

FREE

# CityPULSE

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January 9-14, 2013

## ON THIN ICE

Lark, BWL skate as fast as they can after disastrous power outage

SEE PAGE 7



**PAGE 5**

City attorney, clerk shut down Wood



**PAGE 10**

Regulars laugh and grieve at the loss of barber



**PAGE 19**

Annual farmer fizz evaluation back with new picks



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## UPCOMING AT THE BROAD MSU

Visit [broadmuseum.msu.edu](http://broadmuseum.msu.edu) for a full calendar listing. All events are **free** unless otherwise noted.

**WED 1.15 6:30 PM** **EAST LANSING 2030 COLLEGEVILLE RE-ENVISIONED**

Join us for the third in a series of conversations with guest architects, landscape architects, and urban designers invited to envision the future growth of East Lansing. This month's guest architects will be Jules Dingle and Jeff Goldstein of DIGSAU ([www.digsau.com](http://www.digsau.com)).



**FRI 1.17 6 PM** **EXHIBITION OPENING MARGARET EVANGELINE SABACHTHANI**

Artist Margaret Evangeline is best known for her expanded painting practice that uses gunshots to transform polished stainless steel panels. For her exhibition at the Broad MSU, Evangeline presents 14 aluminum bars shot with the weapons of American soldiers stationed in Iraq—offering deep commentary on the politics and poetics of war. Artist talk at 6 PM, reception to follow.



**THURS 1.23 7 PM** **DIALOGUES LEBBEUS WOODS AND VISIONARY ARCHITECTURE**

The Broad MSU hosts a special dialogue with Joseph Rosa, Director of the University of Michigan Museum of Art and John McMorrough, Associate Professor at University of Michigan's Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, on the subject of Lebbeus Woods and visionary architecture.



547 East Circle Drive, East Lansing, MI 48824  
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Unitarian Universalist Church, East Lansing

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Creole Gallery, Lansing

**Jan. 31-Feb. 1**

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**[WWW.LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM](http://WWW.LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM)**

**CORRECTION**

Dear readers,  
A story in the Dec. 26 issue, "Powers of 10," presented profiles of 10 people who died in greater Lansing in 2013. The story ended with a profile of teacher and activist Margery Gilcrest-Hesse.

To my towering regret, I ended her story with a paragraph that belonged in a different profile. Here is the profile, minus the extra (and wrong) paragraph. To keep the length of the profile the same, I have restored a few details that were cut from the original version for lack of space.

My deepest apologies to Ms. Gilcrest-Hesse's family for the error.  
— Lawrence Cosentino

Margery Gilcrest-Hesse, a compact, fiery teacher and activist, wrote a couple of unusual books. One of them was about the first man in history to give birth. The book's hero is a doctor who successfully implants a fetus in the body of a right-wing televangelist.

"It was ahead of its time," said her daughter Ellen Beal, the former Lansing Councilwoman. "It's pretty amusing."

"A Short, Apprehensive History of the World," published by Gilcrest-Hesse in 1993, is a sarcastic A to Z lexicon of world history. Under "E," we find: "Eve's stomach growled ... and man was launched into the labor movement."

Last week, her son Anthony Beal thumbed through his copy of the book and found a fan letter handwritten on U.S. Supreme Court letterhead. "A delight, amusing, imaginative," Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote. "I enjoyed it from A to Z." A distant relative of Margery's had somehow passed it on to the justice.

Gilcrest-Hesse was born Oct. 1, 1922,

in New Cumberland, W. Va., went to Kent State University and moved to Ann Arbor in the 1940s to be with her first husband, Vernon Lester Beale, a student at the University of Michigan. When Beale got a job in the Lansing area, they moved to a farm near Okemos.

One day, Gilcrest-Hesse blew a harmless garter snake to smithereens with a 12-gauge shotgun. The recoil hurled her tiny frame, not quite 5 feet tall, to the ground.

"She was direct in that way," her son recalled. "Not always the best judgment."

When Gilcrest-Hesse divorced in 1962, she set about raising six kids alone by teaching, first in Williamston and Bath, then in Lansing's Lyon Elementary.

She missed the farm terribly. "Most people try to move from Lansing to Okemos," Ellen Beal said. "We moved from Okemos to Lansing."

She married again, happily, to Russell Wolfe. Her kids recall a whirl of social activism in the 1960s and 1970s.

"We went to civil rights marches in front of City Hall in Lansing when I was in fourth grade," Ellen Beal recalled.

Gilcrest-Hesse was so strongly opposed to the Vietnam War she got a master's degree at MSU in Southeast Asian history, while raising six kids and teaching full time.

She liked to tell people about a party in the 1950s where she allegedly persuaded a wavering state senator to pass the bond issue that led to the construction of the Mackinac Bridge. She also took credit for the fall of the Soviet Union after she and Russ made a trip there in 1991.

"She was a force of nature," Ellen Beal said. "She wasn't the 'let's go get our hair done and go shopping' kind of mom. She was our family's moral compass."

# CityPULSE

**VOL. 13  
ISSUE 21**

(517) 371-5600 • Fax: (517) 999-6061 • 1905 E. Michigan Ave. • Lansing, MI 48912 • www.lansingcitypulse.com

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Sorg: BWL storm response, PR flubs tarnish years of goodwill

**PAGE 10**



Cellist David Requiro takes on Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky with the Lansing Symphony

**PAGE 12**



Lingering thoughts on the winter storm that froze much of mid-Michigan

**COVER ART**



LARK ON ICE by CRAIG HORKY



**THIS WEEK**

- J. Peter Lark, Lansing Board of Water and Light general manager
- Developer Joel Ferguson
- Bob Trezise, president and CEO, Lansing Economic Area Partnership



Editor & Publisher  
**Berl Schwartz**  
7 p.m. Wednesdays



## Feedback

This week on Facebook, we asked readers to share their snow-day stories:

Third snow day in a row, plus the one before winter break--we are in a movie marathon. Since it's been "forever" we are now out of new releases and the kids are begging us to pick "good" movies for them- they're open to films they wouldn't have taken the time for before. Last night was Slumdog Millionaire.

— Allena Cat Tapia

come home for 2 and work 15 more.

— Blake Dolph

**Have something to say about a local issue or an item that appeared in our pages?**

- 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.)

### PUBLIC NOTICES

**B/14/057 EMERGENCY DEBRIS HAULING** as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the FINANCE DEPARTMENT, PURCHASING OFFICE, 8TH FLOOR CITY HALL, 124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933 until **3:00 PM** local time in effect on **JAN. 9, 2014** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson CPPB at (517) 483-4128, email: Stephanie.Robinson@lansingmi.gov, or for content and purpose of this bid contact Paul Dykema, at (517) 483-7674, email: Paul.Dykema@lansingmi.gov, or go to www.mtn.info .** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#008

### THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**Ask Mister Republican Man!**  
I'M HERE TO HELP!

Dear Mister Republican Man: My boss is constantly berating me! How can I stand up for myself without getting fired? --Hassled in Hartford

Dear Mister Republican Man: My friend won't stop talking about her new boyfriend, and it's driving me nuts! -- Exasperated in Englewood

I'D SUGGEST YOU PUT YOUR PETTY WORKPLACE GRIEVANCES ASIDE AND FOCUS ON WHAT REALLY MATTERS-- THE BENGHAZI SCANDAL!

IS YOUR FRIEND A DEMOCRAT? SHE COULD BE TRYING TO DISTRACT YOU-- FROM BENGHAZI!

IT'S WORSE THAN WATERGATE, YOU KNOW!

MAYBE YOU NEED A NEW FRIEND.

Dear Mister Republican Man: my husband is acting distant and staying late at the office most evenings. Do you think he's having an affair? --Distraught in Des Moines

Dear Mister Republican Man: my teenager spends all his free time on the internet! Should I be worried? --Apprehensive in Allentown

Dear Mister Republican Man: I'm OBSESSED with Benghazi! My wife left me, I lost my job, and I'm about to be evicted! What should I DO?? --Fixated in Fargo

I THINK IT'S MORE LIKELY THAT HE'S PREOCCUPIED BY THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S COVER-UP OF BENGHAZI!

AS YOU SHOULD BE AS WELL.

I SEE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT-- AS LONG AS HE'S READING UP ON BENGHAZI!

SUCH CURIOSITY IS ENTIRELY NATURAL AT HIS AGE!

WHY DO ANYTHING? YOU SOUND PERFECTLY WELL-ADJUSTED TO ME!

IF ONLY WE HAD MORE LIKE YOU!

Dear Mr. Republican Man--

**BENGHAZI! THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS BENGHAZI!**

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## PULSE

## NEWS &amp; OPINION

## Gearing up for a fight

**Wood's coup fails; who will be next City Council president?**

Lansing City Councilwoman Carol Wood tried extending her presidential reign over the Council this week, only to have it shut down by the city clerk and city attorney.

Following announcements Sunday that City Hall would be closed Monday due to the heavy snowfall and cold (which canceled Monday night's Council meeting and inauguration ceremony), Wood got together with Councilwoman ALynne Boles to announce a Committee of the Whole meeting Tuesday afternoon. The purpose? Choosing next year's Council president and vice president, the annual first order of business.

Problem is, Wood — being 2013's president — didn't have the authority to call a meeting. Her presidency ended on Jan. 1.

The Council is scheduled to vote for its new leaders on Monday, and it's shaping up to be the third consecutive year of 11th hour jockeying for the spot. Perhaps the most important part of the job is assign-

ing committee posts, such as development and planning, which handles major development proposals put forward by the mayor. Mayor Virg Bernero often chastised former Councilman Brian Jeffries, who had close involvement with the committee throughout his 10-year tenure, for holding up projects.

Electing officers inevitably reflects the alliances and grudges so much a part of Lansing Council governance, replete with new year posturing for cooperation and collegiality.

And for new members, unschooled in Council politics, the desire is real.

"For me, what's most important, is the same thing I campaigned on: That we need to move into a level of positiveness and productivity," said Councilwoman Judi Brown Clarke, who defeated Jeffries in November.

Well, OK, but tell that to Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar, who has sought the presidency for the past two years. In 2012, she couldn't garner the

necessary five yes-votes, but she made a deal with Jeffries that if she was VP in '12, she'd get the presidency in '13. That didn't happen after Jeffries alleged various performance issues and voted for Wood instead of Dunbar.

This year, Dunbar is no doubt seeking the post. Another who has "expressed interest," Brown Clarke said, is Boles, who was president in 2010 and 2011. We may even see Wood eye up a second term to maintain a firm grip on inner Council workings. She's at her 10th-floor offices full time, anyway, unlike any others.

Boles, Wood, Washington and Brown Clarke all declined to say who they're supporting, which suggests a storm is brewing. Dunbar and Council members Derrick Quinney, Jessica Yorko and Tina Houghton didn't return calls for comment. But with Yorko's and Houghton's loyalty to Dunbar, the deciding votes will come down to Quinney and Brown Clarke.

— Andy Balaskovitz



Dunbar

Boles



Quinney

Brown Clarke

## Seizing assets, spending money

**Federal audit of Lansing Police Department shows forfeiture funds mismanaged, pointing to larger, statewide issue**

The Lansing Police Department is the subject of a recent U.S. Department of Justice report showing instances of poor financial management and misallocation of federally awarded funds over the past five years.

In an audit of the department's revenues from asset forfeitures — given to state and local departments to support police operations — federal officials found irregularities relating to where the money was kept and how it was spent.

From July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2012, more than \$800,000 was given to the Lansing Police Department as a part of the equitable sharing revenue program, which is funded through the assets seized during criminal investigations.

The audit says LPD failed to separate

federal and state allocations and also neglected paperwork related to how funds were spent from 2009 to 2011. Those were updated during the course of the audit. Even though investigators found filings for 2012, that information was found to be inaccurate. Federal officials also found the department misspent more than \$3,000 on pay for civilian overtime and \$12,563 on uniform allowances.

LPD Chief Mike Yankowski said in a statement: "While the DOJ informed us that the audit found several issues, they were very minor in scope. These errors were unintentional and the audit has provided clarification on the proper regulations and procedures." LPD followed up with a corrective action plan as well.

The collection and use of forfeiture assets by law enforcement agencies has been contentious in Michigan.

Long held as a means to disrupt criminal activity, particularly drug offenders, asset seizure by law enforcement officials stands as an affront to public opinion, according to Charmie Gholson. Founder of Michigan Moms United, a group dedicated to ending the war on drugs, Gholson believes this latest report is indicative of a system that leads to unfair treatment of those who may

have not even faced a conviction.

"It's all about drug prohibition and the failed war on drugs," she said.

More than \$25 million was seized and used by law enforcement officials in 2012, according to the Michigan State Police.

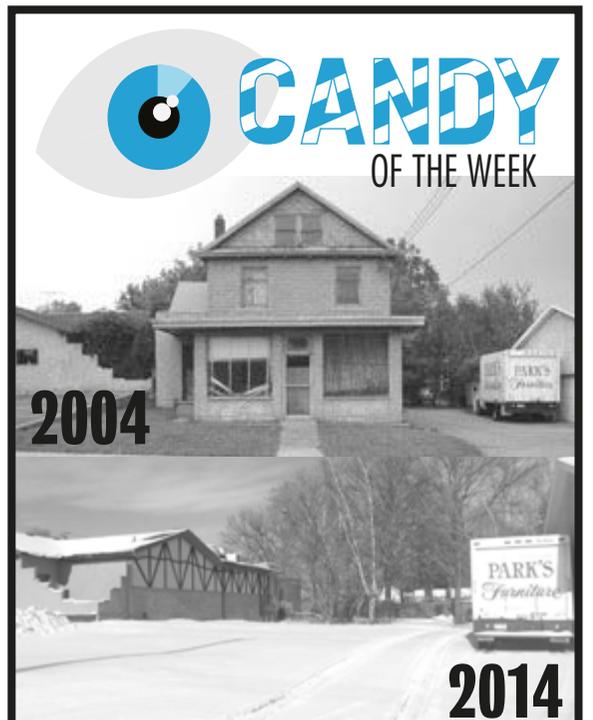
A 2010 study from the nationwide advocacy group Institute for Justice found numerous issues with Michigan's forfeiture law, giving the state a D- rating.

In reaction, several Michigan lawmakers — including state Rep. Tom McMillin, R-Rochester Hills — introduced legislation that would require law enforcement agencies to issue detailed seizure reports as well as detail more information about each case and whether any subjects were convicted.

"I think it's pretty outrageous that people's assets can be taken without a conviction," he said. McMillin has also signed on with a number of representatives in bipartisan support of another proposal prohibiting asset seizure prior to a criminal conviction.

While he has high hopes for these bills, McMillin believes greater public awareness of the laws here in Michigan is required to hasten change.

— RJ Wolcott



**Property:** 1010 W. Saginaw St., Lansing (vacant lot)

**Owner:** Neil Park

**Assessed value:** \$31,400

Given the wide variety of architecture in greater Lansing, a vacant lot is not a likely Eye Candy subject. However, considering the building that had been at this site, the decision to remove it provided a marked improvement. When the former building was featured in 2004 as City Pulse's first Eyesore of the Week, the adjacent neighboring business suggested the building was a problem.

Put simply, an empty lot is occasionally preferable to a bad building. Clearly, if a resource is detrimental to nearby uses, demolition might be the best option. Most historic district ordinances actually identify additional instances where cities might benefit from the removal of resources — even historic buildings. If a building constitutes a safety hazard or creates a deterrent to a major improvement project, the possible benefits of demolition are clear.

However, care must be exercised when undertaking demolition. Beyond a building's obvious cultural value, an uninterrupted row of buildings provides a pattern of solidity and order along the street. Even a few breaks in this pattern will disrupt the rhythm, possibly advancing the degradation of the block and the neighborhood. In many cases, "mothballing" a building — protecting it from the elements and wildlife — can extend its life indefinitely, allowing it to maintain its important presence in the streetscape until market forces allow for its rehabilitation.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

"Eye Candy of the Week" is our look at some of the nicer properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eyesore of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail [eye@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:eye@lansingcitypulse.com) or call Andy Balaskovitz at 999-5064.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**B/14/058 WOOD AND BRUSH CHIPPING/GRINDING** as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the FINANCE DEPARTMENT, PURCHASING OFFICE, 8TH FLOOR CITY HALL, 124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933 until **3:00 PM** local time in effect on **JAN. 9, 2014** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Cathy Davila at (517) 483-4129, email: cathy.davila@lansingmi.gov, or for content and purpose of this bid contact Paul Dykema, at (517) 483-7674, email: Paul.Dykema@lansingmi.gov, or go to www.mitn.info**. The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#006

**B/14/059 EMERGENCY DEBRIS CLEAN UP** as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the FINANCE DEPARTMENT, PURCHASING OFFICE, 8TH FLOOR CITY HALL, 124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933 until **3:00 PM** local time in effect on **JAN. 9, 2014** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson CPPB at (517) 483-4128, email: Stephanie.Robinson@lansingmi.gov, or for content and purpose of this bid contact Paul Dykema, at (517) 483-7674, email: Paul.Dykema@lansingmi.gov, or go to www.mitn.info**. The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#007

## CITY OF EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

## NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO. 1302

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 8-181 AND 8-182 OF DIVISION 1 - GENERALLY - OF ARTICLE IV - RESTAURANTS AND TAKE-OUT STORES OF CHAPTER 8 - BUSINESSES - AND TO AMEND SECTIONS 50-8 OF ARTICLE I - IN GENERAL - AND SECTION 50-94 OF DIVISION 3 - SPECIAL USE PERMITS - OF ARTICLE II - ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT - OF CHAPTER 50 - ZONING OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING.

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1302 was adopted by the East Lansing City Council at the regular meeting of the Council held on December 17, 2013, and will become effective 7 days after the publication of the following summary of ordinance.

## SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 1302

## THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

A zoning code amendment to the definition language of the code to modify the definition of restaurant; and

A zoning code amendment to the Special Use Permit language of the code to change the method of enforcement for the requirement of the ratio of food to alcohol sales for those restaurants serving alcohol.

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1302 can be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan during normal business hours.

Marie E. Wicks  
City Clerk

CP#005



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED  
WATER, STEAM, AND ELECTRIC RATE CHANGES  
BOARD OF WATER AND LIGHT  
OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN

A Public Hearing will be held on **Thursday, January 23, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Board of Water and Light REO Town Depot at 1201 S. Washington Avenue, Lansing Michigan. Members of the public are invited to attend.

**PURPOSE OF THE HEARING:** The Board of Water and Light will solicit comments from the public on PROPOSED ELECTRIC, WATER, STEAM, AND CHILLED WATER RATE SCHEDULES. THE PROPOSALS being considered by the Commissioners would INCREASE RATES FOR ELECTRIC, WATER, STEAM, AND CHILLED WATER.

**REASON FOR CHANGE:** The proposed rate adjustments will provide additional revenue to operate and maintain the electric, water, steam, and chilled water systems. The proposed rate adjustments will partially offset costs of operating and maintaining the electric, water, steam, and chilled water systems.

**IF YOU WANT TO BE HEARD:** Comments, oral or written, may be submitted at the public hearing. Mailed comments will be received until 5:00 p.m. on January 22, 2014, addressed to the Board of Water and Light, P. O. Box 13007, Lansing, Michigan 48910, Attention: Corporate Secretary. Comments MUST BE LIMITED TO THE PROPOSED RATE CHANGES. The hearing officer may impose time restrictions on oral comments, depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** Copies of proposed rate schedules and other data may be picked up at the information desk on the first floor of the Board of Water and Light Headquarters, at 1201 S. Washington Avenue between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. This material will also be available at the public hearing.

## PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF WATER AND LIGHT COMMISSIONERS

M. Denise Griffin  
Corporate Secretary

CP#009

## Lark, Bernero popularity plummet

### BWL storm response, PR flubs tarnish years of goodwill

Billy Crystal's Saturday Night Live character Fernando said it best: "It's better to look good than to feel good."

In the aftermath of the BWL Ice-Pocalypse, it's not how you handled the actual problem as much as how you looked doing it. And "dahling, you're not looking mahvelous."

The two-week restoration process has taken a serious toll on the images of Mayor Virg Bernero, BWL General Manager J. Peter Lark, veteran PR executive Steve Serkaian ... as well as the BWL itself.



WALT SORG

When a crisis hits, people expect the person in charge to take charge, and do so very visibly.

Think Rudy Giuliani and George W. Bush after 9-11, Chris Christie in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Mistakes, even

major ones, can be survived if there's a perception that The Boss is totally involved and responding as best he/she can to the crisis.

The alternative is to appear out of touch. Who can forget that photo of Bush surveying the damage of Hurricane Katrina through the window of Air Force One rather than on the ground, or his infamous "attaboy Brownie" accolades for his inept FEMA Director Michael Brown?

People will forgive mistakes, but won't forgive the appearance of their leaders "phoning it in." That's a big part of why Bernero, Lark and BWL are in a big hole and scrambling after two weeks of pile-it-on criticism.

Nonetheless, Lark isn't getting fired despite the urging of City Councilwoman Carol Wood and Grand Ledge state Sen. Rick Jones. He made mistakes (especially the insane decision to go ahead with his NYC vacation), but the people who decide his future generally agree Lark is still the best person for the job: an expert in public utility issues, former chairman of the Michigan Public Service Commission and chief architect of Michigan's leap into renewable energy during the Granholm administration. Tuesday night's BWL public forum was designed in part to demonstrate that Lark still has the confidence of his board and employees (as well as Bernero), with a parade of BWL workers and executives singing his praises.

His ultimate fate likely rests with Bernero, highly secure in his job after being reelected to a four-year term with more than 72 percent of the vote. Even so, it is the hardest political hit of his eight years as mayor, being made more painful through skillful political exploitation of the crisis by

his arch nemesis, Carol Wood.

Right now we really don't know if there was anything the BWL could realistically have done differently as far as restoring power. Portions of the "crisis" plan released (under duress) last week are laughable, but the people running Lansing's power company have a long track record of being very good at their jobs. It has made Lansing attractive to electricity-intensive companies like Jackson National Life, GM and Liquid Web.

An independent commission likely will evaluate the operational response.

But there's no need to withhold judgment on how Bernero and Lark handled the equally important task of communicating with BWL owner/customers. It was mostly bungled.

The inept crisis communications may not have impacted the actual restoration process, but it left the impression of a CEO who either didn't understand what was going on, or didn't care. While the buck stops with Bernero and Lark, much of the blame falls on Serkaian, someone with decades of experience in high-visibility government PR.

The lack of a crisis communications is, in the PR world, an impeachable offense. Without a plan, mistakes are inevitable.

Now Lark and Serkaian are scrambling, quickly hiring outside PR consultants to write a plan that should have been created years ago. They are also belatedly adding a social media specialist to the staff who will also, hopefully, clean up a corporate website suffers from benign neglect.

The plan would have directed that Bernero or Lark, rather than Serkaian, be the "face" of the response. People needed and wanted to hear from their leaders, not the staff. Bernero was uncharacteristically low-key during the initial crisis and Lark was MIA. (Of course, it's hard to be the face of the BWL from Times Square.)

Wood, never one to shy away from a chance to stick it to Bernero, has taken full advantage of the communication foulups. Her Facebook page, email list and smartphone have become unofficial communications hubs among the city, the BWL and thousands of BWL customers. She demonstrated that she cared, even if her efforts didn't have much impact on the actual restoration process.

The BWL faces major challenges with the now-obvious need to make major upgrades to its system with smart meters, a smart grid, an updated crisis management plan and a totally revamped communications program that emphasizes two-way communications instead of the current one-way channels. But that isn't the biggest challenge.

Reflecting on the Tylenol poisoning crisis that could have destroyed his company, Johnson & Johnson CEO James Burke noted, "Nothing good happens without trust. With it, you can overcome all sorts of obstacles."

The BWL has spent two decades building trust — to see it squandered in just two weeks. That restoration will take a lot longer.



## ARE PAYMENTS TO THE CITY LIMITING BWL'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANNING?

By **ANDY BALASKOVITZ**

The city of Lansing's demands for payments from the Board of Water and Light contributed to the utility's poor response to the region's ice storm power outages, according to BWL's vice chairman.

"Overall, there are things probably we would have moved more quickly on if we didn't have (that) money taken out of our budget," BWL Vice Chairman Dennis Louney said Monday.

Case in point: The BWL's outage-management and customer-service systems, which struggled to work together for at least a week during the outage. "That is one thing we probably would have moved quicker to move to fix," Louney said. "It's one example. I'm sure there are others, too."

BWL Chairwoman Sandra Zerkle offered a more nuanced view of the payments to the city, but she didn't disagree with Louney's assessment. "We are very crucial to the operation of the city," Zerkle said. "Obviously, when you take that much money out of our budget every year, it does put a crimp on what you can do and improvements you can make."

Lansing's relationship with the BWL is such that, as the city has had to scale back the size of its operation, it has also leaned on the BWL for higher annual payments.

Lansing's planning to get \$17 million in lieu of taxes from BWL this fiscal year, which makes up 15 percent of the city budget. In FY12, the BWL contributed nearly \$12.2 million to the city's General Fund, according to budget documents. It's a fraction of BWL's projected \$345 million in operating revenue this year. The BWL projects a net income of \$2.7 million this year after expenses.

"You can't keep coming back to that," Louney said of increasing the annual payments. "What happens is we can't do as much infrastructure improvement as we want.

It's a fine balance there."

BWL General Manager J. Peter Lark disagrees with his board members. "The additional PILOT (payment in lieu of taxes) has no effect on this restoration," he said Tuesday night.

In the past two budget cycles, Mayor Virg Bernero and his opponents on City Council debated proposals that would have funneled more money from the BWL to the city. Facing years of deficits, some on the Council were calling for higher payments in lieu of taxes from the BWL to help patch the gap.

Those seeking lower limits on what the BWL should pay, including Bernero and his allies on Council, warned that going too far would inevitably lead to rate increases on customers to offset the hit on BWL's budget. Which is exactly what's happening, though in light of the storm, there's hesitation about a planned rate increase.

City Councilwoman Carol Wood, who wants higher payments to the city and is calling for Lark's resignation, dismissed the idea as "ludicrous."

Ongoing funding for capital improvements — not the least of which are modern communication systems and preparing for major outages — is just one of the challenges facing Lark in the days, weeks, months and perhaps years ahead.



Lark



Louney

### What about a rate increase?

Ultimately, Louney said, the city's position is a result

of declining state revenue sharing. "It goes back to the state not fulfilling its obligations. They've strapped our cities with services.

"For us to continue to upgrade infrastructure, we've got to increase our rates."

In November, the BWL placed proposed electric, water, steam and chilled water rate changes on file with the City Clerk's Office, to be effective March 1. The increases, which vary by customer, are expected to generate over \$18 million in billings. For example, residential electric customers could see a monthly increase from \$2.45 to \$4.80, based on usage. A public hearing is scheduled for Jan. 23 on the rate increases. (See public notice on page 6.)

BWL spokesman Steve Serkaian said while the hearing is scheduled, it is "yet to be determined" whether management will recommend the rate increase to the board.

Based on the recent situation, Louney said, "I am not in favor. I can't speak for the entire board, but I'm not in favor of moving on a rate increase until we have our house in order. I think it would be a slap in the face of consumers when we failed in some ways to properly communicate with them. And then to go to them for a rate increase — I think that's wrong."

Wood, though, is not buying the suggestion that higher annual payments could impede the BWL's infrastructure investments without a rate increase.

"To say that because the payment that is coming to the city has an impact on them having an emergency management plan and them having appropriate infrastructure they need to handle emergencies is ludicrous," she said.

"When you look at what they're paying for PR, Peter Lark's salary (\$258,502 a year) — it's pittance compared to the millions coming into the city. But again, the taxpayers and residents own the Board of Water and Light ... I think the correlation, again, just doesn't make any sense."

Critics also question the need for spending \$2.8 million to restore the Grand Trunk Western Railroad depot as part of its new cogeneration power plant and headquarters. Or how about \$10 million to renovate the John F. Dye Conditioning Plant on South Cedar Street? Overall, the BWL plans nearly \$84 million in capital projects in 2014 and \$384 million over the next six years, according to the budget ending June 30.

### WHAT IF ANOTHER ICE STORM HITS TOMORROW?

The BWL is moving quickly to address restoration and communications issues that would have improved its response to the ice storm outages.

Already, press communications from the BWL have improved. Responding to heavy snowfall and frigid temperatures earlier this week, the BWL was even tracking when it had as few as two outages.

Based on Tuesday's presentation, Lark and BWL management are already preparing should a similar ice storm hit Lansing tomorrow.

It announced new retainer agreements with contractors that "immediately triple the number of line crews in an emergency," BWL GM J. Peter Lark said. It's hiring additional line workers and a dispatcher; it tripled the number of tree-trimming crews. Within a week, the BWL will have an online outage map;

## Ice Storm

from page 7

“problems” within its outage management system have been identified, Lark reported. The BWL adopted a temporary crisis communication plan and hired PR firm Martin Waymire to finalize it and offer additional assistance during an emergency. The BWL is also hiring a “social media manager” to improve communications.

George Stojic, the BWL’s executive director of strategic planning and development, spent time Tuesday night comparing the BWL’s storm response to similarly hit areas throughout the country. His research took him to the East Coast and the South, areas devastated at various times in the past 10 years from ice and hurricanes. His research showed the BWL’s restoration time was comparable to other publicly owned utilities that lost as many customers — 40 percent, according to Lark.

“Our response time was very typical of what you’d expect, even though we don’t have a lot of experience with it,” Stojic concluded, though he set up Lark for the next response.

“There have been people seated behind me (whose) service did not come back as timely as they would have liked it. To those, showing a graph that says we are where everyone else is is not going to be satisfactory,” Lark said.

“We’ve already undertaken steps today and tomorrow morning to make it better.”

# CHANGE IN GOVERNANCE?

While a majority of BWL’s customers are in the city of Lansing, the utility’s title may be a slight misnomer. It provides water or electricity (or both) to East Lansing, DeWitt and nine townships, including Delta, Lansing Meridian and Delhi.

Because of that, calls for a governing body to include these customers are growing.

Yet some officials interviewed for this story are hesitant to call for a change in the BWL’s board structure.

The board comprises eight members appointed by Lansing’s mayor and confirmed by the Council. Like the Council, it’s made up of representatives from each of Lansing’s four wards as well as four at-large members. But restructuring that would require a change in the City Charter, which would be put to Lansing voters. Speaking on “City Pulse Newsmakers” last week (which is available to view at [lansingcitypulse.com](http://lansingcitypulse.com)), Lark sees “probably positives and negatives of that.”

At this point, Wood said she wouldn’t support a Charter amendment because “it’s a public utility owned by the residents of the city of Lansing.” However, she does support an advisory board made up of representatives outside of Lansing.

Perhaps, though, such a move would decrease speculation that Lansing’s mayor can simply stack the board in his political favor.

Former Mayor David Hollister downplays the idea, suggesting that the mayor could do that for any board, whether he appoints members to a fire, police or planning board.

“He’s going to have influence over the board, but I don’t think he particularly dictates to the board they must do this or do that,” Hollister said. “I think he would have subtle ways to send them a message.” For instance, he said, calling for a higher payment in lieu of taxes.

But he thinks it would be a good idea to change the Charter. “That board has always been considered a plum kind of appointment.”

As one of 54 public speakers at a special



Brandon Howell/MLive.com/Lansing

BWL board Chairwoman Sandra Zerkle said she “isn’t opposed” to areas outside of Lansing having representatives on the board.

board meeting Tuesday night, Delta Township Supervisor Ken Fletcher asked BWL commissioners for such representation.

“Find a way to have a long-term structure in place so those voices (from outside) are either included on this board or some other citizens panel,” he said.

BWL board members Anthony McCloud and Sandra Zerkle said they wouldn’t oppose adding representation from outside communities.

Louney agrees with Fletcher, suggesting two additional members to represent the Meridian Township/East Lansing area and another to represent Delta Township.

“In any governing situation, you should have representation for people who are provided services or affected,” he said.

Long-term, outside representation relates to short-term calls for an independent, ex-

ternal review of BWL’s restoration efforts.

“The fact that they weren’t as prepared as they could have been, with a weak response initially in the first couple days, it kind of underestimated the severity,” Hollister said. The former mayor called for a thorough and objective review.

“In order for the mayor to restore confidence, you’ve gotta have a thorough investigation with no holes,” he said.

Those calling for an outside review seem to agree it should include utility experts, citizens, elected officials or community leaders, or all of the above. It appears one is coming.

While giving a presentation to the board Tuesday night, Lark said the internal review process is underway and a report should materialize in February.

“I expect very shortly an announcement of an independent investigation and study of our response,” he told commissioners.

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Allan I. Ross/City Pulse

BWL General Manager J. Peter Lark meets with reporters in Delta Township on Dec. 27, nearly a week after the ice storm hit. His popularity has taken a hit for his handling of the storm, but he says he will not resign.

# WHO IS J. PETER LARK?

Before joining the BWL in July 2007, General Manager J. Peter Lark, 62, was chairman of the Michigan Public Service Commission, appointed by Gov. Jennifer Granholm in 2003. In that role in 2006, he wrote a 48-page report for Granholm called "Michigan's 21st Century Electric Energy Plan," a roadmap for developing more renewables and energy efficiency.

In 2003, Granholm named Lark to serve on a joint U.S.-Canada task force to investigate a widespread energy blackout that year.

After receiving his law degree from Western New England College School of Law in 1976, Lark spent most of his career as an attorney. He was an assistant prosecuting attorney in Wayne County and taught at Cooley Law School as an adjunct professor. In 1979, he was an assistant attorney general in the state's AG Office, heading the special litigation division where he argued before the state Public Service Commission and federal Energy Regulatory Commission, among others.

Lark started his BWL job in 2007 amid a swirl of controversy. Former BWL GM Sanford Novick was voted out in 2006 with a \$250,000 severance. Prior to that in 2002, former GM Joseph Pandey was fired and filed suit against BWL, settling claims for \$730,000 that were paid by insurance companies but reportedly cost BWL \$223,000 in legal

fees. Soon after taking the BWL job, Lark fired three top officials from the utility's management team: Bill Cook, senior vice president of operations; general counsel Amy Cavanaugh; and Bob Van Ells, electric and steam production manager. Lark put together a team of former Public Service Commission colleagues to replace them.

After his first year on the job, the Lansing City Council unanimously approved a resolution opposing a \$49,000 raise for Lark that the BWL commissioners had approved. Former Councilman Brian Jeffries called it "outrageous" for coming after only one year on the job. Lark's salary has continued to increase during his time there, the latest \$10,000 raise coming in his latest contract put him at \$258,502.

Yet the BWL has increased its renewable energy supply during his tenure. In his first year, Lark announced a 21-year agreement to buy electricity generated from landfill gases, which was up and running by November 2008. Later that year, BWL powered up its first solar array along South Cedar Street. While he first proposed a new coal-powered plant replace the aging Eckert station in 2008, he heeded community input against it and proposed the latest natural-gas powered cogeneration plant in REO Town.

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# ARTS & CULTURE

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## Bracing for flight

Cellist David Requiro takes on Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky with the Lansing Symphony

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Cellists are the corvids — the crows and ravens — of the classical aviary. They excel at thoughtful communication, don't preen much and look good in black.

They also get a false rep as brooders.

"I would not consider myself a serious person at all," cellist David Requiro declared. As guest soloist at Saturday's Lansing Symphony concert, Requiro, 27, will bring a lot of energy, both light and dark, to Shostakovich's Cello Concerto No. 1.

### Lansing Symphony Orchestra

David Requiro, cellist  
8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 11  
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whartoncenter.com

In fourth grade, long before Requiro became a professor of cello at the University of Puget Sound, he fought with his brother over a trombone in band class, giving rise to an incident last seen in "The Three Stooges."

"The slide separated from the bell and flew across the room," Requiro said. "I got kicked out of band, and

that was the end of my trombone life."

He got serious about the cello while attending the Crowden Music Center in Berkeley, Calif., and taught at the University of Michigan before settling in Seattle. When Requiro digs into the core classics, including a recent Beethoven cycle in Washington, he flies off with awards and competition wins. But he has a corvid's curiosity for adventure.

He recently hooked up with a Romanian ensemble of "spectral" musicians, a musical subculture that obsesses over the math and physics of every sound and the micro-acoustics of each performance space. Right away, Requiro knew he

wasn't on the Chardonnay and Chopin circuit.

"They picked me up in Paris, slid open the van door and there's a cello — unfortunately, a very good cello — just rolling around in the back," Requiro recalled. He asked them what happened to the case.

"The best answer I could get in broken English was, 'The case was ugly.'"

On tour in Europe, he walked around Paris and London, taking the subway and the Chunnel with a "naked cello." "I covered it with a T-shirt or a jacket when it rained," he said. "It was a bizarre experience."

Requiro also likes to flock with his own kind. Much like crows and ravens, cellists like to congregate.

"We actually want to play together," he said. "We enjoy the sonority of the cello."

The Cello Bash, an annual gathering of all the cellists in the Bay Area, was an annual ritual for Requiro while growing up in Oakland, Calif. The festival culminates in an overwhelming choir of about 110 cellos. Last year, Requiro toured as one-fourth of a cello quartet, playing music by Bach, Mozart and Estonian composer Arvo Pärt.

"You don't see four violinists getting together to play music," Requiro said. "My experience is that violinists are wired differently. There's a lot less competitive edge to being a cellist. It's a brotherhood."

Sooner or later, any modern cellist has to grapple with the Shostakovich concerto, a daunting crow's flight that zig-zags from droll humor to icy desolation (sound familiar?) and back again.



Courtesy Photo

David Requiro turned to the cello after an unfortunate (and slapstick comedic) trombone incident in fourth grade.

by Bach, Mozart and Estonian

"There are pieces where you can sit back, release some muscles and take a breath, but this piece doesn't let you take a breath," Requiro said.

If he's not in quarantine with some Jack Daniel's after splashdown, Requiro can at least kick back and breathe in some Tchaikovsky melodies when he's done. Saturday's all-Russian program will melt the Cold War ice with lush suites from two Tchaikovsky ballets, "Sleeping Beauty" and "Swan Lake," along with another, less often performed, ballet suite, Igor Stravinsky's "The Fairy's Kiss."

The music sucks up all of a cellist's stamina, but not for the sake of showing off. "To me, it's all about mood. It's important to maximize every emotional nook and cranny. You can never find yourself in a rut."

The second movement requires the cellist to produce glassy, dog-whistle harmonics that chill the spine.

"I'm a little young to know a lot about the Cold War, but there's this Russian, Space Age coldness," Requiro said. "I have a hard time not thinking of cosmonauts."

Free fall follows in the form of a supercharged cadenza, or solo, that accelerates from stasis to freakout in a few dizzying minutes. Many cadenzas allow for improvisation, but arch-control-freak Shostakovich wrote every note of this one, leaving none of the frenzy to chance.

"That's one part I really enjoy tackling," Requiro said. "It's so anti-classical-standard-form."

For Requiro, there's no letup as the cadenza slams into the high-energy last movement like a capsule on re-entry.



Doyle

## 'He's hanging in Heaven'

Regulars laugh and grieve at the loss of barber Jerry Doyle

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Early Saturday afternoon, a shy but mischievous-looking lad walked into Jerry's Hairport on Lansing's north side sporting a fedora. He sat down and waited for a haircut.

"Look out, it's Charlie Boy," shop owner Pat Zopf called out. Three barbers were busy,

customers were waiting and more regulars than usual were milling around.

At 16, Charlie Rose is a faithful regular at Jerry's, even though he still takes a ribbing for coming to the shop five years ago in a shirt that read "Surrender the Booty."

"That was wrong on so many levels," Zopf said, relishing the chance to bring it up again. Everyone in the shop looked thirsty for a laugh.

The day's topic of conversation was Jerry Doyle, who founded Jerry's Hairport in 1959, ran it for over 50 years and sold it to Zopf last year. Doyle stayed on, working two days a week, until heart trouble sidelined him at the end of last year.

Rose asked after Doyle's health, dread-

ing the reply.

"He's hanging in Heaven, buddy," Zopf told him. "About 8 or 9 o'clock Jan. 1." Doyle was 78.

At that moment, Linda Rose, Charlie's grandmother and a longtime friend of Doyle's, walked in the door. Shaken, she muttered a few words, turned around and went back to her car.

Charlie Boy looked at the floor. He'd had every haircut in his life at Jerry's, except for two elsewhere he didn't like.

"We lost a good friend that day," he said solemnly.

"You better go out there and check on your grandma," Zopf told him. "Looks like

See Doyle, Page 11



Allan I. Ross/City Pulse  
Jerry Doyle (right) ran his namesake barbershop, Jerry's Hairport, for 53 years before selling it to Pat Zopf (seated) last year. Doyle died Jan. 1.

# Doyle

from page 10

she's not doing too good."

Among the regulars who gathered at Jerry's Saturday was Bob Ward, Doyle's youngest customer ever, at three weeks old. That was in September 1959, the week Jerry's Hairport opened. "I had a big wad sticking up," Ward said. He still has the wad, saved in a scrapbook.

Over the years, Ward spent a lot of time with Doyle, hanging out at the shop, fishing and going to hockey games.

"He never really fished," Zopf said. "He had a cigarette and a beer and watched us."

In spite of all the non-effort, Doyle landed a five-and-a-half-pound bass last summer. The line and the net were in a hopeless tangle by the time he heaved the fish into the boat.

"It was a fiasco," Zopf said. "He didn't know what he was doing. He just wanted to watch us have fun."

"He never had a hobby," Ward said. "The shop was his hobby."

Doyle only golfed — or rather, participated

in a golf outing — once in his life, when the now-defunct Lansing Barber Association took a gang of Lansing barbers to an outing at Hawk Hollow. Doyle simply threw a cooler of beer on the back of the cart, where the clubs usually go, and drove from hole to hole, schmoozing and criticizing the players.

"That man knew more people than anybody," Ward said. "He was the perfect person to run a barbershop."

Zopf said. Doyle grew up in Lansing and never did anything else.

"His dad told him to be a priest or a barber, and he wasn't going to be a priest," Zopf said. On the shop's 50th anniversary in 2009, Doyle received proclamations from U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers and Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero. Doyle was proud to get two Michigan governors, John Swain-

son and George Romney, into the shop. When he was finished with Romney, Doyle spun the Republican around to face a picture of Swainson, a Democrat, having his hair cut in the same chair.

Ward sat in a vacant barber chair and took half a swivel. "It takes a special person to communicate with everybody, get on good terms with them, have them come back," he philosophized. "Hell, my kids come here."

"He just had a way with people," Zopf said. "Troubled kids would come in here just to talk with him."

But Doyle was no pushover.

Everybody's favorite Jerry Doyle story runs as follows. On an extra hectic day, a hyperactive 5-year-old wriggled out of Doyle's chair, climbed on the counter and started playing with the cash register. Doyle grabbed him by the ear and whisked him out the door, where his grandmother was waiting in the car. The kid turned around, came back inside the shop, walked up to

Doyle and said, "Fuck you, Jerry."

"Fuck you, too," Doyle shot back.

Zopf and the regulars kept the stories flowing Saturday until closing time. Another Charlie, surname Street, started com-

ing to the shop at the ripe old age of 3, the year it opened.

"My dad came here, I come here, my boy came here," Street said. "It was always an experience. You never knew what was going to come out of his mouth."

"One of my favorites ..." Zopf began.

"Is this the captain story?" somebody asked.

In a story that stuck to Doyle for decades — and, for the record, one he always denied — a customer once spotted him at the now-defunct Red Rail Bar in Lansing. "Hey, it's Jerry the barber," the man cried, at which point Doyle allegedly turned to the woman next to him at the bar and said, "OK, I'm not an airplane pilot."

True or not, the barbershop crew called Doyle "Captain" for years.

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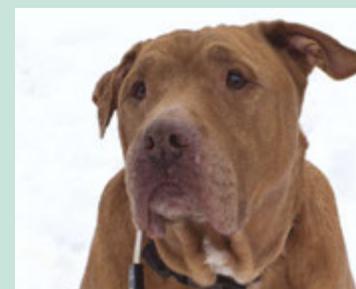
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# A song of ice and snow

Lingering thoughts on the winter storm that froze much of mid-Michigan

Last week we asked you to share your stories on the year-end power outage caused by Winter Storm Gemini. We had an abundance of submissions and nowhere near enough space to run them all. Here are a few more takes on being powerless.

**ROBERT ROSE, 56,  
GENESEE DRIVE, LANSING**

**Day 1:** Remember that part of “Doctor Zhivago” where the Reds have won and it’s winter and there’s no power or heat? It was that kind of day, except there’s no soundtrack or Julie Christie sitting next to me — just a cat on my lap and a snoring dog next to me.

**Day 3:** I give up and take up my friend Tim’s offer of refuge at his home, which has heat, power and food. And beer. Our friend Sarah, also with no power, invites us to her family’s Christmas dinner. Yum.

**Day 4:** Warm and safe, I spend the day with my grandkids, open Christmas gifts. Still no power at home. It’s starting to wear on me.

**Day 5:** I walk by the broken power pole and shake my fist at it and curse under my breath “Damn you broken pole, damn you ice.” I think this whole situation is wearing on me. I sit in my car, my heart sinking. I decide I to write a novel:

“Ice still grips the capital city, I sit in my car, one of three locations I haunt these cold days, going from house to house crying, ‘Hey friend can you spare a beer?’ The doors slam against my nose. A blotch of frozen snot on the door is the only thing I leave.”

And then ... power! I rush into the house, crank up the heat, turned on every light, shout like George Bailey from “It’s A Wonderful Life” ... “Hey, you old furnace! Hey, bathroom light! Hey fridge!”

My family, friends and neighbors were so supportive through this disaster, and for that I will always be grateful. And to cele-



Photo courtesy of Casey Cavanaugh

A stretch of DeWitt Road in DeWitt on Dec. 22, the day after an ice storm wiped out power to much of Greater Lansing.

brate the end of the ordeal, I’m going to grab a beer and play my electric guitar.

**CARIN CRYDERMAN, 37,  
UNIVERSITY DRIVE, EAST LANSING**

The street across from me had power, including my neighbors with the waving blow-up lighted Santa. It was maddening: Every time I looked across the street, he seemed to be waving in mockery.

My three girls bundled together in my bed beneath two down comforters as I wrapped presents in between hot baths to stay warm ... and warm my glass of red wine. My fresh ground cup of coffee Christmas morning was traded for the best cup of bad coffee I’ve had, at Denny’s, where we joined the masses and ran into friends. We laughed as we ordered Moons over My Hammy, none of us seeming to mind the hour-plus wait.

Acquiring and maintaining a charged cell phone felt like an Olympic event. Jumping on Facebook fostered community and camaraderie as friends and neighbors offered food, lodging and showers.

Texts and phone calls from family, friends, and coworkers asking if I needed anything. Nodding smiles in the candle and camping aisles.

Friends delivered candles, a camping stove and fancy cans of soup. A cup of hot chocolate or tea became an event and felt

like a luxury. Without the use of washer, dryer, stove and oven, I felt permission to sit and do nothing. Books were removed from their shelves and read as electronics began to lose their power — kind of a cool metaphor.

**ANN GRAHAM NICHOLS, 51,  
FOREST STREET, EAST LANSING**

“Try to learn to let what is unfair teach you.” -David Foster Wallace, “Infinite Jest”

There was an ice storm here, a cruel and lovely visitor wearing white and diamonds. It left my father without power. My brother’s family was basically camping in their own house. We still had power, so my father slept on our couch.

Every available hotel and motel space was snapped up within a day of the icefall. I see pictures on Facebook of families with small children crammed into one room, families on hotel beds with their dogs and cats and caged birds and iguanas and (in one case) a fighting fish in a bowl.

A friend and her husband have a hotel room but they weren’t allowed to bring pets. She is worried about their three cats, left alone in a frigid, dark house. I tell her they are undoubtedly fine, but I know it would be like “Sophie’s Choice” for me, leaving our dogs and cats behind.

I kept thinking about all of the people who had no money for a hotel room or to buy restaurant food. They were never going to have a pile of presents and a rib roast anyway, but now they were living in a gym or a church with a blanket, a pillow and a toothbrush. I would like to believe that a natural

## HOW DID YOU KEEP WARM?

 Our Facebook friends say:

**KATE KATJE:**  
Hot burning hatred of the ice gods.

**VIKKI BURT:**  
Whiskey works wonders!

disaster is a great leveler, but it seems likelier that people are surviving in much more comfortable ways than those without.

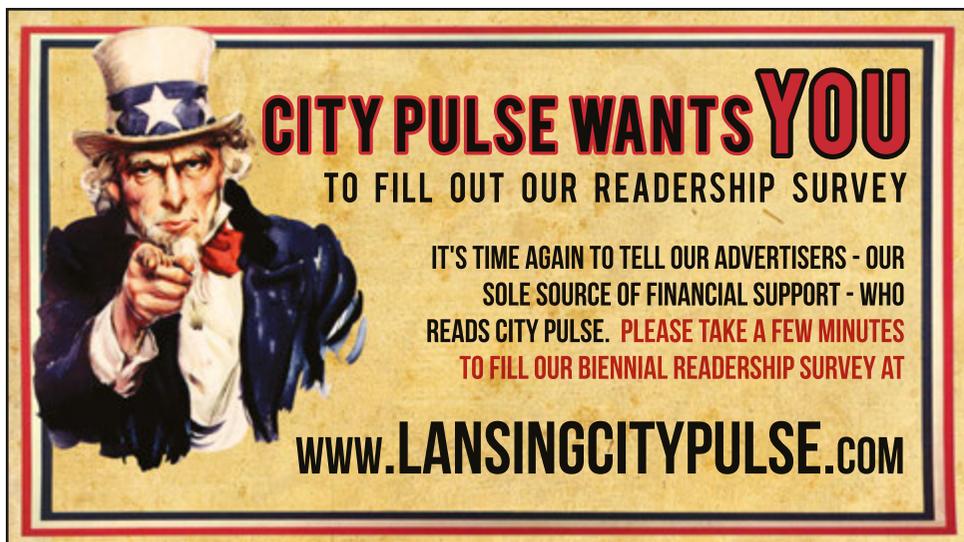
Still, because I am human, I chafe at the disruption. My dad is sleeping in the living room so I had to meditate someplace else. My planned dinner for nine might turn into a picnic for 14. Or 17, or however many people I invite because we have power and they don’t. I can’t seem to stop inviting people; it’s the right thing to do, and I want them all to be warm and safe and fed.

It may be chaos. We might run out of food. We might invite them all and lose power ourselves. But the night before Christmas as I went to bed, my father thanked me (again) for putting him up. My head was spinning with plans, plots and subplots.

“You’re welcome,” I said. “But I’m sure it isn’t as comfortable as being at home.”

“It’s good not to be alone” he said, from under the pile of blankets.

A teachable moment in the midst of this particular, treacherous unfairness.



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# Loogan's run

Michigan author's newest release is a prequel ... with a twist

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Ann Arbor mystery writer Harry Dolan has a blockbuster endorsement by none other than the master of suspense, Stephen King. King called Dolan's first book, "Bad Things Happen," a "great fucking book. I was totally hooked." Not bad for a first time author.

Dolan's newest book, "The Last Dead Girl," won't disappoint King or Dolan's steadily growing band of fans who have been attracted to his complex and mysterious protagonist, David Loogan, edi-

## Harry Dolan

Author talk and book signing  
Saturday, Jan. 11  
Schuler Books & Music  
(Meridian Mall)  
1982 W. Saginaw Ave.,  
Okemos  
(517) 349-8840  
schulertools.com

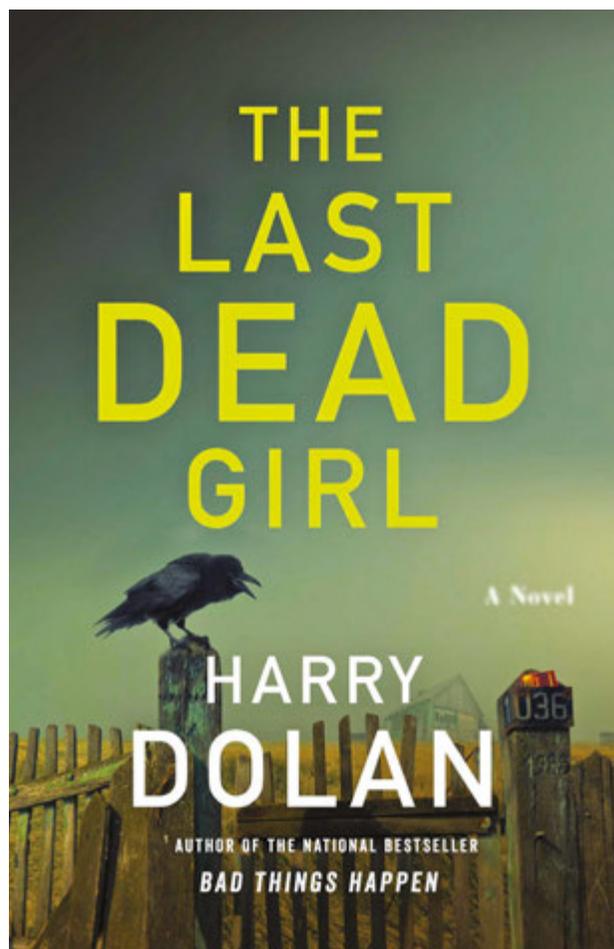
tor of an Ann Arbor crime-fiction magazine and amateur detective.

Dolan has created a noir-ish mystery series that rivals the

work of both Hammett and Chandler. "The Last Dead Girl" serves as a prequel to the Loogan-verse; Dolan fills in the missing pieces of a man who lives in some dark shadows of the past. We quickly find out that Loogan, whose real name is David Malone, is not who he appears to be in the previous two novels.

On the same night Malone, who slogs through life as home-inspection specialist, discovers his fiancé is having an affair, he runs across a young law student, Jana Fletcher, and a lustful interlude soon turns to what might be a budding romance. Not to be. Jana is killed and, of course, Malone is the prime suspect.

This could have been your average mystery whodunit with a clever detective on the scene and the real killer on the loose, with Malone in chase, but Dolan doesn't let that happen. The investigating detective Frank Moretti holds some of his own dark past close to the vest and may even have his own agenda in rail-



Courtesy Photo

Ann Arbor author Harry Dolan's newest novel is a prequel to his other books, featuring protagonist David Loogan.

roading Malone for the killing of Jana.

The killer, who we only know as "K" in the book, is one of those dark assassins we've come to love in thrillers. He's funny, creative and smart. The reader, through Dolan's artful writing, is encouraged to become sympathetic to the killer, which, of course, is a big mistake.

These three terrific characters are all woven into a tight story through the young law student who was involved in the Innocence Project and was trying to exonerate a schoolteacher who was sent to prison for life for the killing of his wife.

It's up Malone to put all these disparate relationships together in a gripping

thriller with both the outcome and the motives hidden until the end. Mystery readers who like to jump to the end of a book to find the outcome are definitely cautioned against that.

Dolan spent the holidays in his new home in Ann Arbor. He said in a phone interview he didn't conceive the first Loogan book as a series, but rather a standalone.

"I didn't have that in mind, but my agent and publisher thought the character would be good for a series," he said. They were clearly right, and Dolan's first book was followed with "Bad Things Happened," which was again set on the mean streets of Ann Arbor. His newest book takes the author back to his own hometown of Rome, New York, for the setting, but even in this comfortable setting Dolan has stayed true to his dark writing roots.

"It's darker than anything I've written before," Dolan said. "I didn't intend it to be, but that's how it worked out."

In his first two books on Loogan, you don't hear much of his backstory. "The Last Dead Girl" is Loogan's first experience with violence.

"The book explores loss and grief and ends on a melancholy note," Dolan said. "This shapes him into more of a loner, which we see in the first two books."

Through the detective character, Morrelli, Dolan explores the common literary theme of an honorable man who finds himself in a situation where he does dishonorable things. Because of the

success of his first two books, Dolan has sloughed off his freelance editing and is now able to write full time, but his early success has also created a lot of pressure.

"I now have deadlines," he said. "With my first book, nobody was waiting for it. Now I am concerned with sales and feel a lot of pressure to come up with the big idea."

With his most recent big idea behind him Dolan is working on a stand-alone that he hints will be about a young boy who discovers his father is a hit man. No matter what happens with his next book Dolan will never forget the thrill of getting an email titled: "A Message from Stephen King."

"I picked up a lot of sales because of that endorsement," he said.

And for safety, he has printed off numerous copies of the email and resisted bugging King in email. If I were Dolan I'd pull the trigger on an email. King would enjoy this book even more.

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# OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at [www.lansingcitypulse.com](http://www.lansingcitypulse.com). Deadline is 5 p.m. Thursdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Jonathan at (517) 999-5069.

## Thursday, January 9

### CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

**English Country Dancing.** No partner needed. Live music. 7-9:30 p.m. \$4-\$6, FREE to MSU students. Snyder/Phillips Hall on MSU campus, East Lansing. (517) 321-3070. [msu.edu](http://msu.edu).

**Take Off Pounds Sensibly.** 5:15 p.m. \$5/month. New Hope Church, 1340 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 339-9000. [newhopehaslett.com](http://newhopehaslett.com).

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

**Family Storytime.** Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes & activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. [cadl.org](http://cadl.org).

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

**Tarot Study Group.** With Dawne Botke. 7 p.m. FREE. Triple Goddess New Age Bookstore, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 883-3619. [triplegoddessbookstore.net](http://triplegoddessbookstore.net).

### EVENTS

**Battle of the Books: Kickoff.** Book trivia competition signup. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3. [dtdl.org](http://dtdl.org).

**Domestic Violence Advocacy.** Volunteer training. Call for more information. South Washington Office Complex, 2500 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 272-7436.

**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.

**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.

**YPAAL Happy Hour.** Appetizers, drinks, networking & volunteering. 5:30-7 p.m. FREE. Tavern On the Square, 206 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (614) 266-0852. [alz.org/mglc](http://alz.org/mglc).

**Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club.** Lessons, exercise & practice for adult women. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:30 a.m. Suburban Ice, 2810

See Out on the Town, Page 16

## THURSDAY-SUNDAY, JAN. 9-12 & THURSDAY-SUNDAY, JAN. 16-19 >> "12 ANGRY MEN" AT RIVERWALK THEATER



The classic drama takes you behind the closed doors of a deadlocked jury. What seems like an easy-to-peg murder case unravels as the jurors deal with their personal prejudices and misconceptions of the case. Each has their own problems with the case, the accused and especially each other. 7 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. Riverwalk Theater, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).



## THURSDAY JAN. 9 & FRIDAY JAN. 10 >> 6TH ANNUAL BENEFIT PARTY & ARTIST'S RECEPTION AT (SCENE) METROSPACE



In 2004, East Lansing's (SCENE) MetroSpace was established in the wake of then-Gov. Jennifer Granholm's "Cool Cities" program, which was designed to keep the fleeing post-grad student populace in Michigan.

(SCENE) was created to attract youth seeking culturally greener pastures by offering an alternative arts space with a wide array of activities and exhibits that might not otherwise find a venue.

It's been 10 years, and, with a move from Abbot Street to Charles Street in 2007, (SCENE) MetroSpace has grown into an eclectic gallery providing a wide variety of arts and entertainment experiences. Events have included contemporary art exhibitions, rock concerts and even a yoga session by candlelight accompanied by live cello.

In celebration of its 10th anniversary, (SCENE) MetroSpace will hold its sixth annual benefit party. East Lansing City Manager George Lahanas will host. The event will include

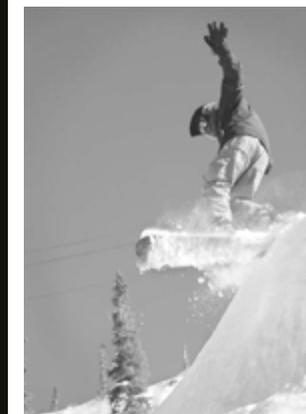
dessert, wine and a sneak peek at the following day's exhibit. Matt Borghi and Michael Teager will be there to provide the evening's musical entertainment.

Then on Friday, (SCENE) will unveil "Presence: A Michigan State University MFA Showcase," its first exhibit of 2014. The show features six artists: Kiel Darling, Mary Fritz, Julie Johnson, Lane Kaufmann, Sarah Odens and Keri Weber. The artists are second-year Masters in the Fine Arts candidates at MSU and will present works of various mediums, including installations, painting and objects, which will be on display through March 16.

The benefit party is \$50/person, \$75/couple (all but \$10 is tax deductible). RSVP at [scenemetrospace@gmail.com](mailto:scenemetrospace@gmail.com). 6-8 p.m. The reception for "Presence" is FREE, 6-9 p.m. (SCENE) MetroSpace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832.



## FRIDAY, JAN. 10-SATURDAY, JAN. 11 >> HAWK ISLAND SNOW PARK OPENING



The opening of Hawk Island Snow Park will bring a few guests to the hills of south Lansing. The park will be open to the public for FREE on Friday, but the party will be on Saturday. A few pro snowboarders from Mervin Manufacturing's team will shred with the locals.

"It's basically all of the raddest people in the country that own snowboarding companies," said

Jeff Deehan, who's organizing the event. "It's the first time ever that an entire pro snowboard team has come to Lansing. It's normally not something that you get to see around here."

Deehan said the weather has been a factor in the park's late

open in the season, but it has been slightly beneficial; he said the massive amounts of snow makes the hills a little nicer and a little more fun.

"We got kind of the perfect storm," he said.

While the park doesn't have an extensive amount of equipment to rent, it will have a new fleet of LibTech and GNU snowboards that the public will be able to try out for free. The hill is 400 feet from top to bottom with a 100-foot elevation. For the weekend, snowboarding and tubing runs will be open.

"One a little more for the adventurous and one more of a straight shot," said Brian Collins, Hawk Island park manager. 2 p.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday and holidays. Rates vary based on activity; season passes available for \$149 and \$99 (12 and under). Hawk Island Snow Park (inside Hawk Island County Park), 1601 E. Cavanaugh Road, Lansing. [hawkislandsnowpark.com](http://hawkislandsnowpark.com).

## SATURDAY-SUNDAY, JAN. 11-12 >> WINTER WONDERLAND SLED & SNOW FESTIVAL

As if you didn't get enough snow this week, X Theory Collaboration presents a music festival celebrating the frozen Lansing landscape. Bundle up and enjoy free snowboarding and sledding at Grand River Park. You will have a chance to compete in snow activities, contests and games. The Michigan Princess Riverboat will host more than 40 live performances on five stages. Hot chili and cocoa will be available; there will also be a bar featuring grown-up drinks. Noon-10 p.m.: all ages welcome with the accompaniment of an adult; 10 p.m.-2 a.m.: 18-up only. Passes available for \$5 at [theriverboat.com/events/20](http://theriverboat.com/events/20). Grand River Park, 3004 W. Main St., Lansing. [xtheorycollab.com](http://xtheorycollab.com).

# TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA



## DIZZY DEAREST ALBUM RELEASE

**Friday, Jan. 10 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. \$7-\$10. 18+, 8 p.m.**

Dizzy Dearest formed in 2009 when lead vocalist Maggie Kay Emison and her brother, Jarod Emison, played a high school talent show together. The local indie-rock band released its debut EP, "All These Flowers," in 2011. Friday at Mac's Bar the band releases its new 11-song, full-length album "Ars Antiqua." Opening are Real Ghosts, Mushhh and AKDJ. Maggie Kay Emison said the recording process was a series of meticulous sessions, spread out over the course of two years. "We recorded each track onto a reel-to-reel tape machine," she said. "We used an older Fisher-Price tape recorder for all of our vocal distortion. It consumed a lot of time doing things this way."

## DEVIL'S CUT AT THE AVENUE

**Friday, Jan. 10 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. \$7, 9 p.m.**

The Devil's Cut plays an EP release show Friday at The Avenue Café. Opening are Whiskey Diski & The Barrel Boys, The Plurals and Lights & Caves. Devi's Cut's seven-song EP, "No Salvation," was released via East Grand Records and showcases the band's style of Americana, folk and punk-influenced rock 'n' roll, including the standout tracks "Highwater Chevy" and "Violent City." The band's lyrics tell stories of the Rust Belt's working middle class. A news release from East Grand Records describes the songs as full of beauty, sadness and frustration. Fans of Deer Tick, The Devil Makes Three or The Goddamn Gallows might want to check out this show.

## ALMANACK DEBUTS AT THE AVENUE

**Saturday, Jan. 11 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 8 p.m**

Mike Reed of the post-hardcore band Small Brown Bike debuts his new band, Almanack, Saturday at The Avenue Café. The group formed after Reed wanted to "bring a catalog of solo songs to life." Opening is Flatfoot. Reed (writer/vocals/guitar) said this venture is more in the Americana-rock vibe. It features his wife Katy Reed (bass) and his brother Ben Reed (lead guitar), as well as Paul Delamater (pedal steel) and drummer Jim Owens. Almanack's first practice was in September 2013 and last month they debuted at the Dark Horse Brewery. The band is working on a debut EP, its set for a summer release. The band is planning a full length later in the year.



**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, 7:30 p.m.	Dixin's Violin Concert, 7:30 p.m.	The Devil's Cut, 8 p.m.	Flatfoot & Almanack, 8 p.m.
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.	DJ Jimmy, 9 p.m.	Showdown, 9 p.m.	DJ Jimmy, 9 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Blvd.		DJ, 9 p.m.	Flyte, 9 p.m.	Flyte, 9 p.m.
Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 E. N. East St.		Danny Browning, 8 p.m.	Danny Browning, 8 p.m.	Danny Browning, 8 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Whiskey Pickers, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.		Stud Budzynski, 8:30 p.m.	Squids, 9:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			That Freak Quincy, 9 p.m.	Homegrown Throwdown, 6:30 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.			Dizzy Dearest, 8 p.m.	The Jackpine Snag, 9 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic, 10 p.m.	The Whiskey Charmers, 10 p.m.	The Hooties, 9:30 p.m.	The Hooties, 9:30 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road			New Rule, 7 p.m.	The Tenants, 7 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Life Support, 7 p.m.	Sean Bodell, 7 p.m.
Tin Can West, 644 Migaldi Ln.	Waterpong, 11 p.m.	Well Enough Alone, 8 p.m.		
Tin Can DeWitt, 13175 Schavey Rd.	DJ Floyd Trivia, 10 p.m.	Karlie Rewarts, 8 p.m.		
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive		Steve Cowles, 6 p.m.	Joe Wright, 6 p.m.	
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.	DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.

## PLAY IN A BAND? BOOK SHOWS? LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS!

To get listed just email us at [liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com) or call (517) 999-6710

**WHAT TO DO:** Submit information by the Friday before publication (City Pulse comes out every Wednesday.) Be sure to tell us the name of the performer and the day, date and time of the performance. Only submit information for the following week's paper.

# Out on the town

from page 14

Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 574-4380.  
**Capital Area Audubon Society.** "Migratory Behavior of Captive Blue-Winged Teal." 7 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. capitalareaaudubon.org.  
**(SCENE) Benefit Party.** 6-8 p.m. \$50 single, \$75 couple (cash/check at door). (SCENE) Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832. RSVP scenemetrospace@gmail.com.

## MUSIC

**Rally In The Alley Open Mic.** Acoustic round table. All welcome. 6:30 p.m. FREE. American Legion Post 48, 731 N. Clinton St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-1232. facebook.com/rallyinthealley.  
**Dixon's Violin in Concert.** Transformational journeys via digital violin. 7:30 p.m. \$10. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

dixonsviolin.com.

## THEATER

**Moscow Festival Ballet: "The Sleeping Beauty."** 7:30 p.m. \$25-\$42/\$15 students. Wharton Center, MSU campus, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000. whartoncenter.com.  
**"12 Angry Men."** Classic drama about the jury of a murder case. 7 p.m. \$14, \$12 seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com.

## Friday, January 10

### CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

**Alcoholics Anonymous.** A closed women's meeting. 7:30 p.m. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing. (517) 882-9733.  
**Oil Painting.** For all levels with Patricia Singer. Pre-registration required. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$60 for four weeks. Gallery 1212 Old Town, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 999-1212. gallery1212.com.

## Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Words That Never Were"--a mashup from 2013 lists.  
 Matt Jones

### Across

- 1 Agile
- 5 Give the appearance of
- 9 Potato chip flavor
- 14 Herbal medicine succulent
- 15 Meat approver, for short
- 16 "A Delicate Balance" playwright
- 17 "Damn Yankees" temptress
- 18 DC team
- 19 Epic about the Trojan War
- 20 They stand up for a cause by bumping and grinding?
- 23 Industry, casually
- 24 Rare batteries
- 28 The act of working out a national budget with new fried deserts?
- 33 Babbling waterway
- 34 Clashing
- 35 Come \_\_\_ standstill
- 36 Place to play hockey
- 37 Hatch at the Capitol
- 38 Web address letters
- 39 Thurman who played June in "Henry & June"
- 40 Oven setting
- 41 Where much of "Torchwood" takes place
- 42 Came up with a rational reason for taking one's own picture?
- 45 Tried, with "at"
- 46 World of Warcraft, for one



- 47 Giant swirl of Buzzfeed posts?
- 54 Sugar frontman Bob
- 57 Conical-bore instrument
- 58 Part of USNA
- 59 Birchbark vessel
- 60 Grumpy Cat, e.g.
- 61 Grooving on
- 62 Sports forum
- 63 "South Park" kid
- 64 British king of literature
- Down**
- 1 Everything bagel topping
- 2 Blizzard battler
- 3 Casting director's offer
- 4 It gets signed at school
- 5 General who wrote of military arts
- 6 "Caprica" actor Morales
- 7 1999 reality-show satire
- 8 "Heroes" star Oka
- 9 Not a good thing to hotwire
- 10 Prepared
- 11 MLB stat
- 12 One of Estelle's co-stars
- 13 Letters in math proofs
- 21 Garden hose crimp
- 22 \_\_\_ Wrap
- 25 Minute
- 26 Smashed and grabbed
- 27 Loses it
- 28 Combat site of the 1850s
- 29 Mr. McDonald
- 30 Hawaiian staples
- 31 Word before mine or mall
- 32 Suit fabric
- 33 Art store purchase
- 37 Cookies since 1912
- 38 Digital annoyance?
- 40 Earth-shaking concept
- 41 Changing table cloth
- 43 Leno successor
- 44 Former "America's Funniest People" host Sorkin
- 48 \_\_\_ of Maine (tooth-paste brand)
- 49 "Yeah, as if!"
- 50 Time out?
- 51 Breakout phenomenon
- 52 Mined-over matter?
- 53 Scent
- 54 Late Beastie Boy
- 55 Dinghy thing
- 56 "Ceci n'est pas \_\_\_ pipe" (Magritte caption)

## EVENTS

**Japan Meditations: The Soul of a Moment.** By Owosso artist Linda Beeman. 7 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400 ext. 3. lansingartgallery.org.  
**Singles TGIF Party.** Weekly singles party with live music and dancing. 8 p.m.-midnight, \$12. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 S. Chandler Road, Bath. (517) 281-6272. singlestgif.com.  
**Art Opening.** Installation, painting and objects by MSU artists. 6-9 p.m. FREE. (SCENE) Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832. scenemetrospace.com.

## MUSIC

**Grand River Radio Diner/WLNZ 89.7.** Featuring Robert Redbird and Devil's Cut. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1710. lcc.edu/radio.

## THEATER

**"12 Angry Men."** (Please see details Jan. 9.) 8 p.m. \$14, \$12 for seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com.

## Saturday, January 11

### CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

**Planning your gardening year.** Learn how to get your garden ready for the year. 3-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460. lansingcitymarket.com.  
**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.

## EVENTS

**Second Saturdays for Families.** Snow science themed activities. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. \$2-\$6. Michigan Historical Museum, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 373-3559. michigan.gov/museum.  
**Karaoke.** With Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St. Lansing. (517) 482-0184.  
**Second Saturday Supper.** Baked chicken dinner. 5-6:15 p.m. \$8, \$4 children. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-3139. mayflowerchurch.com.

## MUSIC

**MasterWorks 4: Tchaikovsky & B. Pieces** — Tchaikovsky, Stravinsky and Shostakovich. 8 p.m. \$20-\$47. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 487-5001. lansingsymphony.org.  
**Children/Youth Choir Auditions.** Call to schedule an appointment. Noon-2 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

## THEATER

**"12 Angry Men."** (Please see details Jan. 9.) 8 p.m. \$14, \$12 for seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700. riverwalktheatre.com.

## LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

**Harry Dolan, author of "The Last Dead Girl." Talk and book signing.** 2 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music (Okemos), 1982 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-8840. schulerbooks.com.

See Out on the Town, Page 17

## City Pulse Classifieds

Interested in placing a classified ad in City Pulse?  
 (517) 999-5066 or adcopy@lansingcitypulse.com



Computer/IT: Information Technologist III with Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan: Design, develop, and deploy complex enterprise applications to meet user requirements and business needs. Design and build enterprise applications based on the Kuali Rice infrastructure. Minimum requirements: Master's degree in Computer Science or related field and 1 year experience in computer science, information systems, business, or related information technology area. Experience must include one year experience in Java; one year experience in Relational Data Base Management System (RDBMS) using Oracle, MySQL, Microsoft SQL Server; and one year experience in application server Apache Tomcat, version control systems CVS, Unix/Linux Shell scripting, and development tools JIRA, Bamboo. To apply for this posting, please go to www.jobs.msu.edu click on "Support Staff", and apply under posting number 8755. MSU is committed to achieving excellence through cultural diversity. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations from women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities. MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

## SUDOKU

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## ADVANCED

### 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.

To avoid erasing, pencil in your possible answers in the scratchpad space beneath the short line in each vacant square.

Answers on page 18

# Out on the town

from page 16

## Sunday, January 12

### CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

**You CAN Dance Workshops.** Exercise in a fun environment. 1 p.m. FREE. Parkwood YMCA, 2306 Haslett Road, East Lansing. (517) 827-9680. [ymcaoflansing.org/parkwood](http://ymcaoflansing.org/parkwood).

**Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous.** Third floor meeting room. 2-3 p.m. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300. [cadl.org](http://cadl.org).

**Juggling.** Learn how to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pump House, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. (517) 485-9190.

**Spiritual Talk, Pure Meditation & Silent Prayer.** One of Mata Yoganandaji's "Inspiring Talks." 7 p.m. FREE. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201. [selfrealizationcentremichigan.org](http://selfrealizationcentremichigan.org).

**Progressive Christianity Study.** Conversation and book discussion. 5:30-7 p.m. FREE. Lansing Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 323-2445.

### EVENTS

**Bridal Party Wedding Show.** 11 a.m.-5 p.m. \$5. Kellogg Conference Center, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. (517) 882-1423. [bridalpartylansing.com](http://bridalpartylansing.com).

**Greater Lansing Vegan Meetup.** Vegan potluck dinner. Open to all. 6-7:30 p.m. , FREE. Clerical-Technical Union of MSU , 2990 E. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing. (517) 332-7898. [meetup.com](http://meetup.com).

**Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance.** Cash bar. 6-10 p.m. \$8. Fraternal Order of Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 490-7838.

### THEATER

**"12 Angry Men."** (Please see details Jan. 9.) 2 p.m. \$14, \$12 for seniors. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700. [riverwalktheatre.com](http://riverwalktheatre.com).

## Monday, January 13

### CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

**Learn to Meditate.** Taught by Bob Teachout. Enter at rear of building. 8:15-9 p.m. Donations. C. Weaver Physical Therapy Exercise Studio, 1720 Abbey Road, East Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

**Adult Rape Survivor Support Group.** Pre-registration suggested. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

**Job Seekers Support Group.** Find the right job or career. 10 a.m.-Noon, FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163. [womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org](http://womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org).

**Support Group.** For divorced, separated & widowed. Room 9. 7:30 p.m. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272. [stdavidslansing.org](http://stdavidslansing.org).

### EVENTS

**Monday Morning Movie.** Popcorn and a movie. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

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

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

**Club Shakespeare.** (517) 348-5728, 6-8:45 p.m. Donations. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300. [cadl.org](http://cadl.org).

### MUSIC

**Open-Mic Blues Mondays.** Solo, duo, band and spoken word acts welcome. 6:30-10:30 p.m. FREE. Midtown Brewing Co., 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 977-1349.

## Tuesday, January 14

### CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

**Empowered Childbirth Classes.** Six-week course for new mothers. 7-9:15 p.m. \$180. Willow Tree Family Center, 3333 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Suite 101, Lansing. (734) 726-0056. [motherscirclebirth.com](http://motherscirclebirth.com).

**Basic Home Organizing.** 10:30 a.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.

**Take Off Pounds Sensibly.** 7 p.m. FREE to visit. Eaton Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. (517) 543-0786. [tops.com](http://tops.com).

**Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous.** 5:45-6:45 p.m. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900. [becauseeverybodyreads.com](http://becauseeverybodyreads.com).

**Healing Hearts.** For those who have lost a loved one. 4-5:30 p.m. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163. [womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org](http://womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org).

**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.

**Water-media class.** All skill levels, with Rebecca Stafford. Pre-registration required. 6-8:30 p.m. \$60 for four weeks. Gallery 1212 Old Town, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 999-1212. [gallery1212.com](http://gallery1212.com).

See Out on the Town, Page 18

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## Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsky

Jan 9-14

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): You can blame it on the coming full moon. You can blame it on the gorgeous storm or the epic dream or the haunting song or the suffering you're struggling to vanquish. All I ask is that you don't blame it on the alcohol. OK? If you're going to do wild and brave and unexpected things, make sure they are rooted in your vigorous response to primal rhythms, not in a drunken surrender to weakness or ignorance. I'm all for you losing your oppressive self-control, but not the healthy kind of self-control.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): When is the last time you did an experiment? I'm not talking about scientific tests and trials that take place in a laboratory. I'm referring to real-life experiments, like when you try out an unfamiliar experience to see if it appeals to you . . . or when you instigate a change in your routine to attract unpredictable blessings into your sphere. Now would be an excellent time to expose yourself to a few what-ifs like that. You're overdue to have your eyes opened, your limits stretched, and your mind blown.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): To help take the edge off the darkness you have been wrestling with, I offer you these lines from a poem by Kay Ryan: "The day misspent, / the love misplaced, / has inside it / the seed of redemption. / Nothing is exempt / from resurrection." In other words, Gemini, whatever has disappeared from your life will probably return later in a new form. The wrong turns you made may lead you to a fresh possibility. Is that what you want? Or would you prefer that the lost things stay lost, the dead things stay dead? Make a decision soon.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): "Human beings are often unable to receive because we do not know what to ask for," says the writer Malidoma Somé in his book *Water and Spirit*. "We are sometimes unable to get what we need because we do not know what we want." With that in mind, Cancerian, hear my two pleas: first, that in the next six weeks, you will work diligently to identify the goodies you want most; and second, that you will cultivate your capacity to receive the goodies you want most by refining your skill at asking for them.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Julia Morgan (1872-1957) was the first woman licensed as an architect in California. She designed over 700 buildings in the course of her brilliant career, and thrived both financially and artistically. One key to her success was her humility. "Don't ever turn down a job because it's beneath you," she advised. That's a helpful message for you to hear, Leo. It applies to the work-related opportunities you may be invited to take on, as well as the tasks that your friends, associates, and loved ones ask you to consider. You can't possibly know ahead of time how important it might ultimately be to apply yourself conscientiously to a seemingly small assignment.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): One of Beethoven's music teachers said, "As a composer, he is hopeless." When Thomas Edison was a kid, a teacher told him he was "too stupid to learn anything." Walt Disney worked at a newspaper when he was young, but his editor fired him because "he lacked imagination and had no good ideas." I'm sure there was a person like that in your past -- someone who disparaged and discouraged you. But I'm happy to report that 2014 will be the best year ever for neutralizing and overcoming that naysayer's curse. If you have not yet launched your holy crusade, begin now.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): As a child, French philosopher and writer Blaise Pascal (1623-1662) loved math. But his father, who homeschooled him, forced him to forego math and concentrate on studying the humanities. Blaise rebelled. When he was 12 years old, he locked himself in his room for days and immersed himself in mathematical investigations. When he emerged, he had figured out on his own some of Euclid's fundamental theorems about geometry. Eventually, he

became a noted mathematician. I see the coming weeks as prime time to do something like the young Pascal did: Seal yourself away from other people's opinions about who you're supposed to be, and explore the themes that will be crucial for the person you are becoming.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In 1609, Dutch sea explorer Henry Hudson sailed to America and came upon what we now call Coney Island. Back then it was a barren spit of sand whose main inhabitants were rabbits. But it was eventually turned into a dazzling resort -- an "extravagant playground," according to the documentary film *Coney Island*. By the early 20th century, there were three sprawling amusement parks packed into its two square miles of land, plus "a forest of glittering electric towers, historical displays, freak shows, a simulated trip to the moon, the largest herd of elephants in the world, and panoramas showing the Creation, the End of the World, and Hell." I mention this, Scorpio, because 2014 could feature your very own Henry Hudson moment: a time when you will discover virgin territory that will ultimately become an extravagant playground.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "If men had wings and bore black feathers, few of them would be clever enough to be crows," said 19th-century social reformer Henry Ward Beecher. That might be an accurate assessment for most people, but I don't think it will be true for you Sagittarians in the foreseeable future. Your animal intelligence will be working even better than usual. Your instinctual inclinations are likely to serve as reliable guides to wise action. Trust what your body tells you! You will definitely be clever enough to be a crow.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Can you guess what combination of colors makes the most vivid visual impact? Psychologists say it's black on yellow. Together they arrest the eye. They command attention. They activate a readiness to respond. According to my reading of the astrological omens, this is the effect you can and should have in the coming weeks. It's time for you to draw the best kind of attention to yourself. You have a right and a duty to galvanize people with the power of your presence. Whether you actually wear yellow clothes with black highlights is optional as long as you cultivate a similar potency.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I'm guessing that in a metaphorical sense, you've been swallowed by a whale. Now you're biding your time in the beast's belly. Here's my prediction: You will be like the Biblical Jonah, who underwent a more literal version of your experience. The whale eventually expelled him, allowing him to return to his life safe and sound -- and your story will have the same outcome. What should you do in the meantime? Here's the advice that Dan Albergotti gives in his poem "Things to Do in the Belly of the Whale." "Count the ribs," he says. "Look up for blue sky through the spout. Make small fires with the broken hulls of fishing boats. Practice smoke signals. Call old friends. Organize your calendar. Dream of the beach. Review each of your life's ten million choices. Find the evidence of those before you. Listen for the sound of your heart. Be thankful that you are here, swallowed with all hope, where you can rest and wait."

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): How do you like your tests? Short, intense, and dramatic? Or leisurely, drawn-out, and low-pressure? Here's another question: Do you prefer to pick out the tests you take, making sure they're good fits for the precise lessons you want to master? Or do you find it more exciting and adventurous to let fate determine what unpredictable tests get sent your way? Ruminant about these matters, Pisces. You're due for a nice big test sometime soon, and it's in your interest to help shape and define how everything unfolds.

Go to [RealAstrology.com](http://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 17

**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.  
**Speakeasies Toastmasters.** Improve listening, analysis, leadership & presentation skills. 12:05-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (616) 841-5176.

## EVENTS

**Kindergarten Information Night.** 7 p.m. FREE. Lansing Christian School, 3405 Belle Chase Way, Lansing. RSVP at (517) 882-5779 ext.107. lansingchristianschool.org.  
**Bible and Beer.** Discussion of Scripture's power in daily events. 6 p.m. Midtown Beer Co., 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 482-0600. bibleandbeer@ccclansing.org.

## Wednesday, January 15

### CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

**Universal Symbolism Discussion.** 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. pilgrimucc.com.

**Paper Management.** How to organize your bills, records and paperwork. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045.  
**Overeaters Anonymous.** 7 p.m. FREE. First Congregational United Church of Christ, 210 W. Saginaw Highway, Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954. fcgl.org.  
**Drop-in Figure Drawing.** Easels and drawing boards provided. 7-9:30 p.m. \$7, \$5 students. Kresge Art Center, at Physics & Auditorium roads, MSU campus, East Lansing. (517) 337-1170.  
**Family Storytime.** Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes & 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 Ave., Lansing. (517) 351-5866.  
**Drawing Class.** All skill levels, with Penny Collins. Pre-registration required. 6-8:30 p.m. \$60 for four weeks. Gallery 1212 Old Town, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 999-1212. gallery1212.com.

## EVENTS

**Farmers Market inside Allen Market Place.** Locally grown, and prepared foods. Live music. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.  
**Practice Your English.** 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

## LOTUSVOICE INTEGRATIVE THERAPIES/ TOM + CHEE / FIREHOUSE SUBS

Courtesy photo  
 Cincinnati soup-and-sandwich chain Tom + Chee opened its first Michigan location in downtown Lansing last month. It will soon get a neon sign similar to this one.



### By ALLAN I. ROSS

Ginger Yang recently opened **LotusVoice Integrative Therapies** in East Lansing, which is dedicated to holistic healing. Yang, a certified music therapist and massage therapist, worked with patients and their families at McLaren Hospice since March 2010.

"I want to assist people in listening to their own bodies and minds," Yang said. "We teach people how to create their own wellness."



LotusVoice features music therapy, massage therapy and sound healing. It also has classes and clubs for tai chi, yoga, Pilates and meditation. Yang said the common element is "bridging differences, finding balance and teaching people how to come to peace with themselves."

From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 19, there will be a free grand opening/open house featuring discussions and demonstrations. Topics include aromatherapy, bolstering your immune system (quite the relevant

subject lately) and "alternative human energy field modalities." Sounds uplifting.

### The sandwich district

If you're looking to grab a sandwich, Washington Square in downtown Lansing has no shortage of choices — **Downtown Subs and Salads, Mediteran Deli and Backyard BBQ**, to name a few — and this week, it got two more: **Tom + Chee** and **Firehouse Subs**. Both held grand openings on Wednesday, including a donut-eating contest at Tom + Chee. Screw New Year's resolutions; it's carb-loading season.

Tom + Chee is a Cincinnati-based chain that features a menu of creative takes on grilled cheese sandwiches and soups, including grilled cheese's wingman, tomato soup. The Lansing location marks the first Tom + Chee in Michigan, and the franchise's eighth restaurant overall. The soup-and-sandwich shop gained national attention last year when the idea was pitched on the reality TV show, "Shark Tank," with its twist on comfort food.

The restaurant offers many variations of the classic sandwich, including the Hippy + Chee, which comes with hummus and vegetables. The menu also has made-from-scratch soups and salads. All of the meats are roasted in-house and all dressings, sauces and spreads are made from scratch. The restaurant also serves gluten-free bread, vegan cheese and vegetarian and vegan soups.

### LotusVoice Integrative Therapies

4994 Park Lake Road, East Lansing  
 Hours by appointment/class schedule only  
 (517) 897-0714, lotusvoice48823.com

### Tom + Chee

123 S. Washington Square, Lansing  
 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday; closed Sunday  
 facebook.com/tomandcheelansing

### Firehouse Subs

200 S. Washington Square, Lansing  
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 (517) 316-0483, firehousesubs.com

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**CROSSWORD SOLUTION**  
 From Pg. 16

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**SUDOKU SOLUTION**  
 From Pg. 16

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# Champagne finance reform

## Annual farmer fizz evaluation back with new picks for 2014

By MICHAEL S. BRENTON

Sparkling wine is rightfully regarded as a party wine; the high natural acidity and bubbles are palate cleansing and make the beverage just plain fun to drink. Perhaps it's even perfect for the non-beer drinkers at a Super Bowl party or during March Madness get-togethers?

Sparkling wine is made in virtually every wine-producing region, but Champagne is made only in the Champagne region of Burgundy, France. Champagne can be made from a single grape variety or a combination of up to three: Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Pinot Meunier. A 100 percent Chardonnay Champagne is Blanc de Blancs (translated as "white wine from white grapes,") whereas a Champagne made with the dark Pinot Noir grape would be a Blanc de Noirs ("white wine from black grapes"), unless it's a Rosé.

Many of the highly advertised and cult-ish Champagnes also come with a price tag that correlate with their reputations and advertising budgets, such as Dom Perignon, Moët & Chandon and Cristal. But the smaller, almost unknown labels colloquially known as grower Champagnes or farmer fizz, are produced by growers in the Champagne region of France, without an advertising budget or the production capacity to respond to high demand. These wines reflect the terroir of the vineyards in which they are grown, the viticultural practices of the grower and the personal style of the wine maker. While not necessarily inexpensive, they can be terrific values relative to the quality of the wine in the bottle.

**Pierre Peters Cuvee de Reserve, Le Mesnil Sur Oger Blanc de Blanc** (retail price: \$80) is 100 percent Chardonnay from the Côte des Blancs. The soil is a powdery pure chalk soil similar to the soil around Chablis. Structured and acidic, the wine has a clean, bright, palate, cleansing style and refreshing minerality. Grand Cru Chardonnay at its best, and a great representation of its terroir.

Nicolas Chiquet's flagship wine, **Gaston Chiquet Cuvée Tradition** (\$65), is reflective of its house style. This wine is from the Vallée de la Marne and reflects the influence of adding red wine to the blend. Pinot Meunier and Pinot Noir make up about 65 percent of this wine, the remainder being Chardonnay. The difference in taste and smell contrasted with the Pierre Peters is demonstrable; this wine presents with fuller bouquet, earthier notes and a broader mouthfeel. The grapes are from a soil type reflecting more limestone and clay,

and the grapes come from vineyards tended by the same family for more than two centuries. This producer has higher production than many other farmer fizz producers, but still fewer than 100 cases are likely to make it into Michigan. Because of the limited supply, grower Champagnes may be available only for a few months out of the year, and then the wait begins for the wines released from the next vintage.

**Lallement Rosé Brut Verzenay, NV Grand Cru** (\$52), comes from Pinot Noir specialist Jean Lallement. Focused and earthy, the nose is more subdued, but this plays down on its strawberry fruit. Grown in gravelly loam and clay soil with no chalk, the deep berry fruit of this wine would make for a great pairing with salmon. The flavor lingers on and on in the finish of this wine produced from vineyards in Verzenay and Verzy in the Montagne de Rims.

The last grower Champagne featured in this tasting was the **Pierre Gimmonet "Special Club"** (\$65). A Champagne labeled as "Special Club" is special, indeed — it consists of 26 grower-producers who annually taste the best of the best from each other's productions. They blind taste the wines and only the best wine can be designated as "Special Club," which is then bottled in the same bottle for all producers, but each labeled with the label of its own producer. This wine is aged in bottle for three more years, then tasted again by the committee. Only those that pass this rigorous multi-phase judging can be released as a "Special Club" Champagne. The Pierre Gimmonet "Special Club" is light straw colored with a wonderful nose, impeccable balance, bright acids, clean concentrated fruit, good minerality and a long finish. From the 2005 vintage, it is 100 percent Chardonnay.

Bubbly fanciers can also find an abundance of non-farmer fizz juice on local shelves, or likely available for special order if not on the shelf. Recently tasted sparklers that are recommended include **M. Lawrence "Green" Extra-Sec** from Larry Mawby on Michigan's Leelanau Peninsula, a blend of Cayuga and Vidal. Light, crisp, fruity and delightful, this is a screaming bargain at around \$14.

Also from Leelanau — and one of Michigan's newest wineries — **Viva Cellars' "Calavera" Blanc de Blancs** is 100 percent Chardonnay from Leelanau grapes. This is yeastier, broader and more full bodied, and priced around \$22.

Another bargain is 2010 **Taltarni Taché**, an Australian bubbly comprised of 53 percent, Chardonnay, 44 percent, Pinot Noir and 3 percent Pinot Meunier, with a small dosage of Cabernet (around \$16).

Recommended sparklers at higher price points include **NV Lallier Grand Reserve Grand Cru Champagne** (65 percent Pinot Noir, 35 percent Chardonnay, \$45), **NV Marc Hebrart Premier Cru Champagne** (65 percent Pinot Noir, 35 percent Chardonnay, \$50), **NV Stephane Coquillette Brut Grand Cru Blanc de Noir "les Cles"** (100 percent Pinot Noir, \$60), **Saint-Chamant a**

**Epernay Champagne Brut Cuvée de Chardonnay 2000** (100 percent Chardonnay, \$80) and **NV Duval-Leroy Sec-Rose Champagne** (100 percent Pinot Noir in a sweeter style, \$22).

Best Wishes in 2014!

*In Vino Veritas (Michael Brenton is president of the Greater Lansing Vintner's Club. His column appears monthly. You can email him at [brenton@lansingcitypulse.com](mailto:brenton@lansingcitypulse.com).)*



Courtesy Michael Brenton/City Pulse

Not all sparkling wine can be called Champagne; that designation is reserved for wine coming from a certain region in France. Grower Champagne (also known as farmer fizz) is much less expensive than big ticket bubbly — and just as good.

## The Flex Belt Has Taken Their Abs to a Whole Other Level...



Adrienne Curry

Lisa Rinna

"The Flex Belt tightens, tones and strengthens my stomach without me even having to think about it. It has taken my abs to a whole other level. It gets your lower abs, upper abs and obliques all at the same time. It's something that I don't have to put thought into and nobody even has to know I have it on because it goes under your clothes. You put on The Flex Belt, it does all the work for you, and you get all of the results."

"With my schedule I can't do an ab workout every day, but with The Flex Belt I'll put it on everyday because I'm doing other things at the same time. So it's really just being smart. It's easy, I wear it every day and my abs are there to show for it. After I've just worn, my abs feel like I've had the most amazing workout. I would never stand behind a product that I didn't believe in 100% and I believe in The Flex Belt."

### THE FLEX BELT

#### The Ultimate Workout for Abs

Nutrition and fitness are two things Adrienne and Lisa are fanatical about. They love The Flex Belt® because of how easily it fits into their healthy lifestyle. They also love how it saves them valuable time because they can get in an ab workout while they do other things. They use The Flex Belt® with confidence because they know the FDA has cleared it for Toning, Firming & Strengthening the abdominal muscles. The clinically demonstrated Electronic Muscle Stimulation (EMS) technology stimulates the nerves that make your muscles contract and relax. As a result, you get an effective ab workout in just 30 minutes a day. The Flex Belt® works your upper abs, the lower abs and your obliques simultaneously. The best part is that you can use it while you are: cooking, sitting at your desk, watching TV, checking in on Facebook, cleaning or even taking a walk... virtually anywhere and anytime. We all have fitness goals, even celebrities. Get a jump start on yours with The Flex Belt®.

Go to [FlexBelt.com/Newspaper](http://FlexBelt.com/Newspaper) to Order Your Flex Belt and Receive **Free Expedited Shipping** today.

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# SAVE THE DATE!



## HABITAT HOUSE PARTY

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2014**  
**7PM @ THE UNIVERSITY CLUB of MSU**

\$40 for 1 • \$35 each for 2-7  
 \$250 for an 8-ticket block

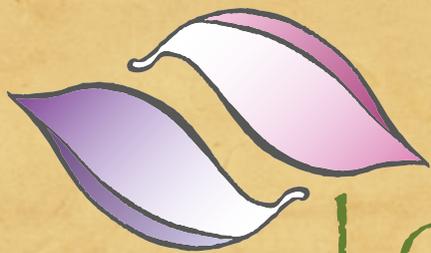
*Includes a Mardi Gras-themed dinner, dancing, and auction.*

Tickets must be preordered by January 23, 2014 at [www.habitatlansing.org](http://www.habitatlansing.org) and will be sent out prior to the event.

*All attendees must show ticket when arriving.*

For more information, contact [development@habitatlansing.org](mailto:development@habitatlansing.org)  
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# LotusVoice

## Integrative Therapies




LotusVoice Integrative Therapies, LLC, on the corner of Grand River and Park Lake Rd. in East Lansing, is having a **free Open House on Sunday, Jan. 19** from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. There will be demonstrations of our services.

We offer complementary and integrative therapeutic treatments that **encourage** and **support** mind-body-spirit wellness.

LotusVoice Integrative Therapies has a team of wellness-related practitioners that provides a **variety of services and classes**, such as **therapeutic massage, individual and group counseling, Tai-chi, Pilates, and various wellness-related workshops.**

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