

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION



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Advertiser: Michigan Dept of State

Date of order: January 16, 2025

This is to certify that the Public Notice scheduled to run in the newspaper listed ran as the placement details below and proof of publication is attached.

Newspaper Name: Kalamazoo Gazette

Run Date	Ad Size	Caption/Position/Special Instructions
2/2/2025	2 col. X 19.5"	Public Notice

Signed by *Diana Davis* (MP1/MANSI Representative)
February 2, 2025

Notary Public:
Signed by *James R. Tarrant* (Notary Public)
February 2, 2025

JAMES R. TARRANT
NOTARY PUBLIC – STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF VAN BUREN
My commission expires April 12, 2029
Acting in the County of Ingham

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Newspaper Name: Marquette Mining Journal

Run Date	Ad Size	Caption/Position/Special Instructions
2/1/2025	2 col. X 19.5"	Public Notice

Signed by *Diana Davis* (MP1/MANSI Representative)
February 1, 2025

Notary Public:
Signed by *James R. Tarrant* (Notary Public)
February 1, 2025

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NOTARY PUBLIC – STATE OF MICHIGAN
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Newspaper Name: Midland Daily News

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LOCAL

LOCAL EATS PORTAGE

Burger, malt shop places emphasis on affordability



The double cheeseburger meal will cost you only \$9.99 at Lee's Burgers and Malts in Portage. Photos by Devin Anderson-Torrez, MLive.com



Luis Cardova rings up an order at Lee's, where malts and burgers are the stars.



The restaurant, which opened Tuesday, is family-owned and operated.

Lee's Burgers and Malts has been busy in its first week.

Devin Anderson-Torrez
danderson-torrez@mlive.com

A new burger and malt spot opened this week offering affordable meals to the Portage community's tastebuds.

Lee's Burgers and Malts is located at 5234 Portage Road, the original location of Turbo Chicken.

It is a family-owned-and-operated business, between Lee and Sarah Soma, their son, Rohit, and partner Luis Cordova.

The group also owns multiple Subways in the Kalamazoo area, including one across the street.

They've been in business throughout Kalamazoo for over 20 years.

Rohit Soma saw the location for sale and a light bulb went off.

"I was tired of going places and paying \$20 for a meal," Rohit said. "I got to give the people a good burger meal for cheap."

Thus, Lee's Burgers and Malts was born.

REIMAGINING THE SPACE

Before opening, the restaurant was completely remodeled inside with new white paint and a big Lee's logo on the wall. Neon lights glow, reminiscent of diners from the days of old.

In addition to cosmetic repairs, the restaurant also has all-new kitchen equipment.

A CLASSIC MENU

Rohit Soma helped design the Lee's menu to be an "all-around American classic," he said. Of course, the malts and burgers highlight the menu.

The malts cost \$4.29 and are served as chocolate, vanilla or strawberry.

Lee's also does specials — at the time of opening, the special was a sweet mango malt.

A cheeseburger, served with fries or tots and a drink, is \$6.99. A double cheeseburger meal is \$9.99.

Lee's also serves chicken sandwiches, veggie burgers, wings, fish sandwiches, ribs, shrimp dinners and more.

The restaurant opened on Tuesday. The first day was busy because of their attention to quality, Soma said, though it did make the meals come out slower. The team is finding its footing and pacing.

"Just because it's affordable doesn't mean we skip on quality," Soma said. "We have brioche buns and fresh meat that we pack into patties every day. We're for the people."

STORE HOURS

Lee's Burgers and Malts is open six days a week, from Monday to Saturday. It's open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., except Thursdays and Fridays, when it's open until 11 p.m.

The family is excited for their new restaurant to be part of the Portage community. It already has customers, despite not doing any paid advertising.

"We weren't expecting it to be so busy, but everyone's really been supporting us," Soma said. "It's amazing."

TRAVEL

Airline to introduce first-class service from Kalamazoo to Chicago

Ryan Boldrey
rboldrey@mlive.com

Travelers will soon have the option to fly first class between Kalamazoo and Chicago on American Airlines' large, dual-class Embraer 170 aircrafts.

Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International Airport (AZO) announced Wednesday that the airline will operate the dual-class aircraft on all daily flights between AZO and Chicago O'Hare, beginning June 5.

American's E170s feature 65 seats with 12 in first class and 53 in the main cabin. Of the 53 seats in the main cabin, 20 are considered main cabin extra seats, which offer additional legroom. Streaming entertainment and Wi-Fi will also be offered on board as travelers fly back and forth between O'Hare and AZO.

"American Airlines is a valued part-

ner with our airport, and we are pleased with this upgrade in service in southwest Michigan," stated Craig Williams, Airport Director in a news release. "We appreciate American Airlines' continued confidence in Kalamazoo and are excited to provide our passengers with enhanced amenities, increased seating options, and more that comes with the addition of this larger aircraft."

Upgrading to the larger E170 aircraft to and from Chicago will provide travelers with an additional 22,000 roundtrip annual seats, the release stated.

American and its partners connect AZO travelers with one stop to more than 150 domestic and international destinations via Chicago.

American's flights are available for booking at www.aa.com and through American's mobile app.

Department of State
Elections & Campaign Finance
Administrative Rules For:

Gifts Under the Lobby Act
Rule Set 2024-48 ST

Disqualification from Ballot Based Upon
Contents of Affidavit of Identity
Rule Set 2024-63 ST

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Tuesday, March 18, 2025
09:30 AM

Public Meeting Room A
Delta Charter Township, 7710 W. Saginaw
Highway, Lansing, Michigan, 48917

The Department of State will hold a public hearing to receive public comments on proposed changes to:

The Gifts Under the Lobby Act rule set.

The proposed rules are intended to codify two interpretive statements issued on August 8, 2024, addressing gifting under the Lobbyists, Lobbying Agents, and Lobbying Activities Act, 1978 PA 472, MCL 4.411 to 4.431. These rules will provide additional explanation about the Act's regulation of gifts from lobbyists and their agents to public officials in order to provide clarity to lobbyists, lobbyist agents, and public officials.

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Elections-PublicComment@michigan.gov.

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Elections-PublicComment@michigan.gov.

Comments on these proposed rules may be made at the hearing, by mail, or by electronic mail at the following addresses until 3/18/2025 at 05:00PM.

Bureau of Elections
P.O. Box 20126, Lansing, Michigan,
48901-0726
Elections-PublicComment@michigan.gov

The public hearing will be conducted in compliance with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act. If the hearing is held at a physical location, the building will be accessible with handicap parking available. Anyone needing assistance to take part in the hearing due to disability may call 517-335-3234 to make arrangements.

Local

New at Peter White Public Library

The Interpretation of Cats: Understanding the Psychology of Our Feline Companions by Claude Beata, is an eye-opening book on the behavior of our feline companions. Written by a French veterinary psychiatrist with decades of experience researching cat behaviors, Beata offers clues to understanding a range of disorders that are known to affect humans but also affect cats. This can include conditions such as schizophrenia, anxiety, and depression. The book offers practical tips for identifying possible causes of behaviors

in cats using real cases from his own veterinary experiences. Common issues of aggression and litter box problems are addressed with tips on how to handle these kinds of scenarios. **The Swedish Art of Aging Exuberantly** by Margareta Magnusson, is part of The Swedish Art of Living & Dying Series. Magnusson's book The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning became an international best seller for introducing the world to the idea of cleaning out your "stuff" to save others the hassle of doing it after your time has passed.

Aging Exuberantly focuses on prioritizing what is important so you can live each day to its absolute fullest. Everyone experiences the process of growing older, but Magnusson balances the difficult things we must accept with some of the joys that can come with growing older. The message is clear — let go of what doesn't matter, appreciate the beauty that surrounds us, hug your loved ones tight, and enjoy the ride of life. **Rebel Girl: My Life as a Feminist Punk** is a memoir by musician and visual artist Kathleen Hanna. She

is well known as the front woman of pioneering feminist punk band Bikini Kill and post-riot grrrl music and art project Le Tigre. Hanna details her tumultuous childhood, college years, music career, and perhaps most poignantly, her evolution as an icon of a cultural movement. Her stories are as raw as her music, giving the reader a glimpse into her life as she navigates the burgeoning music scenes of the 80s and 90s with friends like Kurt Cobain, Joan Jet, Ian MacKaye, and Ad Rock (whom she later marries).

She documents the hard times, including her battle with late-stage Lyme Disease, along with the joyful times, as she continues to find her voice creating art that is raw and honest. **The Ministry of Time** by Kaliane Bradley is a story of time travel and unlikely romance. The story follows a civil servant early on in her career with the British government. After being offered a promotion and a hefty pay raise, she discovers her new position as a "bridge" is to acclimate one of a handful of time traveling "expats" who were plucked from history and brought into the future as part of a top-secret government project.

She is assigned to Commander Graham Gore, who was slated for death on a doomed Arctic expedition in 1847. The two spend countless hours living together as Gore is taught how to exist and participate in modern day life, but his adventurous nature and charming ways are not diminished. By the time the government project begins to unravel, the bridge has fallen wildly in love with the expat. Complications ensue and choices must be made that will affect both the present and the future.

*By Melissa Matuscak Alan
Circulation
Department Head*

Should Sundance stay in Utah? State leaders and locals rally to keep the independent film festival

By HANNAH SCHOENBAUM
Associated Press
PARK CITY, Utah — With the 2025 Sundance Film Festival underway, Utah leaders, locals and longtime attendees are making a final push — that could include paying millions of dollars — to keep the world-renowned film festival as its directors consider uprooting. Thousands of festivalgoers affixed bright yellow stickers to their winter coats that read "Keep Sundance in Utah" in a last-ditch effort to convince festival leadership and state officials to keep it in Park City, its home of 41 years.

Cincinnati approved a resolution allocating \$2.5 million to Sundance if festival leaders relocate to southwest Ohio. Yet money may not be the ultimate draw. Sundance leaders say the festival has outgrown the ski town it helped put on the map decades ago, and they worry it has developed an air of exclusivity that takes the focus away from the films. An ideal home would make Sundance more centralized, affordable and accessible to all who appreciate independent film. Some festivalgoers and industry leaders worry Sundance would lose its identity outside its idyllic mountain hometown.

Roger and Carin Ehrenberg, major donors to the festival, said they would stop attending regularly if the festival was outside Utah. Sundance is a "magical experience" for the New York City philanthropists, they said, due in large part to the atmosphere in Park City. "If it goes to Cincinnati, maybe once in a blue moon we would go, but it wouldn't be a regular thing," Carin Ehrenberg said. "For us, it'll lose its appeal." The couple said they would likely continue to donate even if they did not attend. Nineteen years of fond memories at Sundance helped inspire Dr. Rhonda Taubin to relocate her family from Atlanta to Heber City — Park City's neighboring town. She has no ties to the film industry but has become a fervent advocate for keeping the festival in her new home state.



Attendees of the 2025 Sundance Film Festival hold up "Keep Sundance in Utah" stickers on Main Street in Park City, Utah on Jan. 24. (AP photo)

Gov. Spencer Cox said previously that Utah would not throw as much money at the festival as other states hoping to lure it away. Now his office is urging the Legislature to carve out \$3 million for Sundance in the state budget, weeks before the independent film festival is expected to pick a home for the next decade. It could retain a small presence in picturesque Park City and center itself in nearby Salt Lake City, or move to another finalist — Cincinnati, Ohio, or Boulder, Colorado — beginning in 2027. "Sundance is Utah, and Utah is Sundance. You can't really separate those two," Cox said. "This is your home, and we desperately hope it will be your home forever." Festival Director Eugene Hernandez told reporters last week that they had not made a final decision. An announcement is expected this year by early spring. Colorado is trying to further sweeten its offer. The state is considering legislation giving up to \$34 million in tax incentives to film festivals like Sundance through 2036 — on top of the \$1.5 million in funds already approved to lure the Utah festival to its neighboring state.

"I think that Sundance has more to do with the spirit and community, and I think that's evergreen," Thompson said. "Regardless of where Sundance is, Sundance will always be."

Cooper, who led the festival from 2009 to 2020, said he would be sad to see Sundance shift away from actor and filmmaker Robert Redford's original vision. Its very name comes from Redford's character in the 1969 film "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid." "I felt like my role was to be a keeper of the flame for Robert Redford and his legacy," Cooper told The Associated Press. "The mountains of Utah, this was his vision. It's weird to say 'Sundance in Ohio.' But I think it could go anywhere. What it does for a community is so strong." On the red carpet this week, many were split on whether Sundance should stay or go. Actor Elijah Wood urged the festival to remain in Park City, saying the location is part of its DNA. Others were open to it relocating. Actor Tessa Thompson, who serves on the Sundance Institute's board of trustees, said the festival could maintain its identity in a new city.

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P.O. Box 20126, Lansing, Michigan, 48901-0726
Elections-PublicComment@michigan.gov

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CRIME LOG

Deputies confirm Edenville Twp. woman victim of fraud

The following list includes recent reports from the Midland County Sheriff's Office and the Midland Police Department, compiled by reporter Tereasa Nims.

Thursday, Jan. 30

8:53 p.m. — Deputies received a report of a possible fraud involving a 65-year-old Edenville Township woman. Deputies spoke with the woman and determined that a fraud did occur. The woman only wanted the information documented at this time.

8:26 p.m. — Police were dispatched to a suspicious situation in the 1300 block of Ellys Lane.

7:03 p.m. — Police were called to a property damage complaint at N. Saginaw and Eastman.

6:59 p.m. — A deputy was dispatched to a Lee Township residence for an incident that occurred in another county. The deputy advised the 60-year-old man to contact the county in which the incident occurred or Michigan State Police.

5:22 p.m. — Police responded to an animal bite

in the 3000 block of Saginaw Road.

3:24 p.m. — A Midland County Animal Control deputy received a complaint regarding a dead dog on Curtis Road in Edenville Township. The owner could not be identified. The dog's body was turned over to the Humane Society of Midland County.

Tereasa Nims is a cops and courts reporter with the Midland Daily News. She can be reached at Tereasa.Nims@hearstnp.com



Tereasa Nims/Daily News

Logan Gerard was arrested following his sentencing in Midland County Circuit Court on Thursday.

GERARD

From page A1

Prosecutor Joey Amend followed Konesko's statement by saying that he used to partake in motor sports but no longer does because he worries about hurting other people. He added that Gerard was racing toward the crowd at full throttle, which was reckless and not sportsmanlike.

Gerard's attorney, Stephen Durance, told the judge it was a fun activity with friends, and they were all enjoying it before the crash. Durance said Gerard is remorseful and regrets what happened. He also said Gerard hasn't had any opportunity for closure with Konesko because of no-contact orders.

Durance said his client

was willing to serve the 93 days in jail, which is the jail punishment for a misdemeanor crime, to prove his commitment to the situation.

"I'm really sorry this happened," Gerard said. "I know we were all close before this. I'm hoping one day you can forgive me."

Carras said Gerard told police the brakes and steering in his side-by-side were not working.

"No, they were working fine," Carras said. "You weren't working."

"Ninety-three days in jail in no way pays for what you did," Carras said.

"Ms. Konesko here is missing part of her leg. She has to live with that the rest of her life," the judge said. "You have been carrying on with life. She has not. She's been going to medical appointments."

In an earlier interview, Konesko said she remembers seeing bright lights, then being hit by a side-by-side and pinned against a parked side-by-side. She remembered lots of blood and seeing her legs in a "pretzel" shape. Her fiancé, Jake Wallace, suffered a concussion and nerve damage to his back in the same accident.

Konesko agreed to Gerard pleading to the two misdemeanor charges. She said it was an option that ensured he would be punished.

Her hope is that Gerard truly understands what he did and the damage he caused.

Tereasa Nims is a cops and courts reporter with the Midland Daily News. She can be reached at Tereasa.Nims@hearstnp.com

VOTERS

From page A1

one's fundamental right to vote and this is all just based on if they can prove their citizenship," she said.

Brixie said she is concerned that the mandate would restrict citizens' ability to vote.

"They're trying to make it so that the Secretary of State has to un-register thousands, tens of thousands of people to vote if certain things happen" Brixie said.

The proposal stems from the case of a Chinese student at the University of Michigan who was able to vote despite not being a U.S. citizen.

Supporters argue that the current system is vulnerable to noncitizens voting, while critics argue that Michigan and other states have had few election fraud cases involving noncitizens.

The lead sponsor of the resolution, Republican Rep. Bryan Posthumus of Rockford, said, "Even under this constitutional amendment, it'll still be easier to vote than it is to

shop at Costco."

Posthumus said he worries that election integrity has declined in recent years.

"There's just as much evidence showing that there is voter fraud as there is evidence that there's no voter fraud," Posthumus said. "The point is we don't know. All we know is that there is a loophole in our election system right now and we can close that loophole very easily."

In a press release, House Republicans said, "This is a no-brainer. Only U.S. citizens should vote in our elections."

Kyle Zawacki is the legislative director for the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan, said the requirement would make it more difficult to vote.

"Nationally we've seen some research saying that this could impact up to 9% of eligible voters," Zawacki said. "The amount that this would impact in Michigan of our voting population could be as high as 700,000 people."

Critics also argue that some voters would not be able to provide the docu-

ments that would be required to vote, such as a birth certificate.

"There's also time that's involved in it. There's access to documents. There's issues with folks that may not be able to access documents because it's either lost in a fire or in different states or different counties," Zawacki said.

There was record turnout of more than 5.6 million voters across the state during the November 2024 election, according to the Secretary of State's Office.

Similar legislation has been enacted in Kansas and Arizona, according to the ACLU. In Kansas, it was struck down by a court, and in Arizona it was upheld but only for state and local elections.

"These massive restrictions and hoops would need to be jumped through by legal voters because of a handful" of cases. "The juice isn't worth that squeeze," Zawacki said.

The resolution is expected to pass in the Republican-led House but fail in the Democratic-controlled Senate.

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