating Thanksgiving thanks to the efforts of Lewis Cass, Michigan’s territorial governor from 1813 to 1831.

Hale may be best known for penning the children’s poem “Mary Had a Little Lamb.” However, she also had an exemplary career as a writer and editor for a series of ladies’ magazines, culminating as editor of Godey’s Lady’s Book, which became one of the most influential magazines in 19th-century America. Hale used her post to promote historic pres-

ervation, the education of women and the abolition of slavery, among other causes.

As early as 1846, she began using her post as editor to call for the establishment of a national day of thanks on the fourth Thursday of November. She tirelessly wrote letters to politicians, and in 1863 she wrote a letter to President Abraham Lincoln asking him to establish a national festival of thanksgiving. A replica of her letter ran as an editorial in Godey’s, which had a circulation of more than 150,000 at the time.

Lincoln listened, and in the depths of the darkness of the Civil War, he issued a proclamation establishing Thanksgiving on the fourth Thursday of November. In recognition, all federal offices were closed on that day.

Except for one minor (well, major) exception, Thanksgiving has remained one of the most important national holidays and has been celebrated on that fourth Thursday. In 1939, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, under pressure from retailers who wanted an extra week of shopping, changed the celebration to the third Thursday of November.

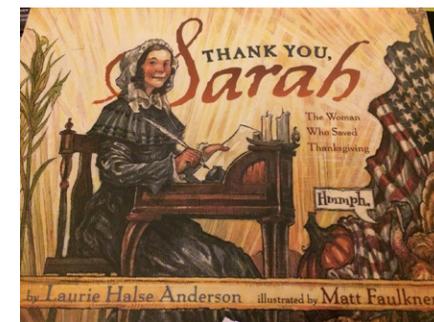
Most Americans ignored Roosevelt’s call to celebrate early, and in 1941 he reversed his decision, switching the celebration back to the fourth Thursday.



Shutterstock

A balloon of Abraham Lincoln, who created the Thanksgiving Day holiday in 1863, was flown at the 86th Annual Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade on Nov. 22, 2012, in New York City.

As long as you are contemplating Sarah Hale and Abraham Lincoln, you may want to take a road trip to visit one of the 38 sites across the state that commemorate our 16th president. A new book, “Seeking Lincoln in Michigan: A Remembrance Trail,” by Weldon E. Petz and Roger L. Rosentreter, the former editor of



Michigan History Magazine, provides an interesting tour guide.

“The sites range from the park where Abraham Lincoln once campaigned to some of the best statuary in the nation,” they write. “In these pages, you will learn that the man who served as the executioner of the Lincoln co-conspirators was a Michigianian, that the letter that encouraged the president-elect to grow a beard is in Detroit and a flagpole erected for Lincoln’s 1864 reelection still stands in a rural town in the Thumb.”

Two sites in the book are nearby. There’s the small stained-glass window at MSU’s Red Cedar Chapel that depicts President Lincoln signing the Morrill Act. This act created 105 land grant colleges in the United States, including Michigan State University. Another nearby site is Austin Blair’s statue on the Capitol grounds. The 9-foot-high bronze statue recognizes “Michigan’s War Governor” for running the state during the Civil War. The statue celebrates its 150th anniversary next year.

There are also several public sculptures and busts of Lincoln that are worth a visit. Samuel Cashwan’s “Lincoln,” for instance, is installed at Brick Elementary School, five miles off of exit 183 on Interstate 94.

The most sobering site is the Ford’s Theatre rocker at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn. Lincoln was sitting in the rocking chair when he was shot on April 14, 1865. During visits to the museum, the area around the chair seems to be the quietest place in the world.

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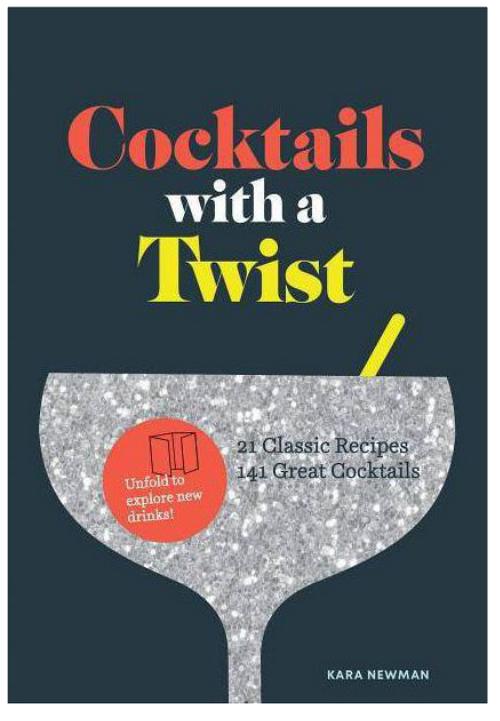
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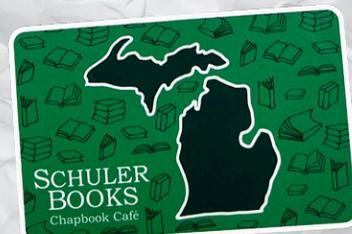
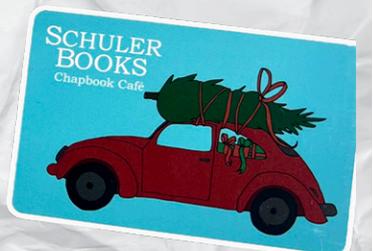
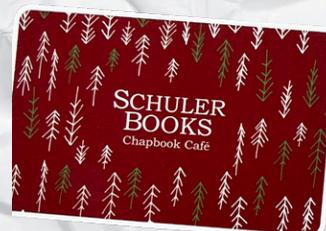
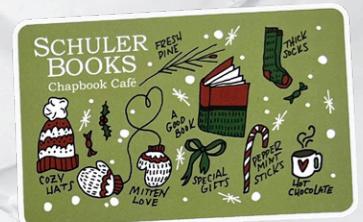
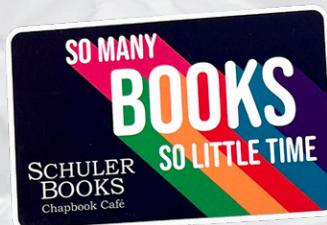
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See Gift guide, Page 20

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Fireworks, Christmas lights and drones, oh my!

Silver Bells in the City returns for a 38th year



Fireworks over the Capitol capped the 38th annual Silver Bells in the City Friday night.



Roxanne Frith for City Pulse

Tillie Kreft celebrates her 97th birthday at Silver Bells alongside daughters Jennifer and Nancy Kreft and Susan Beier.

By NICOLE NOECHEL

Holt resident Tillie Kreft, a long-time attendee of Lansing's annual Silver Bells in the City festival, celebrated her 97th birthday at this year's event on Friday evening.

"I try to come every year. I used to come holding a bunch of little kids. Now they all grew up," she said. "I just love the music, the bands and the parade. They're always so good."

From her front-row seat on Capitol Avenue, Kreft chatted with a few of her 12 children while eagerly awaiting the start of the parade.

"I've never been across from the Capitol before. I'm usually on Washington Avenue, but it's nice to see the Capitol."

This year's 38th Annual Silver Bells in the City celebration was jam-packed with festive events to get Michiganders in the holiday spirit. Event organizers said about 25,000 people attended.

The event kicked off with the 25th Annual Electric Light Parade, which featured local celebrities such as 2022 Miss Michigan Melissa Beyrand, Lansing Mayor Andy Schor and his family, Detroit Lions cheerleaders and Paws, the mascot for the Detroit Tigers, who was dressed up in Santa Claus garb. Marching bands from Lansing-area high schools played classic holiday tunes, and several Lansing-area businesses contributed floats decked out with Christmas lights, inflatables and loudspeakers blasting Christmas music.

See Silver Bells, Page 22

Silver Bells

from page 21

Following the parade, patrons flocked to the Capitol for the lighting of the state Christmas tree. This year, the star of the show was a 63-foot spruce from Saint Johns, donated by mother and daughter Mary Ann and Caitlin Beck. Typically, the state Christmas tree is harvested from the Upper Peninsula; this is the first-ever state Christmas tree to hail from Clinton County.

Next came a performance by American Idol alum Jacob Moran, who serenaded the crowd with a soulful a cappella performance of "Silent Night."

See Silver Bells, Page 23



Roxanne Frith for City Pulse

The Saint Johns High School Marching Band strung Christmas lights on instruments and themselves for the parade.



Roxanne Frith for City Pulse

Festivalgoers await the start of the 25th Annual Electric Light Parade.



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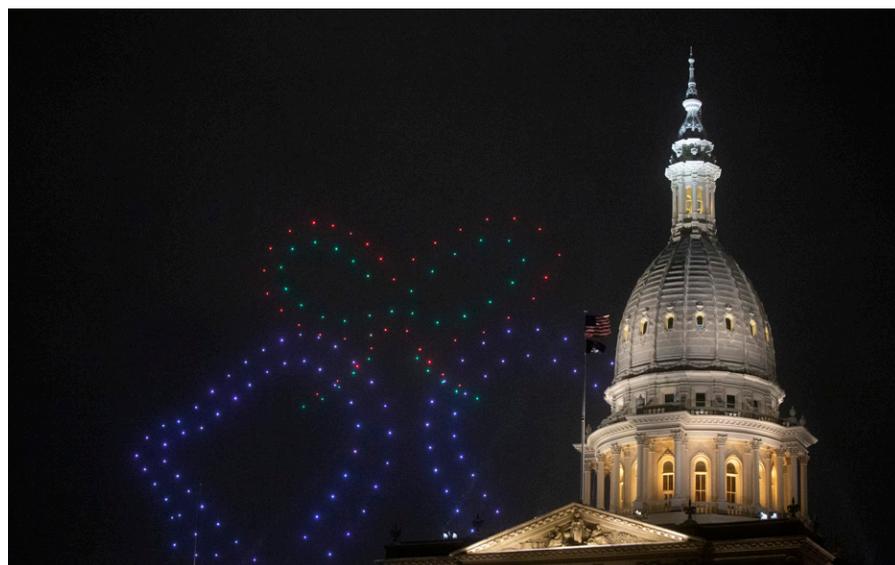
Silver Bells

from page 22

Directly after was the drone show, which many visitors said was their favorite part of the night. Two hundred lighted drones lit up the sky over the Capitol to the beat of holiday music, creating images ranging from bells and Christmas trees to the University of Michigan “M” and Michigan State University “S” symbols.

“The drone lights were amazing,” said Lansing resident Tessa Owens. “I’ve never seen anything like that before. I didn’t know what to expect, but it was pretty sweet.”

Firefly Drone shows of Detroit handled all of the artwork, drone programming and airspace permissions, all cus-



Roxanne Frith for City Pulse

Two hundred lighted drones combined to create familiar images during the Firefly drone show.

tomized for Lansing to hit each precise location in sync with the music.

Ending the night was the traditional fireworks display over the Capitol. Though you could see attendees shivering, and even hear a few griping about the cold, most toughed it out for just 10 more minutes.

Despite temperatures in the mid-20s, wind gusts up to 20 mph and some snow, the crowd filled several-block stretches of Capitol and Washington Avenues. However, numbers were down about 20,000 from previous years, event organizers said, perhaps because of the cold and concerns about COVID.

“This is the start of the holidays for Michigan,” said Tadele Wami of Haslett, who brought his four children. “It’s a good place to be with family and to cele-

See Silver Bells, Page 24

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Silver Bells

from page 23

brate the lighting of the tree.”

“It’s fun and entertaining and Christmas-themed. I really like it,” said Wami’s daughter Meklit.

Lansing’s Glen Erin Pipe Band delivered a performance of Scottish and Irish bagpipe music in the lobby of City Hall.

“We’ve been performing for Silver Bells for probably 10 or 15 years. This is kind of the start of the holidays for us,” said drum major David Price. “We’ve always played inside. The pipes do not play well in drastic temperature changes, especially when it’s this cold.”

The colder outside, the better, Price said.

“When the weather’s been really bad,



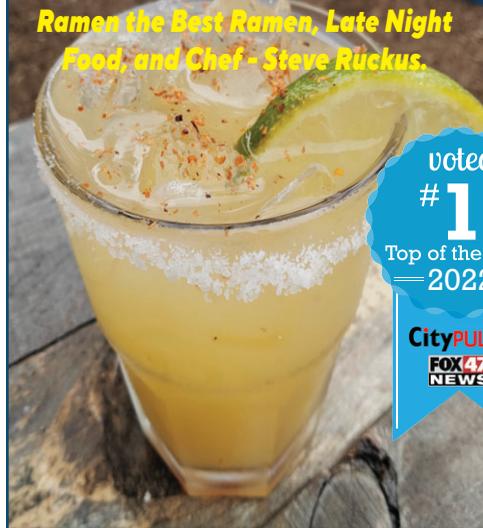
Roxanne Frith for City Pulse

Scott Duinstra, executive director of the Capital Area District Library, had perhaps the most singular float in the Electric Light Parade.

we’ve had a lot of people come in. When it’s been really warm, people are out-

See Silver Bells, Page 25

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Silver Bells

from page 24

side,” Price said. “You never know what the turnout’s gonna be, but we’re here, and we’ll do our thing.”

Throughout the evening, the Silver Bells Village, a collection of local businesses selling everything from cotton candy and flavored popcorn to artisanal soaps and handmade jewelry, was bustling with hungry guests looking for a quick bite to eat.

Marcus Leslie, owner of Lansing-based Mr. Leslie’s Cheesecakes, was thrilled to be a part of The Village this year. Originally from Detroit, Silver Bells was one of the first events he attended with his family when he moved

to Lansing.

“When we got an opportunity to be a part of it, we were like, ‘of course,’” he said. “Christmas is probably my favorite holiday, so we definitely want to be a part of it and just be a part of the community.”

Leslie made around 300 cheesecakes in preparation for the event, including apple pie, banana pudding, sweet potato and a variety pack.

“Our goal is really just to share my love of dessert — my favorite dessert, which is cheesecake — with everybody else, and hopefully everybody gets a smile like I do when I make it.”

One of the most popular booths was Cinnamon Nuts and More from Redford Township. The booth sold choco-

See Silver Bells, Page 26



Roxanne Frith for City Pulse

Marcus Leslie of Mr. Leslie’s Cheesecakes enlisted family members to help sell goodies at his booth in The Village.

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Silver Bells

from page 25

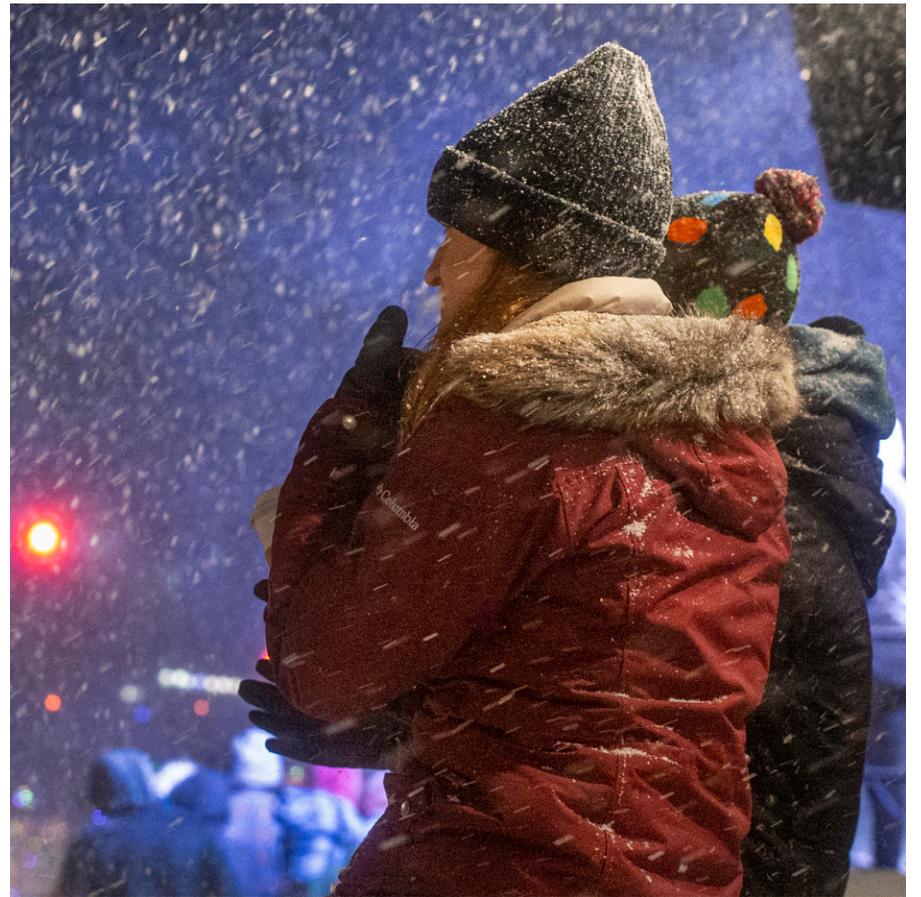
lates and candies, but the main feature was its Bavarian-style cinnamon roasted nuts.

"They like the smell, so it kind of draws them in," said owner Barbara Torey. "It's a nice event, nice area. It keeps us coming back."

Overall, Silver Bells seemed to go off without a hitch. Albeit cold, attendees left happy with holiday cheer to spare.

"The atmosphere was nice. The live singing was unexpected, it's like a miniature Times Square New Year," said Lana Pasko of Holt. "I like the local businesses, and they made all the décor themselves. It was sweet."

"We have kids, obviously, and they really like all the lights and the floats, and we've been doing it for years, so it's kind of a tradition now," said Lansing resident Justin Galer, who attended with his wife and two children. "We always like to do it every year to keep the tradition going, and maybe someday our kids will keep the tradition going themselves."



Roxanne Frith for City Pulse

A large crowd packed downtown streets despite snow, temperatures in the mid-20s and wind gusts around 20 mph.

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LEGAL NOTICE
Zoning Text Amendment #22019 (Recreational Marijuana)
Notice of Hearing**

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the Charter Township of Meridian will hold a public hearing on Monday, December 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., in the Meridian Township Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, to hear all persons interested in a request from Meridian Township to update the Meridian Township Zoning Ordinance to permit recreational marijuana establishments. Information may be examined at the Department of Community Planning and Development, 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 Planning Commission, Charter Township of Meridian, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan, 48864, or by email to planningcommission@meridian.mi.us, or at the public hearing

Deborah Guthrie
Township Clerk

CP#22-273

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
LEGAL NOTICE
MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2022**

Notice is hereby given that the Meridian Township Board will conduct a special meeting on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at 6:00 pm, in the Community Room, Meridian Central Fire Station, 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI, to set a Brownfield Plan Public Hearing date, discuss ARP funding, review 2023 Township Board Goals and Action Plan, and Township Manager performance review closed session. The meeting agenda and packet will be posted on the Township webpage at www.meridian.mi.us

Deborah Guthrie
Meridian Township Clerk

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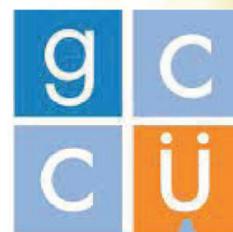


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By Matt Jones

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-throwing a
themeless puzzle
out there.

by Matt Jones
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ACROSS

- 1. Andrew Jones and Mike Trout, for two (abbr.)
- 4. "Very much yes," in the Yucatan
- 8. Salon stuff
- 14. Lab tubes for measurement
- 16. Yellow-flowered plant used medicinally
- 17. Upscale deli section, maybe
- 18. The sweet stuff
- 19. French schools
- 20. Salamander added to Minecraft in 2021
- 21. Class
- 22. "Down on the Corner" band, briefly
- 24. Pick up
- 25. Qty.
- 26. Some barn noises
- 28. They involve a lot of prediction
- 35. Sweepers and others
- 37. Panel show featuring David Mitchell and Lee Mack
- 38. Like some calculators
- 39. Aftermath Records founder, familiarly
- 40. Type of bath salts
- 45. Grandma, in Gloucester
- 46. Certain steakhouse orders
- 48. Festival purchase with perks
- 50. Hypothetical words
- 52. Cosmo cohort

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

- 53. Stoop
 - 55. "Save it!"
 - 56. Pat to the max
 - 57. Takes a turn?
 - 58. Treaty co-signer
 - 59. ___-Julie, Que.
- DOWN**
- 1. Navy noncom
 - 2. 1966 Tom and Jerry short involving a goldfish
 - 3. Folded snack with some heat
 - 4. Ancient Roman burial stone
 - 5. Words after let or could
 - 6. Extinct marine arthropods
 - 7. Neighbor of Leb.
 - 8. Short-haired cat breed
 - 9. Cookies that have a gluten-free variety
 - 10. Phil, to Will, on TV
 - 11. Delay, in a way
 - 12. Emulates Al Jarreau
 - 13. Three-time Grammy winner Steve
 - 15. Frozen meal brand touting carbon neutrality
 - 20. Substratal water source
 - 21. Coping mechanisms?
 - 23. It surpassed the Beetle in 1997 as best-selling
 - 26. Zebra groups
 - 27. One who snoops
 - 29. Sch. of the Horned Frogs
 - 30. Norse underworld goddess
 - 31. First National
 - 32. Summer Olympics host after London
 - 33. December donation events
 - 34. Zero-interest deal?
 - 36. Goes to court
 - 40. Set consisting of every integer doubled
 - 41. First in a series
 - 42. Onrush
 - 43. Say what you think
 - 44. Wayne, e.g.
 - 46. Offered for feedback
 - 47. First leg in a journey, maybe
 - 49. Finalizes, with "up"
 - 51. Hard water?
 - 53. Queens hub, on tix
 - 54. Travel plan abbr.

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Answers on page 32

SUDOKU

Beginner

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

November 23-29, 2022

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Journalist Hadley Freeman interviewed Aries actor William Shatner when he was 90. She was surprised to find that the man who played Star Trek's Captain Kirk looked 30 years younger than his actual age. "How do you account for your robustness?" she asked him. "I ride a lot of horses, and I'm into the bewilderment of the world," said Shatner. "I open my heart and head into the curiosity of how things work." I suggest you adopt Shatner's approach in the coming weeks, Aries. Be intoxicated with the emotional richness of mysteries and perplexities. Feel the joy of how unknowable and unpredictable everything is. Bask in the blessings of the beautiful and bountiful questions that life sends your way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Of all the objects on earth, which is most likely to be carelessly cast away and turned into litter? Cigarette butts, of course. That's why an Indian entrepreneur named Naman Guota is such a revolutionary. Thus far, he has recycled and transformed over 300 million butts into mosquito repellent, toys, keyrings, and compost, which he and his company have sold for over a million dollars. I predict that in the coming weeks, you will have a comparable genius for converting debris and scraps into useful, valuable stuff. You will be skilled at recycling dross. Meditate on how you might accomplish this metaphorically and psychologically.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Tips on how to be the best Gemini you can be in the coming weeks: 1. Think laterally or in spirals rather than straight lines. 2. Gleeefully solve problems in your daydreams. 3. Try not to hurt anyone accidentally. Maybe go overboard in being sensitive and kind. 4. Cultivate even more variety than usual in the influences you surround yourself with. 5. Speak the diplomatic truth to people who truly need to hear it. 6. Make creative use of your mostly hidden side. 7. Never let people figure you out completely.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In my dream, I gathered with my five favorite astrologers to ruminate on your immediate future. After much discussion, we decided the following advice would be helpful for you in December. 1. Make the most useful and inspirational errors you've dared in a long time. 2. Try experiments that teach you interesting lessons even if they aren't completely successful. 3. Identify and honor the blessings in every mess.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "All possible feelings do not yet exist," writes Leo novelist Nicole Krauss in her book "The History of Love." "There are still those that lie beyond our capacity and our imagination. From time to time, when a piece of music no one has ever written, or something else impossible to predict, fathom, or yet describe takes place, a new feeling enters the world. And then, for the millionth time in the history of feeling, the heart surges and absorbs the impact." I suspect that some of these novel moods will soon be welling up in you, Leo. I'm confident your heart will absorb the influx with intelligence and fascination.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Virgo author Jeanette Winterson writes, "I have always tried to make a home for myself, but I have not felt at home in myself. I have worked hard at being the hero of my own life, but every time I checked the register of displaced persons, I was still on it. I didn't know how to belong. Longing? Yes. Belonging? No." Let's unpack Winterson's complex testimony as it relates to you right now. I think you are closer than ever before to feeling at home in yourself—maybe not perfectly so, but more than in the past. I also suspect you have a greater-than-usual capacity for belonging. That's why I invite you to be clear about what or whom you want to belong to and what your belonging will feel like. One more thing: You now have extraordinary power to learn more about what it means to be the hero of your own life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It's tempting for you to entertain balanced views about every subject. You might prefer to never come to definitive

conclusions about anything, because it's so much fun basking in the pretty glow of prismatic ambiguity. You LOVE there being five sides to every story. I'm not here to scold you about this predilection. As a person with three Libran planets in my chart, I understand the appeal of considering all options. But I will advise you to take a brief break from this tendency. If you avoid making decisions in the coming weeks, they will be made for you by others. I don't recommend that. Be proactive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Scorpio poet David Whyte makes the surprising statement that "anger is the deepest form of compassion." What does he mean? As long as it doesn't result in violence, he says, "anger is the purest form of care. The internal living flame of anger always illuminates what we belong to, what we wish to protect, and what we are willing to hazard ourselves for." Invoking Whyte's definition, I will urge you to savor your anger in the coming days. I will invite you to honor and celebrate your anger, and use it to guide your constructive efforts to fix some problem or ease some hurt. (Read more: tinyurl.com/AngerCompassion)

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Sagittarian comedian Margaret Cho dealt with floods of ignorant criticism while growing up. She testifies, "Being called ugly and fat and disgusting from the time I could barely understand what the words meant has scarred me so deep inside that I have learned to hunt, stalk, claim, own, and defend my own loveliness." You may not have ever experienced such extreme forms of disapproval, Sagittarius, but—like all of us—you have on some occasions been berated or undervalued simply for being who you are. The good news is that the coming months will be a favorable time to do what Cho has done: hunt, stalk, claim, own, and defend your own loveliness. It's time to intensify your efforts in this noble project.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The bad news: In 1998, Shon Hopwood was sentenced to 12 years in prison for committing bank robberies. The good news: While incarcerated, he studied law and helped a number of his fellow prisoners win their legal cases—including one heard by the US Supreme Court. After his release, he became a full-fledged lawyer, and is now a professor of law at Georgetown University. Your current trouble isn't anywhere as severe as Hopwood's was, Capricorn, but I expect your current kerfuffle could motivate you to accomplish a very fine redemption.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "I stopped going to therapy because I knew my therapist was right, and I wanted to keep being wrong," writes poet Clementine von Radics. "I wanted to keep my bad habits like charms on a bracelet. I did not want to be brave." Dear Aquarius, I hope you will do the opposite of her in the coming weeks. You are, I suspect, very near to a major healing. You're on the verge of at least partially fixing a problem that has plagued you for a while. So please keep calling on whatever help you've been receiving. Maybe ask for even more support and inspiration from the influences that have been contributing to your slow, steady progress.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): As you have roused your personal power to defeat your fears in the past, what methods and approaches have worked best for you? Are there brave people who have inspired you? Are there stories and symbols that have taught you useful tricks? I urge you to survey all you have learned about the art of summoning extra courage. In the coming weeks, you will be glad you have this information to draw on. I don't mean to imply that your challenges will be scarier or more daunting than usual. My point is that you will have unprecedented opportunities to create vigorous new trends in your life if you are as bold and audacious as you can be.

OUT on the TOWN

Events & Happenings in Lansing This Week

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com.
Deadline is 4 p.m. Wednesday 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, Nov. 23

50 over Fitness - The Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Meridian Township Central Park Pavilion (Old Farmers Market) 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. 517-853-4600. meridian50plus.com.

Bake Sale - All money raised will be used for recreational activities, trips and items for the residents to enjoy. 1:30 p.m. Medilodge of Capital Area, 2100 E. Provincial House Drive, Lansing. 517-272-4029. medilodgeofcapitalarea.com.

Chris Glassman "Living the Dream" Album Release Show - 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing.

Meditation in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition - All are welcome to join our weekly practice! 7-9 p.m. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. MLK Jr Blvd., Lansing. lamc.info.

Michigan State Spartans Women's Volleyball vs. Rutgers Scarlet Knights - 6 p.m. Spartan Stadium, One Birch Road, East Lansing.

New Art Exhibit Showcases Powerful Array of Artistic Techniques and Images - "Dreaming Between the Lines," a new exhibit by Williamston-based artist Bobbi Kilty. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

Triple Lindy & DJ Rock City - Doors at 6 p.m., show at 8:30 p.m. FieldHouse, 213 Ann St., East Lansing. 517-332-8300. fieldhousemsu.com

Zhifei Zhang, piano DMA - 6 p.m. MSU College of Music, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Yushi Hu, piano MM - 8 p.m. MSU College of Music, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Zaha Hadid Design: Untold - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Thursday, Nov. 24

Community Thanksgiving Meal - Menu includes turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, stuffing, green bean casserole and pie! 12-2 p.m. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing. 517-253-8250. cristoreycommunity.org

Friday, Nov. 25

50 over Fitness - The Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Meridian Township Central Park Pavilion (Old Farmers Market) 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. 517-853-4600. meridian50plus.com.

Brotha Earth - a five-piece band featuring three former touring members of the legendary Motown band, Rare Earth. 5 p.m. doors, 7:30 p.m. show. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. brownpapertickets.com

Filomena Music - 5 p.m. Horrocks Farm Market, 7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 517-323-3782. shophorrocks.com.

TGIF Dinner & Dance - 7 p.m.-midnight. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. 734-604-5095. tgifdance.com/calendar.

Wonderland of Lights - Thousands of lights create an extraordinary holiday display! 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

Zaha Hadid Design: Untold - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Saturday, Nov. 26

The Black Santa Experience - You won't want to miss this holiday experience celebrating our culture, supporting Black-owned businesses and allowing children to enjoy a Santa Claus who looks like them. Noon-6 p.m. The Venue at Lansing Mall, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. christmasforusbyus.com

Christmas Special Marathon - Watch classic television Christmas specials. 9 a.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Drum Circle - Bring your drums and rattles, instruments or even dancing feet for some rhythmic fun! 5 p.m., Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

Fall Take-Home Crafts @ GLADL - 10 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Horrocks Beer Garden - The Swift Brothers return for a holiday weekend party. 5 p.m. Horrocks Farm Market, 7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 517-323-3782. shophorrocks.com.

Michigan State Women's Volleyball vs. Iowa Hawkeyes - Spartan Stadium, One Birch Road, East Lansing

New Art Exhibit Showcases Powerful Array of Artistic Techniques and Images - "Dreaming Between the Lines," a new exhibit by Williamston-based artist Bobbi Kilty. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

Williamston Pop-Up Art and Craft Show - 11 a.m. Keller's Plaza, 107 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 517-485-6277.

Wonderland of Lights - Thousands of lights create an extraordinary holiday display! 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

Zaha Hadid Design: Untold - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Sunday, Nov. 27

Drum Circle with Greater Lansing Area Drummers (GLAD) - 1 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

Gafur Nartadjiev, viola DMA - 8 p.m. MSU College of Music, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Jiayin Zhang, piano MM - 6 p.m. MSU College of Music, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Wen Peng/Zhenle Tao, double bass DMA - 6 p.m. MSU College of Music, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Metaphysics of Unity Hall with Curtis Pratt - 9:30 a.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

New Art Exhibit Showcases Powerful Array of Artistic Techniques and Images - "Dreaming Between the Lines," a new exhibit by William-

The Gov. James Blanchard Public Service Forum presents an evening with

Leon E. Panetta

Tuesday, Nov. 29, 7:30-8:45 p.m.

Pasant Theatre
Wharton Center for the Performing Arts
\$25; MSU students, \$5
(800) Wharton
Whartoncenter.venue.net

The annual Gov. Jim Blanchard Public Service Forum returns with a blockbuster guest: Leon Panetta, who as a former secretary of defense, CIA director and member of Congress should have interesting insights into everything from the midterm elections to the war in Ukraine. The Blanchard forum has brought Bill Clinton, James Clyburn, Cokie Roberts and others since the former Michigan governor and his wife endowed the program at Michigan State University in 2015 with a \$1 million gift. Panetta, 84, served as chief of staff and director of the Office of Management and Budget for President Bill Clinton. As CIA director under President Barack Obama, he oversaw the operation that brought down Osama bin Laden.



ston-based artist Bobbi Kilty. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

Wonderland of Lights - Thousands of lights create an extraordinary holiday display! 5-8 p.m. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

Zaha Hadid Design: Untold - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Monday, Nov. 28

50 over Fitness - The Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Meridian Township Central Park Pavilion (Old Farmers Market) 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. 517-853-4600. meridian50plus.com.

Downtown Development Authority Meeting - 6 p.m. Laingsburg City Hall, 114 S. Woodhull Road, Laingsburg.

Department of Public Works Meeting - 5:30 p.m. Laingsburg City Hall, 114 S. Woodhull Road, Laingsburg.

Fiber Circle at Charlotte Community Library - Social gathering for knitters, crocheters and stitchers of all ages and skill levels. 6 p.m. 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Meaningful Mondays - Nourish our spiritual selves as we send out love and prayers to the world. 8 p.m. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. 517-641-6201. selfrealizationcentremichigan.org.

"Mirari, the Way of the Marys" with Lucille Olson - Group discussion of the ideas of the book. 1:30 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

Celebrating our Sweet 16
2022-2023 Season



Nov. 23 - Dec. 23, 2022

A Hawlmark Holiday World Premiere!



by Robert Hawlmark

Hot cocoa, light parades, and romance factor large in this hilarious parody of everyone's guilty pleasure of the season - the holiday movie. This one centered in Williamston!

Williamston Theatre
122 S Putnam Street ~ Williamston MI 48895
517-655-SHOW (7469)
www.williamstontheatre.org

Live & Local CityPULSE

The Avenue

2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Punksgiving w/ Everybody Loves Ramones & Children In Heat
 Wed., Nov. 23, 9 p.m.
REMEDY Thanksgiving Bash
 Sat., Nov. 26, 9 p.m.

Eaton Rapids Craft Co.

204 N. Main St., Eaton Rapids
Travis Faber
 Wed., Nov. 23, 7 p.m.
Melissa Dylan
 Fri., Nov. 25, 7 p.m.
Kevin Parker
 Sat., Nov. 26, 7 p.m.

The Exchange

314 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
The Knock Offs
 Thurs., Nov. 24, 9:30 p.m.

Fieldhouse

213 Ann St., East Lansing
Triple Lindy & DJ Rock City
 Wed., Nov. 23, 8:30 p.m.

The Green Door

2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Double Shot
 Wed., Nov. 23, 9 p.m.
Frog & the Beeftones
 Fri., Nov. 25, 8:30 p.m.
The Rotations
 Sat., Nov. 26, 8:30 p.m.

Horrocks Farm Market

7420 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
Filomena Music
 Fri., Nov. 25, 5 p.m.
The Swift Brothers
 Sat., Nov. 26, 5 p.m.

Lansing Brewing Co.

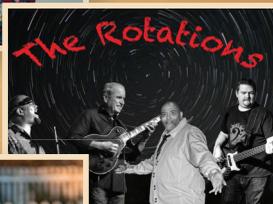
518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing
Jedi Mind Trip
 Sat., Nov. 26, 7 p.m.

The Peanut Barrel

521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
The Swift Brothers
 Wed., Nov. 23, 8 p.m.

UrbanBeat

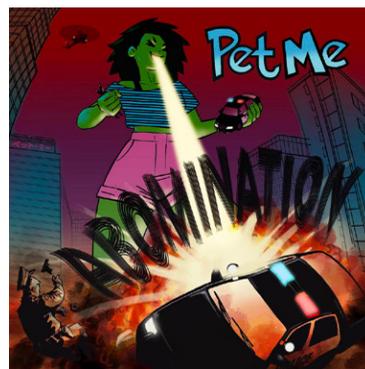
1213 Turner Road, Lansing
Chris Glassman "Living the Dream" album release show
 Wed., Nov. 23, 7 p.m.
Brotha Earth
 Fri., Nov. 25, 7:30 p.m.



TURN IT DOWN!

Loud dispatches from Lansing's music scene BY RICH TUPIGA

PET ME RETURNS WITH 'ABOMINATION'



Kendall D. Lartigue Photography

PET ME, shown here performing at the 2022 Dark Art of Michigan show, just released its new EP, "Abomination." It follows up "Ghost," a single issued in February.

Lansing band's new EP is 'angrier'

PET ME, the fierce femme queer-core band from Lansing, dropped its latest release Sunday, yet another powerful addition to its steadily growing discography. The busy band chatted with City Pulse about this new batch of tracks, the "Abomination" EP.

What inspired the EP's title?

Vikki Vera (vocals): Some fascist wanker online called us an abomination to humanity. A crystal-clear sign that we're doing exactly the right thing.

How does this compare to your previous release?

Quinn Endicott (bass): "Abomination" is definitely angrier than our last EP.

Jen Campbell (drums): We experimented with classic rock, hardcore and metal elements, which is different from our previous releases. For the drums, we used a room mic in the kitchen, which was new and added to the huge drum sound on the EP. I also used a 6.5-inch deep Tama metal snare that I acquired last year for a bigger, bolder drum sound.

Vikki Vera: This EP just goes harder. Allie wrote bomb-ass riffs for all three songs, and Jen, Quinn and I did our best to write musical parts to match that incredible energy. The other new thing we did was bring Allie and Jen in for vocal harmonies and gang vocals. I absolutely love the new vibe that's brought to the songs, because everybody's voice brings something unique.

Lyricaly, what themes do you touch on throughout "Abomination?"

Quinn Endicott: "Abomination"

is about our anger toward the dual hatred and fetishization of trans and queer people. We took the title for our song "Worst Fear/Best Fantasy" from a protest slogan by the artist Donna Gottschalk at the Christopher Street Liberation Day Parade in 1970. To a heteronormative society, we are fascinating and repulsive at once — a perfect object for hatred and propaganda like we saw in this last election's discourse. The song "Abomination" is about our resistance as a community to attacks against us.

Vikki Vera: "This is fine" is about the push and pull between the disasters of our time and the incredible pressure we're all under to keep working and consuming as if nothing is wrong.

How was 2022 for PET ME, and what's next?

Vikki Vera: It's been pretty good! We've had crowds of people coming to see us, dancing, wearing our shirts and singing our lyrics back at us. We played in the cold rain at Stoopfest and Pride, and people still came through for us. We had our first requests for autographs and set lists. The owner of Thrift Witch said a bunch of kids came into their store all excited about our shows at Pride and Dark Art of Michigan. And we've got a lot planned for 2023. We have songs for at least our next two EPs, and we also plan to do a little touring around the Midwest.



Events

from page 30

Navigating Veteran and Military Family Healthcare Benefits - 10:30-11:30 a.m. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. 517-321-4014. dtld.org.

New Art Exhibit Showcases Powerful Array of Artistic Techniques and Images - "Dreaming Between the Lines," a new exhibit by Williamston-based artist Bobbi Kilty. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

Pastorals and Longing - Jewish heritage lyricism - MSU artists present Modern Israel in a powerful program of music with Jewish themes. 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing.

Tyler Young, saxophone DMA - 8 p.m. MSU College of Music, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Tuesday, Nov. 29

Ruth McNally Barshaw Author Visit - Discussing her book "Ellie McDoodle: Have Pen, Will Travel" and offering an interactive story creation workshop. Registration req. 6 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Board Game Meet Up - Ages 18 and up. 6:30-10:30 p.m. Spare Time Bowling Alley, 3101 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

Free Tutoring for Youth 12-18 - Registration not necessary but preferred. Ever After Opportunities, Lansing Mall, 5330 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing.

New Art Exhibit Showcases Powerful Array of Artistic Techniques and Images - "Dreaming Between the Lines," a new exhibit by Williamston-based artist Bobbi Kilty. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The

Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

Parent Happy Hour - Storytime for kids and wine flight specials for parents. 5 p.m. Hooked, 3142 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

Preschool Family Storytime - Stories and literacy-enhancing activities including songs, rhymes and activities for ages 1-6. 11 a.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Recital of New Compositions by Composition Studio Students - 8 p.m. MSU College of Music, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Special Collections pop-up: Asian Americans fight prejudice - Noon-2 p.m. MSU Main Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. lib.msu.edu.

Start Your own WordPress Blog! - 4 p.m. Registration req. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradl.org.

Story Hour at Charlotte Community Library - Adults drop off preschool-aged kids and stay in the library while the kids enjoy stories, songs and crafts. Registration req. 10 a.m. 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Wednesday, Nov. 30

50 over Fitness - The Meridian 50 Plus Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Meridian Township Central Park Pavilion (Old Farmers Market) 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. 517-853-4600. meridian50plus.com.

Beginning Ukulele for the Family - 6 p.m. Registration req. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Delhi Township Tree Lighting - 6:30-7:45 p.m. Veterans Memorial Gardens, 2074 N. Aurelius Road, Holt. delhitownshipmi.gov.

Harry Connick, Jr. - 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

Meditation in the Thich Nhat Hanh tradition - All are welcome to join our weekly practice! 7-9 p.m. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. MLK Jr Blvd., Lansing. lamc.info.

Music from Around the World - 7:30 p.m. MSU College of Music, 333 W. Circle Drive, Room 210, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

New Art Exhibit Showcases Powerful Array of Artistic Techniques and Images - "Dreaming Between the Lines," a new exhibit by Williamston-based artist Bobbi Kilty. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeopleschurch.com.

Zaha Hadid Design: Untold - 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Eli & Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Thursday, Dec. 1

"A Course in Miracles," a group discussion with Carol and Dan Maynard - 7-8:30 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

Elene Kobulashvili, piano DMA - 6 p.m. MSU College of Music, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Ladies Silver Blades Skating Club - Join other adult women for fun, exercise, friendship and skating practice. 9:30-11:20 a.m. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. ladiesilverblades.org.

MSU Theater Presents: MSU UNSCRIPTED - Every performance will be completely different, with a mix of classic and new improv games. 7:30 p.m. Studio 60 Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. whartoncenter.com.

New Art Exhibit Showcases Powerful Array of Artistic Techniques and Images - "Dreaming Between the Lines," a new exhibit by Williamston-based artist Bobbi Kilty. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-332-5073. thepeo-

The Black Santa Experience

Noon-6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26
The Venue, Lansing Mall, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing

"For us, by us" is the mantra that dictates the Black Santa Experience, a holiday gathering created to offer inclusivity and celebrate the city's Black community.

The event, hosted by Sip Happens, Eleven 11 Events, Sweet Encounter Bakery & Café, Cravings Gourmet Popcorn and Blk Lansing, will take place this Saturday (Nov. 26). Kids will have the opportunity to take pictures with Santa, played by Melik Brown, host of "Movin' with Metro Melik" on WQTX Stacks 92.1.

"We believe our children should see themselves everywhere, and Santa is no exception," the website reads.

Children will also be able to write letters to Santa, make Christmas tree ornaments and participate in a cupcake decorating workshop (2-4 p.m.).

Parents can take the opportunity to shop at the Black vendor marketplace, which will feature more than 30 local Black-owned businesses. There will also be hourly raffles, with 100% of proceeds going toward answering the requests of the children.

Show off your best ugly Christmas sweater for a chance to win the ugly Christmas sweater contest. The first 100 attendees will receive a free swag bag, so make sure to show up early.



Wonderland of Lights

Thursday-Sunday, 5-8 p.m., Nov. 19-Dec. 23 (closed Thanksgiving)
Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing
whartoncenter.eventue.net

Potter Park Zoo is illuminated once again for the 30th annual Wonderland of Lights, one of Lansing's premier holiday celebrations.

Enjoy holiday music while touring the zoo grounds, viewing thousands of lights and decorations twinkling around you. After the walk (and the inevitable shivering), hungry attendees can visit the Savanna Grill for cheeseburgers, fresh salads, chicken tenders and other classic American bites.

As you leave the event, don't forget to grab a free goodie bag for the kids. Admission is \$9 for adults; \$5 for kids (ages 3-12), seniors (ages 60+) and military and free for infants (under 3).

— NN nicole@lansingcitypulse.com



pleschurch.com.

Stitch 'n Bitch - Come hang out with some fellow stitching witches! 5-8 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 80 9 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

Stushi with World Celebrity Chef Stu - 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com

Symphony Band - 7:30 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 29

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 29

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

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How do you like these apples?

Making boba apple pudding

By **ARI LEVAUX**

Apples can be hard work to eat, despite being full of sweet juice. The tough skin requires energy to chew through, as does the rigid flesh. Hence the expression, “If you won’t eat an apple, you aren’t really hungry.”

Along the same lines, it is well-known that an apple cut into pieces is more appetizing than a whole apple, because cutting through the skin makes it less work to eat. One night, while debating what to make for dinner with my kids, I cut a quick apple to tide them over. Of course, they gobbled it down. I cut another. Same result. And another. Eventually, chopped apples became an easy dinner all by itself. And the boys weren’t even hungry for dessert.

If you take those cut pieces of apple and bake them with cinnamon, sugar, milk and vanilla pudding mix, the result is so delicious that it takes work not to eat it. Here, the apple is not just a litmus test for hunger, but a trigger.

My apple pudding contains boba pearls, rolled balls of tapioca starch commonly found in the popular beverage bubble tea. They have a texture that makes chewing fun. I like to use black boba pearls, which look like berries.

Like the peel of a raw apple, boba pearls require energy to chew. But unlike the stiff apple skin that discourages the chewer, boba has just the right amount of chewiness to keep you happily masticating, taking longer to eat the same amount. Were the pudding to merely melt in your mouth without a fight, you’d end up spending less time with it.

Perhaps I’m biased, but I find this apple pudding to be a better use of boba than in bubble tea, where the tapioca balls taste bland, are incongruous with the watery tea and do little more than clog the straw. In this pudding, on the other hand, the boba is more useful and integrated, adding texture to the tapestry of the chunky pudding. Although it is baked, making this pudding does not qualify as baking, meaning anyone can do it, and the proportions need not be exact.



I have a friend with an orchard of unique crab apples. They are maroon-colored and deeply fragrant, with a flavor that reminds you that apples are in the rose family. Making the pudding with these apples was a fun change of pace from the batches of McIntosh-based pudding that I had been making previously. I then tried mixing both apple varieties in the same pudding, and that was the best version of all. I haven’t eaten much else for days, and I’m not complaining.

Boba Apple Pudding

This pudding is “self-saucing,” a southern term that means the sauce is cooked with the dish, rather than being added at serving time. If you must serve it with anything, I suggest whipped cream.

Depending on where you live, finding boba pearls can be a little tricky. You might have to call around or get them online.

Serves 4

1/2 cup black boba (or a full cup if you’re a serious boba-head)

1 cup milk

2 cups apples, cut into 1/2-inch chunks, with or without peels

3/4 cup flour

1/4 cup brown sugar

1/4 cup Jell-O (or similar brand) vanilla pudding

1 teaspoon cinnamon

1 teaspoon baking powder

1/4 teaspoon salt

1/4 cup butter

1/4 cup brown sugar

1 cup hot water

Optional: whipped cream, for serving



Courtesy photo

Boba apple pudding is “self-saucing,” a southern term that means the sauce is cooked with the dish, rather than being added at serving time.

Add the boba and milk to a small pot and cook for 10-15 minutes on low heat, until the boba is silky and soft. Be careful not to scald the milk. When the boba is soft, let it stay soaking in the hot milk off the heat.

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. In a medium-sized mixing bowl, combine the apples, flour sugar, pudding, cinnamon, baking powder and salt. Stir it all together. Add the boba and milk and stir it again.

Spoon your pudding into a buttered baking dish, making sure to leave at least an inch of space under the rim.

Once the pudding is in the dish, add the butter, remaining sugar and hot water to the mixing bowl and leave it until the butter melts. Then, stir it up and pour it over the pudding. The sauce should barely cover the pudding, so just a few apple chunks are sticking out. You want at least an inch of room to the edge.

For a 2-inch deep dish of pudding, bake for about 50 minutes until the liquid starts to dry up and the top looks brown and chewy. Allow it to cool, which will make it chewier. Serve with whipped cream.

Appetizers

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Thai Princess crowned curry king

By LIZY FERGUSON

At my job, my coworkers and I will often pass the time asking questions like “Would you rather be constantly chased by a very slow wolf or have to shower every day with a moody badger?” and “If you could only eat one kind of food for the rest of your life, what would it be?” While I won’t delve into all the nuances of deciding the former, I think the latter is relevant here.

Thai Princess

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When working out this hypothetical, you’re ultimately looking for variety within the cuisine of choice and how long it would take before it grows tiresome. Though I would have picked Middle Eastern in the past, if asked after my recent meal from Thai Princess in Okemos, I would answer “Thai food” with confidence.

Thai Princess has long been a favorite of mine, especially for the freshness of their always-crisp, never-mushy vegetables. They offer a large variety of stir-fries, curries and fried rice on their

lunch specials menu. As it was snowing aggressively outside, I ultimately went with the comforting, stick-to-your-ribs

massaman curry with chicken (other protein choices available).

A yellow curry that fuses Thai and In-



Lizy Ferguson

Massaman chicken curry at Thai Princess.



dian styles, massaman curry is rich with coconut milk, toasty with peanuts and seasonally appropriate with flavors of cinnamon, clove and cardamom. Sour, tangy tamarind and spicy chili lend balance, and the large hunks of potato, steeped in the luxurious sauce, lend a comforting heft alongside the generous side of steamed white rice. It leaves the tongue tingling, the belly full and the bones warmed.

The best thing about lunch specials is the extras, especially when you don’t read the menu carefully and aren’t sure exactly what you’ll get. Much to my delight, these bonus lunch treats turned out to be a cup of tom yum soup, filled with tasty mushrooms and bursting with electric flavor, and a small green salad drizzled with an equally zingy dressing. The veritable kaleidoscope of colors, textures and tastes offered by this meal jolted me, however momentarily, from my newly-onset seasonal depression and reminded me that there are always additions to be made to the list of ways to survive a Michigan winter.

I look forward to eating my leftovers today as the snow accumulates, clutching the bowl protectively to my chest to fend off my heat-seeking pets, wondering how slow this wolf would actually be.

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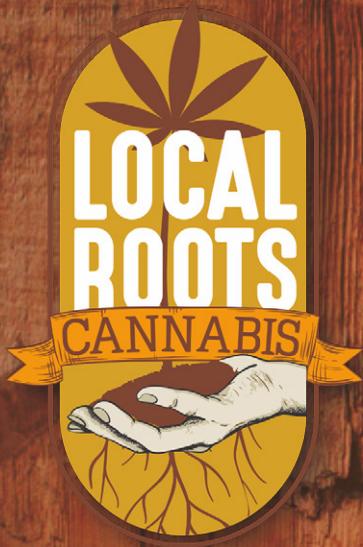
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