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CityPULSE

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September 16-22, 2015

HEROIN

HITS HOME

ERIC PAVONA HAD THE WORLD IN HIS HANDS WHEN HE GRADUATED FROM OKEMOS HIGH SCHOOL. THEN HE PUT A NEEDLE IN HIS ARM. P. 9

ECKERT ON THE EDGE
BWL SEEKS EXPERTS TO PLAN SHUTDOWN, P. 5

PAINT THE TOWN BLUE
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1.) Write a letter to the editor:

- E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
- Fax: (517) 371-5800

2.) Write a guest column:

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061

(Please include your name, address and telephone number so we can reach you. Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. City Pulse reserves the right to edit letters and columns.)



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Link: MSU out of step on speakers' fees



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Exhibit remembers Mel Leiserowitz



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Ralph Votapek takes on Gershwin



COVER ART

BY JONATHAN GRIFFITH

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, October 7, 2015**, beginning at 7:00 p.m., in the 54 B District Court, Courtroom 1, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

A public hearing will be held to consider a variance request from Northern Home Improvement for the property at 1831 Bramble Drive, in the R-1, Low Density Single-Family Residential, from the following requirement of Chapter 50 - Zoning Code of the City of East Lansing:

Article VIII. Section 50-144, to permit an approximate 3.5 feet encroachment on the side yard required set back where a 2 feet encroachment is allowed.

The applicant would like to install an egress window on the side of the house as a part of a basement remodel.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All persons interested in these appeals will be given an opportunity to be heard.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services should write or call the Department of Planning, Building and Development, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823. Phone: (517) 319-6930. TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777.

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#15_233

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Key Home Partners, LLC for the property at 604 Sunset Lane to replace 32 of the 38 existing single-hung windows. The windows will match the style of existing wood windows. A notice to proceed is being requested to demolish the attached garage and rebuild a detached carport. The applicant is also seeking approval to side over the existing red plywood siding.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon request received by the City seven (7) calendar days prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring aids or services should write or call the Planning Department, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823. Phone: (517) 319-6930. TDD Number: 1-800-649-3777.

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#15-229

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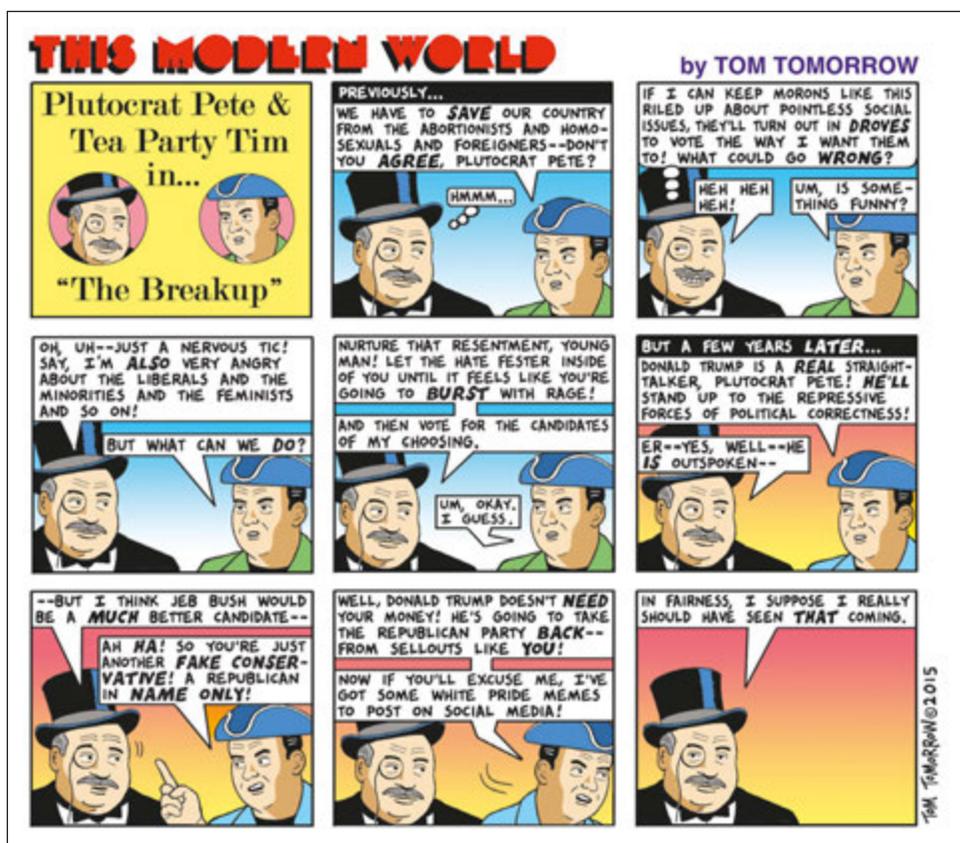
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



Plutocrat Pete & Tea Party Tim in... **"The Breakup"**

PREVIOUSLY...
WE HAVE TO **SAVE** OUR COUNTRY FROM THE ABORTIONISTS AND HOMOSEXUALS AND FOREIGNERS--DON'T YOU **AGREE**, PLUTOCRAT PETE?

HMMM...

HEH HEH HEH! UM, IS SOMETHING FUNNY?

OH, UM--JUST A NERVOUS TIC! SAY, I'M ALSO VERY ANGRY ABOUT THE LIBERALS AND THE MINORITIES AND THE FEMINISTS AND SO ON!

NURTURE THAT RESENTMENT, YOUNG MAN! LET THE HATE FEETER INSIDE OF YOU UNTIL IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO **BURST** WITH RAGE!

BUT A FEW YEARS LATER...
DONALD TRUMP IS A REAL STRAIGHT-TALKER, PLUTOCRAT PETE! HE'LL STAND UP TO THE REPRESSIVE FORCES OF POLITICAL CORRECTNESS!

ER--YES, WELL--HE IS OUTSPOKEN--

AND THEN VOTE FOR THE CANDIDATES OF MY CHOOSING.

UM, OKAY. I GUESS.

--BUT I THINK JEB BUSH WOULD BE A MUCH BETTER CANDIDATE--

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AH HA! SO YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER **FAKE CONSERVATIVE!** A REPUBLICAN IN NAME ONLY!

NOW IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'VE GOT SOME WHITE PRIDE MEMES TO POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

TOM TOMORROW © 2015

Post-Eckert dilemma BWL faces questions over shuttering aging power plant

Officials at the Lansing Board of Water & Light started hunting last week for two Lansing residents to serve on an advisory committee that is charged with brainstorming new electricity-generation options as its nearly 60-year-old coal-fired power plants heads toward decommission in four years or less.

The two volunteers will serve on a committee with seven other experts, all of whom BWL will announce next month. They will make recommendations that influence the fate and price of the city and nearby communities' electricity, after Lansing shuttered the Eckert power plant amid tighter environmental regulations and the challenge of running an aging plant on a floodplain.

Neither BWL nor the city has released specific details that could answer lingering questions about Lansing's post-Eckert power dilemma: What that replacement would be, or how much it might cost, and what it means for ratepayers.

That's all up to the committee, said BWL spokesman Stephen Serkaian.

"Essentially the options include building a new replacement plant, buying energy off of the grid, or increased use of renewable energy like solar and wind," Serkaian said.

The BWL is looking for what it calls a "diverse" group of people to decide which of those options the utility will end up going with.

According to a statement from the BWL, the volunteers are being pulled from various sectors to form a committee that has a collective "knowledge of the energy industry, the region's power needs and experience as BWL customers."

Together, they'll lead seven public meetings stretching from October to February. After that, committee members will present their recommendation for replacing the power that Eckert generates. (Applications from those interested in serving should be submitted to the BWL by today.)

An Aging Plant and New Regulations

As power plants age, they become costlier and less efficient, said Joe Nipper, a spokesman for the American Public Power Association, which represents about 2,000 municipal power plants (including Eckert) across the country. About 35 percent of the power these municipal plants produce comes from coal-fired facilities, many of them aging.

"It becomes more costly to maintain, you find it difficult to find parts, etc.," Nipper said.

At the Eckert station, for example, Serkaian said the utility finds it difficult to locate spare parts for the generator and boiler units, in particular.

But Nipper said a well-maintained power plant can keep running for a long time.

And many of them do, especially considering the economic incentive for communities to keep them producing at least as long as it takes to recoup the cost of the municipal bonds that most public bodies issue to raise the capital for constructing a power plant, Nipper said.

Eckert pumps out about 69 percent of the power that it did in its heyday. The six coal-powered electric-generating units once supplied about 420 megawatts of power, according to city documents. Now, it's capable of a 290-megawatt output.



Photo by Paul R. Kucher

The power station — which has three smokestacks locally known as Wynken, Blynken and Nod — supplied power to Lansing as early as the 1920s.

Eckert was upgraded in the 1950s and 1970s, when the Erickson plant, which produces 156 megawatts of power, was also constructed. Most of the city's electric assets have been the same ones Lansing has used for more than four de-

acades, according to city documents.

Eckert still supplies power to portions of the city that Lansing officials consider critical, like one-third of the power that downtown Lansing and the surrounding area use. That includes power that goes to the General Motors Lansing Grand River Plant.

"Without electrical generation at Eckert, downtown Lansing is one contingency from failure," the meeting minutes from an August BWL Board of Commissioners' meeting said.

According to the same minutes, finding a replacement for the power that Eckert generates will mean an "unprecedented level of work for the next seven to 10 years," posing "a challenge to human resources."

Lansing isn't the only city facing the challenges of generating power from old plants.

By 2020, 25 other coal units in the state will be retired too, Valerie Brader, the executive director of the Michigan Agency for Energy, told a Senate committee on Thursday.

Those plants are slated for decommission regardless of whether new proposed regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency become codified; those proposed regulations would dramatically slash the amount of carbon dioxide that power-generation stations can pump into the atmo-



Property: 615 N. Capitol Ave. (Mourer-Foster Insurance), Lansing
Owner: John T. Foster

At first glance, it is the obvious things that draw one's eye to this elaborate building. The fluted Corinthian columns and pilasters on the front portico and the multi-colored woodwork on the third floor dormers are immediately obvious. The craftsmanship is carried on to smaller details like leaded glass in the fanlight and sidelights or the beveled glass in the front doors.

These notable details continue within on the curved door and lintel that follow the walls in the oval-shaped meeting room and the ornate plaster moulding running through the building. The aptly named Nautical Room recalls a ship's cabin, finished with oak panels and curved beams.

This attention to detail is testimony to the owner's fondness for the building. Numerous restoration and redesign projects have been undertaken since the building was rescued from neglect in 1977. When an adjacent building was demolished, the owner salvaged bird's-eye maple trim for reuse here. Foster even commissioned a custom wood table, designed to echo the dentilled moulding in the conference room.

Lansing architect Samuel Dana Butterworth designed the Colonial Revival building in 1912 for William H. Newbrough, an officer in the New Way Motor Co.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

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

BWL

from page 5

sphere.

Environmentalists and many Democrats lauded the regulations as a step toward seriously combating climate change.

The pending clean air regulation would limit the amount of carbon dioxide — a major greenhouse gas — plants like Eckert can shoot into the atmosphere.

But many conservatives are critical because they say it would end up increasing operation costs as plants are either forced to install new parts to mitigate pollution or shut down completely.

Officials at BWL say other new environmental regulations are partly to blame for the scheduled Eckert closure, though its age and the fact that it's located on a 100-year-floodplain are also significant factors.

"Reasons (for the decommission) included the changing landscape of federal and state coal regulations, difficulty in maintaining a plant that is nearly 60 years old and because the plant is located in a 100-year floodplain," Serkaian said.

— Michael Gerstein



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The meaning of yes Hertel bill seeks to educate high schoolers on sexual consent

One in five college-age women have experienced sexual assault, according to a Washington Post/Kaiser Family Foundation poll released in June. Five percent of the college-age men polled reported having been sexually assaulted.

These sober statistics spurred state Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr., D-East Lansing, to introduce legislation Tuesday that would fundamentally change the way sexual consent is taught in high school sex education programs.

Consent and a lack of understanding of what it means, Hertel and others argue, are at the core of the increasing number of reported incidents of sexual assault on college and university campuses locally and across the country.

"In my time with the East Lansing Police Department, I have seen a scary trend unfold," Lt. Det. Scott Wrigglesworth said at a press conference at the Hannah Center announcing the measure. "A lot of students simply do not know what consent looks and sounds like."

Indeed that same poll found that 46 percent said it's unclear whether sexual assault occurs if both people have not given clear agreement. Forty-seven percent called that scenario sexual assault.

In interviews with City Pulse earlier this month, some college students had a general understanding that no meant no when it came to consent, but those distinct lines blurred when the questions became more direct relating to rescinding consent during sexual activity or what if any role drugs or alcohol might play in relation to sexual consent.

"The last thing we should be worried about when our children go to college it

"The last thing we should be worried about when our children go to college it that they will be the victim of sexual assault."

— State Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr.



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr., D-East Lansing (left), unveils legislation to require "consent" education in Michigan high schools, joined by Lt. Detective Scott Wrigglesworth of the East Lansing Police Department and Rep. Tom Cochran, D-Mason for a press conference Tuesday at the Hannah Community Center.

that they will be the victim of sexual assault," Hertel said.

His bill is modeled on legislation signed into law last year in California. It requires that schools "teach pupils that in order for consent to be given by both

parties to sexual activity it must be affirmative consent and that 'affirmative consent' means affirmative, conscious, and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity."

"It is the responsibility of each individual involved in the sexual activity to ensure that he or she has the affirmative consent of the other or others to engage in sexual activity; that lack of protest or resistance does not mean consent, and that silence does not mean consent; that affirmative consent must be ongoing through-

out a sexual activity and can be revoked at any time; and that the existence of a dating relationship between the persons involved, or the fact of past sexual relations between them, should by itself be assumed to be an indicator of consent," the measure's language states.

The legislation would also specify that consent cannot be given if one party is drunk, drugged, asleep or unconscious. That is a standard in college investigations under title IX, a federal law which controls how educational programs respond to allegations of sexual harassment, including sexual assault.

But what if the drunk party is not "obviously" drunk or drugged? Or both parties are drunk or drugged together?

"Obviously, someone who doesn't know someone is drunk or drugged can't know that that person can't consent," Hertel said. "What we're talking about is giving people the tools to make sure they are getting consent."

Sen. Rick Jones, R-Grand Ledge, who chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee, said he will study the legislation closely, but he does not believe it will get the support of the GOP majority.

"It may be OK, but I think there is much more to teach," Jones said in a phone interview. He wants schools to teach that there are consequences and that no one under the age of 16 is capable of consenting to sexual activity.

"We need to teach about the seriousness of the consequences if you cross the line," he said.

— Todd Heywood



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We're looking for graphic designers, painters, illustrators and doodlers alike to be considered to contribute artwork for the cover of City Pulse.

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Send art samples or links to online portfolios to jonathan@lansingcitypulse.com

'Rush to judgment'

Why Sam Singh voted against Gamrat expulsion

To understand how badly Republicans wanted state Rep. Cindy Gamrat expelled from the House, check out the vote.

Only two Republicans, Gamrat, still clueless about how she's perceived by colleagues, and Martin Howrylak, from Troy, voted against the death penalty. Ironically, most of the support she received in the 91-yes/12-no vote came from Democrats, among them East Lansing's Sam Singh.

For Singh, his vote wasn't about Gamrat. Rather it was about the House of Representatives, its past, present and future.

"I'm happy that both of them are going. (Todd Courser resigned last Thursday, avoiding the vote that would have expelled him.) They were an embarrassment to the institution," he said. "It's better for the ideas that I value that these extreme Tea Party members are gone."

But it's the process, precedent and speed of the expulsion drive that bothered Singh.

He laid out his concerns to members of the House in a 13-minute speech last week, reflecting on a historical perspective that largely disappeared with term limits. No one elected to the House really has time to mature in the job, and it showed in the clumsy way leadership handled the Gamrat/Courser mess.

"I love this institution," Singh said. The first time I came into these chambers was somewhere in 1990. I was an intern for the late Charlie Harrison Jr. And when I came into this institution it was packed with people who had served decades, many of whom I looked up to as heroes and mentors."

"Today is probably the most important vote that I will take in my entire tenure in the State House of Representatives because the state Constitution gives us the most extreme power, which is to nullify the vote of about 90,000 people. And that is what we have been given the opportunity to do."

What galled Singh was the rush to judgment by Republican leadership to rid the House of two disruptive, disrespectful and deceitful members who purposely, and it seems gleefully, sought to alienate fellow legislators. According to his former staffer Joshua Cline, Courser put it this way to his staff: "Let's get it straight, boys. We're not here to pass legislation. We're here for the messaging moments and media." Even for Michigan's dysfunctional legislature — STILL NO ROAD BILL — this was outside the bounds.

Singh questioned lack of participation by House members in the recommenda-

tions for expulsion as well as the lack of access by members to letters and emails among Courser, Gamrat and Speaker Kevin Cotter's office. And most important, Singh reminded legislators that past expulsions followed criminal investigations and even convictions. This he said has been the precedent of the chamber.

"If you really believe that these people should be expelled, why didn't you go through the criminal part of the investigation. I can't control the actions of the two members. I find them despicable ... I find it an embarrassment to the institution. "But," Singh said, "doing a rushed process is also a disrespect to this institution."

The demand by Singh and other Democrats for a criminal probe was added to the expulsion resolution after it became obvious to Republicans that the motion would fail without votes from across the aisle. Initially, local Democratic Reps. Andy Schor of East Lansing and Tom Cochran of Mason withheld their support, but they shifted to the yes column after Republicans agreed to request that State Police and the attorney general investigate Courser and Gamrat's actions.

Singh was particularly pointed in his criticism of Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette's claim that he had been investigating the two legislators.

"We had been asking for a criminal investigation and called on the attorney general to do it. My sense is that he wasn't," Singh said. "Certainly nobody in the House had an understanding the attorney general's office had started an investigation. To keep it private and then announce it after the Legislature has done its resolution was really disingenuous on his part."

Certainly, Schuette's actions seem political. He wants to be governor and the right wing of the Republican Party is his base. This included the state's tea party, which spawned both Courser and Gamrat. There is more political risk targeting their acolytes than other entities. Given that Schuette has with great fanfare promoted investigations of compounding pharmacies and propane suppliers, actions that aren't likely to alienate supporters or campaign contributors.

Singh's jabs at fellow House members and Republican leadership, in the odd way that has colored so much of the expulsion drama, were echoed by Gamrat, who seems unable to stop herself once cameras start recording.

It what was billed as a farewell statement, but don't count on it, she reflected on the events leading to her public disgrace.

Starting off contrite, with her attorney by her side, she said, "I never realized how hard and how bad it would be."

You think!

But she added, and without a touch of irony, "Personally I've become somewhat disillusioned by our government and some of the things I see."

You think!



MICKEY HIRTEN

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING SUMMARY OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE #1197

Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to repeal a portion of Chapter 292, Section 04, of the Lansing Codified Ordinances by removing the restriction on elected city employee members to the Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees that requires only one member may be from a single city department in order to adapt to the evolving employee composition of the City of Lansing departments.

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

www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk

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CP#15-231

ORDINANCE # 2588

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN AND FOR THE REVISION OF THE DISTRICT MAPS ADOPTED BY SECTION 1246.02 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The City of Lansing ordains:

Section 1. That the district maps adopted by and incorporated as Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing, Michigan be amended to provide as follows:

To change the zoning classification of the property described as follows:

Case Number: Z-3-2015

Address: Vacant Property, Northwest Corner of S. Cedar & Syringa

Parcel Number: PPN: 33-01-01-33-407-245

Legal Descriptions: Commencing on the West line of S. Cedar Street, 984.5 Feet North of South line, SEC 33, Thence West 313 Feet, North 161.37 Feet, East 313 Feet, South to the Point of Beginning, Except the West 130 Feet; Section 33, T4N R2W, City of Lansing, Ingham County, MI, from "D-1" Professional Office District to "E-2" Local Shopping District, with the following restrictive conditions which shall run with the land and be binding upon the successor owner of the land:

1. There will be a natural barrier between the residential property and property located at 33-01-01-33-407-245.

2. The following uses are prohibited:

- a. Liquor Store
- b. Medical Marijuana Dispensary
- c. Fireworks store

3. Driveways from the site to Syringa Drive shall be designed and properly signed to prohibit right turns onto Syringa Drive.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance was duly adopted by the Lansing City Council on September 14, 2015, and a copy is available in the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 9th Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon the expiration of seven (7) days from the date this notice of adoption is published in a newspaper of general circulation.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk

www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#15-230



SWEET CUSTOM JEWELRY/PEPPINO'S SPORTS GRILLE

Photo by Gaëlle Cassin-Ross

Alissa and Bob Sweet open their new business, Sweet Custom Jewelry, Friday, just in time for the Michigan BluesFest — and engagement season.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

As the wedding season makes the slow, cold changeover into the holiday season — aka engagement season — marriage-minded Metro Lansing couples will find their thoughts transitioning from saying yes to the dress to saying, “Bring on the ring.”

Just in time to appeal to all the proposers getting ready to get down on one knee between now and New Year's Eve comes, a new husband-and-wife operation that opens Friday in Old Town. Sweet Custom Jewelry also makes necklaces, bracelets, tiepins and cufflinks, but their bread and butter is the “I do”-ers.

“About 70 percent of our sales come from wedding-related items, but we do everything,” said co-owner/operator Alissa Sweet. “We recently did a set of custom-designed pendants in the style of (anime series) *Avatar: The Last*

Airbender. If you can envision it, we can do it.”

Sweet, 27, was born and raised in Okemos. Her husband, Bob Sweet, makes all the pieces that are sold at the store. Prices range from \$25 to (gulp) \$20,000. She helps with some of the design work, but he handles virtually every facet of production, from brainstorming the overall look of a piece to applying the final polish. Bob Sweet, 31, grew up in DeWitt but attended the Gem Institute of America in California to become a certified jeweler.

“We met at a local jewelry store and became the go-to people when it came to custom-designed rings,” Alissa Sweet said. “Once we had that figured out, we decided to move on to our own business.”

But not immediately — first came a walk down the aisle. The two were just coworkers initially, but a fortuitous date in Old Town put them

on the road to matrimony.

“When we first started dating about four years ago, we came to Old Town and just fell in love with atmosphere,” Sweet said. “It has this small-town feel to it that you don’t get anywhere else in the area. When we decided to open the store, we patiently waited for a spot to open here that we could afford. We didn’t want to open anywhere else. Old Town had the feel we were looking for.”

They worked out of their home for about six months, doing custom work for other jewelry stores and building a client base of their own. Their new 900-square-foot space was renovated from a former garage, essentially creating a new storefront in the bustling boutique district. It houses most of their design equipment as well as some of their non-commissioned work, which is sold as retail.

To make a piece, Sweet cuts a piece from a tube-shaped piece of wax that he molds into shape. He then carves all the filigree work (the delicate swirls and scrolls) and any other detail work into the wax. Once he gets the OK from the person who commissioned it, he puts the wax into a flask and pours plaster of Paris over it until it hardens and then bakes it in a casting oven for about eight hours. That melts out the wax, leaving a cavity that serves as a mold for the precious metal. After that, it’s just a matter of pouring the liquid metal into the mold, cooling it, setting the stones and making sure it’s clean and polished. Most rings take about three or four weeks, but rush orders can be pushed through in a few days.

“Unlike other jewelry stores, 100 percent of everything we do is done in-store,” Alissa Sweet said. “When you shop here, you’re working directly with the owner and the person is making the (jewelry). Nothing gets shipped out anywhere. It doesn’t get more personal than that.”

Sweet describes her husband’s style as classic/

traditional but incorporating eclectic and modern elements. Their clientele consists of people with a specific look in mind that doesn’t exist in the mainstream jewelry world. And with the legalization of gay marriage, Sweet said she’s seen an increase in sales. (Take that, conservatives!)

“Our first completed set of (gay marriage rings) went out two weeks ago,” Sweet said. “They looked amazing. (Legalized same-sex marriage) is going to be good for business.”

The jewelry business is an evergreen industry, and they’re already thinking of how to grow.

“People get engaged every day, so we don’t worry about (not having work),” Sweet says. “We’d consider opening another store for convenience, but it would be hard. Bob makes everything by hand himself. He’d have to find someone like himself, and that’s not going to be easy.”

Out of pep

Peppino’s Sports Grille, 213 Ann St. in downtown East Lansing, underwent a name change this week, but management’s mum on the “why.” Owner Kris Elliott, who licensed the name from the Grand Rapids-based pizza chain, didn’t respond to a request for comment. Its new name: Foundation Sports Lounge. We’ll keep you posted.

The downtown location will move into the former home of **Ernesto’s Hideaway**, next door to the recently opened “urban bakery,” **Glazed and Confused**. Jordan was unavailable for comment, but a representative for Downtown Lansing Inc. said there’s no timeline in place for the move.

Sweet Custom Jewelry

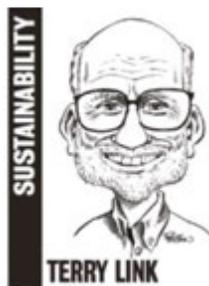
1232-B Turner St., Lansing
10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday; closed Sunday
(517) 267-7600, sweetcustomjewelry.com

Honor and the honorarium

MSU out of step on paying commencement speakers

In the current age of inequality there is a lot of talk about a minimum wage and even, occasionally, a living wage, even as we read or hear about extravagant salaries for CEO’s or celebrities. One of the more lucrative opportunities for celebrities is speeches. MSU recently came under fire for paying columnist George Will \$40,000 for a 10-minute speech at the December 2014 commencement ceremony. Rumors of large past payments to celebrity speakers had me curious, wondering whether this was a fluke or a trend.

So I initiated Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) queries to our three state universities with publicly elected trustees — Wayne State University, University of Michigan and Michigan State University — requesting payment information to commencement speakers, to any agencies representing those speakers, or to any



organizations on behalf of the speakers (some use their fees to support the organizations they are affiliated with or represent). The responses were enlightening.

Michigan State offered the most comprehensive details, listing every speaker and any fee involved as well as lodging, travel and meal costs.

Wayne State University was quickest to respond. It only paid one commencement speaker between 1995-2015: \$12,250 in 2012 to the Washington Speakers’ Bureau for Dr. Jerry Linenger, a former astronaut, plus \$390.26 for mileage and meals and \$265.24 for two nights of lodging.

The University of Michigan responded that it “does not pay honoraria to commencement speakers, nor does it make payments to speaker agencies, institutions or organizations associated with the speakers.” If I wanted records on travel expenses including lodging and meals I could write a separate request.

So as it turns out, MSU’s increasing use of payments to commencement speakers, at least among its state peers, is perplexing. The trend is pretty clear. Between 1995 and 2004, MSU paid out \$70,000 in speakers fees. Among those receiving fees were Stephen Jay Gould, Doris Kearns Goodwin and Elie Wiesel.

But in the last decade MSU has awarded more than \$400,000 in speakers’ fees, on top of the honorary degrees conferred.

The biggest check went to Steve Wozniak, designer of the first Apple computer, at \$83,365. Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland, received \$50,000, as did Joseph Kennedy II. Maya Angelou and Gro Harlem Brundtland, former president of Norway, each pocketed \$35,000, while a few others netted between \$9,250 and \$30,000. To be fair, most of MSU’s commencement speakers receive no payment and some even cover their own expenses to get here. This was true for Sergio Marchionne, Rick Snyder, Tom Vilsak, Mitch Albom, Earvin Johnson, Carl Levin, Condoleezza Rice, Dick Cheney, Debbie Stabenow, and some others.

Travel and lodging vary greatly. Interestingly, Berry Gordy had an \$8,600 lodging bill and Michael Moore, who gave a commencement address the same day as George Will, had a \$1,612 lodging bill, although he didn’t receive a speaker’s fee.

While one may get mesmerized by seeing who got what, the more important issue for me is the trend that has emerged. Being invited to give a commencement address is an honor — at any level of graduation. The addition of an honorary degree from that institution should be icing on a delicious cake. So why do public universities that are crying for more public support expect the public to support this kind of expenditure?

While I was initiating MSU sustainabil-

ity efforts years ago, we would often invite outside speakers with some special knowledge or expertise to share their insights with the community. I recall a year early on when, putting together a speaker series, I asked one invitee how much she needed to be paid to accept our invitation. She replied, “It doesn’t matter as long as I am paid the same as any male speaker.” That conversation opened my eyes to the nature of the public speaker industry. I eventually determined not to pay anyone above \$1,500 for a visit and public address, using the rationale that even if they only did one of these talks a week and it was their sole income, they’d be making more than the median household income of roughly \$50,000 a year. A pretty good gig if you can do it.

As alluded to earlier, many popular speakers charge large fees to raise funds for the nonprofit organizations they run, not for themselves. Others find raising their fees keeps the requests down to a more manageable number. Once they hook up with a speakers’ agency the price skyrockets.

UM and WSU seem to have this about right. MSU should rethink how high an honor it is to address our graduates and not pander to the insane marketplace of public speaking.

(Terry Link, who founded MSU’s Office of Sustainability, is a consultant on sustainability.)

INGHAM COUNTY'S HEROIN SURGE

A cautionary tale from the front



Courtesy Photos

LEFT: Eric Pavona with Kristin (right) after her MSU graduation in 2007. From left are sisters Colleen, who found Pavona after he died from an overdose; Laura and Rachel. RIGHT: Eric Pavona in 2008, before he started using heroin.

Eric Pavona had the world in his hands when he graduated from Okemos High School. He had high college entrance test scores, he'd been working and saving money, he had scholarship offers from numerous universities and colleges, and he owned his own car and paid his own insurance.

His father, Phil Pavona, was proud of his only son. Eric accepted a scholarship at Ferris State University. For the next three years, he seemed to be on track for a bright future.

"As a parent I did the wrong thing," the elder Pavona, 58, said. "I put a line through my kid and went onto the rest of them. I figured the kid's 21 years old, he's pretty much got the world by the tail."

Little did Pavona know then, but it was his son whose tail was in grasp of a strong menace. His son's future was as a statistic in Ingham County's surge heroin and opioid related overdoses and deaths.

Pavona, 25, was one of nine heroin-related deaths in Ingham County in 2011, according to Elizabeth Reust, forensic pathology supervisor at Sparrow Hospital. That compares to 19 thus far this year, with 47 autopsies pending as of Tuesday. The

death totals were 18 in 2012, 17 in 2013 and 28 in 2014.

Eric was 25 when his younger sister, Colleen, found his cold body on the sofa in the basement of the family home. A syringe was on a table near him. He'd overdosed — the third time since he had begun using heroin.

The Pavonas worked with their son and a system the patriarch of the family described as "fractured" to attempt to help their son overcome his addiction. They found a system unable to help the family.

At 21, Pavona decided to change his major and transfer to Michigan State University. He went from studying pre-pharmacy to accounting.

It was at that time that something happened that changed the trajectory of his life. Somewhere, somehow, Eric was introduced to heroin. His father thinks it happened in student housing in East Lansing.

"He spent a lot of time down there," Pavona said. "We didn't really pay any at-

tention."

Pavona had paid for Eric's first semester at MSU. Eric, however, had a different idea. He dropped his classes and used the refund cash to buy drugs. His family was unaware of it.

The first inkling Pavona had that his son was in serious trouble was when the young man was arrested. He told his father East Lansing police had gotten him on an alcohol charges.

"His story to us was that he got, you know, picked up with booze at MSU — which is a story almost every parent who has a kid who goes to MSU can tell you," Pavona said. "He blew it off as no big deal. He was going to take care of it."

The father went to court and found his son's name on the court docket. His charge had nothing to do with alcohol — he'd been charged with possession of controlled substances.

"That began our journey," Pavona said. East Lansing Police had pulled him over when they found Eric driving "kinda weird,"

STORIES BY TODD HEYWOOD

Pavona said. A subsequent search of Eric's car led to the discovery of heroin.

As Eric's life spiraled out of control, his family searched frantically to find him help.

"We had no idea what to do," Pavona said. "It was so foreign to us."

The senior Pavona worked at a local hospital. Using that position, he was able to open doors for his son more quickly than most parents could. But it wasn't enough.

"As many connections as I had over those next couple of years, what I found behind those doors was really poor. That doesn't mean there weren't good people — there really are good people in each of those systems," he said. "But it's fractured, broken, nobody talks to each other, it's not safe — there's just a whole wide range of issues that are problematic for the addict and their family."

The Pavona family's experience is not uncommon for those struggling with heroin addiction and their friends and loved ones trying to help them. Pavona said the systems were in "silos," though, he said, that

HEROIN

From page 9
is changing.

From his experience, care providers were not coordinating care. Services were available but not everyone knew where to send a person in recovery for health care needs or housing. And when Phil asked about various ways to link those services, he said he was met with “blank stares.”

He recalled when Eric was released from the Ingham County Jail early in the morning. He came home, and the family was certain they would have time while Eric relished in the freedom of not being locked behind bars. They were wrong. The following day, Phil heard a thump — the sound of something large hitting the floor in the family's upstairs bathroom. He went to the door and found it locked. Knocks on the door resulted in no

answer. He began to break the door down, and saw his son on the floor, unconscious. After beating the door down with a sledgehammer, he got to his son and found he was not breathing. He'd overdosed.

When he met with jail and probation officials about the incident, he was told he was “lucky” because his son had survived. He was also informed, for the first time, that the first 36 hours after an addict is released from treatment or jail is the time they are most risk for relapse and subsequent overdose.

“I said, “Why didn't you tell me that?” he said. “They just looked at me with that blank stare. I told them that was information we probably needed to know.”

But the silos that Phil experienced are beginning to break down.

Helping lead that change is Wellness Inx, a treatment and medical case management program for those seeking recovery from drugs and alcohol addictions is located in a nondescript professional office on Holmes

Road. It is licensed to provide services to up to 160 people in recovery at a time, delivered in what medical and recovery circles call “wrap around services.” It means that staff work with those in recovery on medical care, housing, food, disability and other issues to create a stable life which will foster recovery. The agency also

offers 12-step programs to support those in recovery and one-on-one counseling services.

The Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties continues to be a part of the solution. Eri-canne Spence, director of substance abuse services for Community Mental Health, said beds are available for heroin treatment in the county. Right now, there are at least 75 beds in residential treatment facilities. If those fill up, more are available outside Ingham Country through a network of providers.

There are different components to overcoming a heroin addiction. First a person has to detox. Those addicted to other drugs as well as heroin may need to be medically monitored during their detox process.

Then they need treatment, where they learn to live life without the drug.

Deborah Smith of Wellness Inx acknowledged that a key hurdle is getting the addict to want help, but there remain holes in the system.

Among them is a lack of medical management of detox for those addicted to multiple drugs. While there are local heroin detox programs, there is not a facility in the county which does management for complicated detox situations.

“The detox that we have here can't do medical monitoring,” Smith said. “They do a wonderful job for people who can fit into their scope of practice. One of the issues with their scope of practice is that many of the clients that out there that are heroin addicted are also using benzodiazepines.”

Stopping benzodiazepines requires medical management because stopping the drugs abruptly can cause the body to shut down.

The only medical monitoring detox facilities are outside the county. A Saginaw-based program is preparing to launch a medical detox — but it will be for women, specifically pregnant women.

Even if a person completes a detox and

treatment program, there is another issue that comes into play — transitional housing, said Alina Branscombe, a case manager at Wellness Inx. Without that housing, recovering addicts are returned to the same living conditions they were in before they detoxed — and that is not helpful for recovery, she said.

She said there simply is not enough transitional housing in the area for recovering addicts, and this complicates recovery.

To address that issue, Wellness Inx brings all the possible players in a recovering person's life to the table in a holistic approach to addressing the problems. That means the look at housing, and medical care needs and employment needs and try to find solutions as a team. It's much the same way physicians dealing with a complicated medical issue — say diabetes, heart disease or HIV — coordinate care.

“The client themselves create what their goals are going to be, what they want to get out of case management in nutshell,” said Branscombe. “We create a plan. A plan for each area of your life, and we start going down the list of goals.”

Early on, she said, clients work to identify simple goals — for instance, spending three days a week at Michigan Works trying to find employment. Those simple goals help the client achieve something, which is essential in the process of rebuilding a life from heroin addiction, which is often complicated with run-ins with the law, and self-esteem issues for the addict themselves.

In addition to working on goal setting and bringing all the care providers together, peer support is important to facilitating recovery, the experts said.

At Wellness Inx, the experts have created peer facilitated and led groups. Group leaders are themselves recovering and act as coaches for other struggling with addictions. Pavona has taken that training and used it and his own experience to help families struggling with loved ones in treatment and recovery.

Despite the ongoing obstacles, Pavona, who started and runs a chapter of Families Against Narcotics, said there have been improvements in the intervening five years since he struggled to get his son care.

“I'm very hopeful of many things that are happening in the community now,” Pavona said. “What used to be absolute roadblocks are now question marks, at the very least. And when they're question marks, you know, people have an open mind about thinking outside the box. And beginning to do something different than what they were doing before, because what they were doing before didn't work.”



Phil Pavona



Branscombe

CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS

HOSTED BY **BERL SCHWARTZ**



HAROLD LEEMAN
Lansing City Council at-large candidate



CAROL WOOD
Lansing City Council at-large candidate



EMILY DIEVENDORF
Lansing City Council at-large candidate



PATRICIA SPITZLEY
Lansing City Council at-large candidate

THIS WEEK
**LANSING CITY
COUNCIL
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MY18TV!
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COMCAST CHANNEL 16 LANSING
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BREAKING HEROIN'S EMBRACE

One addict talks about his struggle

"It grabs you by your balls and never lets go."

That's how Scott, who is trying to shake his heroin addiction, sums up his fight with heroin. City Pulse is not using Scott's last name because he has recently used the illegal drug.

The 37-year-old Lansing area resident has been fighting with the drug for a decade. And he is one of many Ingham County residents struggling with what law enforcement and public health officials have called a "surge" and "epidemic" of heroin use.

In the first six months of this year, Linda Vail, head of the Ingham County Health Department, said emergency first responders applied the drug Narcan, which immediately reverses the effects of opioids on the body, 132 times. That's nearly double the 68 applications of the drug in the first six months of last year.

While Scott struggles with other drugs and alcohol, it is the heroin that he finds the most difficult to overcome.

"I don't know what it is about this drug, but it is able to swallow your whole life instantly," he said.

He said he was introduced to opioids by an ex-girlfriend. At the time he said

he was already struggling with marijuana and alcohol. But the Vicodin she gave him made him feel euphoric.

Soon, another friend introduced him to heroin. She stuck a needle in his arm and injected the drug. "It just took every ounce of stress that I had and released it for just 10 minutes, 20 minutes. It was the best feeling I ever had," he said. "Heroin, ain't no joke. Nothing funny about that."

While injection is the fastest way to get

the drug to the brain, Scott said his preferred method of taking the drug is snorting it. He said he can't inject himself, and shows a lump on his hand resulting from a recent attempt to inject the drug. But he was not opposed to others shooting him up.

That included an ex-girlfriend who was a phlebotomist by training who would shoot him up, he said.

After spending half his life in and of prison and jail — all on charges related to his

drug and alcohol use — he said he is ready to be sober.

The struggle to get there, however, has been rough. It's included two overdoses. The first happened in his home, where he lives with his mother, herself in recovery from substance abuse. She came home and found him not breathing, he said. As the police and ambulance were arriving, his three children, all in their pre-teen years, arrived home.

First responders treated him with Narcan. He was transported to a local hospital, seen, and released shortly thereafter.

His second overdose happened in the Ingham County Jail. Another prisoner gave him his prescription methadone. That drug is often prescribed to alleviate the withdrawal symptoms heroin and opioid users experience as they are trying to ween off the drug.

"I got ahold of some methadone," he said. "I don't remember nothing but that I woke up in the ambulance." Paramedics had inserted a tube in his throat to help him breathe "[The medics] said I was dead. They said I was pretty much dead."

He said wants to recover so he can care for his children. Their mothers are not in the picture for a variety of reasons.

I need it. I don't want to die, soon," Scott said. "I know if I keep on the trail I am going to die soon. I am 37 years old and I am pretty healthy but that could change in an instant."



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

A stack of evidence bags containing some of the heroin Lansing Police have seized on Lansing streets.

HEROIN'S HIDDEN RISK

As more people use drugs, injection drug use increases — and so do cases of HIV, other diseases

In December 2014, a small Southern Indiana county started registering an explosion of HIV cases. Scott County had usually identified only five new cases of the infection every year. But in December that changed. By February of this year, state health officials said there were 26 confirmed HIV cases and four preliminary positives since December 2014. In June of this year, that number had soared to nearly 175 cases, the Indianapolis Star reported. In August, the state reported 181 cases.

The striking feature of the outbreak was that it was driven by a combination of a raging prescription opioid abuse crisis and needle sharing. The outbreak was so serious, Indiana Republican Gov. Mike Pence declared a public health emergency and established a temporary needle exchange program. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention was called in to assist in tracking down users who might have been exposed.

Scott County is a cautionary tale that Ingham county officials are heeding. As well they should. Ingham County has the highest HIV prevalence rate outside of Detroit, according to state statistics.

About 14 percent of Michigan residents with HIV were exposed through intravenous drug use, said Jake Distel executive director of the Lansing Area AIDS Network.

"The re-emergence of heroin use, addiction and abuse directly correlates with such increases," he said.

Injecting drugs is one of the easiest ways to contract HIV, says the CDC. Federal drug stats show that for every 10,000 exposures to HIV through intravenous drug sharing, 63 new infections will happen. Only tainted blood transfusions, which will result in infection nearly 9 out of 10 times, and receptive anal sex, which has a risk of 138 infections per 10,000 exposures, are riskier.

Despite what health and law enforce-

ment officials call an "epidemic" and "surge" in heroin related overdoses and deaths, neither Lansing nor Ingham County operate a needle exchange program.

"The time to act from a public health perspective is now. Lives are at increasing risk," Distel said.

Detroit, Flint and Grand Rapids have needle exchanges. Wellness, an HIV organization in Flint, has operated its needle exchange program since 2010. The agency distributes 500 to 1,000 clean needles every week. Teresa Springer, director of programs for the organization, said it has about 300 clients engaged in the needle exchange program.

Health officials and HIV advocates were unsure why the county does not have an exchange, as do Detroit, Flint and Grand Rapids. However, the intervention has often run into objections from law enforcement and others. The federal and state governments prohibit taxpayer dollars from being used for needle exchanges, forcing agencies to turn to grants and fundraising to pay for the programs.

"While our community does not have a needle exchange program like Grand Rapids or Detroit, we do have progressive and safe policies on injection drug

use," said Linda Vail, health officer for the Ingham County Health Department. "We have two needle disposal sites, and local pharmacies sell clean needles without restriction or prescription."

The county is engaging in the fight against heroin and opioids, she said.

"In addition, ICHD is engaging community partners and working to address the heroin use epidemic," she continued. "We are also aware of other efforts going on such as the Mason-Capital Area Prescription Drug Task Force, and we are working to make sure we enhance work rather than duplicate it."

How those partners will fully respond is unclear right now.

"We're concerned about overdose, the transmission of blood borne diseases, and of course, the heavy toll addiction has upon families and the community," she said. "ICHD is actively working to address heroin addiction in the county and no doubt that will take a multi-pronged approach. Indeed, I am sure needle exchange programs will be part of the discussion, and ultimately may be pursued as part of the solution. It is my understanding that in Michigan programs are typically run by nonprofit organizations rather than local health departments."

ARTS & CULTURE

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CATCHING THE BLUES

MICHIGAN BLUESFEST HITS OLD TOWN THIS WEEKEND

By **TY FORQUER**

For Tomas Esparza, blues music is like a virus. It took just one exposure, and he couldn't get it out of his system.

"About 20 years ago, I got to see (blues harmonica player) William Clarke in downtown Grand Rapids at Blues at the Mall," he said. "I was very intrigued by the sound of the harmonica. I was so intrigued that I went and bought a harmonica the next day."

Michigan BluesFest

Sept. 18-19
FREE
Old Town, Lansing
(517) 371-4600,
michiganbluesfest.com

Esparza, 53, brings his band to Michigan BluesFest Friday night. The Grand Rapids-based bluesman was a late bloomer, musically speaking, taking up the harmonica in his early 30s. Before that he had dabbled in music, but didn't get very far.

"When I was in Catholic school I barely passed my music class — we had to learn to play a recorder," Esparza said. "I always wanted to learn to play the saxophone. My ex-wife gave me a saxophone, but I couldn't do anything. Back in those days I was very interested in learning to play jazz."

But something about the harmonica clicked with Esparza. He started taking adult education classes in Grand Rapids and even joined the Grand Rapids Harmonica Club. Several members of the club suggested Esparza go to Chicago to study the blues, but he took a different path.

"I went to Lansing to learn to play blues harmonica," Esparza said. "Friends there like Ray Aleshire (of Those Delta Rhythm Kings) and Andy Wilson (formerly of Steppin' In It), they all recommended listening to the old harmonica players, such as Little Walter, Sonny Boy (Williamson) and James Cotton. So I would come home and listen to all those recordings."

Esparza dedicated himself to harmonica, studying the old records and playing any open mic he could find. He played for a short time in another blues band before striking out on his own.

"Since 2006, I have been fronting my own band," Esparza said. "It has been very progressive — learning to be a frontman and advance my chops as a harmonica player. It has been a work in progress."

Guitarist and singer Toronzo Cannon, Saturday's BluesFest headliner, was exposed

to the blues virus early, but it lay dormant in his system for a few decades.

"I kind of came in on the side door of the blues. I grew up around it as a kid, I'd hear my aunts and uncles and grandparents play blues records," Cannon said. "When I first started playing guitar, I wanted to play reggae. But everywhere I went, there was a blues jam. There was no reggae jams. So when I started going to the blues jams, all my memories from when I was a kid started coming back. So I went towards the blues — something that was already inside me, it just hadn't come out yet."

Cannon's sound is a mix of old and new. He draws inspiration from the "three Kings," B.B., Freddie and Albert, as well as from Jimi Hendrix, Chaka Khan and Parliament Funkadelic.

"Some of my blues, it pushes the boundaries a little bit," Cannon said. "It's not as Chicago traditional as Little Walter or someone like that. But I can do that if I want to. I can lay back on that and gutbucket like every bluesman in Chicago should be able to. That's part of your ticket to stay in Chicago if you're going to be a musician. If you're going to stretch the boundaries and push the envelope, then you better know how to lump and gutbucket and play your shuffles."

Cannon picked up the guitar at age 22 or 23 and played his first gig with Chicago blues fixture Tommy McCracken a few years later.

"I thought, 'Oh wow, this is cool,'" Cannon said. "You play a piece of wood with some strings, and people dig it, you know? So it



Courtesy photo

Chicago-based guitarist and singer Toronzo Cannon headlines Saturday at Michigan BluesFest.

was cool. I couldn't wait to get home from work to practice more and learn how I can get better. I'm still doing that now."

Cannon leads a bit of a double life. A bluesman on evenings and weekends, Cannon drives a bus four days a week. He said he gets many of his song ideas from people that he meets on his route.

"I've been working for the City of Chicago driving a bus for 22 years," he said. "I do that during the day Monday through Thursday, and I play my blues at nights and on the weekends. Not too much during the week, because I'm a public servant and I have to be responsible. You don't want to play a gig and then the next morning you pick up some guy that you saw at the club. They'd think, 'Wait a minute, this guy just played in the club 'til 2 in the morning, now it's 6 in the morning,

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BLUESFEST SCHEDULE

Friday, Sept. 18

Main Stages: 1200 block of Turner Street

NS = North Stage

MS = MICA (South) Stage

5-5:30 p.m. — Acme Jam (NS)
5:30-6:30 p.m. — Acme Jam with Kathy Engin (NS)
6:30-7:30 p.m. — Donald Kinsey with the DeWaynes (MS)
7:30-8:30 p.m. — Tomás Esparza (NS)
8:30-10 p.m. — Thornetta Davis (MS)
10 p.m.-midnight — The Rotations (NS)

River Stage

(under the tent in Cesar Chavez Plaza/City Lot 56)
5-5:45 p.m. — Acoustic guitar workshop with Joel Mabus
6:15-7 p.m. — Matchette & Frog
7:15-8 p.m. — The 89th Key

Saturday, Sept. 19

11-11:30 a.m. — Old Town walking tour (Meet at Message Makers, 1217 Turner St.)

Main Stages

2-2:45 p.m. — Red Herring (MS)
3-4 p.m. — Joel Mabus (MS)
4-5 p.m. — Good Cookies (MS)
5-6 p.m. — Twyla Birdsong (NS)
6-7:15 p.m. — Chris Canas (MS)
7:15-8:30 p.m. — The Boa Constrictors (NS)
8:30-10 p.m. — Toronzo Cannon (MS)
10 p.m.-midnight — Kathleen Murray Band (NS)

River Stage

1-1:30 p.m. — DANCE Lansing - Community Dance Project
2-3 p.m. — Harmonica for kids with Andy Wilson
3:15-3:45 p.m. — Storytelling by Jean Bolley
4-5 p.m. — Slidin' blues guitar workshop with Jimmie Stagger's
5:30-6:30 p.m. — Blues songwriting workshop with Toronzo Cannon
7-8 p.m. — Stan Budzynski & Ben Hall

KidzBeat

(in Cesar Chavez Plaza/City Lot 56)
1-4 p.m. — Art projects with Broad Art Museum
1-5 p.m. — Bob Wilson, electric guitar mentor
1-5 p.m. — Randy "Bird" Burghdoff, electric bass mentor
1-5 p.m. — Instrument petting zoo with the MSU Community Music School

Memories in stone and steel

Retrospective exhibit honors sculptor Mel Leiserowitz

By JONATHAN GRIFFITH

The Lansing art scene lost a prolific sculptor and educator earlier this year with the death of Melvin “Mel” Leiserowitz. The late artist is survived by a legacy of numerous and varied works, including several in the Greater Lansing area.

Mel Leiserowitz retrospective exhibit

On display until Feb. 1
Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
FREE
Greater Lansing Housing
Coalition
600 W. Maple St., Lansing
(517) 372-5980, glhc.org

The Greater Lansing Housing Coalition is hosting a retrospective exhibit that features a wide array of Leiserowitz’s works, spanning his entire career as an artist. Many people know Leiserowitz’s metal goliath “Orpheus,” the geometric sculpture that sits in front of MSU’s Wharton Center. He also created the massive “Creation Wall” that takes up a handsome amount of space in the Molly Grove Chapel in Lansing’s First Presbyterian Church. Unfortunately, the ceiling of the Greater Lansing Housing Coalition building cannot accommodate the massive pieces Leiserowitz was known for. But the exhibit sheds light on a different facet of his artistry, one in such great contrast to his normal work that his own family barely recognized it.

“We’ve had several people come through, and a lot of them assume that there are two different artists,” said Julie Powers, executive director of the Greater Lansing Housing Coalition. “Even his own family was like, ‘Uncle Mel did that?’”

The exhibit fills much of the wall space in the building and is arranged by the different periods of his work. Visitors see a variety of styles, sometimes veering slightly into other mediums but always relating back to sculpture.

An interesting example is the “Oaxaca”



Photo by Jonathan Griffith

“Window No. 1,” a cement relief sculpture by Mel Leiserowitz, depicts a field of cattails as seen through a window.

series. On sabbatical in 1978, Leiserowitz lived in a camper in Oaxaca, Mexico. The modest confines of a camper aren’t the most ideal quarters for producing massive sculptures, so Leiserowitz produced tiny compositions by gluing brightly colored decal paper to aluminum squares. The result is a series of sharp-edged shapes which jump all over the color spectrum. Perhaps the most fascinating thing about the dozens of tiny pieces is that they served as compositional studies for large sculptures he created a few years later.

Another highlight from the exhibit is the multiple series of relief sculptures on the subject of nature, especially plants. Cement panels of various sizes become windows into wild fields resplendent in flora. Leiserowitz’s 1994 cement relief sculpture, “Window No. 1,” gives the viewer a sense they’re peering outside from a cottage situated deep in the wild. Powers cited these works as some

of the artist’s most surprising, given his reputation for works on such a large scale.

“He goes from this macro level of art and then produces this 5 by 7 (inch) relief of cattails that are so detailed you can see them swaying in the wind,” said Powers. “His juxtaposition of different styles was crazy.”

The exhibit has been a major draw for the Greater Lansing Housing Coalition since it opened last month. Guests have turned up from all over the country, some from as far as California. It’s no surprise, given the generations of artists Leiserowitz worked with during his time at MSU. Leiserowitz taught at the university from 1964 to 1991. Retirement did little to diminish Leiserowitz’s passion for teaching, and he continued work with students out of his home up until a few months before his death.

“Leiserowitz not only taught his students to be artists but also how to conduct themselves professionally as artists,” said Powers. “He modeled the business side of art for his students, and that’s really powerful.”

Leiserowitz would often approach his art with the motto, “What if I did something different?” He might be pleased to know that his art continues to transform even after his passing. Powers cited a moving instance where she was giving a tour to some visually impaired visitors and Leiserowitz’s work did just that — something different.

“So much of Mel’s show is touchable, and one of the visually impaired visitors was actually hugging one of the sculptures. She said it felt that for once she was actually able to truly ‘see’ art,” said Powers. “I’ve seen a lot of art, but I’ve never seen anyone physically experience art the way the blind woman experienced this sculpture. Mel’s art continues to affect people today in ways he can’t imagine.”

that most musicians should do — especially if you’ve got a family. I don’t want to be a starving artist. I’m too old to be a starving artist.”

As blues music becomes less and less financially viable — industry figures indicate that blues music makes up less than 1 percent of albums sold in the U.S. — it becomes a labor of love for blues musicians. Esparza works as a furniture repair technician for Steelcase to support his blues habit. All four members of the Boa Constrictors, who play just before Cannon Saturday evening, hold down day jobs and play blues on the weekends. Steve Allen, bassist for the Detroit-based outfit, works as an automobile designer.

“I got started because I enjoyed the style of music. It became a passion. You couldn’t

make a living at it,” Allen said.

Allen describes the Boa Constrictors’ sound as “Detroit blues,” a sound that reflects Detroit’s automotive history.

“It’s a really gritty, kind of industrial blues,” Allen said. “It’s very different from Chicago blues. Chicago blues is probably a little more polished, and Detroit blues is more gritty and raw.”

While many people associate the blues with dark, dingy clubs, Cannon is excited to bring blues music to the open air stages of Michigan Bluesfest this weekend.

“I love festivals. It’s like, look at all these people! And they’re focused on what you say,” Cannon said. “To hold a crowd, that’s cool and crazy at the same time. All these people are looking at me, at one time? I dig that. There’s no way you can’t dig that.”

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Look for our smoke!



BluesFest

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and he’s driving a bus? I don’t do that.”

While it’s not exactly the rock star lifestyle teenagers dream of, the steady job keeps Cannon grounded and gives him financial stability. In a way it gives him more freedom, because he isn’t relying on the blues to keep his family afloat.

“I guess there’s a certain comfortable feeling in knowing that I’ve got some health benefits and things like that — I’ve got a family, and they don’t have to suffer because daddy wants to be a blues star or something like that,” Cannon said. “As far as having a straight job with the blues, it’s something

Ralph's revenge

Ralph Votapek makes history with all-Gershwin extravaganza

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Steele, stylish piano man Ralph Votapek couldn't have much left to prove. His career began with a shocking win over his Soviet rivals in the first Van Cliburn competition in 1962 and keeps on going, through 24 Latin American tours and innumerable recitals and recordings.

Votapek Plays Gershwin

Lansing Symphony Orchestra
With Ralph Votapek, piano
8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 18
Tickets start at \$20
Wharton Center
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
(517) 487-5001,
lansingsymphony.org

And yet, Friday night, the 76-year-old Votapek will take the mound at the Lansing Symphony Orchestra's season opener and pitch the music of George Gershwin all night, from the National Anthem to the bottom of the Second Rhapsody.

To find out what makes Votapek arpeggiate, you have to put him on the psychiatrist's couch. It turns out his high school music teacher wouldn't let him play Gershwin.

"She thought Gershwin's music was cheap," he said.

Votapek comes from Milwaukee, Liberace's home town. Votapek's teachers feared a repeat.

"Liberace's teacher was disappointed he turned out the way he did," Votapek said. "So Gershwin was forbidden fruit to me."

Friday night is Votapek's revenge: wall

to wall Gershwin. For the first time in his career, Votapek will play four Gershwin pieces on the same night.

He'll start in with the composer's snappy variations on "I Got Rhythm," stride through the Concerto in F and the seldom performed Second Rhapsody and finish big with the famous "Rhapsody in Blue."

"I suppose it's a gimmick — and I have to confess it was my idea — but I really didn't think Timothy Muffitt would take it," Votapek said.

Muffitt, music director and conductor of the symphony, said the idea was a "stroke of genius."

"It has all the perfect qualities for a concert here in Lansing," Muffitt said. "Ralph is one of our hometown heroes. It's all-American. It has pieces that are highly recognizable and pieces that are seldom heard. It's a no-brainer."

Friday will be the first time Muffitt has ever performed with a single soloist all night. Visiting soloists usually join the orchestra for just one or two pieces.

"He's going to be very busy that evening," Muffitt said.

The maestro isn't worried about Gershwin-fatigue setting in.

"Fortunately, Gershwin is fabulous," Muffitt said.

Votapek, who never indulges in anything close to hype, was more laconic.

"If you like Gershwin, you'll be fine. If you don't, don't come," he said.

Stamina-wise, Votapek said, the whole night is about the same as playing one concerto by Brahms or Rachmaninoff. The orchestra carries a lot of the load, especially in the serious Second Rhapsody.

"I don't think this is a difficult concert,"



Photo by Sergei Kvitko

Ralph Votapek takes on an ambitious all-Gershwin program Friday with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra.

Votapek shrugged. "When you're playing a recital, you're playing non-stop, 80 or 90 minutes. Here, I sit out and listen one

fourth of the time."

Votapek played the night's most famous

See Ralph, Page 15

Re-entering Orbit

Punk rock roundtable highlights edgy Detroit magazine

By RICH TUPICA

Back in the 1980s and '90s, before the Internet was ubiquitous, seeking out hip bands, DJs and indie films wasn't as easy as a quick Google search or peruse through

YouTube or Spotify. Get this: You actually had to pick up a newspaper or magazine.

Punk rock roundtable and book signing

With Rob St. Mary, Steve Miller and Tesco Vee
7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23
Schuler Books (Eastwood)
2820 Towne Center Blvd., Lansing
(517) 316-7495,
schulerbooks.com

"The Orbit Magazine Anthology: Re-Entry," a new book by author Rob St. Mary, harkens back to those glory days of print. The book documents a trio of edgy, defunct Detroit-based publications:

White Noise (1978-1980), Fun (1986-1990) and Orbit (1990-1999). All three trendsetting mags were spearheaded by Detroit punk/art legend Jerry "Vile" Peterson, who penned the foreword in the oversized, 256-page paperback.



Courtesy photo
"The Orbit Magazine Anthology: Re-Entry," by author Rob St. Mary, explores the history of Orbit, the defunct Detroit-based arts and humor magazine.

kind of represents the history of the last time when print was king.

"I see Orbit as sort of proto-Vice, in a way," St. Mary continued, referring to the Canadian arts and culture magazine with a significant web presence. "That's that same kind of tone for handling real things — interviews, entertainment and so on. But where it differs is the willingness to do straight humor and satire pieces. That was something Orbit did that came from early 1970s National Lampoon.

It's a heavy part of its DNA."

St. Mary, 37, joins Steve Miller, author of "Detroit Rock City," and Tesco Vee, co-

author of "Touch & Go: The Complete Hardcore Punk Zine," for a book signing and "punk rock roundtable" discussion Wednesday at Schuler Book's Eastwood Towne Center location.

As for Peterson, the Detroit-area native has kept busy since exiting the world of publishing — and has kept up his "Vile" image. The 59-year-old artist has made national headlines for his lascivious art, including a street-art installation where he placed a mammoth can of Crisco next to Detroit's iconic "Monument to Joe Louis" — more commonly referred to as "The Fist" — during the city's Chapter 9 bankruptcy issues. It was a not-so-subtle metaphor for how he felt the city was being treated by the process. At the front of the book, Peterson simplifies his artistic vision: "I really, really enjoy making people upset. I think that's my art."

"He's really a singular artist, someone who is not afraid to offend people," St. Mary said of Peterson. "That comes from a place of finding humor in the uncomfortable."

The anthology's preface describes Peterson's bent for the atypical.

"While other papers copied the tried and true alt weekly format of lefty poli-

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Ralph

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work, “Rhapsody in Blue,” for the first time with no less a conductor than Paul Whiteman. Whiteman conducted the premiere of the work in 1924 — with George Gershwin himself on piano.

When Votapek came to Northwestern University in 1956, he entered a competition to play with the Milwaukee Pops Orchestra. Votapek won, and playing “Rhapsody in Blue” two nights with the Pops and Whiteman was the prize. He learned the music in six weeks, aided by his familiarity with the piece. He’d worn out an old Oscar Levant recording of the work as a youngster.

“(Whiteman) was very nice to me,” Votapek recalled of the conductor, who was often referred to in the media as the “king of jazz.”

“It wasn’t really jazz, but a lot of people thought of him as that,” Votapek said. “‘Rhapsody in Blue’ was sort of his signature piece. I remember him conducting me through some of the cadenzas, and I was happy to oblige.”

Since then, Votapek figures he’s played the Rhapsody 70 or 80 times.

“I’ve done it with Chicago, with Philadelphia, and I’ve done it with some orchestras that maybe shouldn’t be playing it,” Votapek said. “Then it’s not so pleas-

ant. The main theme is grandiose and always exciting to play, but you have to have a good orchestra. Lansing can certainly handle it.”

Votapek hasn’t played the Second Rhapsody, perhaps the most substantial work of the night, since the late 1970s. Arthur Fiedler, then maestro of the Boston Pops, asked him to do a recording.

“It’s especially exciting to hear the Second Rhapsody,” Muffitt said. “It’s a major utterance of Gershwin’s that very few of us really know.”

“It shows a greater sophistication,” Votapek added. “The orchestra has a lot to say in it. It has a march, and a tango, and some Cuban-sounding music. It has 42 tempo changes in 15 minutes — it’s all over the place.”

Votapek officially retired from his post as piano professor at MSU 11 years ago, when he was 65. But it doesn’t look like much of a retirement.

In the coming year, he’s doing recitals in Minnesota, Florida and Michigan and several campus concerts with College of Music colleagues Guy Yehuda, Richard Sherman and I-Fu Wang. His 25th Latin American tour is coming up early next year. A new CD of music by Ravel, Schumann and Bartok, recorded on a tour of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, is due later this month.

“It’s kind of amazing that it’s still going,” he admitted, modestly substituting “it” for “I.”

and (the) digital revolution.” Some of the magazine’s greatest hits are included in this anthology, including pre-breakout interviews with the Insane Clown Posse, Kid Rock and Quentin Tarantino.

“The reason you see early writing on these bands is because those who wrote for Orbit were often in the arts/culture scene as creatives — in bands, writers, painters,” St. Mary said. “They had their ears closer to the ground than the major dailies or other publications in Detroit.”

In 1992, Orbit raved about “Reservoir Dogs” and was the first magazine to put Quentin Tarantino on a cover.

Two years later, Tarantino paid homage to Orbit in “Pulp Fiction,” donning an T-shirt featuring Orbit’s mascot, Orby, in the film.

“When ‘Pulp Fiction’ was about to shoot, the Orbit office received a call asking for more of the shirts and a signed release for its use in the film,” St. Mary said. “As a little nod of respect back to Orbit, Tarantino wears the shirt during his scenes at Jimmy’s house.”

In the end, said St. Mary, he’s just happy his passion project came to fruition.

“It’s been a great honor to do this book because, at the bottom of it, I was a fan,” he said. “When Orbit was around, I didn’t know how singular it was. I didn’t realize that we had something special that not every city in America had. Also, as I talked to people, I realized that Jerry Vile is one of the most important people in Detroit arts history in the past 35-plus years.”

CROWDSOURCING

A GUIDE TO LANSING-AREA ONLINE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS

*Crowdsourcing highlights local crowdsourcing campaigns.
To find the events, go to the designated website and search by title.*

Two new films by filmmaker Michael McCallum

kickstarter.com/projects/990491726/two-new-films-by-award-winning-filmmaker-michael-m

Over the last sixteen years, filmmaker and Lansing resident Michael McCallum has written, produced, and filmed eight short films and four feature length films. McCallum is looking to Kickstarter to help fund his two latest film projects, “Two For the Show” and “Confidence Of a Tall Man.” “Two For the Show” centers around the fallout from a one night stand at a high school reunion, while “Confidence Of a Tall Man” focuses on protagonist Tommy’s struggles with the impending failure of his father’s business and his lackluster attempts to sell it. Both projects have completed filming and are in post-production. McCallum hopes to crowd source \$10,500 by Oct. 2 in order to finance post-production costs, film festival entries and DVD manufacturing. Donations range from \$10 to \$10,000, and awards for contributors range from a DVD copy of “Two For the Show” on DVD to executive producer credit on the films and a chance to appear in McCallum’s next project.

Insane Inseam

indiegogo.com/projects/insane-inseam

In a world where not all clothes are made to fit each body type, two local entrepreneurs are offering an easy and affordable alternative to digging through clothing racks to find the right fit. Insane Inseam, created by Lansing residents Melissa Meschke and Amy Simon, is an online marketplace focused on buying and selling clothing for tall people. The pair is also collaborating with Kellie’s Consignments out of Okemos to have a brick-and-mortar outlet for their products. The duo hopes to raise \$5,000 in funding by Sept. 24th, which would go towards stocking their inventory, advertising and the purchase of a dress form to display the clothing in photographs. Donation levels range from \$5 to \$500, with awards like a mention on the Insane Inseam Facebook and Twitter pages or a 25 percent off coupon which is good for a full year.



Inside Ben

indiegogo.com/projects/inside-ben

Have you ever wondered what it might be like to live your life completely indoors? What if the very thought of going outside sent you into a panic attack? “Inside Ben,” the new thriller by screenwriters Jeremiah Jett and Amaru Lewis, focuses on a character with this affliction. “Inside Ben” is the story of Ben, a man who must come to terms with his severe case of Agoraphobia before it ruins his life. Principal filming has been completed, and the filmmakers are shooting for a fall premiere in Lansing. Lewis and Jett are hoping to crowd source \$25,000 by Oct. 2 to cover post-production costs, film festival fees and advertising. Donation levels range from \$5 to \$5,000 and come with rewards ranging from social media shout-outs to executive producer credits and autographed copies of the film.

— KEVIN McINERNEY

If you have a crowdsourcing event to promote, send a link and short description to ty@lansingcitypulse.com.

Orbit

from page 14

tics and arts and culture, Peterson found that pop culture, satire and sharp design were what grabbed readers,” writes St. Mary.

Unlike its competitor, the weekly Metro Times, the riskier, satire-driven Orbit published twice a month from 1990-1993. In late summer of 1993, due to advertising revenue issues, it became a monthly.

“Orbit’s attitude was a mix of influences, from things like CREEM magazine, underground comics and punk DIY aesthetic,” St. Mary said.

St. Mary, a Hamtramck resident, is also host and producer of “Detours,” an arts and culture podcast for the Detroit Free Press. He recalled the first time he picked up a copy of Orbit at Macomb Mall’s Harmony House record store in 1993 or 1994.

“I was 15 or 16 and going to high school at Clintondale,” St. Mary recalled. “(Orbit) was this gateway of cool stuff, humor, arts and culture that you really couldn’t get from the rival alt paper in Detroit or the major dailies. This was also before the Internet, so the only way to know what bands were playing in town or the really cool things that were happening was reading the alt-papers — and for me, that meant Orbit.”

Orbit folded in 1999, the book says Peterson was a “victim of bad business

Swinging through the market

Michigan State University's jazz faculty supergroup, the Professors of Jazz, closed out the Lansing City Market's inaugural Jazz on the Grand concert series Wednesday.

The free summer concert series, which is part of

the market's reinvigoration plan, has drawn hundreds of spectators to the market's riverside plaza. Several market vendors, including Red's Smokehouse and For Crepe Sake, stayed open late to serve concert goers.

Audrey Tipper, the market's new manager, said that the concerts have been a great success and she expects that the market will offer an expanded series next summer.

Photos by TY FORQUER



Jazz lovers gathered at the City Market's riverside plaza Wednesday to take in the final Jazz on the Grand concert of the summer.



At 80, drummer Randy Gelispie, known as "Uncle G" to his MSU colleagues and students, is the elder statesman of MSU's jazz program.



Trumpeter Etienne Charles, MSU professor of jazz trumpet, takes a solo on one of the band's tunes.



Bassist Rodney Whitaker, director of MSU's jazz studies program, chats with the crowd in between tunes.



Xavier Davis, MSU professor of jazz piano, provides the harmonic underpinning to the group's sound.

CURTAIN CALL

Dirty rotten fun Riverwalk delivers with con man comedy

By PAUL WOZNIAK

For a good time this weekend, you could

do much worse than "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels" at Riverwalk Theatre. This musical comedy features strong choreography and plenty of high-energy, irreverent naughtiness.

Review

The runtime is excessive and occasional sound glitches marred the opening weekend's polish, but the cast and crew deliver on their promise of glitzy, lighthearted fun.

Adapted from the hit 1988 film starring

"Dirty Rotten Scoundrels"

Riverwalk Theatre
7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17; 8 p.m. Friday, September 18 and Saturday, Sept. 19; 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20
\$22/\$20 seniors, students and military
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive, Lansing
(517) 482-5700,
riverwalktheatre.com

two leading men.

Fortunately, Riverwalk's leading men

have great chemistry. Bob Puroskey plays veteran con man Lawrence Jameson, a successful and sophisticated criminal feeding off of the rich women on the French Riviera. Riverwalk newcomer Brian Farnham plays Freddy Benson, a talented yet unrefined con man who stumbles onto Jameson's game. The pair agree to a wager to see who can steal \$50,000 from leggy dame Christine Colgate (Laura Croff) first.

Without imitating their silver screen counterparts, Puroskey and Farnham imbue their stage chemistry with comic crackle. In

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Curtain Call

from page 16

the song “All About Ruprecht,” Benson plays the role of Ruprecht, the deformed product of aristocratic inbreeding, to help Jameson out of a jam. Farnham’s performance here is zany, creepy and inspired — and perfectly balanced by Purosky’s deadpan expressions.

Playing the duo’s “mark,” Croff brings her trademark daffy delivery to Christine, while still keeping a straight face on her clumsy character. Croff mines laughs with minimal effort, offering comically appropriate looks or stares. She also plays well off the two leads, particularly on the second act power ballad, “Love Is My Legs,” opposite Farnham.

Other supporting characters include Colleen Bethea as wealthy widower Muriel Eubanks, James Geer as Jameson’s assis-

tant Andre Thibault and Kaitlin Torphy as Oklahoma oil baroness Jolene. Each character gets a song or a moment to generate laughs, but their subplots — especially Muriel and Andre’s — often pad, rather than enhance, the main plot.

The strongest technical element by far is the choreography. Choreographer Michael Chan also performs in the ensemble. Blending ballroom styles with modern Broadway kicks, each dance number looks challenging yet tight. Chan clearly pushes the cast but works appropriately within their limits.

One disappointment is the lack of a live orchestra. Angie Schwab is credited as the music director, but it’s clear that the full orchestra blasting through the speakers is not sitting in the room. But to director Mary K. Hodges-Nees’ credit, the canned music doesn’t detract from the performances. If anything, it serves as a nice “click-track” that keeps the entire production moving along smoothly.

Barefoot at the Ledges

Talented cast shines despite lackluster script

By MARY C. CUSACK

It is easy to write off most Neil Simon plays nowadays. His works reflect the experiences of New Yorkers living in times of great social change, and they haven’t all aged well.

For contemporary audiences, these plays move slowly, lack any real conflict and rely on tired gags that do not get funnier with repetition.

“Barefoot in the Park”

Over the Ledge Theatre Co.

8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17-Saturday, Sept. 19; 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 20

\$10/\$8 seniors/\$6 students

The Ledges Playhouse
137 Fitzgerald Park Drive,
Grand Ledge
(517) 318-0579,
overtheledge.org

Paul is a fresh-faced but stoic young attorney who is preparing for his first court case. Corie is a free spirit whose role in life seems to be flitting about and alternately avoiding and advising her mother, Mrs. Banks (LeAnn Dethlefsen).

The Bratters meet their kooky upstairs neighbor, Victor Velasco (Steve Ledyard), who may have been the inspiration for Dos Equis’ “most interesting man in the world.” Victor has climbed mountains, traveled the world and cooked gourmet food with kings and celebrities — yet lacks the funds to pay his rent, so he climbs in and out the window to his shackled apartment. Corie decides he’s just the guy to loosen her mother’s apron

strings, and drunken shenanigans ensue.

The story unfolds over the course of four days. It sometimes feels like it’s presented in real time, especially as the audience waits for characters to climb the five flights of stairs to the apartment. That element quickly becomes a tired gag. Precious time is wasted listening to characters huff and puff upon entering the apartment and then tediously complain about the climb. (Based on the physical condition of these characters, it seems that no one in 1960s New York engaged in any cardio.)

The main conflict occurs when Corie and Paul get into a drunken argument about their personality mismatch. The argument goes on too long, and it is so petty that one could more easily imagine it taking place between teenagers, rather than a couple in their mid-20s. She thinks he’s a stuffed shirt because he doesn’t want to run barefoot in the park in February, and he thinks that she doesn’t understand the weight of responsibility that he carries as a fledgling breadwinner trying to build a career.

In the hands of a less compelling actress, Corie could be completely unsympathetic and irritating. Hecksel, however, is adorably charming and creates a Corie who eagerly tries to please people without losing her sense of self.

Boxleitner, who has matured nicely during his time on the Lansing theater scene, fits the part of a serious young professional well. He doesn’t overplay his frustration or irritation as Corie cajoles him but is the steady voice of reason — until she pushes him too far. It is easy to relate to his character, a guy who desperately needs a few hours of sleep before he has to go to work. Boxleitner also has a natural connection with Dethlefsen that surfaces as they kibitz over Corie’s eccentricities.

“Barefoot in the Park” is an outdated script with few real laughs and only a modicum of poignancy. Yet with his compelling cast, director Rick Dethlefsen has managed to make this walk in the park innocuously pleasant.

GENEALOGY

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Free Fall lectures:

September 23 - “Breaking Down Walls With DNA” by Bethany Waterbury

October 28 - “Pitfalls, Mistakes, and Strokes of Insight” by Jessica Trotter

November 18 - “Building a Scottish Pedigree” by Harrison McKnight

No meetings in December or January

Plymouth Congregational Church

2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing, MI (across from the Red Cross bldg.)

7-9 pm, open to the public and free.

MMGS - PO Box 16033 - Lansing, MI 48901-6033

mmsg.wordpress.com

www.facebook.com/pages/Mid-Michigan-Genealogical-Society/63844634435



Thursday, September 24, 2015
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

East Lawn of the Capitol
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Learn more or find a farmers market at
www.mifma.org

From canoes to Chris-Craft

New book explores boat making in Michigan

By BILL CASTANIER

If you grew up anywhere near one of the Great Lakes or one of Michigan's thousands of inland lakes or rivers, you've surely seen a good number of boats. Sea-faring vessels are all over in this state, on trailers, at docks, sitting in the yard, tied to the tops of cars or even abandoned and rotting at liveries. For many residents, boating and Michigan summer recreation are nearly synonymous.

So it should be no surprise that boats of all kinds — from destroyer escorts to canvas folding boats and from sleek speed

boats to pontoon boats — were built in Michigan at one time or another.

Scott M. Peters has documented the incredibly varied and rich history of the Michigan boat-building industry in his new book, "Making Waves."

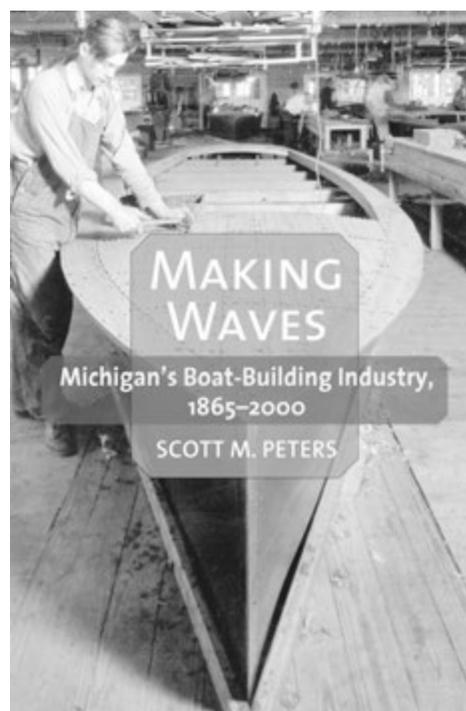
The earliest boats in Michigan were built by Native Americans for fishing and commercial purposes. Native Americans based near Sault Ste. Marie also were responsible for one of the first recreational boats, the lapstrake canoe which they used to run tourists through the rapids of the St. Marys River.

Even the Lansing area has some boating history. Small steamboats plied the Grand River in the mid-1800s hauling commercial goods along the bustling river. Later, boats were used at both Waverly Park and at Pine Lake for recreational purposes.

As Michigan's early settlers found more time for leisure, specialized boats for hunting and fishing found their way onto rivers and lakes. Going "up north" for vacation in the summer often included a boat ride.

That's partially where Peters, curator of collections at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing, got his first taste of boating. His family took summer vacations at Hubbard Lake. He didn't know it then, but he later learned that one of the fastest boats ever made in Michigan found its final resting place on the shores of Hubbard Lake after a horrific crash. The boat, driven by boat designer and builder Les Staudacher of Kawkawlin, crashed after going airborne at 280 mph.

Peters said his dad was a "boat nerd," one of those individuals who can identify the big commercial boats from 1,000 yards. That was the root of Peters' fasci-



"Making Waves," by Scott M. Peters, explores the history of boat making in Michigan.

nation with boating, but it wasn't until he was working at the Sloan Museum in Flint that his interest really took hold.

Peters was curating an exhibit when he came across a small toy metal boat with the moniker "Miss America" on the side. He began researching the boat's history and discovered the legend of Garfield "Gar" Wood and powerboat racing.

Wood, a successful industrialist in Detroit, financed the building of the Miss Detroit and Miss American series and equipped them with powerful aircraft engines. Wood's racing boats, with him at the

wheel, were nearly unbeatable. His first boats topped out at an unheard of 60 mph, and later models reached over 120 mph.

Wood won the American Power Boat Association's Gold Cup several times in the 1910s and '20s before winning the more prestigious British Crown. In his book, Peters explains how the British government subsidized boat racing, competing against private U.S. industrialists like Wood.

More than 500,000 spectators lined the Detroit River to watch the Brits race against Wood, at that time the largest sporting crowd to watch a single event. Spectators not only came to watch the race, but also to see the spectacular break-ups of the hydroplanes, which left matchstick-like pieces strewn everywhere.

Peters also writes of the breakup between Wood and his boat maker, C.C. Smith Boat & Engine Co. Christopher Smith and Wood went their separate ways mostly because Wood wanted to concentrate on boats for the rich, while Smith wanted to build affordable boats, using assembly line techniques and dealerships to reach the masses. Smith went on to establish the most prominent company in Michigan boating history, Chris-Craft.

With the creation of Chris-Craft, the Detroit area became the epicenter of the runabout boat industry. Runabouts were fast, sleek, open-cockpit boats with a long foredeck. Their glistening wooden deck and hull made them appear like bullets skipping across the water.

Also fueling the Chris-Craft explosion was alcohol — or rather, the lack of it. Runabouts became the boat of choice for Prohibition era rum runners, and the speedy boats crisscrossed the Detroit River. Not to be outdone, the Michigan State Police operated a contingent of four Chris-Craft boats.

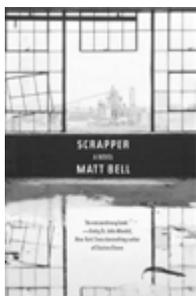
Today, restored Chris-Craft boats are in high demand and draw high prices. The first Chris Craft dealer, located in Hessel, is still in business and restores classic wooden boats.

"Maintaining a wooden boat is so labor intensive," Peters said. "Owning a wooden boat is now more of a stewardship, one of preserving the boats for future generations."

Schuler Books & Music

Michigan Notable Author
MATT BELL presents his
Detroit-set novel *Scrapper*

Thursday, Sept. 17 @ 7pm
Meridian Mall location



Matt won a Michigan Notable award in 2014 for his novel *In the House Upon the Dirt Between the Lake and the Woods*. We think it likely that he will be honored again for *Scrapper*, which has been compared to Emily St. John

Mandel's breakaway hit *Station Eleven*, and deemed by Mandel herself to be an "extraordinary book."

LISA MCMANN presents
book 6 of the NYT-Bestselling
Unwanted's series

Monday, September 21 @7pm
Meridian Mall location



Join us for talk and signing with Lisa McMann for *The Island of Graves*, book six in the bestselling middle-grade dystopian fantasy series *The Unwanted's*! Kirkus Reviews described the series as "The Hunger Games meets Harry Potter." and the stakes are higher than ever in book six.

meets Harry Potter." and the stakes are higher than ever in book six.

For more information visit
www.SchulerBooks.com.



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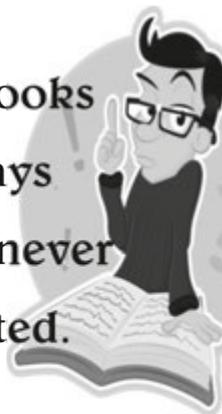
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OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Allison at (517) 999-5066.

Wednesday, September 16

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

Spiritual Intelligence Class. Eight-week class on wisdom and compassion. 1-2:30 p.m. or 6:30-8 p.m. Unity of Greater Lansing, 15851 S. US Highway 27, Bldg. 20, Lansing. (517) 371-3010, unityofgreaterlansing.org.

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington St., Lansing. (517) 351-5866. lamc.info.

Franchising as a Career. Seminar on franchising. 6 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed step meeting. 6 p.m. Donations. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 899-3215.

Aux Petits Soins: Explorers 3. French immersion for babies/toddlers. 4:30 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother and Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059.

Eugene Jarecki Lecture. Lecture by documentary filmmaker. 7 p.m. \$20/FREE for MSU students and staff. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 432-0125, onebookeastlansing.com.

Crazy Action Songs. Fun activities to improve speech and motor skills. 6-6:45 p.m. \$5 unless member of the Capital Area Down Syndrome Association. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. 517-355-7661, ow.ly/S6v5k.

MSU Libraries Open House. Information about library services provided. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, MSU Campus, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, lib.msu.edu.

Zotero Training. Class for users of Zotero. 4:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, MSU Campus, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, classes.lib.msu.edu/class_list.php.

Wetlands Restoration in Ingham and Clinton Counties. Wild Ones meeting. Open to all. 7 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center,

Swapping IPAs for RBIs



Courtesy Photo
Beerfest at the Ballpark returns to the field at Cooley Law School Stadium Saturday.

Saturday, Sept. 19

Lansing-area residents have a chance to take the field Saturday at Cooley Law School Stadium, but they won't be trying to drive in runs or shag fly balls. Instead, they'll be sipping IPAs and stouts under the bright lights at Beerfest at the Ballpark.

The festival is a collaborative effort between the Lansing Lugnuts and I'm A Beer Hound, a Lansing-based event organizer and online beer news outlet dedicated to covering Michigan breweries and craft beers.

April's installment of Beerfest at the Ballpark drew some 3,100 people to Cooley Law School Stadium, and Paul Starr, founder of I'm a Beer Hound, hopes a new partnership with local businesses will attract even more visitors to this weekend's festival.

Starr struck a deal with the Tin Can (West Lansing and Dewitt locations), Hopcat in East Lansing and Meijer in Okemos to provide party bus transportation from those locations to the stadium. Transportation passes (\$45) also include VIP festival entry and food discounts.

"I'm very excited that we are working with the Tin Can, Hopcat, and Meijer to provide rides and meal discounts for festival-goers," Starr said. "It helps to alleviate a parking issue the festival tends to experience, while also offering some great food deals for our guests."

For those who don't want to pony up for the transportation pass but still want to get home safely, taxis will be available at the stadium exit. There are also designated driver passes (\$10) that grant entry to the festival but don't include drink tickets.

As usual, the festival boasts an extensive list of breweries from all over the state of Michigan, but his installment also includes several international brewers from Germany and Belgium. Offering over 200 varieties of beer, mead and cider from a total of 70 different breweries and cideries, there will be plenty of options for beer fanatics to sample.

The festival features some of the biggest names in Michigan brewing, such as Bell's Brewery, Founders Brewing Co., and Dark Horse Brewing Co., but will also showcase

some brewers who are just making it on the scene. Breweries making their festival debut this fall include Canton Brew Works, Jaden James Brewery, Old Nation Brewing Co., Raitown Brewing Co., Roak Brewing Co and Spartan Beer Co.

While attendees sip samples of suds, they can also take in live music from Lansing-area bands like Lights and Caves, Showdown and the Black Barn Band.

One of the things Starr is most excited about for the fall festival is being able to hold the activities on the baseball field inside the stadium.

"In the spring we had all of the tents in the parking lot because the field was too soft still," Starr said. "It was still a great time, but to me there is something special about being on the field in a baseball stadium trying different beers and hearing live music. It's really an amazing atmosphere for this type of event."

Beerfest at the Ballpark

5-10 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19
Tickets start at \$30 (\$10 for designated driver ticket)
Cooley Law School Stadium
505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
beerfestattheballpark.net

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

TENPOUND FIDDLE OPENS WITH BARBARA BAILEY HUTCHISON



FRI. SEP 18TH

Barbara Bailey Hutchison

Friday, Sept. 18 @ Ten Pound Fiddle – Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. \$18, \$15, \$5 students, 7:30 p.m.

The Ten Pound Fiddle opens its 41st season of concerts with Grammy-winning singer/songwriter Barbara Bailey Hutchison. The artist has performed her melodic, lyrically-driven songs in almost every state and around the world globe, and she has appeared at the White House three times. Hutchison grew up in Detroit, but she didn't begin performing until she attended Michigan State University. Before long she was touring and performing at other college campuses and even landed some commercial work, singing on hundreds of advertisements for McDonald's, Hallmark Cards, Heinz and other national accounts. Since then, she's released a string of acclaimed albums. In 1996 she nabbed a Grammy Award for "Best Musical Recording for Children."

LANSING AREA SONGWRITER'S GROUP AT ELDERLY



SAT. SEP 19TH

Lansing Area Songwriter's Group

Saturday, Sept. 19 @ Lansing Area Songwriter's Group – Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave., Lansing. FREE, 4 p.m.

On the third Saturday of each month, the Lansing Area Songwriter's Group meets at Elderly Instruments in the store's downstairs workshop room. The group, hosted by local singer/songwriter Tania Hayward, focuses on the craft of songwriting through relaxed discussions and constructive feedback. The gathering is free and leans toward the interests of "intermediate to experienced songwriters," but artists of any level are welcome. According to the organizers, the group is perfect for those who "often feel stuck with songwriter's block" or "stuck in the same old patterns." The gathering also gives songwriters a chance to share songs or ideas-in-progress. So if you're aiming to develop new approaches to your writing, this Lansing group could be for you. To register for the event, visit meetup.com/Lansing-Area-Songwriters-Group.

TRAPT AT THE LOFT



WED. SEP 16TH

Trapt

Thursday, Sept. 17 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$20, \$15 adv., 7 p.m.

Trapt first gained national exposure in 2002 with its angst, modern-rock hit, "Headstrong." The nu-metal/alternative hard-rock single received ample play on the radio and MTV. Thursday, the band headlines an all-ages show at the Loft; opening are Sons of Texas, Deveraux, CYK Cylinder and Coldville. On the Trapt's latest album, 2013's "Reborn," the band expands from its heavy, nu-metal roots and experiments with synthesizers and other digital effects. "Reborn" is the band's fifth LP. Back in the mid '90s, Trapt lead singer Chris Taylor Brown was inspired by bands like Korn and Metallica. By 1997, while still in high school, Brown had formed Trapt and was soon opening shows for Papa Roach and other notable bands. In 2001, the band signed to Warner Bros. and has kept busy touring and recording since.

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT RICH TUPICA AT rich@lansingcitypulse.com >>> TO BE LISTED IN LIVE & LOCAL E-MAIL liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com

LIVE & LOCAL

| | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave. | Service Industry Night, 3 p.m. | Open Mic, 9p.m. | Nova the Ghost, 8 p.m. | Michigan Move, 9 p.m. |
| Black Cat Bistro, 15 Albert Ave | | | | Taylor Taylor, 8 p.m. |
| Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd. | | | Darrin Larner Jr., 5 p.m. | Greg Smith, 5 p.m. |
| Capitol Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr. | | | Craig Kreiger, 8:30 p.m. | Bob Schultz, 8:30 p.m. |
| Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd. | DJ Trivia, 8 p.m. | | | DJ, 9 p.m. |
| Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Blvd. | | Open Mic w/Pat Zelenka, 9 p.m. | | |
| Copper, 2874 E. Lake Lansing Rd. | | Crosstide, 6 p.m. | | |
| Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave. | Fusion Shows Presents, 10 p.m. | Karaoke, 9 p.m. | Karaoke, 9 p.m. | Karaoke, 9 p.m. |
| Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Rd. | | Celtic Mayhem, 10 p.m. | Reggae Lou, 5 p.m. | Rob K, 5 p.m. |
| The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave. | Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 7 p.m. | Skoryoke Live Band Karaoke, 8:30 p.m. | Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m. | Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m. |
| Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave. | "Johnny D" Jam, 9 p.m. | Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m. | | |
| Harper's, 131 Albert Ave. | | Mark Sala, 5 p.m. | | |
| Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave | | | Crosstide, 6 p.m. | |
| Leroys, 1526 S. Cedar St. | | | Rachel Curtis, 5 p.m. | |
| The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave. | Full Devil Jacket, 7 p.m. | Karaoke, 9:30 p.m. | | Karaoke, 9:30 p.m. |
| Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave. | | Trapt, 7 p.m. | The Browning, 6 p.m. | Red Bull Sound Select, 8:30 p.m. |
| Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. | | Erra, 6 p.m. | Genocya/All Ends Black, 8 p.m. | Bobby Knucklez, 7 p.m. |
| Peppino's, 213 Ann St. | Reggae Lou, 5 p.m. | Further Adv. of FatBoy & Jive Turkey, 9 p.m. | Acme Jam, 9 p.m. | Lincoln County Process, 9 p.m. |
| R Club, 6409 Centurion Dr. | | | | |
| Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road | Rush Clement, 6 p.m. | | Kathy Ford Band, 8:30 p.m. | Pat Zelenka Project, 8:30 p.m. |
| Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27 | Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7:30 p.m. | | The Tenants, 6 p.m. | Steve Cowles, 6 p.m. |
| Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy. | Mark Sala, 6 p.m. | | Jake Stevens Band, 6 p.m. | The Young Guns, 6 p.m. |
| Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq. | | | Rush Clement, 6 p.m. | Bill Slaght, 6 p.m. |
| Tin Can West, 644 Migaldi Ln. | Waterpong, 11 p.m. | | Chris Laskos, 8 p.m. | |
| Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave. | | Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m. | Frog and The Beeftone Blues, 8:30 p.m. | Frog and The Beeftone Blues, 8:30 p.m. |
| Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive | | | Joe Wright, 7 p.m. | |
| Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd. | Trevor Compton, 7 p.m. | Dan MacLachlan, 8 p.m. | Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m. | Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m. |

LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS!

To get listed just email us at liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-5066. Only submit information for the following week's paper.

Out on the town

from page 19

2020 E. Mount Hope Ave. Lansing. (517) 887-0596, wildoneslansing.org.

Kid Zone: Lego Creation Station. Grades K - 6th. LEGO build challenges and free play. 4-5 p.m. FREE. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156, dewittlibrary.org.

Balderdash @ MSC. Fun board game played for prizes. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Meridian Service Center, 2100 Gaylord Smith Court, East Lansing. (517) 706-5045.

Line Dancing @ MSC. Line Dancing at the Meridian Senior Center, 3:15-4:15 p.m. \$9. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

EVENTS

Practice Your English. Practice listening to and speaking English. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Open Workshop. Bike repair, bike safety and biking as healthy exercise. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Kids Repair Program, 5815 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 755-4174.

Allen Street Farmers Market. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Home Safety @ ANC. With Officer Penni Elton. 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo, Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

MSU Creative Writing Group. All types of writers are encouraged to attend. 7-9 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

15 Amazing Science. Some "shocking" hands-on experiments. 4:30-5:30 p.m. , FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi Library, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351, cadl.org.

MUSIC

Fusion Shows presents. 21 and older welcome. 10 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza & Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

DTDL Book Club. Discussion of 'The Good Girl' by Mary Kubica. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4, dtdl.org.

Tween Book Club. Ages 9-12. Call for title and registration. 4-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3, dtdl.org.

Thursday, September 17

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. 5:15 p.m. \$5. New Hope Church, 1340 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 349-9183, newhopehaslett.com.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 6 p.m., meeting 6:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 882-9080, stdavidslansing.org.

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Quan Am Temple, 1840 N. College Ave., Mason. (517) 853-1675, quanamtemple.org.

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 357-6363, cadl.org.

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Community Mental Health Building, Room 214G, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Celebrate our Rivers. Learn water testing, neighborhood efforts, and more, 6-9 p.m. \$20. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St. Lansing. (517) 543-1512 ext.5, celebraterivers.eventbrite.com.

Celebrate Recovery. For all types of habits, hurts and hang-ups. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Trinity Church (Lansing), 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing. (517) 492-

1866.

LCC Plus 50 Job & Career Fair. Pre-registration required. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St. Lansing. (517) 492-5580, ow.ly/S6wX0.

Ladies Figure Skating. Lessons and practice. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:20 a.m. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 574-4380, ladiessilverblades.com.

HERO: Drywall Installation II. Call to register or email bruce@glhc.org. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. 372-5980, glhc.org.

Facebook for Business. How to set-up and

See Out on the Town, Page 22

Jonesin' Crossword

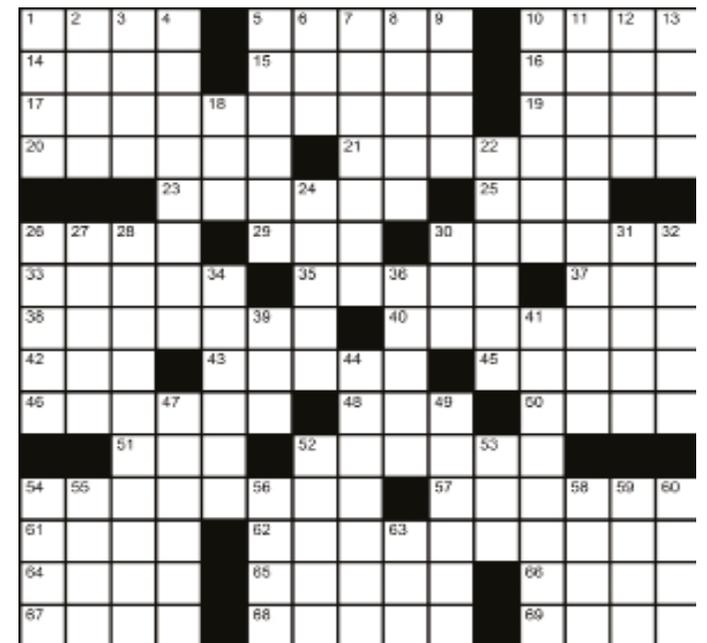
By Matt Jones

"Eat the Beatles"-
-get back...to the buffet.

Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Booker T.'s backers
- 4 "More or less" suffix
- 7 Place to unwind
- 10 2011 Rose Bowl winner, for short
- 13 "___ pro nobis"
- 14 4 letters?
- 15 Spider's digs
- 16 Move like a kangaroo
- 17 Beatles song about a smorgasbord?
- 19 Path across the sky
- 20 Dr. who treats sinus issues
- 21 B flat's equivalent
- 22 "Funkytown" group



in CIA OPERATIVE)

50 Act like a couch potato

52 With 61-Across, Beatles song about a sandwich bread's wish?

54 German car company

55 Drop some details, perhaps

56 Fallen Angel ingredient

57 "It's a possibility"

59 Marge and Homer's neighbor

60 "Charter" tree

61 See 52-Across

62 Ripken of the Orioles

63 Distort data

64 Uncloseted

65 Burma's first prime minister

66 "Tarzan" star Ron

67 Final stages

68 AZ's setting

69 They have their own

precincts, for short

Down

1 Hairdo that may be restyled into liberty spikes

2 Oregon's fourth-largest city

3 Greet informally

4 Doctor Frankenstein's helper

5 Quaint store

6 Kept under wraps

7 Football Hall-of-Famer Lynn

8 Sense

9 "Fresh Off the Boat" ailer

10 Something to "blame it on," per Milli Vanilli

11 Cooperate secretly

12 So far

18 Pasta ___ (dish mentioned in "That's Amore")

22 Breach of privacy, perhaps

23 Airport code for

O'Hare

26 Tank marking

27 Revolutionary place-finder?

32 "Hop aboard!"

34 Of base eight

37 "Nope, pick another one ..."

38 Chocolate-frosted item

39 Word stated in a Thomas Dolby song

40 Unfair treatment

41 In a calm manner

44 Pay, slangily

45 Seasoned vet

47 Demolition site letters

49 Contemptible

51 Chemical indicator

53 Hit the trail

58 Mixed breed

60 "Go, goalie!"

THURSDAY, SEPT. 17 >> LANSING ART GALLERY OPEN HOUSE

After 50 years of connecting the Lansing community with Michigan artists, the Lansing Art Gallery certainly has something to celebrate. The gallery has worked to promote local artists and has offered free educational programming and public viewing galleries since its founding in 1965. Its 50th anniversary celebration will include organic vegetarian food from Good Bites, beer from BAD Brewing Co. and wine from Dusty's Cellar. Along with these tasty treats, the gallery will also offer artful activities and a video tribute. Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero will be on hand to honor the gallery's contributions to the city. 6 p.m.- 8 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 374-6400, lansingartgallery.org/rsvp.

SUDOKU

BEGINNER

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TO PLAY

Fill in the grid so that every row, column, and outlined 3-by-3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 exactly once. No guessing is required. The solution is unique.

Answers on page 23

Out on the town

from page 21

post for your business. 2-3 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Tap and Ballet. Ages 3-5. 5-5:45 p.m. Platinum Dance Academy, 4976 1/2 Northwind Drive, East Lansing. (517) 708-8746, playeastlansing.com/dance.html.

Mind Benders at MSC. 11 a.m.-noon, FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

One on One Life Coaching. One on One Life Coaching Meridian Sr. Center, By appointment, \$24. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

EVENTS

Evening Storytime. Stories, songs and crafts. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3. dtld.org.

Euchre. No partner needed. 6-9 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

Karaoke. With Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.

South Lansing Farmers Market. Local produce, delicious prepared foods and handmade goodies. 3-7 p.m. FREE. St. Casimir Catholic Church, 800 W. Barnes Ave., Lansing. (517) 374-5700.

8-Ball Tournament. Bring your pool game to the Avenue. Call to confirm. 7 p.m. \$10. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 492-7403.

SoupGrant. Crowd-sourcing micro-grants for community projects, 6:30 p.m. \$5. Grace Lutheran Church, 528 N. Martin L. King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. soupgrantlansing@gmail.com, soupgrantlansing.com.

Capital Area Crisis Men & Women's Rugby Practice. All experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2151 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing.

The Coupon Swap. Workshop on how to find deals with coupons. 6-7:45 p.m. FREE. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156, dewittlibrary.org.

Harvest Basket Produce Sale. Farmers market with organically grown produce. 3-7 p.m. FREE. Smith Floral and Greenhouses, 1124 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6085.

MSU Community Clubs. Welcome reception to sign up for interest groups. 12:30-2:30 pm, University Club MSU, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing. (517) 351-0417, msu.edu/user/msucclub.

LEC: Historic Trees. Guided tour of historic trees on north campus. Noon, FREE. Beaumont Tower, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, lib.msu.edu.

Spanish Conversation Group. Both English and Spanish spoken. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Baby Storytime. Stories and movement for our youngest readers. Ages 0-2. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Foster Library, 200 N. Foster Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5185, cadl.org.

Minecraft Game Nights. Open to all skill levels. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

ADA Michigan 'Art From The Heart'. Reception for works by disabled artists. 12:30-2 p.m. FREE. Capitol Building, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 241-1217.

MUSIC

Erra. With guests Polyphia, Invent Animate and more. 6 p.m. Tickets start at \$12. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, fusionshows.com.

Marshall Music Drum Circle. All ages and levels welcome. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St. Lansing. (517) 337-9700, marshallmusic.com.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Chipmunk Story Time. Preschoolers enjoy stories, games, crafts and more, 10-11 a.m. \$3/child. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

THEATER

Barefoot in the Park. Comedy about newlyweds from Over the Ledge Theatre Co. 8 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/\$6 students. The Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Drive, Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579, overtheledge.org.

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels. Comedy about con

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

Sep 16-22

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You are destined to become a master of fire. It's your birthright to become skilled in the arts of kindling and warming and illuminating and energizing. Eventually you will develop a fine knack for knowing when it's appropriate to turn the heat up high, and when it's right to simmer with a slow, steady glow. You will wield your flames with discernment and compassion, rarely or never with prideful rage. You will have a special power to accomplish creative destruction and avoid harmful destruction. I'm pleased at the progress you are making toward these noble goals, but there's room for improvement. During the next eight weeks, you can speed up your evolution.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Taurus-born physicist Wolfgang Pauli won a Nobel Prize for his research. His accomplishment? The Nobel Committee said he discovered "a new law of nature," and named it after him: the Pauli Principle. And yet when he was a younger man, he testified, "Physics is much too difficult for me and I wish I were a film comedian or something like that and that I had never heard anything about physics!" I imagine you might now be feeling a comparable frustration about something for which you have substantial potential, Taurus. In the spirit of Pauli's perseverance, I urge you to keep at it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In 1921, the French city of Biarritz hosted an international kissing contest. After evaluating the participants' efforts, the panel of judges declared that Spanish kisses were "vampiric," while those of Italians were "burning," English were "tepid," Russians were "eruptive," French were "chaste," and Americans were "flaccid." Whatever nationality you are, Gemini, I hope you will eschew those paradigms -- and all other paradigms, as well. Now is an excellent time to experiment with and hone your own unique style of kissing. I'm tempted to suggest that you raise your levels of tenderness and wildness, but I'd rather you ignore all advice and trust your intuition.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The astrological omens suggest you could get caught up in dreaming about what might have been. I'm afraid you might cling to outworn traditions and resuscitate wistful wishes that have little relevance for the future. You may even be tempted to wander through the labyrinth of your memories, hoping to steep yourself in old feelings that weren't even good medicine for you when you first experienced them. But I hope you will override these inclinations, and instead act on the aphorism, "If you don't study the past, you will probably repeat it." Right now, the best reason to remember the old days is to rebel against them and prevent them from draining your energy.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may laugh more in the next fourteen days than you have during any comparable fourteen-day period since you were five years old. At least I hope you will. It will be the best possible tonic for your physical and mental health. Even more than usual, laughter has the power to heal your wounds, alert you to secrets hiding in plain sight, and awaken your dormant potentials. Luckily, I suspect that life will conspire to bring about this happy development. A steady stream of antics and whimsies and amusing paradoxes is headed your way. Be alert for the opportunities.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): It's a favorable time to fantasize about how to suck more cash into your life. You have entered a phase when economic mojo is easier to conjure than usual. Are you ready to engage in some practical measures to take advantage of the cosmic trend? And by that I don't mean playing the lottery or stealing strangers' wallets or scanning the sidewalk for fallen money as you stroll. Get intensely real and serious about enhancing your financial fortunes. What are three specific ways you're ignorant about getting and handling money? Educate yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): DI feel like a wet seed

wild in the hot blind earth," wrote author William Faulkner. Some astrologers would say that it's unlikely a Libra would ever say such a thing -- that it's too primal a feeling for your refined, dignified tribe; too lush and unruly. But I disagree with that view. Faulkner himself was a Libra! And I am quite sure that you are now or will soon be like a wet seed in the hot blind earth -- fierce to sprout and grow with almost feral abandon.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You and I both know that you can heal the sick and raise the dead and turn water into wine -- or at least perform the metaphorical equivalent of those magical acts. Especially when the pressure is on, you have the power to attract the help of mysterious forces and unexpected interventions. I love that about you! When people around you are rendered fuzzy and inert by life's puzzling riddles, you are often the best hope for activating constructive responses. According to my analysis of upcoming cosmic trends, these skills will be in high demand during the coming weeks.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Some astrologers regard the planet Saturn as a sour tyrant that cramps our style and squelches our freedom. But here's my hypothesis: Behind Saturn's austere mask is a benevolent teacher and guide. She pressures us to focus and concentrate. She pushes us to harness and discipline our unique gifts. It's true that some people resist these cosmic nudges. They prefer to meander all over the place, trying out roles they're not suited for and indulging in the perverse luxury of neglecting their deepest desires. For them Saturn seems like a dour taskmaster, spoiling their lazy fun. I trust that you Sagittarians will develop a dynamic relationship with Saturn as she cruises through your sign for the next 26 months. With her help, you can deepen your devotion to your life's most crucial goals.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The coming weeks will be a favorable time to break a spell you've been under, or shatter an illusion you have been caught up in, or burst free from a trance you have felt powerless to escape. If you are moved to seek help from a shaman, witch, or therapist, please do so. But I bet you could accomplish the feat all by yourself. Trust your hunches! Here's one approach you could try: Tap into both your primal anger and your primal joy. In your mind's eye, envision situations that tempt you to hate life and envision situations that inspire you love life. With this volatile blend as your fuel, you can explode the hold of the spell, illusion, or trance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Go to the edge of the cliff and jump off. Build your wings on the way down." So advised author Ray Bradbury. That strategy is too nerve-racking for a cautious person like me. I prefer to meticulously build and thoroughly test my wings before trying a quantum leap. But I have observed that Aquarius is one of the three signs of the zodiac most likely to succeed with this approach. And according to my astrological calculations, the coming weeks will be a time when your talent for building robust wings in mid-air will be even more effective than usual.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You are being tempted to make deeper commitments and to give more of yourself. Should you? Is it in your interests to mingle your destiny more thoroughly with the destinies of others? Will you benefit from trying to cultivate more engaged forms of intimacy? As is true for most big questions, there are no neat, simple answers. Exploring stronger connections would ultimately be both messy and rewarding. Here's an inquiry that might bring clarity as you ponder the possibility of merging your fortunes more closely with allies or potential allies: Will deeper commitments with them inspire you to love yourself dearly, treat yourself with impeccable kindness, and be a superb ally to yourself?

See Out on the Town, Page 23

CRIMINAL DEFENSE



**Drunk Driving
Embezzlement
Drugs
Homicide
All Federal
and State Crimes**

37 YEARS -
AGGRESSIVE
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"I received
15 calls in April from
my City Pulse
Pulsified for
lawn mowing."



THE PULSIFIEDS

BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

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.

Out on the town

from page 22

men from Riverwalk Theatre. 7 p.m. \$23/\$21 students, seniors, and military. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Friday, September 18

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Our Daily Work/Our Daily Lives. Presentation by Elizabeth Homer. 12:15-1:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum Auditorium, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

Mud And Mug. Pottery workshop. BYOB, ages 21 and up. 7-10 p.m. \$25. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

Aux Petits Soins: Explorers 1 & 2. French immersion for babies/toddlers. 9:30 a.m. (ages 2-4) & 10:30 a.m. (ages 0-2). \$15/\$12 students. Willow Tree Family Center, 3333 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 643-8059.

EVENTS

Broad Underground Film Series. Screening of avant-garde video art. 7 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

Barbara Bailey Hutchinson. Family concert. 10:30 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

MUSIC

Ten Pound Fiddle. Concert by Barbara Bailey Hutchison. 8-11 p.m. \$18/\$15 fiddle members/\$5 students. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661, tenpoundfiddle.org.

THEATER

Barefoot in the Park. Comedy about newlyweds from Over the Ledge Theatre Co. 8 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/\$6 students. The Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Drive, Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579, overtheledge.org.

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels. Comedy about con men from Riverwalk Theatre. 8 p.m. \$23/\$21 students, seniors, and military. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Saturday, September 19

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Tai Chi in the Park. Instruction in Qigong, meditation and Yang style tai chi forms. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

Domestic Violence Support Group. Noon-1:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163, womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

Aux Petits Soins. French immersion class for babies. 9:30 a.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother & Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

Being Still and Mindful Course. Pre-registration needed. Ages 5-12. 9:30-10:30am, FREE. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201, selfrealizationcentremichigan.org.

PHP Diabetic Taste Fest. Workshop on managing diabetes. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 331-0557.

EVENTS

Paws for Reading. Kids read to therapy dogs. Call to register. 11 a.m.-noon. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3, dtdl.org.

Karaoke. With Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.

Stewardship Morning. Volunteers help restore habitat and care for the park. 9-11 a.m. FREE. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

Home Party Sale. Over 15 in-home business vendors. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 323-8555, deltami.gov/parks.

Open House. Info available on therapy and volunteering. 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. FREE. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201, selfrealizationcentremichigan.org.

Run and Play for Ariana Mae. Fundraising event. 9 a.m. \$25. Fitzgerald Park, 133 Fitzgerald Park Drive, Grand Ledge. (517) 242-1327, arianamae.org.

Broad Museum Tours. Free public tours every Sat. and Sun. 1 and 3 p.m. FREE. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

I5 Amazing Science. Some "shocking" hands-on experiments. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300, cadl.org.

Library Card Extravaganza. Show or get a CADL card to receive prizes. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Foster Library, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185, cadl.org.

Family Tree Talk. Discussion of family history stories and resources, 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517)

MONDAY, SEPT. 21 >> PEACE OF LANSING'S 'MAKE MONDAY MATTER' DAY OF SERVICE

In celebration of the International Day of Peace, Peace of Lansing is hosting a whirlwind one-day volunteering event. Anyone can sign up to help with a variety of causes around town for one-hour time slots. The goal is to enrich the local community through a wide range of tasks, including weeding and laying mulch at area parks, restoring an urban garden, creating greeting cards for senior citizens and more. Volunteers can join up at any time and can participate in as many or as few activities as they wish. Activity schedule and sign-ups are available on the website. Refreshments will be provided in the morning and guitarists from MI Chicks with Picks will entertain volunteers with a 5-7 p.m. concert at AA Creative Corridor. All are invited to drop off school supplies for children in need. 8 a.m.-7 p.m. FREE. AA Creative Corridor, 1133 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. peaceoflansing.info.

272-9840.

Native Michigan Plant Sale. Noon-4 p.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 887-0596, wildoneslansing.org.

Take Steps Lansing. Fundraiser walk for Crohn's and ulcerative colitis. 3 p.m. \$25 suggested donation. Hawk Island County Park, E. Cavanaugh Road, Lansing. (248) 737-0900 ext. 3, cctakesteps.org/Lansing2015.

Oktoberfest Dinner Dance. 5:30-11:30 p.m. \$10 dinner/\$6 dance. Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 882-6330, liederkrantzclub.org.

MUSIC

David Roth in Concert. David Roth sings at the library. 7:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

THEATER

Barefoot in the Park. Comedy about newlyweds from Over the Ledge Theatre Co. 8 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/\$6 students. The Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Drive, Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579, overtheledge.org.

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels. Comedy about con men from Riverwalk Theatre. 8 p.m. \$23/\$21 students, seniors, and military. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Sunday, September 20

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. Third floor meeting room. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, cadl.org.

Juggling. Learn how to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street PumpHouse, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. (517) 371-5119.

Pokemon/Magic the Gathering Card Games. Tutorials for kids. 2:30 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 346-9900, becauseeverybodyreads.com.

Spiritual Talk, Pure Meditation and Silent Prayer. 7 p.m. FREE. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201, selfrealizationcentremichigan.org.

Parents of LGBTQ kids. Weekly support group. All faiths are welcome. 3-4:30 p.m. FREE. Diversity Psychological Services, 1310 Turner St., Lansing. (720) 401-4214.

Learn to Curl Signup Deadline. 11:59 p.m. \$50. Summit Sport, 2650 East Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 332-4000, lansingcurls.org.

EVENTS

Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance. Lessons 6-6:45 p.m., dance 6:45. \$8 dance/\$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 490-7838.

East Lansing Farmers Market. Essential food items and much more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Court, East Lansing. (517) 319-6888, cityofeastlansing.com/farmersmarket.

New in Student Performance. Student showcase of creative work. 2 p.m. FREE. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. Delta Township Park Hop. Park-hopping with

See Out on the Town, Page 24

SATURDAY, SEPT. 19 >> MERIDIAN FALL HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Mid-Michiganians can get back to their roots by exploring 19th century history at the Meridian Fall Heritage Festival at the Meridian Historical Village. Surrounded by authentic buildings from the past two centuries, visitors can take in historical demonstrations from the Sisters of the Union Reenactment Group. There will be exhibits on archery, fishing, long rifle shooting, vintage baseball and even a native American powwow display. Handmade goods will be sold at the Arts and Crafts Marketplace. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Meridian Historical Village, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 347-7300, meridianhistoricalvillage.org.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

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Out on the town

from page 23

activities and prizes. 1-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township Parks and Recreation, 7710 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 323-8555, deltami.gov.
Broad Museum Tours. Free public tours every Sat. and Sun. 1 and 3 p.m. FREE. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

THEATER

Barefoot in the Park. Comedy about newlyweds from Over the Ledge Theatre Co. 2 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/\$6 students. The Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Drive, Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579, overtheledge.org.
Dirty Rotten Scoundrels. Comedy about con men from Riverwalk Theatre. 2 p.m. \$23/\$21 students, seniors, and military. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Monday, September 21

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Adult Rape Survivor Support Group. Registration preferred. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's

Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

Job Seekers Support Group. Finding the right career. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163, womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

Support Group. For the divorced, separated & widowed. 7:30 p.m. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272, stdavidslansing.org.

Timber Tots: Preschool Nature. Children aged 3-4 with an adult explore nature. 9-10 a.m. \$35 for 6 week class. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

My Cub & I: Nature for Toddler. Toddlers aged 1-3 with an adult explore nature. 10:30-11:30 a.m. \$35 for 6 week class. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

Story Art Time. Storytime and art-making for preschoolers. 10-11 a.m. \$5/adults FREE. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

Endnote X6 and Endnote Online. Beginner class on Endnote Citations. 1-3 p.m. MSU Library, MSU Campus, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, classes.lib.msu.edu/class_list.php.

EVENTS

Ancestry Club. Learn and share genealogy tips.

Call to register. 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4, dtdl.org.

Mac's Monday Comedy Night. Hosted by Mark Roebuck and Dan Currie. 9:30 p.m. FREE. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, macsbar.com.

Social Bridge. Play bridge and meet new people. No partner needed. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

Film Viewing: Dead Man Walking. Rated R,

122 minutes. 6:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

BabyTime. 0-24 months. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

French Club. French listening and speaking practice. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 25

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TUESDAY, SEPT. 22-27 >> 'CINDERELLA' AT THE WHARTON CENTER

A fresh adaptation of a classic tale arrives at Wharton Center Tuesday, so get out the Windex and polish up those glass slippers. This Rodgers and Hammerstein version of "Cinderella" originally aired on television in 1957 with Julie Andrews. A stage version finally debuted on Broadway in 2013, with an updated book by Douglas Carter Beane. This iteration retains all the magic and romance of the original but promises new twists to keep audiences enthralled. On Sept. 25 there will be a \$55 Spotlight Dinner with special guests before the show, and a free after-show talk with members of the cast is available on Sept. 26. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 8 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets start at \$35. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.



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Out on the town

from page 24

Kids Reading to Dogs. Kids read to a trained dog. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021, cadl.org.

Peace of Lansing. Celebration of Global Day of Peace. 8 a.m.-7 p.m. FREE. 1133 S. Washington Ave., Reo Town, Lansing. (517) 484-8789, peaceoflansing.info.

Tuesday, September 22

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 5:45-6:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Speakeasies Toastmasters. Improve listening, analysis, leadership and presentation skills. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (616) 841-5176.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. 7 p.m. FREE to visit. Eaton Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. (517) 543-0786.

Not So Happy Endings Support Group. For women ending relationships. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 896-3311.

Hopeful Hearts Grief Group. Learn, grow and heal together. 10-11 a.m. FREE. The Marquette Activity Room, 5968 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. (517) 381-4866.

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300, cadl.org.

My Cub & I: Nature for Toddler. Toddlers aged 1-3 with an adult explore nature. 6:30-7:30 p.m. \$35 for 6 week class. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

eMarketing - Constant Contact. Permission based email marketing. 9-11 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcnichigan.org.

Overeaters Anonymous. Support for weight loss efforts. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 290-5163.

Storytelling for Business. See how storytelling builds client connections. 6-8:45 p.m. \$20. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 896-4091, whybusinessstorytelling.com.

H.E.R.O.: Basic Trim Carpentry. Call to register or email bruce@glhc.org. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. 372-5980, glhc.org.

EVENTS

Medication Disposal Event. Safely dispose of unused medications. 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Capitol Building, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-1466, michiganpharmacists.org/medicationdisposal.

Sporcle Live! Trivia. Team based. Win Crunchy's gift certificates. 7 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza & Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

Capital Area Crisis Men & Women's Rugby Practice. Weather permitting. All experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2151 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing.

Volunteer Fair. Local non-profits to share volunteer opportunities. 6-7:30 p.m. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4, dtdl.org.

Drawing Marathon. Non-stop collaborative drawing event. 9 a.m.-7 p.m. FREE. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

Bible and Beer. Discussion of Scripture's power in daily events. 6 p.m. Midtown Brewing Co. 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 482-0600, bibleandbeer@ccclansing.org.

ToddlerTime. Ages 18-36 months listen to stories and music. 10:15-10:45 a.m./11-11:30 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Celiac Disease. Dr. Allison Wood, DO, will speak on Celiac Disease. 7 p.m. FREE. Community of Christ, 1514 W. Miller Road, Lansing. (517) 349-0294, lansingglutenfreegroup.weebly.com.

Skype, Google & Facetime. Lesson on these different video chatting services. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Foster Library, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185, cadl.org.

ESOL Discussion for Kids. Children practice speaking and reading English. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021, cadl.org.

MUSIC

MSU Faculty Recital. Corbin Wagner, horn, and Zhihua Tang, piano, 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, ow.ly/SbE63

THEATER

Cinderella. Rodgers and Hammerstein's version of classic story. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com/events/detail/cinderella.

Wednesday, September 23

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington St., Lansing. (517) 351-5866, lamc.info.

Branding Toolkit for Business. Workshop on businesses branding. 9:30 a.m.-noon, FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcnichigan.org.

Call for Volunteers. Training for new museum volunteers. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Michigan Historical Museum, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 241-6852, michigan.gov/mhcvolunteers.

Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed step meeting. 6 p.m. Donations. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 899-3215.

Aux Petits Soins: Explorers 3. French immersion for babies/toddlers. 4:30 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother and Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059.

Mendeley. Beginner training for Mendeley Citation. 10 a.m.-noon, MSU Library, MSU Campus, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, classes.lib.msu.edu/class_list.php.

Getting Data: Collections. Collecting data on the internet for research. 1-2:30 p.m. MSU Library, MSU Campus, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, classes.lib.msu.edu/class_list.php.

EVENTS

The Self Realization Pathway. Talk about inner fulfillment by Hnanda Whittingham, 7 p.m. FREE. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201, SelfRealizationCentreMichigan.org.

Strategy Game Night. Ages 18 and up. 5-7:30

p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4, dtdl.org.

Practice Your English. Practice listening to and speaking English. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Open Workshop. Bike repair, bike safety and biking as healthy exercise. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Kids Repair Program, 5815 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 755-4174.

Allen Market Street Farmers Market. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Screen Repair/Replacement @ ANC. With Bruce Witwer and Maurice Ruiz. 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Michigan Craft Cider. A presentation on apples and craft ciders. Ages 21 and up. 7 p.m. FREE. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156, dewittlibrary.org.

Bunny Storytime. A live bunny joins us for stories. Ages up to 6. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

Rock n' Read Storytime. Books, music, movement and interactivity. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324.

MUSIC

Fusion Shows presents. 21 and older welcome. 10 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza & Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

Ukulele Play-Along. Learn how to play chords and songs on the ukulele. 6 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700., marshallmusic.com.

MSU Faculty Recital. Melanie Helton, soprano and Derek Polischuk, piano. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, ow.ly/SbG8H.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Group Discussion: Just Mercy. Informal community discussion on 'Just Mercy.' 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

THEATER

Cinderella. Rodgers and Hammerstein's version of a classic story. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com/events/detail/cinderella.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24 >> BRAD COLE AT CONCERTS IN THE COURTYARD

Singer/songwriter Brad Cole closes out this year's Concerts in the Courtyard series Thursday night. Cole, who describes his sound as "roots-based folk music woven with the grit and groove of old school bossa and rhythm & blues," is putting the finishing touches on his fourth full-length album, "Lay It Down." Ann Arbor-based multi-instrumentalist Dede Alder, an Earthwork Music recording artist, will join Cole on percussion. A portion of the evening's proceeds will benefit Music is the Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting music education in local schools. 7:30 p.m. \$15/\$10 students. Old Town General Store, 408 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 487-6847, oldtown-generalstore.com.

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HE ATE

SHE ATE



Rebranded Tavern & Tap serves up adventurous offerings

Culinary courage

By **MARK NIXON**

"Musical restaurants" seems to be the theme in downtown Lansing, with few addresses shuffling the deck more often in recent years than 101 S. Washington Square.

The former bank storefront became the upscale restaurant Troppo in 2004. About six years later, Troppo moved to new digs across the street. For what seemed a nanosecond (actually about three years), the ground floor space was split into two establishments: the Black Rose and Edmund's Pastime.

Last year, Edmund's closed "for remodeling" and never returned. The Black Rose moved into Tavern on the Square's old digs just a block to the south, and the tavern moved into the entire 101 S. Washington space. It even got a new name to go with it's new location: Tavern & Tap.

(The Black Rose quietly closed its doors last month. Strike up the band, musical restaurants march on.)

Based on two visits, I'm happy to report that Tavern & Tap's menu easily surpasses that of the late — but not-so-great — Edmund's.

Oops. Damned with faint praise. Let's try again.

Tavern & Tap is not the best restaurant in town, but I admire the kitchen's adventurous spirit. You don't find things like the Quebec-inspired poutine or that picnic staple, deviled eggs, on most menus around here. And please tell me if there is another restaurant hereabouts that serves roasted bone marrow. Bone marrow!

The sheer diversity of Tavern & Tap's menu ought to entice any diehard foodie. We dabbled on both visits, opting for appetizers and small plates.

But let's start with adult beverages. As the name implies, there are draft beers galore here. If a few sips is all you want, opt for a 5-ounce glass of beer for \$1.49. There are more than a dozen craft beers on tap from which to choose.

Now onto the food. On our first visit we sampled the following: marinated warm olives (\$6.50), root beer pork belly (\$9.95), oven-roasted bone marrow (\$9.95), deviled eggs (\$7.95) and lobster roll sliders (\$13.95).

The pork belly was my favorite, crisp but tender on the inside, with the root beer glaze imparting an earthy sweetness. Fresh dill was folded into the deviled eggs mixture. It was so good; I wonder why folks don't pair dill with eggs more often.

The lobster roll sliders comprised chunks of lobster tossed with spiced mayo, capers and arugula, all served on a grilled roll.

They were above average (damning with faint praise again), but I'm a bit of a lobster snob. For a beyond-words lobster roll, simply hop in the car, drive 920 miles east to Wiscasset, Maine, and stand in line for a lobster roll at Red's Eats. Or, for an excellent lobster BLT, drive just 90 miles to Vivio's in Detroit's Eastern Market. But I digress. The point is, I've never found a place in Greater Lansing that does lobster right.

OK, we just had to try the bone marrow. It looks as one would imagine it: beef bones split length-wise, revealing a gelatinous marrow. I give it high marks for having a true beefy flavor that is sorely lacking in many beef dishes.

Tavern & Tap

101 S. Washington Square, Lansing
11 a.m.-2 a.m. daily
(517) 374-5555, tavernandtap.com



Photos by Gabrielle Johnson for City Pulse

LEFT: Some 800 miles west of the East Coast, Tavern & Tap still manages to serve up a tasty lobster roll. RIGHT: Tavern & Tap's Original Tavern Burger features American cheese, lettuce, tomato, red onion and "special sauce," and comes with the tavern's seasoned French fries.

A welcome addition

By **GABRIELLE JOHNSON**

Downtown Lansing's food scene has been a bit of a revolving door of late. From Brannigan Brothers transition to Suits and back to wine bars and donut shops and the ever evolving Urban Feast franchises, it seems like there's always something new. I don't work in Lansing, so I'm always interested in learning what's new downtown.

It was with this intrigue that the fiancé and I recently strolled in to Tavern & Tap for a Friday lunch. The way I see it, downtown Lansing restaurants need to offer two things in order to survive: a quality and leisurely Sunday brunch, and an expeditious, inexpensive and delicious weekday lunch.

As I compose this, I'm 39,000 feet above the north Atlantic on my way to the motherland of culinary arts, Paris. I told you that so I could break out the French a little early and say, "Chapeau!" to Tavern & Tap for their lunch service. I haven't been in and out of a restaurant that quickly at lunchtime in a long time. But we weren't rushed. When we ordered drinks, they arrived quickly. When we ordered food, it arrived within 10 minutes — so fast that I assumed the waitress was mistakenly delivering someone else's food to us.

What did we order? I'm glad you asked. I had the lobster roll (\$13.95), which was cool and fresh. This wasn't the last time we'd order it, but lets talk burgers.

My dear companion has a mantra when it comes to burgers from local establishments: "Just don't screw it up and do something with the fries."

Well gang, I am pleased to report that Tavern & Tap has learned from the mistakes of its predecessor, Edmund's Pastime. The burger (\$13.95) was perfectly cooked to the requested medium, and the fries were what French fried potatoes should be: thick cut potatoes, fried golden brown — and seasoned, for Pete's sake.

(Next time you go out, consider the poor French fry, won't you? So many places could do so much with the blank starchy canvas that is the French-fried potato. I see it as the biggest missed opportunity in the restaurant business short of charging for club soda.)

A seat-yourself policy for restaurants is perfectly acceptable, as long as the staff is attentive enough to notice when a new group has entered the establishment. On our second visit, it took more than 10 minutes after we sat down for dinner before someone noticed us. I'll give the staff a pass this time, because we were sitting in the back of the house, formerly known as the Black Rose.

We chose to sit there because of the jazz band that was performing in the front of the house. I normally like live music with dinner, but the group was so offensively loud that the wait staff certainly would not have heard my drink order over the ensemble's rendition of "Watermelon Man." Maybe the band wasn't the issue, though, Tavern & Tap's acoustic properties do not lend themselves well to this. Maybe less stone and more wood and fabric could be installed if this well-intentioned feature is to continue.

I had a salad, because I always have a salad. My intrepid dining companion had the chicken and waffles (\$16.95). The problem here is that the last time he had chicken and waffles, it was at the Root in White Lake, my favorite restaurant in Michigan. While Tavern & Tap's version of the dish was certainly acceptable, it was nothing to write home about. In my opinion, they should start with a boneless

TOP 5

DINING GUIDE

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

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2015 Top of the Town contest, we've assembled a guide to your favorite Lansing-area eateries. We'll run single categories in the paper periodically, but the complete dining guide is always available on our website or on our official mobile app, *The Pulse*. The app is available on iPhone and Android platforms; head over to [facebook.com/lansingapp](https://www.facebook.com/lansingapp) or text "pulse" to 77948 for links to download. *Bon appétit!*

TOP 5 GOURMET RESTAURANTS

#1 SOUP SPOON CAFE

City Pulse readers love Soup Spoon's breakfast options, soups and sandwiches
1419 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 316-2377
soupspooncafe.com
7 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday; 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 7 a.m.-midnight Friday; 8 a.m.-midnight Saturday; closed Sunday

#2 CAPITAL PRIME STEAKS AND SEAFOOD

Upscale surf and turf restaurant with contemporary ambiance
2324 Showtime Drive, Lansing.
(517) 377-7463
capitalprimelansing.com
11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday; 2-9 p.m. Sunday

#3 DUSTY'S WINE BAR

Known for its gourmet options and extensive wine list
1839 Grand River Ave., Okemos.
(517) 349-8680
dustyscellar.com
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday

#4 ENGLISH INN

Fine dining restaurant known for its gorgeous location on the Grand River
677 S. Michigan Road, Eaton Rapids
(517) 663-2500
englishinn.com
11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. & 5-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. & 5-10 p.m. Friday; 5-10 p.m. Saturday; 1-7 p.m. Sunday

#5 RED HAVEN

Upscale farm-to-table restaurant featuring adventurous cuisine and sleek design
4480 Hagadorn Road, Suite 103
(517) 679-6309
eatredhaven.com
11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. & 5 p.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. & 5 p.m.-10 p.m. Friday; 5-10 p.m. Saturday; 5-8:30 p.m. Sunday; closed Monday

He ate

from page 26

The texture was a different story. It was like slurping a spoonful of warm Jell-O that had failed to set up. But, what could I realistically expect? It's bone marrow, not filet mignon.

Judy liked the marinated warm olives. I thought they were boring.

We dabbled again on the second visit. The best of the bunch was prosciutto with bruschetta (\$9.50), which came

with fresh mozzarella and Boursin cheeses and tomato chunks, all drizzled with white truffle oil. The flavors and textures were spot on. One minor quibble: I wanted a more pronounced truffle taste.

The guacamole with pepitas and lightly-spiced tortilla chips (\$8.95) gets a kick from cumin and cilantro. The guacamole was pureed. Personally, I like my guac with a few chunks of avocado bobbing about.

Being of French-Canadian heritage, Judy couldn't resist trying the poutine (\$9.00). This gravy, French fries and cheese concoction was OK. The menu claims thyme gravy, but they must have

run out of thyme. I couldn't taste it.

I preferred the Swedish meatballs (\$8.95), served in a rich brown gravy. Though most Swedish meatball recipes don't call for garlic, I believe I tasted garlic — I loved it, whatever it was.

If the weather is right and seating is available, opt for Tavern & Tap's patio. Raised a few feet above street level, it's a great perch for people watching.

Tavern & Tap has a solid foundation on which to build, but they aren't "there" yet. In some cases, their reach exceeds their grasp. But the eclectic menu reflects a degree of culinary bravado.

To which I say, "Touché."

She ate

from page 26

chicken breast. If nothing else, it's just easier to eat.

On our third visit, we started with the prosciutto & truffle bruschetta (\$9.50). I noticed the texture of the bread on the first bite. This is one of the few times I've ordered bruschetta where the bread wasn't served toasted within an inch of its life. The bread crumbled in my hands on the first bite — giving me balsamic hand and prompting me to visit the ladies' room to remove it. I thought the prosciutto was a little on the done side for my taste, and I

didn't detect a hint of truffle oil.

A tip of the cap is in order for the Pecan Salmon Salad (\$14.95). The salmon was properly seasoned and cooked to perfection. For the price, I thought the portion was a bit small. That isn't to say I'd like to see a bigger piece of fish, just a lower price.

The fiancé had the aforementioned lobster roll — on recommendation from yours truly. He is a guy who doesn't like to order seafood more than 500 miles from whence it came, but he was pleasantly surprised.

For dessert, we split the flourless chocolate tort. Here's a fun fact: It's made by the spankin' new spot right next door, Glazed and Confused. We were told about the dessert by our server, because it was not yet on the menu at the time of our vis-

it. It was rich and fudgy and had no problem passing my "if I close my eyes does it still taste like chocolate?" test. The bacon wrapped figs that accompanied it, however, are barely worth mentioning.

And now, I need to level with you, dear readers. (Dare I call you fans?) I went in to this review fully expecting to report something very similar to Edmund's. I mean, why should it be any different? Same location, same owners — why would I expect the product to change in any measurable way? But it has. If Tavern & Tap can deliver this quality of food at a reasonable price, I don't see why this place can't be a staple of downtown dining for years to come. Well done, Tavern & Tap. I'll be back.

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