

CityPULSE

A newspaper for the rest of us
Locally owned



**HILL HARPER 'CHOSE' MICHIGAN.
BUT WILL MICHIGAN CHOOSE HILL HARPER?**

See Page 14



Tried everything to save it. Now save yourself!

ABOOD

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ARTS NIGHT OUT



October 6th
5:00-8:00PM

2023 Venues

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- Arts Council of Greater Lansing
- Bradly's Home & Garden
- Curvaceous Lingerie
- Great Lakes Art & Gifts
- Katalyst Gallery
- MICA Gallery
- Mother & Earth: Toys + Baby
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Doug DeLind offers new take on Bible's Book of Genesis

PAGE 11

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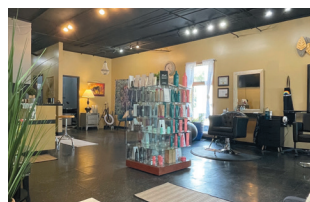
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Lansing's newest one-stop shop for salon and spa treatments

PAGE 17



Fortify against the cold with Pho 777's Vietnamese soups

PAGE 25

Cover photo by Roxanne Frith

Man of the People

UBIQUITOUS PUNDIT DAVID BROOKS RECENTLY COMPLAINED ON SOCIAL MEDIA ABOUT AN AIRPORT MEAL COSTING \$78 —WHEN MOST OF THAT WAS LIQUOR.

"This is why Americans think the economy is terrible."

YOU CAN'T GO TO A WINE SHOP AND BUY A BAG OF BREAD FLUTES AND A BOTTLE OF 2009 CHATEAU LATOUR PREMIER GRAND CRU FOR UNDER \$1600.

THANKS, BIDENOMICS!

HMM... THIS BESPOKE SUIT NO LONGER FITS.

MY VORACIOUS CONSUMPTION OF GRILLED MEATS AND ADULT BEVERAGES IS BUT A FAILED QUEST TO FILL THE MODERN SPIRITUAL VOID CREATED BY LIBERALS.

WHY, PEOPLE ARE RUDELY MOCKING ME ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

TIME FOR ANOTHER COLUMN ON THE LOSS OF VIRTUE AMONG TODAY'S SELF-ABSORBED, DECADENT YOUTH.

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

WELCOME BACK TO THE **SUNDAY TALKING ABOUT STUFF SHOW!** JOINING US FOR OUR NEWSMAKER INTERVIEW IS SOMEONE WHO REALLY STIRRED UP A CONTROVERSY THIS WEEK--JOHN FETTERMAN'S HOODIE!

WELCOME TO THE SHOW, MR. HOODIE!

'SUP.

SUNDAY TALKING ABOUT STUFF SHOW

AS YOU KNOW, SENATOR SCHUMER'S DECISION TO ALLOW YOU ON THE SENATE FLOOR WAS HIGHLY CONTROVERSIAL! WHAT DO YOU SAY TO REPUBLICANS WHO CONSIDER YOU THE PINNACLE OF IMPROPRIETY?

SUNDAY TALKING ABOUT STUFF SHOW

UH, DUDE, DID YOU HEAR ABOUT LAUREN BOEBERT GETTING KICKED OUT OF A LIVE MUSICAL AFTER GROPING HER DATE'S CROTCH?

MR. HOODIE, WE TRY TO KEEP THINGS RESPECTABLE ON THIS PROGRAM!

YEAH, OF COURSE YOU DO.

SUNDAY TALKING ABOUT STUFF SHOW

LOOK, A LOT OF THOSE REPUBLICANS COMPLAINING ABOUT ME SUPPORTED DONALD TRUMP'S ATTEMPT TO LITERALLY UNDERMINE THE INSTITUTIONS OF OUR DEMOCRACY ON JANUARY 6TH!

AT LEAST HE WAS WEARING A SUIT WHEN HE DID IT, THOUGH!

SUNDAY TALKING ABOUT STUFF SHOW

I'M JUST A COZY ARTICLE OF ATHLETIC LEISURE WEAR, BIFF! ALL I WANT TO DO IS KEEP A PERSON WARM, AND PROVIDE A LITTLE PROTECTION IF THEY GET CAUGHT IN THE RAIN!

WELL, I CAN SEE YOU'RE JUST GOING TO STICK TO YOUR TALKING POINTS! SO, MOVING ALONG--

SUNDAY TALKING ABOUT STUFF SHOW

--IS FETTERMAN'S HOODIE TO BLAME FOR THE IMMINENT GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN? WE'LL HAVE LAUREN BOEBERT ON TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE!

EXCUSE ME, WHAT?

FIRST THESE MESSAGES!

SUNDAY TALKING ABOUT STUFF SHOW

TOM TOMORROW © 2023-09-26 ... JOIN SPARKY'S LIST: thismodernworld.com/subscriptions

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Grin and pay it: Credit card surcharges spread in Lansing

Delta Township resident Liz Beal has long been frustrated by the growing number of local businesses and services that have adopted credit card surcharge fees.

“Inflation is affecting the middle class the most, so why are we dinging them on every little thing when we’re the ones out there spending? It’s a complex problem, and I definitely think consumers are getting the short end of the stick,” Beal said.

And they are getting it more and more often in Lansing. The trend toward credit card surcharges for consumer purchases began nationally a decade ago, but it seems to have hit Lansing with a heavy hand since the pandemic ended. More and more businesses, especially smaller, local establishments, are embracing it.

“I understand that it’s expensive for businesses to accept credit cards,” Beal, a real estate agent and former banker, said. However, it’s also a cost of doing business, especially when we’re moving into more of a cash-free society like we are.”

Businesses argue they are just trying to stay on top of inflation by passing along surcharges to cover what they pay in credit card fees.

Until 2013, merchants were prohibited from doing so. A 2005 antitrust class action lawsuit filed by nearly 12 million merchants against Visa and Mastercard opened the floodgates for a shift in that business model.

In 2013, Visa and Mastercard had to pay merchants \$7.25 billion in one of the largest antitrust settlements in U.S. history. By Jan. 27, 2013, merchants in Michigan were officially permitted to pass along a credit card surcharge up to 4% of the purchase to offset fees. These fees average between 1.5% and 3%, but businesses are usually charged a flat fee for each transaction as well.

“Many businesses decided that it was time for them to not pay all those fees. Some have decided to pass along those costs to their shoppers. It’s something you’ve seen in bigger cities for a lot longer than you’ve seen around here,” Andrea Bitely, of the Michigan Retailers Association, said.



Tyler Schneider/City Pulse

Credit card surcharges are increasingly common at locally owned businesses, as these door signs attest.

Bitely said this is especially the case with smaller, locally owned restaurants and retailers that are more likely to operate on slim margins and may otherwise struggle to cover the fees without suffering a sizable loss.

“I think what it comes down to is that consumers need to be aware of these charges that businesses are putting onto cards, but at the same time understand that this is a business’s way of ensuring that they can pay to have products in their store, they can pay their employees, they can cover some of these growing costs that are associated with running and having a business,” Bitely said.

In an effort to provide an alternative, a growing number of local restaurants — including The Cosmos and Zoobies in Old Town, Dagwood’s Tavern and Eastside Fish Fry, Taste of Thai in East Lansing and The New Daily Bagel and Thai Village in Washington Square — offer discounts for cash payments.

“It’s growing,” Bitely said of the trend. “I think some people see it as a viable way to offer an alternative, because it means they’re not processing something through their credit card system. It’s some savings for them, even if it’s just a

small saving.”

Wan Wonnacott, manager at Taste of Thai, said that a 10% discount for cash purchases over \$5 has been in place since the day she started working there over five years ago and estimates that nearly half of her customers will opt for cash transactions on any given day. Mike Mahdi, owner of The New Daily Bagel, said that most of his customers don’t seem to mind paying the surcharge on what are typically smaller transactions.

One business owner, who asked not to be identified because he didn’t see it as good business to promote surcharges at his establishment, said most of his customers are already aware of those fees. “Still, smacking them in the face with it is probably not necessarily the smartest idea,” he said.

“If you want that ease of use, you should probably either bring cash or you shouldn’t worry about how much you have to pay — or you can go to an ATM where they’re just going to charge you money anyways,” he said. “If our government wants to push a cashless society, that’s cool. But if you spend \$5 at my store and I don’t charge you a fee,

I lose money. If I go and use that at another store and they also lose money, then that \$5 ends up being \$2 or \$3 real quick. On the other hand, my \$5 worth of cash is still going to be worth \$5 if I spend it correctly.”

Some consumers do understand that the extra charges aren’t padding the pockets of the businesses they patronize and are willing to pay a surcharge — provided the fees are transparently disclosed.

“If you want to give a discount for cash, I think that’s fine, and people would appreciate that,” Beal said. “I still think that there are a lot of benefits to using cash at small businesses, but I don’t like to be thinking I’m going to pay one price and, because I want to use a card, it’s going to be more.”

Rich Weingartner, a local computer analyst and Okemos resident, agreed. “They’re just going to have to advertise it correctly. If you see something advertised for \$100, you should pay \$100,” he said.

Connecticut, Massachusetts and Puerto Rico are the only U.S. states or territory that ban surcharges. Eight others — California, Florida, Kansas, Maine, New York, Oklahoma, Texas and Utah — still have anti-surcharge legislation on the books that are no longer enforceable due to recent court decisions. Michigan has no laws in place banning the practice, so long as fees are under the national 4% standard.

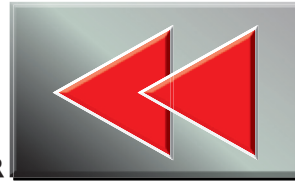
In Michigan, brick and mortar sellers who choose to implement a surcharge are required to post notices at the entrance and point of sale indicating that a fee will apply to credit card purchases while also itemizing the exact amount of the surcharge on sales receipts. Since 2017, gas station vendors have also been required by law to display any credit card surcharge fees next to the advertised fuel price on road signs in identical lettering at least half the size of the sale price.

Online retailers and third-party web payment systems have proven to be more resistant to regulation, however. Even the State of Michigan adds a surcharge at a rate of 2.35% for credit cards

REWIND

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LAST 7 DAYS

BY TYLER SCHNEIDER



UAW workers at GM's Lansing Redistribution Center officially joined the strike against the Big Three Friday. Employees walked out of the Redistribution Center at 4400

W. Mount Hope Road at noon to hit the picket line a week after the first group of workers at three plants in Wentzville, Missouri; Wayne, Michigan; and Toledo, Ohio, did the same. The UAW Local 1753 represents more than 200 workers at the plant who joined those from the 38 GM and Stellantis distribution centers that added to the strike last week.

East Lansing's new city manager, Robert Belleman, officially took office Monday. The East Lansing City Council voted 5-1 on Sept. 19 to approve a two-year contract that will pay Belleman a starting salary of \$180,000. Belleman served as Saginaw County controller and chief administrative officer from February 2012 through June of this year but was fired by the county's Board of Commissioners after some officials expressed displeasure with his job performance. The Council selected Belleman as its choice in a 3-2 decision last month, ending a search that began in January when the Council fired longtime City Manager George Lahanas in a unanimous decision. Former Lansing Fire Chief Randy Talifarro served as the city's interim manager since February.



U.S. Department of Justice officials are considering the death penalty for a man charged in the murder of a Lansing toddler this summer, the Lansing State Journal reported. Rashad Trice, 27, faces charges in multiple jurisdictions after a statewide search over the Fourth of July weekend ended when police found 2-year-old Wynter Cole-Smith dead in Detroit. He faces 20 charges in state court, with three cases in Ingham, Macomb and Wayne counties consolidated by the Michigan Attorney General's office. If Trice is convicted on federal charges, U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland will have the final say on whether the death penalty will be considered.



The City Rescue Mission's controversial statement of faith is legal under Lansing city law, WLNS-TV reported. The City Attorney's Office provided this update in response to an inquiry from First Ward Councilman Ryan Kost at the Sept. 18 City Council meeting, where Kost read a selection from the organization's statement of faith on the record: "... any board member, staff member, or volunteer of the Mission confirmed to be involved in sexual sin (including molestation, homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality...) will be immediately removed from any positions of ministry or service." Kost asked if the statement was a violation of the

city's Human Rights Ordinance, but Deputy City Attorney Lisa Hagen-Lawrence said the statement was "consistent with constitutional law."

Mayor Andy Schor announced Sept. 20 that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded the Lansing Housing Commission nearly \$2 million to combat youth homelessness. The funds come as part of HUD's Youth Homelessness

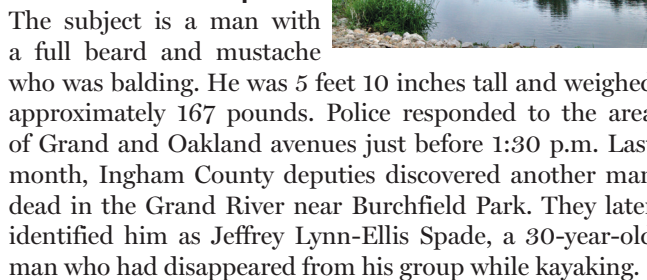
Demonstration Program, which also granted \$4.6 million to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority. The grant will fund small housing projects for homeless youths between 18 to 24 years of age throughout 61 mostly rural counties in Michigan.



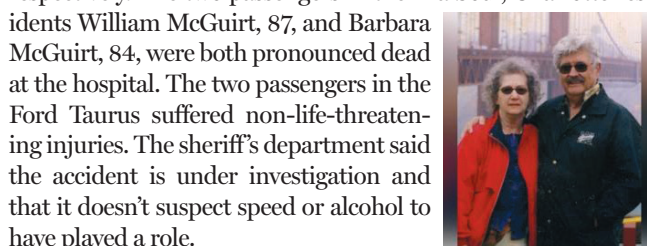
Construction on the Trader Joe's store in Meridian Charter Township may resume next month, the Lansing State Journal reported. Trader Joe's East Inc. previously purchased 2.2 acres on Grand River

Avenue and Northwind Drive and can now continue development on the project following a seven-month delay. In August, the township issued a permit allowing for the shell of the 13,500-square-foot property to go up after work had been halted in January due to steel supply chain issues and then again in May due to an expired work permit. The store will be the grocery chain's first in the Greater Lansing area.

Police are asking for the public's help in identifying a body they found in the Grand River Sept. 18. The subject is a man with a full beard and mustache who was balding. He was 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighed approximately 167 pounds. Police responded to the area of Grand and Oakland avenues just before 1:30 p.m. Last month, Ingham County deputies discovered another man dead in the Grand River near Burchfield Park. They later identified him as Jeffrey Lynn-Ellis Spade, a 30-year-old man who had disappeared from his group while kayaking.



Two people died in an Eaton County car crash on Lansing Road Saturday morning. Eaton County Sheriff deputies responded to the crash near Kinsel Highway in Eaton Township around 10 a.m. and found a Kia Soul and Ford Taurus that had struck each other while travelling southbound and northbound, respectively. The two passengers in the Kia Soul, Charlotte residents William McGuiert, 87, and Barbara McGuiert, 84, were both pronounced dead at the hospital. The two passengers in the Ford Taurus suffered non-life-threatening injuries. The sheriff's department said the accident is under investigation and that it doesn't suspect speed or alcohol to have played a role.



1112 E César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing

Good news: This eyesore is a work in progress. Located in Lansing's Northtown neighborhood near the corner of César E. Chávez and Massachusetts avenues, this three-bedroom, two-story single-family home was built in 1918. The unoccupied property is owned by Juana and Bulmaro Tenorio of Wyoming, Michigan, who bought it from Delphine LLC for \$30,000 on Aug. 8, 2022. Bulmaro Tenorio said he's been slowly working on the house since the purchase and that he plans on using it as a personal residence once he can save up enough money to complete repairs. There's a lot of work to be done, with the wooden siding cracked and falling off in places, the front porch steps splintered and sinking and portions of the gutters bent and coming loose. According to the Lansing Assessor's Office, the house changed hands twice in 2020, first sold by Kevin and Betty Hough to Uncommon Valler LLC for \$16,500 on Feb. 5, 2020, and again to Delphine LLC for \$29,000 on Dec. 18, 2020. The assessor lists the property at a value of \$29,200 and the 9,583 square foot lot it occupies at \$11,486. It is not red-tagged.

— TYLER SCHNEIDER

"Eyesore of the Week" is our weekly look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eye Candy of the Week and Eye for Design. Have a suggestion? Email eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call in a nomination to (517) 999-6704.

I used to be a sports fanatic. I grew up pretending I was (retired Detroit Lions running back) Billy Sims. When all the kids in the neighborhood would gather for a game of street football, I wanted to be like him. When I would run through the woods with our dog, I would dodge trees as if they were defenders and they all missed the tackle because I had the moves to juke them out. There were many Sundays that I could be found yelling at the TV while watching the Lions disappoint me again and again.

I was also always a huge Detroit Tigers fan. My favorite players were Lou Whitaker and Alan Trammell. Obviously, I was a fan of the Pistons, and my favorite player was Isiah Thomas; for the Red Wings, it was Steve Yzerman. I didn't get into college sports until a little later, but I have always been a Michigan fan. I was loyal. Sports gave me an excuse to disconnect from everything else. I listened to sports radio on weekdays, and it made work seem less like work.

In the last several years, I have not paid nearly as much attention. When the NFL owners colluded against Colin Kaepernick for peacefully protesting police brutality and social injustice, it left a sour taste in my mouth. I couldn't support something like that. I had been on my journey of learning and listening to experiences of people's suffering, and watching people justify so many wrongs. So, when Kaepernick took a knee, I flipped the switch on sports.

I started using my voice through All Star Mechanical in support of Colin's peaceful protest. I attended my first BLM rally. My kids went to Lansing Catholic High School and I attended the football games there and knelt in solidarity with 4 of the students there. My son was a swimmer for LCHS and he knelt before his swim meets. My daughter would go to the sporting events and kneel at the basketball games and football games. I witnessed a lot of hate for the students kneeling as well as those of us kneeling on the sidelines.

Matthew Abdullah was one of the four students who knelt at Lansing Catholic and is one of my son Issac's best friends. I have known him since they were in 5th grade together, and now Matthew has been a huge part of All Star Mechanical for the past 5 years. He transferred out of Lansing Catholic after his junior year because the school's values didn't align with his own. He worked at All Star the summer after his senior year, and really impressed me. I was sad that it was only a summer job for him.

He went on to college with a scholarship to run track and play football. As fate would have it, he didn't like being at school and when he called me and asked if he could come back to All Star, I was overjoyed. I often must remind myself that I am getting older and can't do the things I used to, but Matthew energized me because I could see how much he loved doing this work. For the first time since starting this business, I had someone that I

saw as the future of the company. He isn't just an employee; he is a partner.

I told Matthew that after 5 years, if he still loved it (and if he didn't meet a girl and run off to an island to live with her), that I would make him a partner, and here we are. Matthew Abdullah is as much a part of All Star as I am. He has the same dedication to always doing everything the right way as I do. This business affords a lot of opportunities to cut corners. It is not in his nature, as it was never in mine.

I met Matthew because of my kids. They played basketball together and hung out. I have so many memories of them just laughing and hanging out at our house every day after school. They grew up together. Sports brought us together. I have been so hyper-focused on social injustices and the politics of the world that I think I have aged drastically in the last 10 years. I have recently decided that I need to start looking for ways to improve my life. I used to listen to conservative talk radio every day, but not anymore. Now I listen to music. It has made a positive impact on my mental health.

I have recently started paying attention to sports again, less as a fan, but more as a casual observer. I used to love the rivalry; now I just like the competition and athleticism. I love the athletes, the players, the people, even if I don't like the leagues.

Here is what I am saying: I look back on how intense I was about sports, and then I got older, and it became less important once I saw that there were so many things more important than sports. I can see how sports can be a distraction from important things, but sometimes a distraction is what we need when the weight of the world is on us. But being a sports fan doesn't have to be so.....fanatical. Sports can bring people together; it doesn't have to divide us. I will continue to make every effort to call out the injustices in the world, and Matthew and I will celebrate our partnership in this business and provide everyone with the best damn residential HVAC in all of Lansing.

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Mel Tucker and the white-woman brand of success

By **DEDRIA HUMPHRIES BARKER**

My student was so looking forward to getting his new laptop computer. While he waited, he wasn't doing his writing assignments. Then he stopped coming to class.

I ran into him in the cafeteria where he worked and asked him about his absence and his missing assignments. Impatiently, he replied that he would do his work when he got his laptop, it's on the way. I told him he really didn't need a laptop to get his work done; he could use the Lansing Community College computer lab. But other students brought laptop computers to class, so he needed one as well. Student success = laptop computer.

I think Mel Tucker's situation is rooted in the definition of success as well.

Mel Tucker is losing his job as Michigan State University's head football coach and forfeiting a whole lot of money. Tucker had a 10-year, \$95 million contract, and he stands to lose \$80 million of that if he loses his employment for moral turpitude, i.e. sexual harassment.

Something powerful is going on with the BMO when he doesn't know where he is in space and time. MSU is the space where more than 500 survivors of Dr. Larry Nassar's sexual assault were paid a collective settlement from the university of \$380 million. The time was 2021, just two years ago.

Those who lament his loss of the money say that Tucker's situation is based on the axiom, "Don't crap where you eat." Meaning, be careful how you act in your place of employment. Tucker's situation shows symptoms of a historical American male mindset that says possessing a white woman is the definition of success. In the U.S., historically, a real man dominates white

women. Success is not the money; success is the white woman.

This goes way back.

In history class with LCC Professor David Sewick, one of the areas we studied was why poor Southern men volunteered to fight the rich plantation enslavers' war. The idea was that their manhood was threatened. The appeal to them was: If you cannot control Black people, how will you control your home, i.e. your white woman?

Countless numbers of Black men with financial success on the level of Tucker acquire a trophy wife, generally a younger white woman. My family includes several white wives as far back as 1899.

I tell the story of my maternal great grandparents in my book, whose title says it all: "Mother of Orphans: The True and Curious Story of Irish Alice, a Colored Man's Widow."

In the early 1900s, during the Jim Crow era, the most famous athlete in the United States was heavyweight boxer Jack Johnson. He was a very dark-skinned Black man. Johnson beat all opponents and was richly rewarded. He possessed everything — cars, fur coats, cruise tickets to Europe. Then he married a white woman. The government came after him with prosecution under the Mann Act, which forbid transporting a white woman, even his wife, across state lines for "immoral purposes." Johnson left the country but returned after seven years to serve one year in Leavenworth penitentiary. One of his wives committed suicide after being harassed about her marriage. Racism trapped white women as well.

A teen from Chicago, Emmett Till, was visiting relatives in Mississippi and while there was accused of sexu-



New York City's WQXR classical music radio host Terrance McKnight. He's a Black man, a Morehouse University grad. His podcast, "Every Voice," looks at four operas, including "Othello," through a Black lens. Othello was a Moor and the commanding general of the Venetian army. Very successful, Othello enjoyed all the perks of white society. When he married, he eloped with Desdemona, the white daughter of a prominent white politician. Tricked by an aide into believing she was cheating on him, Othello murdered Desdemona and then killed himself. McKnight points out that Othello's doom reflected the politics of the time. The opera is based on Shakespeare's play "Othello," which was written during Elizabethan times.

Elizabeth I did not like Black people.

Mel Tucker's behavior could not be controlled by the money. His behavior smacks of seeking success as defined for Black men by history.

Florida and other backward states want history taught in a certain way. Not factual, but falsified so the United States is drawn as a white supremacist nation that white people created on their own without enslaved Black people. A history that says Black people benefited from slavery. History that says slavery wasn't so bad, the "darkies" enjoyed picnics in the pasture alongside white people on Sunday afternoon, etc.

This version of history is created for the consumption of young people, white and Black, so as to falsely aggrandize whiteness at the expense of Blackness, so they will accept there is no success without whites. And embolden some to enforce that.

(Dedria Humphries Barker is a Lansing resident. Her column appears on the last Wednesday of the month.)

Opinion

Surcharge

from page 5

and a flat rate of \$3.95 for debit cards on all digital payments. Similarly, beginning Oct. 1, Consumers Energy will start charging residential customers an additional flat fee of \$2.99 to pay bills with a credit or debit card. The company expects the change to impact nearly

300,000 of its 2 million customers.

"Like many companies, we are encouraging customers to use payment methods that don't incur fees — those fees ultimately are passed on to all customers. This step is one more we're taking to help reduce the cost of energy for all customers. More than two-thirds of all energy providers take this approach, as do businesses of all types. Ultimately, this is good for all customers as we

strive to keep bills low," Consumers spokesperson Tracy Wimmer said.

Weingartner, who recently discovered his enrollment in autopay with Consumers had been eliminated altogether because of this change, said he still has "a little bit of hope" that legislators can come to the table and work together to address his concerns sooner rather than later.

"What they're aiming for is not nec-

essarily to get rid of the fees, but to make them transparent. From what I understand, there are at least glimmers of bipartisan support," he said. "It's a great start to have officials on both sides agreeing that 'Yes, this is an issue.' Now, is it a big enough issue that it will be given all the time it needs to go through hearings and votes? That remains to be seen."

— TYLER SCHNEIDER

No room for independent thinkers in America's rapidly shrinking middle

Last week, state Rep. Karen Whitsett, D-Detroit, derailed progressive Democrats' plan to roll back more than 40 years of assorted abortion restrictions and barriers with one massive bill package by making it clear she was a no vote. Medicaid-funded abortions, the elimination of a 24-hour waiting period for elective abortions and certain "partial-birth abortions" were in front of a state House committee, and Whitsett said no.



KYLE MELINN

POLITICS

Opinion

She claims she and six other House Democrats believe the push to roll back nearly all restrictions put in place by previous Republican governors is a bridge too far.

Yes, voters said by passing Proposal 3 last year that they wanted reproductive freedom. But Whitsett went through the 24-hour waiting period once as a rape victim. She opted to go forward with it because "it was the right decision for me."

If there's extra Medicaid money around, it should go toward services for the state's growing senior population, not to fund the abortions of the poor, she said.

The Democrat's bold positions instantly put her in the crosshairs of Planned Parenthood Advocates of Michigan, which put out an ad on social media that reads, "Rep. Karen Whitsett is threatening to keep harmful abortion restrictions in place. Tell her to vote YES on the RPA (Reproductive Health Act)."

On this week's "MIRS Monday" episode, Whitsett questioned if Planned Parenthood was attacking her "because I'm not a sheep? Because I don't just follow along because I'm a Democrat? Because I actually am a representative that represents my district, and they asked me to ask the tough questions?"

Apparently, Whitsett isn't the only Democrat with concerns. Any House Democrat who represents anything close to a competitive district should be worried. As of now, though, she's the only one willing to speak up.

Whitsett has run against the grain of her party before. She insists hydroxychloroquine saved her life when she contracted COVID and thanked Donald Trump personally for recommending it. That didn't make her popular in her chamber.

These are the latest examples of how

independent, bold policymakers are so quickly villainized when they have their own opinions.

Earlier this session, state Rep. Mike Mueller, R-Linden, needed an escort back to his vehicle after he bucked his Republican caucus and voted for Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's tax reform plan so retirees would have more of their income shielded from taxes.

The reason the Democrats needed Mueller's vote to begin with is because one of their members, state Rep. Dylan Wegela, D-Garden City, was a hard no. He steadfastly refused to vote for anything that would steer public money to a corporate incentive. He was verbally worked over for quite a while to change his mind until Mueller became the needed final vote.

Like Whitsett, Mueller and Wegela stuck to their convictions and voted how they wanted in the face of caucus pressure.

They are the independent outliers in a political climate that badgers those who stand outside of their caucus and stand firm in their positions.

It's easier to go along to get along. It's easier to vote the caucus position. It's easier defend it by repeating the company line, as opposed to standing up for positions that may be in the best interests of a lawmaker's constituency.

It's hard, with the state House at a 56-54 split and the state Senate at a 20-18 split (both in favor of Democrats), to upset the apple cart — to force compromise, which has become a four-letter word in today's win-at-all-cost mentality.

State Democrats have a lengthy agenda they want to complete. Most of it is repealing what the Republicans passed when Rick Snyder and John Engler were successive governors. The Republicans have no incentive to work with Democrats on their agenda. Their strategy is to derail, stall and frustrate Democrats at every turn.

Everything is geared toward the next election, whether that election is in a year or a month.

Compromise becomes something that happens when an independent-minded lawmaker breaks ranks, not the product of productive conversations between political party leaders.

It's bad news for the rapidly shrinking political middle and independent, policy-minded thinkers.

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

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Assisted Outpatient Treatment a key to improving Michigan's mental health

By **KATREVA BISBEE**
and **MARGARET KEELER**

(Katreva Bisbee is the president of NAMI Lansing, the local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Margaret Keeler has been involved with NAMI Lansing since 2002.)

Assisted Outpatient Treatment — AOT — is an effective tool to help individuals with serious mental health conditions who are caught in a cycle of repeat hospitalizations, homelessness and incarcerations. Michigan law makes AOT possible, but education of professionals and the public about AOT has lagged. Continuing education credits are approved for physicians, nurses, and social workers.

As part of Mental Illness Awareness Week, a distinguished panel of speakers appearing at the Hannah Community Center will lay out the evidence for and benefits of AOT and discuss practical challenges in strengthening AOT in Mid-Michigan. Also known as Kevin's Law, AOT engages civil courts and mental health systems to work collaboratively and has been shown to dramatically improve treatment outcomes, reduce the likelihood of repeat hospitalizations, decrease criminal justice involvement, and save money.

Making AOT more widely and equitably available locally can encourage mental illness recovery and reduce the negative impacts of untreated severe mental illness. Unnecessary disability, unemployment, substance abuse, homelessness, inappropriate incarceration, suicide and poor quality of life are the staggering consequences of severe and persistent and untreated mental illness. AOT aims to assist individuals with severe mental illness to engage in treatment and ensure that the mental health system is attentive to their needs.

Individuals who benefit from AOT have a history of inconsistent engagement with treatment often due to diminished awareness of the need for treatment and/or disparities in access to treatment. The economic cost of untreated mental illness is more than \$100 billion each year in the United

**"Before the Mental Health Crisis: Assisted Outpatient Treatment" panel discussion
Sponsored by NAMI Lansing
7-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 4
Hannah Community Center, East Lansing
<https://bit.ly/3Z8p6jt>**



Opinion

States. With early intervention, these costs and risks can be reduced.

Severe mental health conditions can be associated with distress and/or problems functioning in social, work or family activities. Nearly one in five of U.S. adults, experience some form of mental illness, one in 24 has severe mental illness and one in 12 has a substance use disorder.

The negative impacts of severe mental illness are not limited to the person with the illness but extend to the family members and the community. These impacts may be more pronounced in low and middle-income communities where the treatment gap for mental health disorders is higher.

We know that all people with mental health conditions do not have the same level of access to care and do not receive the same quality of care. People of color are less likely to receive mental health services compared to those who are white because of inadequate health insurance, lack of access to quality care, and systemic issues that can impact willingness to seek care. We need to fight the stigma around mental illness, which is higher among communities of color.

There are practical difficulties in linking the partners needed to effectively and consistently implement AOT. Advocacy from community members, the public and private mental health systems, and local leaders can help overcome these hurdles. Planned strategic meetings to strengthen Assisted Outpatient Treatment in Clinton, Eaton and Ingham counties will follow our Oct. 4 program, engaging the appropriate leadership.

Many thanks to our financial sponsors for making this event possible: Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI), Michigan State University Department of Psychiatry, Michigan State University College of Nursing, Peckham, MSU Federal Credit Union and Tri-County CIT. We appreciate the support and encouragement of the City of Lansing and the Mayors Mental Health Task Force.

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC

Doug DeLind leans into social justice in first ArtPrize exhibition

By CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS

When Doug DeLind graduated from Michigan State University in 1976, he was one of 16 students with a bachelor's of fine arts in ceramics. As he looked around for job postings, he found exactly two.

"I've spent my career doing art fairs and galleries," DeLind told me at his home studio in Mason. After 50 years of professional work, his first submission to the ArtPrize competition in Grand Rapids, titled "Genesis Revisited," is on view through Sunday (Oct. 1) at Fountain Street Church.

Barefoot in his studio on a beautiful end-of-summer day, DeLind told me that he's actually two people. He's the artist, and he's the person who sells the art. Although art fairs are a delight for him — "Someone always discovers my work for the first time, and it's wonderful," he said — the COVID-19 lockdowns allowed him to delve further into his artistic side.

In his artist statement for "Genesis Revisited," he writes that during COVID, "My muse fell asleep." He decided to revisit one of his original inspirations from his youth, the Genesis section of the Bible.

"I approached the idea of revisiting Genesis with social justice in mind and came up with the idea of presenting God as one of us in order to illustrate how important we all are to the fabric of society," he writes. In the resulting large-scale work, "The creator is embodied through different races, genders and sexual orientations."

In Day One, "Let There Be Light," God is represented as a biracial woman who is releasing the power of light. In Day Two, "Let There Be a Firmament and Let It Divide the Waters," God is represented as a transgender youth who is creating the dome above the Earth. Day Three, "Let the Dry Land Appear," shows an African American woman separating land from water with the fingers on her right hand. Day Four, "Let There Be Lights in the Heaven to Divide the Day From the Night," depicts an African woman creating the sun, moon and stars. Day Five, "Let the Waters Bring Forth Abundantly the Moving Creature That Hath Life," shows a Tlingit woman marveling at the creature she has just created. For Day Six, "Let the Earth Bring Forth Living Crea-



Chelsea Lake Roberts for City Pulse

Doug DeLind with Day Six of "Genesis Revisited," a totemic image of God, who has just created the first horse.

tures," DeLind created a totemic image of God, who has just created the first horse. The series ends with Day Seven, "And God Saw It Was Good and She Rested."

DeLind writes, "I mean no disrespect when I represent God as the people we know, love and see every day. Rather, I am trying to show that we are all important, and each of us has the gift of creation to share."

Somewhat surprisingly for a work of this magnitude, DeLind himself isn't religious. But he's made religious art for a few local churches over the course of his career.

"If someone asks me, I say OK," he said.

He created what he calls a "non-traditional Christ figure" for The Peoples Church of East Lansing at its request. He's also made pieces for Peckham and the Residential College of Arts and Humanities at MSU. He likes teaching, too, and has taught various workshops over the years. About college students, he said, "I like kids. I like their views and ideas and their way of ... not listening."

During our interview, I brought up an artist friend of mine from the Residential College of Arts and Humanities, and he remembered them and their work immediately.



Chelsea Lake Roberts for City Pulse

In Day Two of "Genesis Revisited," God is represented as a transgender youth who is creating the dome above the Earth.

Board Chairman Rick DeVos, son of former U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos, decided to step away from the festival after 12 years of leadership. The resulting ArtPrize 2.0 is being managed by a group of partners, including the city of Grand Rapids, Downtown Grand Rapids Inc. and Ferris State University's Kendall College of Art and Design. The name change is reported to reflect a new chapter in the competition.

Though DeLind's exhibition is out of the running, this year the public-vote grand prize is set at \$125,000. In addition, the five juried category winners will claim \$100,000, the second-place winners will get \$50,000, and the third-place winners and honorable mentions will get \$25,000. Awards of up to \$20,000 will also be granted to 51 artists based on scores in specific categories, and Miller-Knoll will give out visibility prizes of \$75,000 each. These will be awarded to pieces or artists that recognize underrepresented communities and demographics.

As reported, 74% of the 928 artists are based in Michigan. Outside of Michigan, 31 states and 12 countries are represented. Since the first event in 2009, ArtPrize has awarded more than \$6 million through public votes, juried awards and grants. ArtPrize annually awards \$450,000 directly to artists.

DeLind said his aim with the exhibition is to "let art lead us a little bit."

"God isn't necessarily an old, white male," he said.

For "Genesis Revisited," DeLind cites the 14th-century Italian painter Giotto as inspiration. Revered by art historians as the father of European painting, DeLind describes Giotto's works as "emotive" and dealing with "specific values." Much of Giotto's life remains a mystery, but he's believed to have decorated chapels in the Italian cities of Rome, Florence, Naples and beyond. According to Encyclopedia Britannica, Giotto's scenes are "revolutionary in their expression of reality and humanity ... the inner reality of human emotion is intensified through crucial gestures and glances."

DeLind writes that he created his "Genesis Revisited" series to "illuminate the many faces of God in the act of creation." He spent about a year and a half on these works. His ArtPrize exhibition brings all seven pieces together in the same space for the first time. The display at Fountain Street Church is on view in a panorama from right to left, like the Hebrew language is written. Each piece is composed of 32 raku-fired tiles and a sculpture. Although varying in size, each piece weighs about 75 pounds.

As reported by the Grand Rapids TV station WZZM, this year's ArtPrize looks a little different than years past. Last fall,

Honoring marijuana freedom fighters

By LUCAS HENKEL

Over the past few weeks, Michigan has lost several prolific cannabis activists. The deaths of Dale “Rick” Thompson, Gersh Avery, Amy Gregor Gasaway and Brad Lemke — all fiercely passionate plant-medicine pioneers — have left a hole in the hearts of cannabis enthusiasts across the state. Hundreds of people have gathered online to share stories and memories of these individuals.

It’s important to note that the Michigan cannabis industry would not be what it is today without the work of Thompson, Avery, Lemke, Gasaway and other individuals who believe in the power of cannabis and plant medicine. Even when



The deaths of Michigan cannabis activists Dale “Rick” Thompson (top left), Amy Gregor Gasaway (top right), Gersh Avery (bottom left) and Brad Lemke have left a hole in the hearts of cannabis enthusiasts across the state.

faced with chronic health problems, these activists continued to fight for every Michigander’s right to access medicinal cannabis, from collecting signatures and rallying at the state Capitol to handing out free samples of their potent products to other chronically ill individuals across the state.

Josey Scoggin, director of the Redemption Foundation and founder and president of Sons and Daughters United, a nonprofit organization that provides assistance and support to low-income and underprivileged populations, shared her memories of each activist in a series of emotional Instagram posts. Scoggin, who has legally used medical marijuana since she was



14 due to a genetic disability, said that she wouldn’t be alive today if it weren’t for their work.

Last Saturday (Sept. 23), cannabis enthusiasts gathered to honor Thompson at Vehicle City Social, a medical cannabis social club in Flint. Memories — and plenty of joints — were shared among those in attendance as they honored their fallen friend. A memorial for Lemke will be held at Vehicle City Social 5 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 29). Friends and family have also set up online donation campaigns for Thompson, Avery, Lemke and Gasaway to help cover funeral costs.

Rick Thompson Memorial Fund:
zefffy.com/en-US/peer-to-peer/784473c6-3f36-483c-b979-96b59f760b76

Amy Gregor Gasaway GoFundMe:
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See Lansterdam, Page 13

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Lansterdam

from page 12

Gersh Avery memorial donations: email josey@redemptioncanna.com for more information

BAMN: A new drop from Pure Options

Pure Options hopes to honor its roots in Lansing with its latest product drop. BAMN, which means By Any Means Necessary, is a name that is synonymous with resilience, determination and unwavering commitment to quality, according to a press release. The new product line features several “ready-to-roll” eighths of cannabis flower as well as a variety of 1-gram concentrate jars for \$10 each. The packaging features headlines from the Lansing State Journal, dating back to the late 1930s, that highlight Lansing’s ingenuity.

The “ready-to-roll” eighths contain 3-and-a-half grams of pre-ground cannabis. Cannabis enthusiasts will be excited about the variety of strains available, including GMO, Kush Mints, Mendo Breath, Wedding Cake, Outlaw Glue, Pure Runtz and White Truffle. I’m a huge Kush Mints fan and was pleasantly surprised at the pungent aroma of fruity sweetness and mint that came from the weed inside the black mylar bag. The taste reminded me of a mint Lifesaver, refreshing and crisp, and the high was just as smooth.

I felt the high hit me behind my eyes, but it didn’t stop me from having a productive evening.

The concentrate options in the new line are just as generous. Strains include Watermelon Gelato, Blueberry Diesel, Grape Dosidos, Pink Sherbet, Planet Zkittlez, Rainbow Sherbet and Runtz. While Planet Zkittlez is advertised as a budder, which is known for its thick and batter-like consistency, my container held concentrate that was more of a saucy, sugar-like consistency. I personally don’t mind the variance in consistency — I still enjoyed taking a huge dab of the pale yellow concentrate. It tasted like oranges and produced a chill body high that still left me feeling mentally aware.

If you’re interested in trying out any of the BAMN products for yourself, head over to your nearest Pure Options location. Pure Options also offers delivery within a 20-mile radius of Lansing, so if you’re not up for a drive, you can place an order online at pureoptions.com.

City Pulse needs a new Lansterdam in Review columnist. Do all aspects of cannabis interest you, from product reviews to business operations? Are you a good writer? Are you careful with the facts? Can you meet deadlines? If so, let’s talk. Please contact Berl Schwartz at (517) 999-5061 or publisher@lansingcitypulse.com.



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Harper hopes to climb Capitol Hill

By BERL SCHWARTZ

A couple of Sundays ago at the East Lansing Farmers Market, I was approached by a campaign worker for U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin. She asked me to sign a nominating petition for Slotkin's effort to be on the Aug. 6, 2024, Democratic primary election ballot for a chance to replace retiring U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow. I told her I'll be happy to sign the petition, even though I wasn't sure yet whom I'd support. Instead of thanking me, the worker launched into a diatribe against one of Slotkin's five opponents, Hill Harper — the worker's assumption apparently being that Harper was the one who had turned my head and not one of the other four candidates taking on Slotkin, who is widely considered the frontrunner. I found it telling.

But just who is Hill Harper that he may have the Slotkin campaign concerned? Before this year, I had never heard of him, even though he is a celebrity. Chalk that up to the nature of TV viewing today: Harper is an actor who has appeared regularly in "CSI: New York" and "The Good Doctor." But they are on broadcast television, where I journey for local news and the PBS "News Hour" via an antenna and that's pretty much it. If my highly unscientific poll of City Pulse staffers is any indication, I'm not alone in not instantly recognizing his name, at least before he entered the Senate race. One coworker, a young African-American woman, first said she was unfamiliar with him, then said, "Did he write a book?" Indeed, he has written several, and she went on to reference one that she said was aimed at Black youth.

No doubt, then, that Harper has a hill to climb to get to Capitol Hill — but he has built something of a base. He settled in Detroit in 2017, and Detroit is always pivotal in winning the Democratic nomination because of the Black vote. Since coming to Motown, he has started the Manifest Your Destiny Foundation to help youth, purchased the downtown Roasting Plant coffee shop and undertaken the renovation of a Boston-Edison Historic District mansion, where he is raising an adopted son as a single parent. His activism in Detroit on such issues as civil rights, a higher minimum wage and criminal justice reform, and his celebrity status are not all he brings to the race. He has a joint degree from Harvard's law school and the Kennedy School of Government — where he befriended Barack Obama on the basketball court and decades later joined other celebrities to campaign for him for president.

In Hollywood, Harper served on the board of the actors' union that is now on strike. He is quick to point out that he is the only union member in the Senate race. "Through the characters I played, I wanted to be like Harry Belafonte and Sidney Poitier and Paul Robeson, these amazing artists and actors who are also activists," he told me.

My initial efforts to interview Harper after he filed his candidacy in July fell on deaf ears. But in late August, Slotkin granted me an interview — which I thought might be the leverage I needed to get Harper's attention, and indeed it was. After I notified Harper's campaign that I'd be interviewing Slotkin Friday morning, I quickly heard back: What are you doing on Thursday?

The interview was supposed to be in person at City Pulse, but thanks to bad traffic on his way from Detroit, we ended up talking by phone, then meeting in person for photos of him at the Capitol before he headed off for a local television interview.

To those who may paint him as a Hollywood carpetbagger, Harper, 57, who was born in Iowa, responds with flattery: He loves Michigan so much he has adopted it. His path to Detroit began with friendships he formed through two Michigan natives who were Harvard roommates. But it was the old Michigan film industry tax credit — "That was really a good government program, and look what politicians do, they get rid of it" — that brought him here for work.

That's when, he said, a friend planted the seed that eventually led Harper to settle in Detroit. "When I have kids," he said he told his friend, "I want to raise



Hill Harper and Barack Obama have a long association, going back to their days as law students at Harvard, where they played basketball together. Despite their friendship, Obama hasn't indicated support for any of the Democratic candidates for the U.S. Senate.

my kids here because I'd rather have them turn out like folks from Michigan than folks from Hollywood.' And that was my sentiment. And so fast-forward to 2015: I adopted my son Dec. 19, 2015, and started looking for a house here because I was a father."

"I chose Michigan."



Photo by Roxanne Firth

U.S. Rep. Elissa Slotkin is considered the leading candidate for the Democratic nod in next year's U.S. Senate race to replace Debbie Stabenow, who is retiring.

So, why does he think Michigan should choose him to replace Stabenow?

Harper talked about his history of activism, first in health care. "I'm a (thyroid) cancer survivor and both my parents are doctors, so healthcare has always been huge to me." His Obama connection

landed him on the President's Cancer Panel, where another member recalled to Time magazine that he was a productive participant who left his celebrity status at the door.

As for elective office, though, he was not considering it until he said people started calling him right after Stabenow announced her decision not to seek reelection. He said they expressed their "frustration that for the first time in 57 years Michigan does not have a Black Democratic representative in Congress. For a state that's so diverse, many people felt that was a shame."

He's not the only candidate who is hoping not only to change that, but also to become the first African-American U.S. senator in Michigan history. Two Black women have filed for the Democratic nomination: Pamela Pugh, a former chief health officer from Saginaw who was reelected last year to the state Board of Education and serves as president; and Leslie Love, a former state representative from Detroit.

"It's not lost on many members of the Democratic Party in Michigan that Michigan in many ways is a red state until the I-75 corridor and Wayne County reports," Harper said about the role race may play in the campaign. Indeed, in my subsequent interview with Slotkin, who is white, she talked about her need to "work really hard" to win over voters in Detroit, which makes up nearly 40% of the state's Black population.

But, added Harper, "This isn't just about identity politics, it's about representation. And to be quite honest, not even just about race-based representation. I got called by folks who are parents and single parents like myself and saying, 'Hey, the Senate doesn't have enough people in the body that have kids under 10 years old like I do. The Senate doesn't have one active union member like I am ... ' Very few are very small business owners."

Without saying so directly, Harper's pitch is that he is not another career inside-the-beltway pol, which is clearly aimed at Slotkin, whose resume highpoints are posts at the CIA and the Pentagon,

See Harper, Page 15

Harper

from page 14

three terms in the House and now a foot on the next rung up the ladder. Given voter antipathy toward Washington, Harper's strategy makes sense, although perhaps more in a general election — where he'd likely be facing Republican Mike Rogers, with his own well-established Washington-insider credentials — than in a Democratic primary against Slotkin, a known Republican slayer. She won back the 8th Congressional District in 2017 after eight terms of Republican control (seven by Rogers and one by Mike Bishop). Last year, she defeated former state Sen. Tom Barrett by 5%, a good margin in the new, purplish 7th Congressional District.

So far, Harper is taking the high road when it comes to Slotkin, but he hinted at legislative decisions she has made that he will no doubt bring to the fore, if need be.

"I am not a politician, and so I don't want to fall into common politician tropes of folks talking about other candidates," he responded when I asked him to state his case against Slotkin. Then he once again told me he's got a 10-year-old, he's a union guy, a small-business owner and an African American "knowing and dealing with racism." He professes he wants to keep the focus on job creation, "particularly from the progressive side of the ball. So as a progressive and the most progressive person in the race, the fact that I do marry that with my sentiments around economic development, small business creation and job development, particularly in marginalized communities — I think that is my particular skillset."

Later, though, Hill suggests that he will make an issue of Slotkin's voting record when he says, "There are votes that we can look at and emphasize from candidates that are in the race that I don't think are in line with many Michiganders' progressive values." I asked him if Slotkin's choice to be one of only two Democrats to join House Republicans in voting for a successful amendment that banned the LGBTQ+ Pride flag (and all flags except the American flag and U.S. military flags) from military facilities was an example. Demonstrating he'd done his homework on a vote that only City Pulse has covered in Michigan media, he replied, "Yes, I was aware of that. I would've voted differently." Asked to amplify, he said, "There's a Pride flag that's in the window of my coffee shop right now. And I believe that if you are willing to sacrifice your life for your country and that is a flag that is important to you, that you should have the ability to display that."

In my interview with Slotkin the next day, she agreed that her vote was cast in the context of Republican efforts to keep the Pride flag from flying over the Pentagon, but explained her quite different motive for doing so, which was to keep the Confederate flag, the Proud Boys flag and other flags associated with anti-LGBTQ+ sentiment from flying. Said Slotkin, whose late mother was a lesbian, "For every Pride flag we would see at a place like Fort Bragg, you'd see 10

flags that would send a horrible message to that soldier flying the Pride flag or that child in that home who the flag is being flown in on behalf of."

The amendment Slotkin supported reflects a policy instituted by the Trump administration but one that the Biden White House also backs. Slotkin has a 100% record of support for Biden initiatives that have come before her in Congress. In my interview with Harper, he expressed only enthusiastic support for Biden as well and said that some "extreme supporters" of Biden "have reached out to me and my campaign because they believe that my name on a ticket in November helps President Biden win the presidency. They understand that Michigan in many ways is a red state until Black folks vote. And so the African American turnout in November is going to be a critical piece" in keeping the Biden administration in power.

Harper's position on Biden may be safer than questioning his second-term run, but it does not advance a case for being the candidate of change at a time when the majority of Democrats — 64%, according to a New York Times poll released in July — say they want a different standard bearer. Even moderate Slotkin stuck her neck out in the 2018 Democratic primary election campaign for her House seat in declaring she wouldn't support another ageing Democratic leader, Nancy Pelosi, for speaker. Slotkin voted "present" the last two times Pelosi ran, declaring it was "time for new leadership on both sides of the aisle." In contrast, Harper says, "The idea that using ageism and his age as a distraction away from his accomplishments is politicizing and shameful." Slotkin could have taken that tact as well when Republicans were vilifying Pelosi in the runup to the 2018 midterm elections, but she exerted her independence instead.

Certainly, there's a political risk for a Democrat in questioning Biden's candidacy, but Harper is going to need to find ways to differentiate himself from the pack — in other words, take some chances. Slotkin will be able to buy a lot of attention: She raised \$5.8 million in the first four months of her candidacy and will no doubt be reporting another big haul in mid-October, when she files her third-quarter report with the Federal Campaign Commission. Harper entered the race just as the third quarter was getting under way and hence hasn't had to report anything yet. But almost certainly he is going to have to earn a lot of media attention that Slotkin will be able to buy.

Asked about the money race, he did what underdogs do: He deflected.

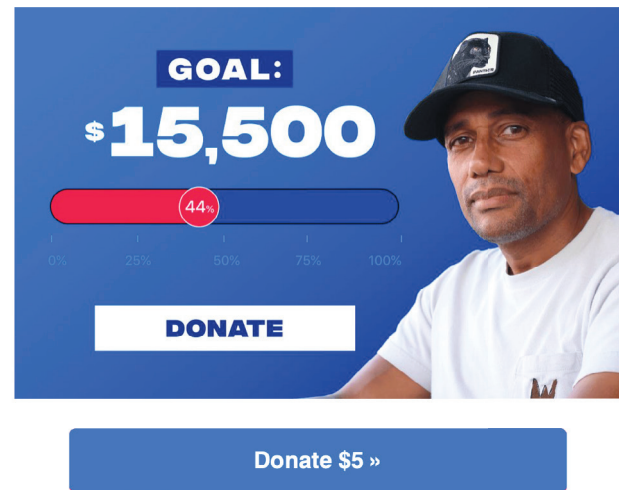
"If I'm elected to the United States Senate, one of the first things I'll fight for is campaign finance reform. The only thing that not having campaign finance reform serves is incumbents in the establishment," he said. "The people pay congressional member salaries, yet, on average, congressional members spend four to six hours a day making funding calls. On the people's dime, on the people's time. And I will make zero funding calls. That time could be much better spent meeting with people from the state, meeting with constituents, learning what their needs are, coming up and meeting with other lawmakers to



Photo by Roxanne Fritth

Harper talks to three visiting Ohioans in front of the Michigan Capitol. One of them lectured him on the importance of fundraising — not Harper's favorite topic.

We're currently fundraising for our rapidly approaching end-of-quarter deadline, and we're still 44% away from our goal so every little bit helps!



Thank you for being with us,

Hill

Harper entered the race in July. As the 3rd quarter fundraising deadline approaches, his website sought a modest goal of \$15,500. Slotkin raised \$5.8 million in the first two quarters of this year after announcing in February.

work together to provide solutions. So, we've got to get the money out of politics."

He pointed to last year's election of Karen Bass as mayor of Los Angeles as an example of how money doesn't have to determine outcomes. (The L.A. Times reported she was outspent more than 11 to 1.) He doesn't mention that Bass represented Los Angeles for six years in California's General Assembly, including the last one as speaker, and then 10 years in Congress before running for mayor. Or that, as one analyst put it, her opponent, mall developer Rick Caruso, "could have spent twice as much and he still likely would have lost. Simply, Los Angeles wants Karen Bass. She was the right candidate at the right time." Harper certainly has an impressive background. But in terms of a political profile, paraphrasing Lloyd Bentsen's famous assessment of former Vice President Dan Quayle after the latter compared himself to John Kennedy: "You're no Karen Bass."

Harper and I ended our interview there. An hour or so later, he finally made it through interstate traffic to Lansing and met me and a photographer at the Capitol before he hurried off for a television interview. In person, he reminded me of many celebrity sightings I've had over the years

in how often they are smaller than you'd imagined. He was impeccably dressed and an easy subject for photos, not surprisingly, given his professional experience before cameras. At one point, he suggested a pose he favored for himself.

As we finished on the Capitol steps, three men approached, one of whom was wearing a shirt emblazoned with an Ohio Legislature logo. They wanted to know if Harper was a Michigan legislator, suggesting to me they were in town to lobby for something. He explained that he was a candidate for the U.S. Senate. That prompted another one of the trio to launch into a lecture on the importance of fundraising. The gist of it was that except for bathroom breaks, you need to be on the phone all the time seeking dough. The message was clear: Raising money is the name of the game.

Harper kept a polite smile on his face as he wished them well. After farewells, we turned to walk to the car waiting for him on Capitol Avenue. I saw the smile disappear and his facial muscles tense up.

Reflecting on the free advice he had just received, he said in a low voice: "I hate that."



Hurry! Voting ends at 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, October 3rd.

Cast your vote at lansingcitypulse.com!

Book party invites National Book Award nominee to Lansing

By **BILL CASTANIER**

If you're a writer, want to be a writer or just enjoy reading, be sure to attend the Lansing Book Party 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 30) at various bookstores and venues throughout the city, including A Novel Concept, Socialight Society, Hooked, Deadtime Stories, Wayfaring Booksellers, Everybody Reads, the Robin Theatre and the Capital Area District Libraries' downtown Lansing branch. The daylong event offers a book crawl, writing activities, author visits, readings and more.

One of Everybody Reads' special guests, visiting from 2:30 to 4 p.m., will be Bonnie Jo Campbell, author of several novels and collections of short stories. A graduate of the University of Chicago, Campbell gained fame with the publication of her book "American Salvage" in 2008, which was a finalist for the National Book Award in fiction.

Subsequently, in 2011, she published "Once Upon a River," which The New York Times referred to as "rural Michigan gothic." The novel follows teenage protagonist Margo Crane, a cross between Huck-leberry Finn and Annie Oakley, as she takes to the water to find her mother. In 2019, the novel was adapted into a movie starring Kenadi DelaCerna.

Longtime fans have been waiting patiently for Campbell's next book. Their wait will come to an end in January 2024, when the author returns to rural Michigan with "Still Waters."

At her home near Portage, Camp-



Courtesy of Dawn Burns

Lansing Book Party co-organizer Dawn Burns said the overall goal for the event is "to help build a community of writers and have fun."

bell is never far from her three donkeys, so it wasn't unusual to interview her by phone as she was feeding the hulking creatures.

"They weigh up to 700 pounds, so it hurts when they step on your foot," she said.

About the new book, Campbell said, "It takes place in the swamp, and it is about a family of wild women and men who are well-armed. The children are brilliant, and the women are fed up. It takes on the divided society of America, and it works like a fable: A woman lives on an enchanted island with three daughters, and they want to protect the swamp from developers."

Campbell said she started writing the book with only women characters but later realized she needed both men and women.

Without ruining any plotlines, let's just say the book goes in a direction you won't expect.

Cambell said writing novels takes her a long time, so during the process, she also wrote a book of poetry and started a podcast. Her podcast

is titled "Bonnie Jo Talks to Everybody," and she's just as likely to talk to an author as she is a plumber. The podcast can be accessed on Apple Podcasts and Spotify.

"Since I agonize so much over writing a book, and it takes so long, I needed to find a new art form that I don't agonize over, and the podcast seemed natural," she said.

On Saturday, Campbell will join Everybody Reads owner Scott Harris in recording several podcasts with other local authors.

She's also working on a book trailer, a short video or teaser promoting a book, with the director of "Once Upon a River," which she says will have "a lot of swamp pictures."

"I had to get a laminated copy of my book jacket so it was waterproof," she said. She added that it's likely that an eastern massasauga rattlesnake will make an appearance in the video as it does in the book.

"They are quite common in Kalamazoo County," she said.

Recently, two college professors wrote a textbook-style guide for college students about Campbell's writing, "Michigan Salvage," which Campbell said is "one of the biggest honors of my life."

"What a pleasure to see someone take my work seriously," she said.

In addition to Campbell, several other local authors will make appearances at the Lansing Book Party, which was co-organized by



Courtesy photo

Portage-based author Bonnie Jo Campbell will visit Everybody Reads bookstore 2:30 to 4 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 30) to record several podcasts as part of the Lansing Book Party.

Dawn Burns, an assistant professor in Michigan State University's Department of Writing, Rhetoric and American Cultures.

"The event will be an opportunity for writers to come and hang out and have conversations with other writers," Burns said. "At the end, writers will have an open mic to read from their work. Overall, the idea is to help build a community of writers and have fun."

Burns believes Lansing provides a lot of opportunities for people to connect, and the daylong event is open to any community members who want to engage in writing and reading activities.

Lansing Book Party

Saturday, Sept. 30
10 a.m.-10 p.m.
Multiple venues
[therobintheatre.com/
events/the-lansing-
book-party](http://therobintheatre.com/events/the-lansing-book-party)

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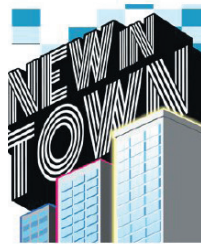
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Feel like a new person



By **LUCAS HENKEL**

Because they submerge into murky water each evening and re-bloom each morning, lotus flowers symbolize strength, resilience and new beginnings. Adela Klein, owner of New Beginnings Salon & Spa, said that symbolism resonated with her during her journey to becoming a business owner. After working for more than

New Beginnings Salon & Spa

2208 E. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing
517-927-4824

By appointment
Sunday-Monday
10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Tuesday-Friday
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Saturday
newbeginningsspa.com

a decade on the corporate side of the jewelry industry, Klein was ready for her own new beginning.

“While I was successful, my corporate job didn’t allow me to have time for my family,” she said. “I went back to school to study massage therapy because I wanted to help people in a way that wasn’t so limited.”

Once she received her license in 2015, Klein partnered with a friend who was opening a salon in Eaton Rapids. Together, the women set up an Aveda Concept Salon, which offered a full line of Aveda products and services.

While the duo found success in their business, Klein’s personal life didn’t feel as successful. She moved to Lansing in 2019 following a divorce and set up a 400-square-foot studio near the Fenner Nature Center.

Alongside longtime friend and fellow masseuse Anke Lendeckel, Klein tried her best to keep up with the demand for services during the COVID-19 pandemic the following year.

New Beginnings grand reopening celebration

Saturday, Sept. 30
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
2208 E. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing

“While everyone else was closed, we were still getting a high volume of clients requesting our services. There were only two of us, so unfortunately, we had to turn some clients away because we simply

didn’t have enough staff to handle the demand,” Klein said.

She hopes that moving to a new 2,000-square-foot space — formerly home to Capital City Grower Supply — along with hiring more staff and offer-

ing new services will allow her to better serve the people of Lansing.

“The east side’s growth is very appealing to me. It’s a great spot to serve Michigan State University students and even the corporate folks that work downtown,” she said.

New Beginnings is dedicated to creating a safe space that’s welcoming to everyone, regardless of who they are or the service they’ve selected. It offers a variety of treatments to ensure relaxation from head to toe. While Klein specializes in medical massage and reflexology, a massage style that involves the application of pressure to specific pressure points on the feet and hands to relieve tension and treat illness, the business also offers esthetician services like facials and red-light therapy, manicures and pedicures, eyelash extensions, haircuts and other hair treatments and reiki energy healing.

“I want customers who come in to leave the spa feeling like a new person,” Klein said.

New Beginnings will celebrate its grand reopening 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 30). The event will allow customers to meet the staff, check out the building and enter to win a wellness basket that includes more than \$500 worth of products and spa services. The business is also running a 20% off sale on all Aveda products and services throughout October. To learn more



Lucas Henkel/City Pulse

New Beginnings Salon & Spa offers a variety of services, from massages and reiki energy healing to haircuts and Aveda hair treatments.

about the services offered or to book an appointment, visit newbeginningsspa.com.

City Pulse needs a new New in Town writer. Are you tuned in to nascent businesses in the Greater Lansing area? Are you a good writer? Are you careful with the facts? Can you meet deadlines? If so, let’s talk. Please contact Berl Schwartz at (517) 999-5061 or publisher@lansingcitypulse.com.

Here’s your sign

Widow moves on in Williamston Theatre rom-com

By **CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS**

The Williamston Theatre’s 17th season begins with “On the Market,” by Jason Odell Williams, a roving, sentimental romp through middle-aged love — and the lack thereof. When widow Charlotte (Dani Cochrane) refuses to date two-and-a-half years after her husband’s passing, her small world starts to collapse.

This script for two men and two women, although not so tightly plotted — it is a rom-com, after all — contains some of the wittiest one-liners and most delightful dialogue as the main character tries to put herself back on the market and find love.

When Charlotte says, “Comparing the dates I’ve had to horses is an insult to horses,” we know we’re in for a fun little elevator ride through the hell that is online dating. The actors have fun with

physical comedy, accents and portraying a variety of characters that fill out a whole world inside the intimate theater.

The central conflict in the play is Charlotte’s inability to move on. It becomes a project for her best friend Diane (Yolanda Davis), who takes drastic action to force Charlotte’s heart back open. But just like love, grief doesn’t have a timeline, and even though it’s been 29 months, Charlotte is waiting

for a sign.

Anyone who has been through a breakup will relate to the well-meaning but painful way that people in relationships want you to get back out there and rush back to getting your heart broken again. There are no stakes for these folks, who are locked into commitments, and your ups and downs can quickly become a source of entertainment and obsession

for your friends if you’re not careful. But finding someone to share your life with often happens when you’re busy getting your own house in order. Did I mention Charlotte is a realtor? She has plenty to unpack in this 90-minute show, performed without an intermission.

Rather than ending this review with callouts to the actors (excellent) and production staff (superb), I want to share a message from the theater’s administrative team. In his program notes, Board President Rob Roznowski celebrates 17 years of paying salaries to the professionals who perform and prop-master their hearts out on the Williamston

Theatre stage. But he makes a plea for community members’ attendance as well because audience numbers have been slow to bounce back after the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are quite cozy these days, perhaps accustomed to our streaming services. Or maybe we would love to attend, but we are being squeezed by rising housing costs and inflation. For those of you who relate more to the former situation, I echo Roznowski’s request for your presence at the theater this season. Be a real one during the writer’s strike and turn off that Netflix comedy you’re barely paying



REVIEW



Photo by Chris Purcitis

From left: Yolanda Davis, Dani Cochrane, Patrick Loos and Brian Sage in Williamston Theatre’s production of “On the Market,” by Jason Odell Williams.

attention to or the disturbing crime documentary that isn’t good for you anyway. The neighbors and friends performing stories on local stages are your people and your community. Won’t you join them? When the curtain comes down, the conversation is just beginning.

City Pulse is looking for theater reviewers. Would you like to attend productions in the Lansing area for free? Do you have a good sense of what makes or breaks a show? If so, contact Nicole Noechel at (517) 999-5066 or nicole@lansingcitypulse.com.

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"An Easy Puzzle"--
some similar similes.
by Matt Jones
© 2023 Matt Jones

ACROSS

- 1. Madcap adventure
- 5. "Ha ha ha!" online (that's one "ha" per letter)
- 8. Angelic instruments
- 13. Operatic feature
- 14. "All right, I get it"
- 16. Hack-a-Shaq target
- 17. Escaping
- 19. Old-timey photo filter color
- 20. [Mystery Clue 1]
- 22. Third Greek letter
- 25. Ticket remainder
- 26. London-to-Barcelona dir.
- 27. "Deep Space Nine" shapeshifter
- 28. Stardew Valley, e.g.
- 31. "Tic ___ Dough" (Wink Martindale game show)
- 33. With 43-Across, [Mystery Clue 2]
- 39. Peaceful creatures in "The Time Machine"
- 40. Radio station sign
- 41. Hershey caramel candy
- 43. See 33-Across
- 46. Liverpool loc.
- 47. Boggy lowland
- 48. "Respect for Acting" writer Hagen
- 49. Morning hrs.
- 52. "Nautical" beginner
- 55. Clock app function
- 57. [Mystery Clue 3]
- 61. "West Side Story" role
- 62. Frighten off
- 66. Actress Zazie of "Atlanta" and "Joker"
- 67. "And there you have it!"
- 68. Solitary

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

- 69. "Fish in ___? How can that be?" ("Hop on Pop" line)
- 70. ___judicata (case that's been decided)
- 71. Groggu, aka Baby ___
- 15. Daily Planet reporter Clark
- 18. Piercing look
- 21. The other poetic Muse (the one not in crosswords as much)
- 22. Outta here
- 23. No longer a minor
- 24. Aquaman portrayal Jason
- 29. Like electrical plugs and forks (don't mix the two!)
- 30. "It's Always Sunny" group, collectively
- 32. ___-Alt-Del
- 34. Transportation to the mini-mart, perhaps
- 35. ___ Schwarz (New York toy store)
- 36. Brief bit of bickering
- 37. Kinda dull
- 38. Make happy
- 42. Minnesota congresswoman Ilhan
- 44. Flabbergasted
- 45. ___ nous (just between us)
- 49. Addis ___, Ethiopia
- 50. Impressionist Edouard
- 51. Slalom expert
- 53. Take a breather
- 54. "CODA" prize
- 56. What Olive Garden is supposed to represent, vaguely
- 58. Suffix still used after "Bachelor" in reality shows
- 59. "Smooth Operator" singer
- 60. Taylor Swift's 2023 tour
- 63. "Extraordinary Attorney ___" (Korean Netflix show)
- 64. Word often used in jokes that end "In this economy?"
- 65. Vote to approve

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Answers on page 21

SUDOKU

Advanced

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

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

September 27-October 3, 2023

ARIES (March 21-April 19): I've been doing interviews in support of my new book, "Astrology Is Real: Revelations from My Life as an Oracle." Now and then, I'm asked, "Do you actually believe all that mystical woo-woo you write about?" I respond diplomatically, though inwardly I'm screaming, "How profoundly hypocritical I would be if I did not believe in the 'mystical woo-woo' I have spent my adult studying and teaching!" But here's my polite answer: I love and revere the venerable spiritual philosophies that some demean as "mystical woo-woo." I see it as my job to translate those subtle ideas into well-grounded, practical suggestions that my readers can use to enhance their lives. Everything I just said is the prelude for your assignment, Aries: Work with extra focus to actuate your high ideals and deep values in the ordinary events of your daily life. As the American idioms advise, walk your talk and practice what you preach.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): I'm happy to see the expanding use of service animals. Initially, there were guide dogs to assist humans with imperfect vision. Later, there came mobility animals for those who needed aid in moving around and hearing animals for those who couldn't detect ringing doorbells. In recent years, emotional support animals have provided comfort for people who benefit from mental health assistance. I foresee a future in which all of us feel free and eager to call on the nurturing of companion animals. You may already have such friends, Taurus. If so, I urge you to express extra appreciation for them in the coming weeks. Ripen your relationship. And if not, now is an excellent time to explore the boost you can get from loving animals.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Gemini author Chuck Klosterman jokes, "I eat sugared cereal almost exclusively. This is because I'm the opposite of a no-nonsense guy. I'm an all-nonsense guy." The coming weeks will be a constructive and liberating time for you to experiment with being an all-nonsense person, dear Gemini. How? Start by temporarily suspending any deep attachment you have to being a serious, hyper-rational adult doing staid, weighty adult things. Be mischievously committed to playing a lot and having maximum fun. Dancing sex! Ice cream uproars! Renegade fantasies! Laughter orgies! Joke romps! Giddy brainstorms and euphoric heartstorms!

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Cancerian comedian Gilda Radner said, "I base most of my fashion taste on what doesn't itch." Let's use that as a prime metaphor for you in the coming weeks. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you will be wise to opt for what feels good over what merely looks good. You will make the right choices if you are committed to loving yourself more than trying to figure out how to get others to love you. Celebrate highly functional beauty, dear Cancerian. Exult in the clear intuitions that arise as you circumvent self-consciousness and revel in festive self-love.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The amazingly creative Leo singer-songwriter Tori Amos gives this testimony: "All creators go through a period where they're dry and don't know how to get back to the creative source. Where is that waterfall? At a certain point, you say, 'I'll take a rivulet.'" Her testimony is true for all of us in our quest to find what we want and need. Of course, we would prefer to have permanent, unwavering access to the waterfall. But that's not realistic. Besides, sometimes the rivulet is sufficient. And if we follow the rivulet, it may eventually lead to the waterfall.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do you perform experiments on yourself? I do. I formulate hypotheses about what might be healthy for me, then carry out tests to gather evidence about whether they are. A recent one was: Do I feel my best if I eat five small meals per day or three bigger ones? Another: Is my sleep most rejuvenating if I go to bed at 10 p.m. and wake up at 7 a.m. or if I sleep from midnight to 9 a.m.?

I recommend you engage in such experiments in the coming weeks. Your body has many clues and revelations it wants to offer you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take a few deep, slow breaths. Let your mind be a blue sky where a few high clouds float. Hum your favorite melody. Relax as if you have all the time in the world to be whoever you want to be. Fantasize that you have slipped into a phase of your cycle when you are free to act as calm and unhurried as you like. Imagine you have access to resources in your secret core that will make you stable and solid and secure. Now read this Mary Oliver poem aloud: "You do not have to be good. You do not have to walk on your knees for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting. You only have to let the soft animal of your body love what it loves."

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): An Oklahoma woman named Mary Clamser used a wheelchair from age 19 to 42 because multiple sclerosis made it hard to use her legs. Then a miracle happened. During a thunderstorm, she was hit by lightning. The blast not only didn't kill her; it cured the multiple sclerosis. Over the subsequent months, she recovered her ability to walk. I'm not saying that I hope you will be hit by a literal bolt of healing lightning, Scorpio, nor do I predict any such thing. But I suspect a comparable event or situation that may initially seem unsettling could ultimately bring you blessings.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): What are your favorite mind-altering substances? Coffee, tea, chocolate, sugar or tobacco? Alcohol, pot, cocaine or opioids? Psilocybin, ayahuasca, LSD or MDMA? Others? All the above? Whatever they are, the coming weeks will be a favorable time to reevaluate your relationship with them. Consider whether they are sometimes more hurtful than helpful (or vice versa), whether the original reasons that led you to them are still true, and how your connection with them affects your close relationships. Ask other questions, too! PS: I don't know what the answers are. My goal is simply to inspire you to take an inventory.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In his book "Meditations for Miserable People Who Want to Stay That Way," Dan Goodman says, "It's not that I have nothing to give, but rather that no one wants what I have." If you have ever been tempted to entertain dour fantasies like that, I predict you will be purged of them in the coming weeks and months. Maybe more than ever before, your influence will be sought by others. Your viewpoints will be asked for. Your gifts will be desired, and your input will be invited. I trust you won't feel overwhelmed!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): William James (1842-1910) was a paragon of reason and logic. So influential were his books about philosophy and psychology that he is regarded as a leading thinker of the 19th and 20th centuries. On the other hand, he was eager to explore the possibilities of supernatural phenomena like telepathy. He even consulted a trance medium named Leonora Piper. James said, "If you wish to upset the law that all crows are black, it is enough if you prove that one crow is white. My white crow is Mrs. Piper." I bring this to your attention, Aquarius, because I suspect you will soon discover a white crow of your own. As a result, long-standing beliefs may come into question; a certainty could become ambiguous; an incontrovertible truth may be shaken. This is a good thing!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): If we hope to cure our wounds, we must cultivate a focused desire to be healed. A second essential is to be ingenious in gathering the resources we need to get healed. Here's the third requirement: We must be bold and brave enough to scramble up out of our sense of defeat as we claim our right to be vigorous and whole again. I wish all these powers for you in the coming weeks.

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

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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 Nicole at (517) 999-5066.

Wednesday, Sept. 27

"A Century of Michigan Voices for Justice and Peace — and New Directions" - 7 p.m. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. peacequestgreaterlansing.org.

"A Course of Love" Book Study, Facilitated by Lucille Olson & Bill Dietrich - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Acting & Glee Music Class for Kids - Ages 5-12. 4:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Allen Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-999-3911. allenneighborhoodcenter.org/market.

Anti-Violence Initiative - Seven-week program for teens ages who have faced violence or bullying due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. 4-5:30 p.m. Salus Center, 408 S. Washington Square, Lansing. saluscenter.org/programs/calendar.

Bookend Art Gallery Display by Raechel Decker - Noon-4 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

CharLit Adult Book Club - 6:30 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

"Fitness Over 50" Senior Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Improv Acting Class - 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jazz Dance Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Lucky Penny at Cleats Bar & Grille - 6 p.m. 5801 N. Aurelius Road, Lansing. 517-574-4008. cleatsbarandgrille.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society - Program on

resources available for genealogical research at the State of Michigan Library and National Archives. 7 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. mmgs.wordpress.com.

Mindfulness 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.

Open Mic with Rick Hansel - Family-friendly, welcomes singers and musicians of all ages. Doors 5 p.m., show 6 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Overbooked Book Club - "Chain Gang All Stars," by Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah. Intended for adults. 5 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradi.org.

Tap II Class - 6 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Weaving the Web: Spiral Path - Join us online or in person for discussions, rituals, meditations and more! 6 p.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-657-5800. weaversoftheweb.org.

Wednesday Night Free Concerts - Dedfoot Duo - 6-8:30 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-853-4000. meridian.mi.us/calendar.

"Wholly Integrated," by Zoe Beaudry - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Thursday, Sept. 28

"A Course in Miracles," Facilitated by Lisa Schmidt - 7 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Acting 101 Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class - 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

All-American Buckskin Horse Congress - 10 a.m. MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. 517-432-5566. canr.msu.edu.



Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties (CMHA-CEI) is holding a Hiring Fair on Thursday, October 19th from 12pm to 5pm at 812 E. Jolly Rd., Lansing, MI 48910. On the spot interviews are available.

CMHA-CEI is currently looking to hire for multiple Relief Mental Health Worker, Relief Family Support Worker, and Relief Residential Technician positions.

The relief positions have a flexible schedule of 0-19 hours per week. These positions are great for students or those looking for supplemental income. Positions have the ability to grow into part-time and full-time opportunities that include increased salary and benefits.

To apply for any relief position, all candidates must have a valid driver's license, a GED or high school diploma, and must be able to pass a background check.

To learn more about various open positions, please visit: www.ceicmh.org/employment

CP#23-250

2023 AIDS Walk

Saturday, Sept. 30
9 a.m.

Edgewood United Church
469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing

The Lansing Area AIDS Network is hosting its first AIDS Walk since the COVID-19 pandemic began 9 a.m. Saturday (Sept. 30) at Edgewood United Church in East Lansing. The event begins with vendor and community resource tables at 9 a.m., followed by a 2-mile walk at 11 a.m. to remember those who have died from the illness as well as celebrate those who continue to live with HIV.

The walk aims to raise money to support the AIDS Network's programming and services, including a host of care services for those living with HIV, group support meetings, free HIV testing, PrEP and PEP access, safer sex supplies, a food pantry, companion animal support and more.

Friendly, vaccinated and leashed dogs are also welcome to join the walk. There will be water stops, treats and other dog-friendly activities.

Registration is available online at laonline.org/events/aidswalk or onsite beginning at 9 a.m. the day of the event.

LANSING EAST LANSING AIDS WALK 2023



Bookend Art Gallery Display by Raechel Decker - Noon-6 p.m. CADL - Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. 517-339-2324. cadl.org/about/our-locations/haslett.

Bath Farmers Market - 3-6:30 p.m. James Couzens Memorial Park, 13753 Main St., Bath. 517-641-6728. shopbfm.org.

Dimondale Farmers Market - 3-7 p.m. 136 N. Bridge St., Dimondale. villageofdimondale.org.

Drawing Marathon - Drawing stations, guided and collaborative drawing, costumed models and more. Afterparty at (SCENE)Metrospace. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. 517-884-4800. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

East Lansing Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Open House - Learn more about the project and process, provide feedback and ask questions. 4-7 p.m. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Eloquent Toastmasters Weekly Meeting - Safe and positive environment to practice public speaking and leadership skills. 6:30 p.m. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. eloquentst.toastmastersclubs.org.

Hawaiian Pig Roast Dinner & Show, Featuring The Panhandlers and Dinner by Chef Stu Christoff - 7 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Helping Women Period - Lysne Tait of local nonprofit Helping Women Period shares her experience as a leader in the period poverty space. Registration req. 6:30 p.m. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. 517-669-3156. dewittlibrary.org.

Higher Ground Enrichment Time - Kids can use the computers, eat snacks and have a great, safe time. 3-6 p.m. Higher Ground Community Development Center, 3637 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. 517-894-1633.

Jazz/Hip Hop II class - Ages 9-13. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Karaoke Thursday - 8 p.m.-midnight. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

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

Laingsburg Farmers Market - 5-8 p.m. First Congregational Church of Laingsburg, 401 E. Grand River Road, Laingsburg. 517-295-8128. laingsburgbusiness.org/farmers-market-1.

Magnet Fishing Adventures - Learn about gear selection, ideal locations, managing police interactions, freeing stuck magnets, fishing in strong currents and more. Registration req. 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Organic Yoga with Maja McKeever - 6 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 269-762-3189. unitylansing.org.

REACH Virtual Meet-up: Arts Incubator for Young People - 4 p.m. Zoom meeting ID: 828 0808 9879. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble - Learn to excel equally in singing, acting and dance. 5:30 p.m. 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Russ Holcomb at Old Bag of Nails Pub - 6 p.m. 210 Cascade Blvd., Lansing. 517-826-6266. facebook.com/oldbagofnails Lansing.

Events

from page 20

Take Off Pounds Sensibly - Weight-loss support group. Weigh-in 5:30 p.m., meeting 6-7 p.m. Haslett Middle School, 1536 Franklin St., Haslett. 800-932-8677. facebook.com/HaslettTops.

“Wholly Integrated,” by Zoe Beaudry - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Friday, Sept. 29

All-American Buckskin Horse Congress - 7:30 a.m. MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. 517-432-5566. canr.msu.edu.

Asamu Johnson & the Associates of the Blues - 7:30 p.m. UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St., Lansing. 517-331-8440. urbanbeatevents.com.

Craft Club - Make a graveyard scene! Grades 4-12. Registration req. 4 p.m. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

Cruise to Holt - Bring your classic, modern or project cars and bikes — if it has wheels, bring it, or just come take a look! 5-8 p.m. Holt Farmers

Market parking lot, 2150 Cedar St., Holt. 517-694-2135. delhitownshipmi.gov.

Darin Larner Jr. - 6:30 p.m. One North Kitchen & Bar, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. 517-901-5001. onenorthdining.com.

Dogs After Dark - You and your dog can enjoy a guided walk through the nighttime woods! Approximately 3 miles long. 8 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us/hnc.

“Fitness Over 50” Senior Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Grady Hall & the Disciples of Funk - 8:30 p.m. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

Higher Ground Enrichment Time - Kids can use the computers, eat snacks and have a great, safe time. 3-6 p.m. Higher Ground Community Development Center, 3637 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. 517-894-1633.

Live Music with The Drifter Kings at LBC - 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Peace Vigil - Noon-1 p.m. Michigan Capitol, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. peacequestgreaterlansing.org.

Tony Thompson at Harrison Roadhouse - 6 p.m. 720 E. Michigan Ave., East Lansing. 517-337-0200. harrisonroadhouse.com.

Welcome Home Full Moon Ritual - We'll have a table set up prior to the event for building spell sachets to support peace and harmony. 7 p.m. Moores Park, 400 Moores River Drive, Lansing. weaversoftheweb.org.

Wild Honey Trio at The Peanut Barrel - 8 p.m. 521 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 517-351-0608. peanutbarrel.com.

peanutbarrel.com.

“Wholly Integrated,” by Zoe Beaudry - 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Saturday, Sept. 30

AIDS Walk 2023 - Community engagement tables and activities 9 a.m., walk 11 a.m. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. events@laanonline.org. laanonline.org.

See Events, Page 22

‘The Mouth of the South’

Monday, Oct. 2

7 p.m.

Williamston Theatre

122 S. Putnam St., Williamston



In addition to its regular mainstage programming, the Williamston Theatre offers scaled-down second-stage productions as part of its Dark Nights in Billtown series. The 2023-'24 series begins with a staged reading of the new play “The Mouth of the South,” by Allison Gregory, 7 p.m. Monday (Oct. 2).

Emily Sutton-Smith, the theater’s co-founder and executive director, will play “the always outspoken and delightful troublemaker” Martha Mitchell, the “controversial cabinet wife of Attorney General and Richard Nixon advisor John Mitchell, beloved and despised media personality and silenced Watergate whistleblower. Martha paid dearly for ditching the party line, and now she has returned to exact the price.”

Admission is free, with a \$10 suggested donation at the door. No reservations are required. For more information, visit williamstontheatre.org or call 517-655-7469.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 18

R	O	M	P		L	O	L		H	A	R	P	S				
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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 18

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

B/24/045 BALLISTIC HELMETS as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing Police Department. The City of Lansing will accept bids at The City of Lansing, Purchasing Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave. 3rd Floor, Lansing, Michigan 48933 or electronically submitted thru MITN Site (www.Mitn.info) until 2PM local time in effect on September 29, 2023. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by contacting Marilyn Chick at (517) 483-4282, or Marilyn.chick@lansingmi.gov or go to www.mitn.info. The City of Lansing encourages bids from All Vendors Including MBE/WBE Vendors and Lansing-Based Businesses.

CP#23-251

CITY OF LANSING SUMMARY OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1320

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend the Lansing codified ordinances by amending Chapter 288 Section 288.21. Define responsibilities, functions, and reporting timelines to the City Council at a public meeting.

Effective date: Upon Publication

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#23-252



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Events

from page 21

All-American Buckskin Horse Congress - 7:30 a.m. MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. 517-432-5566. canr.msu.edu.

Brewtoberfest 2023 at Lansing Brewing Co. - Stein-holding competition, keg bowling, boot pong, performances by Da Frankenmuda Fratz German dancers, DJ sets by DJ Face. 21+. 3-10 p.m. 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. 517-371-2600. lansingbrewingcompany.com.

Charity Golf Tournament - Raising funds to support homeless shelters in Michigan and orphans in Ghana. Registration includes 18 holes of golf with a cart and lunch. 9 a.m. Prairie Creek Golf Course, 800 E. Webb Drive, DeWitt. ishidamtntfoundation.org.

Circulation Day ... All Items FREE - Discover items you need for free and donate good-quality items that are no longer serving you. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 517-371-3010. unitylansing.org.

Deacon Earl at Lansing Shuffle - 7 p.m. 325 Riverfront Drive, Lansing. 517-940-4619. lansing-shuffle.com.

End of September Movie Matinee: "Beetlejuice" - Popcorn provided. Noon. Charlotte Community Library, 226 S. Bostwick St., Charlotte. 517-543-8859. charlottelibrary.org.

The Groove Council - 8 p.m. The Green Door Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-325-9897. greendoorlive.com.

Intermediate Ballet Class - 11 a.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

"The Magic of Motown" - 7:30 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 517-432-2000. whartoncenter.com.

Mason Farmers Market - 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Lee Austin Park, corner of Lansing and Ash streets, Lansing. facebook.com/masonfarmersmarketmi.

Meridian Township Farmers Market - 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Marketplace on the Green, 1995 Central Park Drive, Okemos. 517-712-2395. meridian.mi.us/farmersmarket.

Monsters Of Rock (Classic Rock Band) - 7 p.m. Gravity Smokehouse & BBQ, 2440 Cedar St.,

Holt. 517-258-4900. gravitiesmokehouse.com.

Salaam Peace Festival - Food, cultural exhibits, craft and souvenir sales, calligraphy, henna, face painting, balloon twisting and more. 2:30-6:30 p.m. Islamic Center of East Lansing, 920 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. peacequestgreat-erlansing.org.

Storybook Art: A Cosmic Smashbook Journey Series - Connect with your current story through collage and mixed media. 10 a.m.-noon. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

"Wholly Integrated," by Zoe Beaudry - 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. 517-574-4521. lansingartgallery.org.

Sunday, Oct. 1

"A Course in Miracles," facilitated by Dan and Carol Maynard - Noon. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 269-762-3189. unitylansing.org.

All-American Buckskin Horse Congress - 7:30 a.m. MSU Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock

Education, 4301 Farm Lane, Lansing. 517-432-5566. canr.msu.edu.

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

Eastern Ingham Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. McCormick Park, 123 High St., Williamston. 517-618-1630. easterninghamfarmersmarket.org.

GLAD Drum Circle at Lake Lansing Park North - All ages and experience levels welcome. 2-4 p.m. 6260 E. Lake Drive, Haslett. facebook.com/GreaterLansingAreaDrummers.

JUGGLERS AND WOULD-BE JUGGLERS - Jugglers meet at the Orchard Street Pump House at 2 p.m. Sundays. 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. mikemarhanka@gmail.com.

Laingsburg Outdoor Farmers Market - 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Roosevelt Row, Laingsburg. 517-295-8128. laingsburgbusiness.org/farmers-market-1.

Main Stage Revue Burlesque & Comedy Show: Halloween Edition - Doors at 7 p.m., show at 7:30. Omar's Showbar, 316 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 517-371-4500. omarsshowbar.com.

River Walk Trash Cleanup - Pick up the trash on the Lansing River Trail and the areas around our building! 11 a.m. Keys to Manifestation, 809 Center St., Suite 7, Lansing. 517-974-5540. manifestlansing.com.

Shiawassee Artists' Guild Presents: "Potpourri" - Noon-4 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Monday, Oct. 2

Ballet II Class for Kids - Ages 9-13. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

See Events, Page 24



Club Tabu is an 18 & up adult alternative lounge in Lansing, Michigan.

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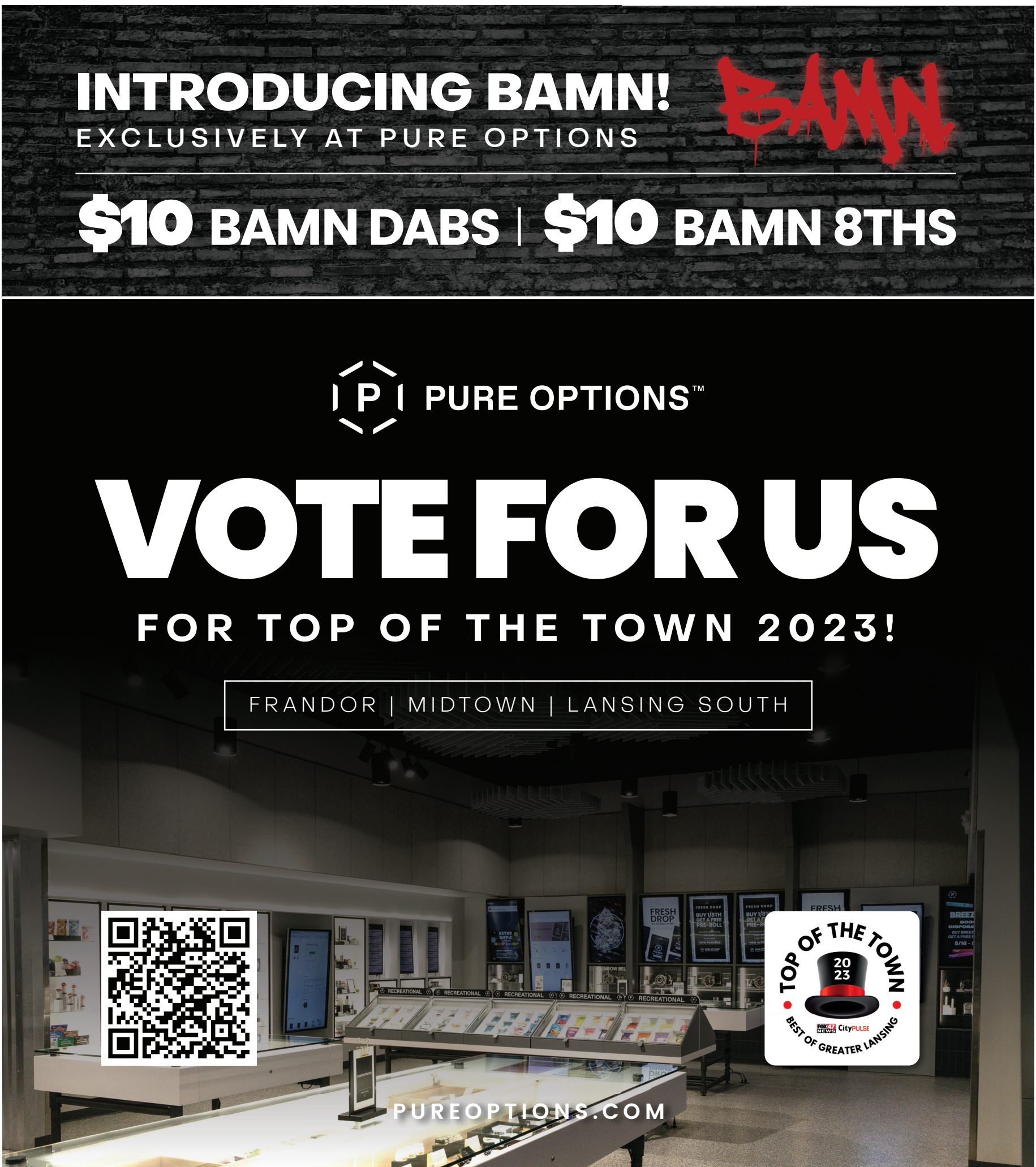
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'A Century of MI Voices for Justice and Peace — and New Directions'

Wednesday, Sept. 27
7 p.m.

Edgewood United Church
469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing



As September wraps up, so does PeaceQuest 2023 programming. One of the final events is a seminar 7 p.m. Wednesday (Sept. 27) covering peace activism in Michigan, "A Century of MI Voices for Justice and Peace — and New Directions."

The two-part program will include a brief review of justice and peace activism throughout the last century in the Lansing area and Michigan as a whole. The Greater Lansing United Nations Association, Peace Education Center and Lansing-Area Advocacy Team for the Friends Committee on National Legislation will present.

William A. "Bill" Root, a 100-year-old Navy veteran of World War II, former U.S. State Department foreign service officer and local activist, will also present a speech titled, "Seeking Justice and Peace in Our Time," in which he will touch on his peace-building journey and share wisdom on ways to avoid war and seek justice and peace.

The seminar is a hybrid event, being offered in person and via Zoom. It is free and open to the public. To register, visit peacequestgreaterlansing.org/events-schedule and click the registration link under the event information.

Events

from page 22

Beginning West Coast Swing Dance Class - 7 p.m. Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. 517-364-8888. sparrow.org/our-hospitals-services/michigan-athletic-club.

Finance Committee - 6 p.m. Laingsburg City Hall, 114 Woodhull St., Laingsburg. laingsburg.us.

"Fitness Over 50" Senior Exercise Group - The Meridian Township Parks and Recreation Stretch and Flex Exercise group exercises at Central Park Pavilion. 9-10 a.m. 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. meridian50plus.com.

Getting to Know Our "Library of Things" - Have fun with STREAM science and explore our "Library of Things." 6 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Higher Ground Enrichment Time - Kids can use the computers, eat snacks and have a great, safe time. 3-6 p.m. Higher Ground Community Development Center, 3637 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. 517-894-1633.

Improv Acting Class - 8:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Inktober Drawing Challenge Kickoff - Those who complete each prompt will be entered into a prize drawing. 4 p.m. Eaton Rapids Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradi.org.

Jazz Dance Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Jump Into Reading - Intended for children ages 0-5 and their caregivers. 11 a.m. Eaton Rapids

Area District Library, 220 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. 517-663-0950. eradi.org.

"Letting Go," by David Hawkins: Book Study with Lucille Olson - 1:30 p.m. Zoom ID: 177 417 886. Passcode: 601744. unitylansing.org.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Ruhala Broadway Ensemble - Learn to excel equally in singing, acting and dance. 5:30 p.m. 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Shiawassee Artists' Guild Presents: "Potpourri" - Noon-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

Tuesday, Oct. 3

Acting 101 Class - 7 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Acting Ensemble Class - 8 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Higher Ground Enrichment Time - Kids can use the computers, eat snacks and have a great, safe time. 3-6 p.m. Higher Ground Community Development Center, 3637 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. 517-894-1633.

Intermediate Ballet Class - 5:30 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Intro to Acting/Improv for Kids - Ages 5-12. 4 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

See Events, Page 27

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SEPTEMBER 30th, 2023
REFRESHMENTS FROM 10AM-2PM

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2023-2024 Season

Sept. 14 - Oct. 22, 2023
A Michigan Premiere!

On the Market

This post-war fixer-upper with sudden naive optimism -- thanks in no small part to her dead husband's final romantic gesture -- comes with a fragile heart, infinite potential, and a wood-burning fireplace... 29 months on the market.

by **Jason Odell Williams**

A 40-something widow still struggling with the loss of the love of her life is pushed into the modern dating scene by her co-worker with disastrous, and comedic, results. A modern, romantic comedy about love, loss and finding your forever home.

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

Talking tripe

A trip to Okemos' Pho 777

By **CHELSEA LAKE ROBERTS**

Fall is the perfect time to slow down and savor the last days of sunshine and temperatures in the 70s. Way out in Meridian Township, fields are turning yellow, farmers are pulling in the last of their harvests, and Pho 777 is serving up perfectly spiced Vietnamese soups to fortify diners against the coming cold.

I've been going to Pho 777 pretty regularly since I first stumbled upon it after a trip out to the Meridian Farmers Market last year. This November will be its first anniversary, and every time I dine in, the place is sparkling clean, with plenty of seating and friendly waitstaff.

As a suburban white woman, I first tried Vietnamese food in my early 20s. I can still remember when one of my friends said, "I just had this amazing thing! We have to go eat it right now. It's indescribable, it's the best thing I've ever

tasted. It's called a banh mi." He pronounced it "ban," rhyming with "Ann."

Although interested, I was initially skeptical about how good a baguette sandwich could really be. But as he watched me take that first fateful bite, and my face turned from shock to surprise, and then from delight to wonder, it was clear that I would become a lifelong lover of Vietnamese food.

Since then, I've been a very lazy connoisseur, and I am especially uncertain when it comes to meat. I mean, I trust enough to eat it. But this week, I've decided to talk tripe as we walk through my favorite pho (so far) in Greater Lansing.

It's the first pho dish on the menu, aptly titled P1 or Pho 777 Special, promising beef bone broth with rice noodles, rare steak, brisket, Vietnamese beef meatballs, tripe and shank. All of the restaurant's soups are served with a generous side of vegetables, including bean sprouts,

cilantro, basil and peppers. Most of the meats are easy to identify. The meatballs are not greasy, the rare steak is thinly sliced and ready to be submerged in hot broth, and those little white strings of tripe are floating around, just waiting to be chewed up. Beef tripe is the lining of a cow's stomach. It doesn't pack a punch of flavor, but it's high in protein, low in calories and boasts plenty of vitamins like iron, zinc, selenium and magnesium. It's also rich in vitamin B12. Only one

caution: It's high in cholesterol. Cultures around the world eat tripe, typically in spiced soups and stews, and it's often combined with more zesty foods.

The ratio of meat, noodles and vegetables is especially important in pho, and Pho 777 provides generous, balanced servings of everything. Just a few bites of tripe will help nourish your soul — and your probable anemia — as we head into this colder season and the second year of a lovely local restaurant.



Pho 777 Special

\$16.61

Pho 777

4758 Marsh Road, Okemos

11 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday

517-897-7182

pho777okemos.com



Chelsea Lake Roberts for City Pulse

Pho 777 is serving up perfectly spiced Vietnamese soups, like its Pho 777 Special, to fortify diners against the coming cold.

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN GREATER LANSING AS DECIDED BY CITY PULSE READERS

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2022 Top of the Town contest. Bon appétit!

TOP 5 NON-CHAIN MEXICAN RESTAURANTS

1. Pablo's Old Town

Informal Mexican restaurant offering classic taqueria fare and outdoor seating options
311 E. César E. Chávez Ave., Lansing
517-372-0887

pablosrestaurants.com

9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday
9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday

2. Acapulco Mexican Grill

Familiar Mexican dishes are given typical American makeovers at this relaxed and colorful restaurant
Multiple locations — visit acapulcomexgrill.com for locations, hours and phone numbers

3. El Azteco West

South-of-the-border cafe with carefully sourced ingredients, scratch cooking and patio seating
1016 W. Saginaw St., Lansing
517-485-4589
elaztecowest.com

11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday
Noon-8:30 p.m. Sunday

4. Pancho's Taqueria

Food truck turned brick-and-mortar eatery offering tacos, burritos and other Mexican staples

936 Elmwood Road, Lansing
517-708-8743
panchoslansing.com
11 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday

5. Taqueria El Chaparrito

Authentic Mexican restaurant serving a variety of a-la-carte options and larger plates
4832 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
517-574-3020
taqueriaelchapparito.com

10 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday
10 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Sunday

Vote for your favorite restaurants in the 2023 Top of the Town contest!

Welcome Back to The Airport Tavern!

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Buy one entree Get

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(517) 321-3852

**CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF REGISTRATION
FOR THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023 ELECTION**

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing:
Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold an Election on Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

For the purpose of electing candidates to the following offices:

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

For the purpose of voting on the following proposal:

City: Lansing City Charter General Revision

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 124 W. Michigan Ave., 9th Floor, Lansing, MI 48933, telephone: (517) 483-4131.

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

The last day to register in any manner other than in-person with the Lansing City Clerk's Office is **Monday, October 23, 2023**.

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

Location	Address	Regular Business Hours September 28 – November 3
Lansing City Clerk – City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933	Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm
Lansing City Clerk – Election Unit	2500 S Washington Ave Lansing, MI 48910	Mon – Fri 8am – 5pm Wednesdays 8am – 7pm

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

Location	Address	Additional Hours
Lansing City Clerk – City Hall	124 W Michigan Ave Lansing, MI 48933	Monday November 6 8am – 4pm Election Day November 7 7am – 8pm
Lansing City Clerk – Election Unit	2500 S Washington Ave Lansing, MI 48910	Monday November 6 8am – 4pm Saturday October 28 1pm – 4pm Saturday November 4 11am – 5pm Sunday November 5 11am – 5pm Election Day November 7 7am – 8pm

ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

Any registered voter may request an Absent Voter Ballot. No reason required. The Lansing City Clerk's Office must have an application to issue an Absent Voter Ballot. Applications are available at the locations referenced in the above tables or by visiting our website at lansingvotes.gov. Friday, November 3, 2023 at 5:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot be mailed to you. Monday, November 6, 2023 at 4:00 pm is the deadline to request an absentee ballot in person except for those who register to vote on Election Day. Ballots issued on Monday, November 6, 2023 must be requested and voted in person at the Lansing City Clerk's Office, locations referenced in the above table. Those registering to vote on Election Day, Tuesday, November 7, 2023, are eligible to receive an absent voter ballot at the Lansing City Clerk's Office, locations referenced in the above table.

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

CP#23-253

A unique and tasty take on pork



By METRO CREATIVE CONNECTION

Few foods boast the versatility of pork. It can be grilled, smoked, slow-cooked, fried or baked, and professional and amateur chefs alike know there's no end to recipes where pork is the main attraction.

Cultures across the globe feature pork in their native cuisines, which means it's possible to go anywhere in the world

and enjoy a new and delicious pork dish. This recipe for matambre de cerdo, or stuffed pork tenderloin, from James Campbell Caruso's "España: Exploring the Flavors of Spain," showcases a Spanish take on pork. The recipe might provide insight into Spanish cuisine for those who have never been to Spain, while those who have might be instantly transported back to southwestern Europe with their first delicious bite.

Matambre de cerdo

Serves four

- 2 pork tenderloins, trimmed of fat
- Salt and pepper
- 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 yellow onion, diced
- 4 cloves garlic, slivered
- 1/2 cup finely diced jamón serrano
- 4 cups diced mushrooms
- 2 tablespoons chopped parsley
- 1 tablespoon chopped sage
- 1/2 cup Spanish white wine

Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Open the tenderloins with a full-length cut that goes about three-fourths of the way through the meat. Flatten out the

tenderloin and season it on both sides with salt and pepper. Set aside.

Heat the olive oil in a skillet and sauté the onion and garlic on medium heat for 12 minutes. Add the jamón, mushrooms, parsley and sage and continue cooking for 20 minutes. Add the wine and cook for five more minutes.

Remove from heat and allow to cool. Spread the mixture over the flattened tenderloin. Roll the tenderloin around the filling and set it on a sheet pan with the seam side down. Roast in the oven for 25 minutes. Remove from the oven and cut into 1-inch slices. Serve two slices per plate.

Appetizers

**WANT YOUR RESTAURANT LISTED?
CALL 517-999-5064**



El Oasis
2501 E. Michigan Ave.
Lansing
(517) 648-7693
elosisfood.com

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Lansing
(517) 580-4400
meatbbq.com

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Award winning BBQ. Ribs, French fry bar, chili, sides including BBQ pit baked beans, mac n' cheese. 18 rotating taps of craft, Michigan made beers. Craft cocktails. We cater, too.

Events

from page 24

LAGE Game Night East - 6:30-11 p.m. The Junction, 410 S. Clippert St., Lansing. meetup.com/lansing/events.

LAGE Game Night West - 6:30-11 p.m. Frank's Press Box, 7216 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. meetup.com/lansing/events.

Level I Dance Class - Introduction to theater dance using ballet, tap and jazz. Ages 5-8. 4:45 p.m. Ruhala Performing Arts Center, 1846 Haslett Road, East Lansing. 517-337-0464. ruhalacenter.com.

Mid-Michigan Art Guild FALL MEMBER ART SHOW - 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. midmichiganartguild.org.

Organic Yoga with Maja McKeever - 6 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. 269-762-3189. unitylansing.org.

Preschool Family Storytime - Join us for stories, songs and a simple craft! Ages 1-6. 11 a.m. Grand

Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-627-7014. gladl.org.

Shiawassee Artists' Guild Presents: "Potpourri" - 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Framers' Edge, 1856 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. 517-347-7400. framersedge.net.

StressBusters: Positive Mental Health for Kids - 3 p.m. session for ages 3-6 and caregivers, 4 p.m. sessions for ages 7-10 and 11-14. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. 517-346-8094. gladl.org.

THE PULSIFIEDS

A Gun Buyback will be held Sat., Oct. 7 in the parking lot at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Dr., Lansing, from 11AM until the money is gone. \$100 cash paid for pistols and shotguns, \$200 for rifles. Limit of two per person. Guns must be unloaded, in your trunk, and in working order.

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Antojitos Mexicanos
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100 Anniversary
East Lansing Public Library
More info: elpl.org

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Refresher*
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Miracle Cure*
Organic apple, organic red beet, organic carrot, organic kale, organic lemon, ground turmeric

Better Health MARKET
BetterHealthMarket.com

LANSING
6235 West Saginaw Hwy
517-323-9186
Hours: Mon-Sat: 9am -8pm
Sun: 11am-6pm

EAST LANSING (FRANDOR)
305 N Clippert Ave
Across from Frandor Mall
517-332-6892
Hours: Mon-Sat: 8am-9pm
Sun: 10am-7pm

THANK YOU FOR VOTING US THE BEST!

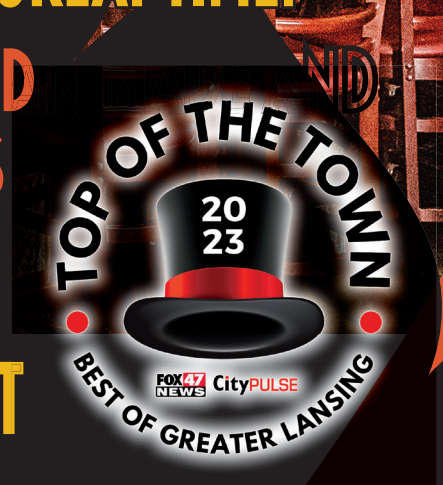


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