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August 7-13, 2013

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LAUGHING
STOCK OF
LANSING

SEE PAGE 7



2013 **PULSAR AWARDS NOMINEES** • • • SEE PAGE 10

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STORIES FROM THE FORMERLY HOMELESS"

SUSAN CANCRO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ADVENT HOUSE

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COMCAST	Vermontville.....Ch. 12
Lansing/East Lansing/Holt.....Ch. 8	Grass Lake.....Ch. 11
Jackson.....Ch. 18	CABLE PROPERTIES
Summit/Leoni Township.....Ch. 8	Rives Junction.....Ch. 18
	Springport.....Ch. 18

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PUBLIC NOTICES

B/14/006 2013 Local Street Rehabilitation 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 **AUGUST 15, 2013** 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 or email @ stephanie.robinson@lansingmi.gov or for content and purpose of this bid contact, Ann Parry, City Project Engineer at (517) 483-4454 or ann.parry@lansingmi.gov.** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, August 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing by amending Chapter 884 and adding a new Section 884.11 for the purposes of providing for a service charge in lieu of taxes for twenty-four low or moderate income elderly dwelling units in a project known as Liberty Village, pursuant to the provisions of the State Housing Development Authority Act of 1966, as amended.

For more information please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Monday, August 12, 2013, at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933.

CHRIS SWOPE, LANSING CITY CLERK

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, August 28, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

A public hearing will be held to consider a Site Plan and Special Use Permit application from Kincaid Henry Building Group for the property at 903 East Grand River Avenue. The applicant is proposing to demolish the existing office building on the site and construct a four story, mixed-use building containing 18 apartment units and 1,500 square feet of office space. The property is zoned B-2, Retail Sales Business District.

Call (517) 319-6930, the Department of Planning, Building and Development, East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, for additional information. All interested persons will be given an opportunity to be heard. These matters will be on the agenda for the next Planning Commission meeting after the public hearing is held, at which time the Commission may vote on them. The Planning Commission's recommendations are then placed on the agenda of the next City Council meeting. The City Council will make the final decision on these applications.

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

Marie E. McKenna
City Clerk

CITY OF LANSING ADOPTED ORDINANCE #2571

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

The City of Lansing ordains:

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

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

Case Number: Z-2-2013
Address: 3600 Simken Drive
Parcel Number: PPN: 33-01-01-32-101-409
Legal Descriptions: Lot 8, Simken Village No. 2, City of Lansing, Ingham County, State of Michigan, from "CUP" Community Unit Plan to "A" Residential District.

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

Section 3. This ordinance was duly adopted by the Lansing City Council on July 29, 2013, and a copy is available in the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 9th Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

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

CHRIS SWOPE, LANSING CITY CLERK

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FOIA and the State Police

(This is the fourth in a series of columns on government transparency by Steve Miller, a freelance journalist who specializes in issues involving open meetings and open records. This project is cosponsored by City Pulse and MLive.)

Nancy Prins is a winner in the FOIA lawsuit sweepstakes, and all she gets is a lousy \$500.

Meanwhile, the taxpayer gets to fund years of legal costs on behalf of the Michigan State Police, which withheld a dashboard videotape from her that showed absolutely nothing.

This is what the state police think of you, the public: In May 2008, Prins, of

Ionia County, was stopped by state police trooper James Yeager, a respected lawman and Air Force veteran. Yeager cited Prins' passenger, Jack Elliott, for failure to wear a seat belt. The stop took place near an intersection just north of Interstate 96 outside Ionia.

In July, Prins filed an open records request with the state police for a copy of the videotape of the traffic stop. These are standard materials produced as evidence in many contested traffic stops. The state police refused the request.

"Any in-car video that may have existed is no longer available," the police wrote Prins. "Only kept 30 days [and] reused."

I applaud their brevity, although when you're lying to the public, maybe its best to get in and get out.

Because in October 2008, when Prins' passenger, Elliott, appeared at a hearing to contest his ticket, the prosecutor produced the tape Prins had been told didn't exist.

She sued the Michigan State Police, seeking damages related to the agency's failure to comply with the law. Prins also named David Fedewa, the assistant FOIA coordinator who told her the tape didn't exist.

The state police agency had no defense.

So it filed a response based on a technicality: It claimed that Prins filed her complaint after the legal 180-day window for such protests. A lower court ruled for the cops, but Prins, spending her own money while the state spent yours, kept pushing.

In February 2012, Prins won her case. The state police lawyer before the appellate court that granted Prins her victory, admitted defeat, saying the case was now "really the matter of damages."

Prins' lawyer, Bruce Lincoln, said the whole thing was over a video that was useless.

"If the police would have complied, there would be no law suit at all," Lincoln said. "That tape didn't show anything. Why did they hide the darn thing when it didn't show anything?"

Further, the \$65 seat belt violation was dropped, making the FOIA case "the most expensive seat belt ticket the police ever issued," Lincoln said, and estimated that the state spent at least \$100,000 in legal fees fighting Prins.

The public relations office of the state police did not respond to a request for a comment on the case.

As for Fedewa, the FOIA coordinator, the court dropped him from the defendant list. But he's the guy who in 2004 allegedly withheld a number of complaints in a FOIA response to a request for info on rest area busts.

Fedewa was also at the helm when the Michigan State Police told the American Civil Liberties Union, in response to a public records request, that it didn't participate in a then-new surveillance system, only to find later that it did.

The \$500 Prins received for her trouble was awarded as per the statute created in 1976. In dollar terms, adjusted

See Miller, Page 5

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

Now you have two ways to sound off:

1.) Write a letter to the editor.

- E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
- Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912

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

CITY OF LANSING SUMMARY OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE #1185

Lansing City Council adopted An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend Chapter 1615.02 – Fireworks Ordinance of the Lansing Codified Ordinances to prohibit the use of Consumer Fireworks without a license to the maximum extent allowed under State Law.

Effective date: Upon publication

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

CHRIS SWOPE, LANSING CITY CLERK

CityPULSE

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New film on Lansing's drive to keep GM revs up the spin

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Pulsar judges Paul Wozniak and Erin Buitendorp



Editor & Publisher

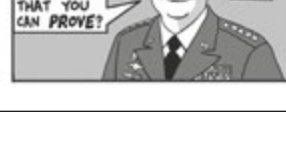
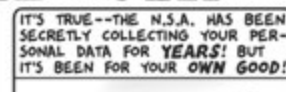
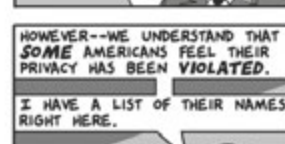
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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Editor out, circ down

The State Journal's circulation numbers continue to plummet since introducing a paywall last year

Since close of business Friday, the daily newspaper in this town has been without an executive editor.

Last week, the Lansing State Journal, facing declining revenues, saved itself undoubtedly a six-figure annual salary when it let go Mickey Hirten, the newsroom's top dog since 2001. The position was eliminated in what publisher Brian Priester told LSJ readers was a "restructuring of the top roles in our news department." The managing editor, Stephanie Angel, will fulfill Hirten's duties.

It's a startling shakeup for the Gannett-owned daily, which has seen a 16 percent circulation decline since it introduced an online paywall in May 2012. It raised home-delivery rates 41 percent (and more if you don't pay automatically) for home delivery daily and Sunday. The increase includes online content — whether customers want it or not. It also charges non-subscribers for online content after a certain amount of free stories.

Circulation gains in the number of digital readers are not offsetting those ditching print, according to the latest audited numbers. And the Journal's headquarters downtown is on the real estate market because it's too big for the gaunt staff levels working there.

A month before the paywall went into effect, the Journal reported a Sunday circulation of 65,904 and average weekly circulation of 41,330 — a modest 1 percent and 4 percent decline from the year before, respectively. But since that paywall

was introduced, the Journal's Sunday circulation has dropped 16 percent to 55,348, according to numbers the Journal reports to the Alliance for Audited Media. Its average weekday circulation dipped another 4 percent to drop below 40,000. The most significant drop came in the first six months after the paywall was introduced.

And it's a trend: Sunday circulation numbers are 34 percent less than they were at the end of 2006. Weekday circulation dropped 40 percent in that same time.

Ed Atorino, a Gannett analyst for New York-based Benchmark Co., said there are two ways the company has been looking to cut costs. Raising prices is one. "The other option is to review their staff requirements," Atorino said. "It is a studied move to reduce costs wherever possible to offset the decline in advertising," the inevitable result of declining circulation.

Atorino could not say whether Gannett plans to cut high-level editorial positions companywide. The Gannett Blog, which is

run by a former USA Today reporter and tracks changes in the company, reports that the company has laid off an estimated 280 newspaper staffers, which follows the 2011 massacre, when 700 were let go, including 15 at the LSJ. In 2008-'09, 46 LSJ positions were eliminated. Gannett publishes 82 newspapers nationwide, including USA Today, the State Journal, Detroit Free Press, Battle Creek Enquirer, Daily Press & Argus in Livingston County, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers in Livonia, the Port Huron Times Herald, and 12 weeklies in mid-Michigan.

Elsewhere in the country, at least one publisher and one general manager position are also being eliminated.

Gannett appears more guarded about its staff reductions this time around than it did in 2011. Multiple requests for comment from Priester and Jeremy Gaines, Gannett's vice president for corporate communications, were not returned. In a Friday Associated Press story, Gaines declined to say where and how many cuts are coming this round. "He said the newspapers are making the cuts to bring their business plans in line with local market conditions," the AP reported.

Ditching the executive editor position at the LSJ was a localized version of big changes in the industry announced in the past week. The Washington Post — "whose reporting helped topple a president and inspired a generation of journalists," as The New York Times writes, and was owned by the third generation of the Graham family — is being sold for \$250 million to Jeffrey P. Bezos, the founder of Amazon.com. It was reportedly once worth several billion dollars. And The New York Times Co. announced over the weekend that it sold a publication group that includes the Boston Globe for a meager \$70 million. The Times reportedly paid \$1.1 billion for the Boston Globe alone in 1993.

— Andy Balaskovitz



Andy Balaskovitz/City Pulse

The State Journal's circulation has plummeted since introducing a paywall in 2012.

Miller

from page 4

for inflation, it would be \$128. If you ask for public information and a court finds that a public body has "arbitrarily and capriciously" violated the Freedom of Information Act, as the state police did in the Prins case, the court must award the \$500 to the aggrieved party.

It's a small price to pay for such a grand act of deception.

"That's not punitive to anybody," Lincoln contends. "The way the law is set up, a public body can hide something, and it only costs them \$500 to hide it. I'd increase it to really mean something, so that these public bodies can't just hide something they don't feel like handing over."

Which is what state Rep. Mike Shirkey, R-Jackson, felt when he filed a bill earlier this year that, among other things, would increase the punitive award to \$5,000.

It was the second time in four months Shirkey filed such an action,

and neither of the measures got any traction.

There's little appetite for transparency reform in Lansing, but measures like Shirkey's are gutsy moves to help people like Nancy Prins and to punish entities like the Michigan State Police, who so ironically disregard the law.



CANDY
OF THE WEEK

Property: Rosewood Inn, 15275 Francis Road, Watertown Township

Owner: Valerie and Joseph Cordes

Assessed value: \$310,000

Rural America has a wealth of architectural styles. The Rosewood Inn Bed and Breakfast on Francis Road, just north of where Interstates 96 and 69 meet, is one of these instances.

Built in the 1870s, the Italianate farmhouse has been extensively renovated by its owners, Joseph and Valerie Cordes. For more than 100 years, the house was a simple 30-foot-by-30-foot box. In the mid-2000s, the Cordes' vision took it to the next level with several complementary additions that increased the footprint to 7,000 square feet.

The building is no longer part of a working farm, but the Cordes' renovation made the aged house relevant again. Careful attention to the Italianate style — combined with contemporary materials including cement board, siding and PVC detailing — restored the aesthetics. When asked about the experience, Valeria Cordes said, "We wondered many times about our decision, but we couldn't be happier about the result."

The architecture combined in its bucolic setting couldn't be more perfect for an inn.

— Amanda Harrell-Seyburn

"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 or call Andy Balaskovitz at 999-5064.

'GMageddon'

New film on Lansing's drive to keep GM revs up the spin

In the late 1990s, greater Lansing faced what many regarded as an existential threat: GM's decision to pull out of Lansing after the demise of Oldsmobile. It was time for a team of rivals to unite in the face of doom. From "The Seven Samurai" to "The Avengers," that makes for a rousing movie plot, but reality is usually messier.

"This Model Works," the movie version of this story — sanctioned by the old samurai himself, former Lansing Mayor David Hollister — is headed to a library, school, and perhaps even a PBS station near you by the end of the year.

By almost any measure, the story has a happy ending. Lansing ended up with two new GM plants, the Grand River Assembly and Delta Township Assembly plants, both of which weathered GM's subsequent bankruptcy and a national recession and produced last year's Car of the Year, the Cadillac ATS. Next year, the new Camaro will be made at a Lansing plant, as will "Transformers 4."

But will the story's messier parts, including a bitter fight over air emissions from GM on the west side and the ugliest round of "environment vs. jobs" hysteria in the city's history, make the cut? And what, exactly, is under the Lansing model's hood?

The film won't be done until the end of the year, but viewers can get the gist of it by checking out the trailer at ThisModelWorks.com or simply by scanning the roster of co-producers: Hollister; Ray Tadgeerson, former CEO of the C2AE design firm and project director for the blue ribbon committee charged with keeping GM in Lansing; and Terry Terry, president of MessageMakers.

The plot is straight out of "Armageddon," with a corporate pullout replacing a killer meteor. Putting aside their differences, Lansing Township and the city of Lansing joined with 40 other governmental units to woo GM back. Republican Gov. John Engler and Hollister, a Democrat, put their shoulders on the same wheel.

"We were all on the same wavelength, other than a few sniping at the fringe," Hollister said in an interview last week.

Hollister hopes the film will be taught in schools and shown around the world as a model of cooperative problem solving. If Sunday's advance story in the Lansing State Journal is any indication, "This Model Works" is already flexing high-RPM spin power.

The Journal story didn't mention the generous swath of "fringe" on Lansing's west side, where a bitter fight over toxic pollution from the now-defunct Verlinden plant and GM's Craft Centre came to a head in April 2002.

Fed up with odor issues and health problems that plagued the neighborhood for decades, residents considered appealing an

emissions permit the state issued to GM unless the automaker agreed to install pollution controls at its Verlinden plant, parts of which were more than 100 years old.

The knock-down drag-out spilled across Lansing. On May 25, City Pulse ran a cover depicting GM shaking hands with the administration while hiding a buzzer in its palm. Incensed, Hollister ordered city employees not to talk to the Pulse on any story, not just the GM story.

City Councilman Howard Jones accused GM of corporate banditry. Frustrated by GM's threats to leave and requests for tax abatements, Councilman Rick Lilly said Lansing would be better off diversifying its economy, especially in the growing tech sector, and become a "wine and cheese" community, like Ann Arbor. The voters booted him out of office.

Ron Callen, a retired Michigan Public Service Commission engineer, was in the



A City Pulse illustration of Hollister in 2002.

thick of the fight.

"I hope there will be some recognition [in the film] that there were complications," Callen said. "But to characterize it as threatening the viability of GM in Lansing, or sniping at the edges — I don't agree with either of those."

Callen advised westside neighborhood groups in the fight over GM emissions from the 1970s through the early 2000s. He met with GM reps, the DEQ and City Council members many times over the issue. Callen said the emissions problem didn't go away until the Verlinden plant was shut down in 2006.

"It was never our intent to have the plant shut down, but that's the way some people wanted to characterize it," he said. "We wanted to solve the air quality problems."

On April 25, 2002, the Lansing State Journal published a "resolution" signed by 45 area leaders, including Engler, Hollister

and U.S. Sens. Debbie Stabenow and Carl Levin, and an editorial: "Environmentalists shouldn't appeal pollution pact."

At the bottom of the proclamation ran the following notice: "This space provided in the community interest by the Lansing State Journal."

"Whether or not a facility complies with the Clean Air Act is in the community interest," Michigan Environmental Council's policy director, James Clift, responded to City Pulse at the time. Clift led the westside negotiating team to a settlement with GM under which increases in emissions at GM's Craft Centre would be offset by decreased emissions from the Verlinden Plant.

Clift had a guarded response to the rollout of "This Model Works."

"There are good parts to the [Keep GM] model, but I'm still looking to see what the community engagement aspect was," Clift said. "I lived in it for a while, so I had first-hand experience."

What is the "Lansing model" the film will hold up to the world? "Enlightened leadership," Hollister said, was the key component. Teamwork was another. A positive attitude didn't hurt. The Keep GM team put a binder together — "about 2 inches thick," Tadgeerson said — with "everything good" about Lansing.

But it's unlikely that Hollister's team walked into GM's executive offices offering "leadership" and "teamwork." Ray Tadgeerson, Hollister's point man for the Keep GM effort and the co-producer of "This Model Works," wrote in an email Monday to City Pulse that he didn't have any figures on the tax abatements and labor concessions that must have had something to do with the story's happy ending. Instead, Tadgeerson cited a number in Sunday's Journal story, \$174 million in local and state tax credits, "that they must have gotten from the archives."

The talking heads of "This Model Works" don't seem to blame GM for threatening to yank its century-old roots out of the community any more than Bruce Willis blamed the hunk of hurtling space rock in "Armageddon."

After 90 minutes of lessons in teamwork and leadership, some viewers might be in the mood for a second feature.

The mayor of a proud Midwestern town knocks on a corporate CEO's door, hefting a thick, Hollister-style binder listing the town's assets. Clean up your widget factory's pollution, the mayor says, treat labor fairly, make safer and less harmful products — internalize the external costs you impose on the community — or get out of town. Moved to panic, mindful of their roots in the community and responsibility to it, all levels of management unite and vow to do "whatever it takes" to persuade the town it should stay, from paying more taxes to cleaning up the air. Years later, the principals make a movie about the episode and take it around the world to other big corporations as a model of good corporate citizenship.

Look for that movie in the fantasy section.

— Lawrence Cosentino

Replacing De Leon

Two seek to fill vacant seat on Ingham County Board of Commissioners; deadline to apply is 5 p.m. Friday

Two Lansing Democrats have applied so far to represent northwest Lansing on the Ingham County Board of Commissioners to fill out the term of Debbie De Leon.

De Leon is leaving Sept. 6. Her term expires at the end of 2014. The deadline to apply for the position is 5p.m. Friday.

The applicants as of Tuesday are Lansing residents Bryan Beverly and Bryan Crenshaw.

Beverly, 34, who grew up in Lansing, is a doctoral student at Michigan State University studying educational policy. He's a Sexton High School graduate seeking his first public office. If selected, he plans to campaign to keep the 4th District seat in 2014. He serves on the Lansing Housing Commission board.



Beverly

Crenshaw, 39, is director of the Eaton Rapids Senior Center, a nonprofit charitable organization serving seniors. Crenshaw, also a Sexton grad, was appointed to the Lansing School Board in 1999, but he decided not to run to keep the seat. His grandmother, Maria Velasquez, served the same Commission district in the early 1980s he's seeking. Crenshaw said he's "been around politics my whole life." He was also an appointment specialist in the Granholm administration and a legislative liaison for the state Department of Corrections.



Crenshaw

De Leon is leaving to serve as vice chairwoman of the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, which requires residency in the tribe's jurisdiction in northern Michigan. De Leon is a Democratic board member, having been elected seven times since 2000.

The 4th District in Ingham County represents northwest Lansing. The boundaries are roughly Waverly Road to the west; Sheridan Road to the north; an area just east of High Street to the east; and a southern portion that ends at East Oakland Avenue and West Willow Street and includes downtown and Old Town.

Chairwoman Deb Nolan said the board's Democratic Caucus plans to select a candidate on Aug. 27, which is tantamount to electing its choice since the board is dominated by Dems. The commission will vote the same evening.

Registered voters who live in the 4th District can call the commission office at 676-7200 for an application form or apply online at ingham.org under News and Announcements.

— Andy Balaskovitz

Sam Inglot/City Pulse

Lansing's stand-up comedy scene has taken off in recent months, with regular open-mic nights featured at three bars along Michigan Avenue.

STAND AND DELIVER

WIDENING THE SPOTLIGHT ON LANSING'S STAND-UP COMEDY SCENE

BY ALLAN I. ROSS

I butchered the hell out of the first joke I ever tried to tell. I was in second

grade, and I learned it at the bus stop. For the punch line, a mouse is supposed to belch, rip a fart and do an Elvis Presley-like delivery of "I'm all shook up." I raced home to tell my dad and when I got to the end, I forced a tiny burp, squeezed my palm under my armpit and sang, "A-mush-a-cup." I burst out laughing. My father asked me if I had understood the joke; I admitted I had no idea what I was saying, I just thought it sounded funny. When he burst into laughter, it was my turn to fall silent. I was 7, and I'd already been shut down by my first heckler. My idiocy, I realized humbly, had been even funnier than the joke.

A couple Mondays ago, more than 30 years later after that inauspicious performance, I was sitting in the crowd at Mac's Bar in Lansing. It was stand-up open mic night and I had signed up for a five-minute set. I'd never done this before, it was practically on a whim, and my nerves were really starting to kick in. The guy on stage was good — he was playing guitar and singing dirty songs — and I was up next. What the hell had I gotten myself into? The guitar guy finished, the MC popped up to thank him, and then I heard him call my name ...

It's a good time to be a stand-up comedy fan in the Lansing area. Connxtions Comedy Club on the north side brings in nationally touring comedians for four-night runs each week. The Wharton Center on the campus of Michigan State University attracts high-profile comedians like Daniel Tosh and Mike Birbiglia for one-night stands. And then there are the three bars on Michigan Avenue that, over

the last year, have added regular open mic comedy nights: Comedy Night at the Green Door on Sundays; Mac's Monday Comedy Night at Mac's Bar; and the Church of Comedy on the first Sunday of every month at the Avenue Café.

A year ago, the Green Door was closed on Sundays because it was too slow. But co-owner Jennifer Costigan said she's seen business on that day go "from one extreme to the other" since she approved open mic comedy night.

"It's working out great for us," Costigan said. "And it fits our live entertainment theme."

Open mic nights allow bar owners the one-two punch of free entertainment and a built-in audience for the medium, which is still a rather uncommon art form. And that's great, as long as you have a comedian who can make people laugh.

"Hello. This is my first time doing stand-up. My friend's a comedian and he gave me three pieces of advice. He said No. 1, don't invite your friends. So, do I have any friends out there?" About 10 people applauded out of about 40; it sounds like a lot. "OK, No. 2, he told me, don't get drunk." I take a beat, and look down at the beer in my hand. "Oh, and that reminds me, thanks for the shot." I wave to a friend at the bar. "And finally, he told me not to masturbate before I went up. He said, 'You can use that energy.'" I pause, just a couple of chuckles. Too far?

The open mics have allowed local aspiring comedians Dan Currie and Mark Roebuck (who also run Mac's night), Jason Carlen (Green Door) and Melik Brown (the Avenue) to build a stand-up community. It brings together all types of comedians, from the guys just looking to have fun to those who want to be the next Kevin Hart.



Sam Inglot/City Pulse

Mark Roebuck (left) and Dan Currie co-host Mac's Monday Night Comedy at Mac's Bar.

"We're really focused on helping people polish their talent," said Currie, 23. "I've been seeing people get better by leaps and bounds in a very short amount of time."

"And we're building that comedy fanbase," said Roebuck, 28, who trained at the improv incubator Second City in Novi. He also co-hosts the comedy event with Currie, the

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two playing off each other like an R-rated Smothers Brothers routine. “The more open mics you have, the better it is for everyone involved. People really seem to be catching on.”

None of the four earn any money from comedy. They do it out of mutual respect for each other and stand-up comedy as an art form. The format is simple: Show up at an event, tell one of the hosts that you’re interested in performing, and you might get put on the list for next week. Everyone gets five minutes, and you get the warning light when you’ve got a minute left.

“We’re starting to get so many, though, I’m starting to have to turn people away,” Currie said. “I hate doing that, but it’s a testament to how many comedians want to perform here in Lansing. Not everyone who wants to perform here is from the area.”

Some travel from Grand Rapids, Detroit, Kalamazoo and Ohio to perform at Mac’s. That’s a long way for an unpaid



Left: Allan Ross/City Pulse Right: Sam Inglot/City Pulse

(left) Frank Stevens, owner/operator of Connxtions Comedy Club, has drawn nationally touring professional stand-up comedians to Lansing for nearly 30 years, including Tim Allen, Jay Leno and Kevin Hart. Robert Jenkins (right) is a lawyer by day, open-mic comedian by night.

gig, but that’s how nearly every comedian starts building material. It takes even the best comedian months to develop a solid few minutes. Frank Stevens, owner/operator of Connxtions, said headliners at the paid gigs that come through his club usually have about two hours of tested material for their acts, even if they only use one hour of it on any given night.

“They never know what jokes are going to work and which aren’t,” Stevens said.

“It’s my birthday today. Thank you. Does anyone else here get that birthday Facebook wall bomb? Where all these people you barely know try to find creative ways to say happy birthday? It’s like, thanks, I barely know you and now I can’t delete you. Great. So anyway, I share a birthday now with the new royal baby. Princess Kate gave birth today. Man, that kid’s got it made, right? But I tell you something, he will have something in common with every child who is born in Detroit: He will never see his parents work a day in his life.”

After Stevens got out of the military in 1979 (he had served in a Special Forces unit in the jungles of Panama), he bought a bowling alley on Lansing’s north side in 1979 and transformed it into Connxtions Comedy Club in 1985. Stevens, 58, still looks like he could bench press a Buick, and he’s got a jaunty, alpha male-ness to his carriage. He doesn’t see the open mics around town as competition — he calls them a “necessary evil” — but his business savvy won’t permit him to overlap set lists with them.

“We run a professional show here,” Stevens said. “About 98 percent of my business is couples, and everything about this building — the lights, the sound system, the actual layout of the room — has been designed to create the best venue for stand-up comedy to be performed. There’s a science to it. And we’ve got lots of upgrades coming soon that will make it even better.” Stevens also owns

Connxtions’ sister club in Toledo, which is closed for renovations, but he admitted he didn’t know yet if it will reopen as a comedy club or as something else.

In a professional show, Stevens said customers are strategically positioned around the room to maximize mirth: “Laughter is really contagious, so you have to be careful of how you seat people near each other.” Then an emcee will perform about 10 minutes of material before the featured act is introduced. The feature gets about 30 to 45 minutes to really get the crowd loosened up, then the emcee comes back to introduce the headliner, who goes for an hour.

Stevens’ headliners are specifically chosen to match Lansing’s distinctive sensibilities by the talent-buying company Funny Business, his former business partners in Connxtions. John Yoder founded the company in Grand Rapids in 1985, the same year Stevens was starting out, and has grown to represent talent in 70 U.S. cities. Yoder’s sons Eric, Michael and Jamison are also in the business, which cultivates comedic talent from open mic showcases to emcee gigs to featured acts to headliners, and pairs that talent with appropriate venues along the way.

Although most of the acts that come to Connxtions aren’t famous yet, they’re getting the job done.

“The best is when people tell me how hard they laughed at a comedian, but then they can’t remember the name,” Stevens said. “These folks are good, but it takes a lot of work to get name recognition.”

Stevens cites Michael Kosta and Mike Green as two of those “oh-that-guy” comics that regularly kill at Connxtions. Over his 28 years in the business, he’s booked big acts like Jay Leno and Emo Philips, and watched Michigan natives Tim Allen and John Heffron launch to fame shortly after stints at his club. Stevens also used to be Drew Carrey’s collegiate agent. When asked if there are any local up-and-comers



that could go big, he names Fred Potter and Rico Bruce Wayde.

“And Dwayne Gill,” Stevens added. “He has a unique perspective on life, but he also has the maturity to play the game. This is a business and he gets that. Some guys just want to go up and be the local yukster, but not Dwayne. He’s a professional. Oh yeah, he’s also a police officer.”

Somewhere, a writer for “Beverly Hills Cop IV” got his wings.

“When I entered the force, I found myself surrounded by all these jaded, cynical individuals,” Gill, 49, said. “I did not want that to happen to me. I wanted to find an activity to keep me upbeat, and I found comedy. It’s a good outlet for the stress of being a police officer.”

After the Detroit joke, a woman in the front row protests loudly, says she’s from Detroit. I look at her — she’s young and white.

“You are not from Detroit,” I tell her. “Where are you from?”

“I was born in Detroit,” she says.

“Yeah, but where did you grow up?”

“East Detroit,” she says sheepishly.

“See? That is not Detroit. Hey, wait a second, it’s not even East Detroit anymore. It’s Eastpointe now, am I right? Your city was so ashamed to be associated with Detroit it changed its name. I hate when people say they’re from Detroit when they’re really not. That’s like Neil Armstrong saying he’s from the moon. You may live near a desolate wasteland and occasionally hop in your well-secured vehicle with your windows rolled up and doors locked for a quick excursion, then skedaddle back home at top speed. But that doesn’t mean you’re from there.”

Gill has gone from the Marines to the

See Comedy, Page 9

WHERE TO SEE COMEDY IN LANSING:

Church of Comedy (open mic)
6-8 p.m., first Sunday of every month
FREE

The Avenue Café
2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 853-0550
facebook.com/avenuecafe2021

Connxtions Comedy Club (nationally touring comedians)
Summer hours: 8 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday. Winter hours: 8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday; 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday.
\$8-\$15
2900 N. East St., Lansing
(517) 374-4242
connxtionscomedyclub.com

Comedy Night at the Green Door (open mic)
9-11 p.m. Sunday
FREE
The Green Door Blues Bar & Grill
2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 482-6376
facebook.com/comedynight-atthegreendoor

Mac’s Monday Comedy Night (open mic)
9:30-11:30 p.m. Monday
FREE
Mac’s Bar
2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 484-6795
facebook.com/macsmcomedy

Comedy

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Michigan State Police to stages of comedy clubs and banquet halls. He started doing open mics in Royal Oak 11 years ago and performed at Connxtions as part of his touring. He worked his way up from emcee to featured act and recently made the transition to “corporate comedy,” performing clean comedy sets for private parties.



Gill

He's won numerous comedy awards and has hosted comedy shows on satellite radio's Raw Dog station.

“I'm looking to retire from the force in a couple years, so I'm definitely looking at New York and L.A. as places to grow my comedy career

afterwards,” Gill said. “At this point, the day job is just getting in my way.”

Robert Jenkins, 30, also has an interesting 9-to-5-er, but he's more than happy to let that keep paying the bills. The open mic regular is a lawyer, which seems to set the stage for a litany of lawyer jokes.

“Of course I have those, but so does everyone else,” Jenkins said. “I mostly talk about being 30, being married, stuff that's easy to relate to.”

Jenkins realized he had a talent for being funny, of all places, on Facebook, where he would leave clever messages on his college friends' walls. Someone suggested he give stand-up a whirl, and he took the Mac's stage for the first time a little over a year ago.

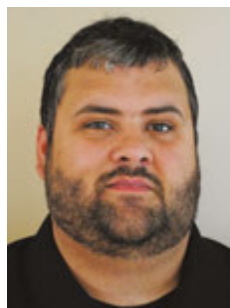
“I've loved stand-up comedy my whole life, and now that I'm doing it, I see how difficult it really is,” Jenkins said. “The key, I've found, is finding a funny way to deal with difficult things.”

I shift into gear with a little racial humor.

“My wife is a beautiful French black woman. Me, I'm half Jewish. Let's do the math, shall we? Black. Jewish. French. That's like a perfect storm of everything the Nazis hated. If those guys ever made a comeback, our children would be screwed. A black Jew? My poor kids. They're going to have to sit at the back of the oven. Hey, I read YouTube comments.”

“Everyone that's here is doing it because they have a passion for comedy,” said Carlen, who organizes the open mic night at the Green Door. “You need to have that passion or you won't last long. I got into this because Dan spurred me into it.”

Besides stand-up, Carlen, 34, is also a stage actor, and has participated in many shows around town, including performances at Lansing Community College,



Carlen



Brown

Starlight Dinner Theatre and Riverwalk. For Brown, performing stand-up comedy grew out of his affinity for performing live. He bounced around art forms — modeling, acting, producing, performing music — until settling on comedy last year; the Church of Comedy started in June 2012.

“It's way easier than trying to make a movie or put on a hip-hop show,” Brown said. “All you need is a microphone and a spotlight.”

Brown, 44, said he found solidarity in the stand-up world he didn't find in the other entertainment communities. His material has shifted since he started from having an angry persona (think Lewis Black) to a more subdued delivery.

“I realized if I wanted to entertain, I needed to get off my soapbox,” he said. “Once I stepped aside and let the material stand on its own, my comedy took off in a whole new direction. I had a show the day after the Paula Deen blowup, and it was one of the easiest, funniest shows I've done. Life is funny enough — most of this material writes itself.”

I see the flashing light — I've made it four minutes, time to wrap it up. I try to crank out one more joke, but it dies. It's about how lots of people were smoking pot at Common Ground and I was wondering how they snuck it past the TSA-like pat down squad at the entrance.

“Ever smoke weed that tastes like ass?” I said. “Now you know why.” Crickets. “That's my time folks, thanks so much.”

The emcee comes up, I hand off the mic and I walk off the stage in a bit of a daze to a round of applause. Wow, I think. That was it. I really did it. And I even got laughs — in the right places, it seemed like. So this means one of two things: I'm either getting better, or my idiocy knows no bounds.

Either way, it's probably best not to think about it.

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LAUGH LINES • • • • •

MELIK BROWN, ON NUDITY:

“I'm not a nudist. I'm a naked-ist. I don't have a need to be naked in public. Naked at home is just fine and very welcome.”

ROBERT JENKINS, ON PARENTAL ADVICE:

“I grew up with both my parents, which I think is important, because they teach you so many different things. For example, my mother taught me not to hate anybody. My dad taught me how to ignore my mother.”

DAN CURRIE, ON S&M:

“I had a girlfriend that was really kinky. Like one time, she wanted me to choke her in the bedroom, which was weird because I had never choked anyone before. But as we continued dating, it got easier, because I realized I hated her.”

DWAYNE GILL, ON RACIAL RELATIONS IN MICHIGAN:

“It was tough being the only black state trooper in Ionia. I realized I was the only one whenever I went out on patrol. People would call the post and say, “Are y'all missing any patrol cars?” My friends from Detroit always ask me if I mind performing in front of all white crowds. I'm like, ‘Hell no, their checks clear!’”

JASON CARLEN, ON LOVE:

“My girlfriend and I just broke up, and I think her reasoning is stupid. She gave me one of those ‘sex coupons’ for my birthday. You know, a coupon for ‘One FREE doing it Hot ‘N Heavy,’ where she's hot and I'm heavy. Well, I don't see where it's my fault that her sister accepts competitors' coupons.”

MARK ROEBUCK, ON ... SEX?:

Since I'm single again, I've been working out a lot. Hey, trying to suck your own dick counts as working out right? I feel like it's a standing sit-up. Really, the smartest thing you can do if you're single is spend an hour a day trying to blow yourself, because one of two things will happen. Either you make it, and now we're barbecuing, or you just end up trying long enough and you get ripped, and then someone else will end up blowing you. Either way, you won't escape this scenario un-blown.

FRANK STEVENS, ON EMO PHILIPS:

“He is a unique individual. We used to have a condo to put up all the big comedians when they came to town. When the maid went in to clean up after Emo, she found all these 3x5 cards in the trash, and she thought he lost them so she gave them to me. I took a look at them and saw that he had written the exact same joke on different cards, but was emphasizing different words on each one. And he would work the best (deliveries) into his act and throw the rest away. It was his way of working.”

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The longest season

Pulsar awards move to August, add three months of productions

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Those highfalutin entertainment award shows like to front-end the year with all their red carpet razzle-dazzle, but where does that leave award-season junkies the rest of the year? To accommodate your craving, City Pulse pushed back the Pulsar Awards, its annual theater recognition presentation, from mid-May to mid-August to align with the end of the community theater season. This made for an extra three months of consideration.

This year's awards ceremony has been taken under the wing of the Renegade Theatre Festival in Old Town. The Pulsar judges — City Pulse theater reviewers Erin Buitendorp, Dana Casadei, Mary Cusack, Kathy and Tom Helma, Shawn Parker, Paul Wozniak and Ute Von Der Heyden — turned in their final ballots last week. The results have been tabulated

and we have the nominees, listed below. In order to qualify, a show must have been performed by one of the Lansing area's community, professional or college theater groups (American Shakespeare Collective, Lansing Community College, Michigan State University, MSU Opera Theatre, Over the Ledge Theatre Co., Peppermint Creek Theatre Co., Riverwalk Theatre, Starlight Dinner Theatre and Williamston Theatre); it needed to open between May 1, 2012, and July 31, 2013; and it must have been seen and scored by at least three Pulsar judges. (Pulsars do not cover children's theater, high school theater, gala presentations, student showcases or workshop shows.)

This year's batch of nominees includes 55 productions. The first show of the 2012-'13 Pulsar season was Riverwalk Theatre's "Copenhagen" and the last to qualify was Williamston Theatre's "Tuna Does Vegas." There are five nominees in most categories, but in some there are fewer, which may be due to a lack of qualified candidates.

PULSAR AWARDS

8 p.m.
Aug. 17
226 E. Grand River Ave.,
Lansing (former Chrome Cat)
FREE



Photo by John Douglas Imaging

Peppermint Creek's production of "Bloody Andrew Jackson" was nominated for seven Pulsars, including Best Musical.

2013 Pulsar Nominees

BEST PLAY

"The 39 Steps," OTL
"Anton in Show Business," MSU
"Apartment 3A," OTL
"Copenhagen," RWT
"Shirley Valentine," WT

BEST MUSICAL

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," OTL
"Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson," PC
"Funny Girl," MSU
"Next to Normal," PC
"Spring Awakening," RWT

BEST DIRECTOR (PLAY)

Blake Bowen, "Good People," PC
Rick Dethlefsen, "The 39 Steps," OTL
Joseph Dickson, "Apartment 3A," OTL
Lynn Lammers, "Shirley Valentine," WT
Mary Job, "Copenhagen," RWT

BEST DIRECTOR (MUSICAL)

Chad Badgero, "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson," PC
Chad Badgero, "Next to Normal," PC
Rick Dethlefsen, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," OTL
Devanand Janki, "Funny Girl," MSU
Kelly Stuible, "Spring Awakening," RWT

BEST LEAD ACTOR (PLAY)

Blake Bowen, "Apartment 3A," OTL
Timothy Busfield, "Vigil," LCC
Rick Dethlefsen, "Copenhagen," RWT
Jeff Magnuson, "Copenhagen," RWT
John Manfredi, "End Days," WT

BEST LEAD ACTOR (MUSICAL)

Matthew Eldred, "Next to Normal," PC
Michael Kolaczowski, "Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson," PC
Graham Lundeen, "Spring Awakening," RWT
Rick Merpi, "Follies," RWT
Juan Salazar, "In the Heights," PC

BEST LEAD ACTRESS (PLAY)

Kat Cooper, "Advice and Consent," RWT
Carmen Decker, "Vigil," LCC
Julia Glander, "Shirley Valentine," WT
Lydia Hiller, "End Days," WT
Abby Murphy, "Apartment 3A," OTL

BEST LEAD ACTRESS (MUSICAL)

Niki La Belle, "In the Heights," PC
Brittany Nichol, "Spring Awakening," RWT
Sandy Sykes, "Next to Normal," PC
Amanda Whitehead, "Ragtime," LCC
Zachera Wollenberg, "Funny Girl," MSU

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR (PLAY)

Mark Colson, "Othello," ASC
Eric Eilersen, "End Days," WT
Josh Martin, "The 39 Steps," OTL
Jeff Kennedy, "The 39 Steps," OTL
Mike Stewart, "Apartment 3A," OTL

BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR (MUSICAL)

Matthew Bill, "In the Heights," PC
Matt Eldred, "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson," PC
Zev Steinberg, "Funny Girl," MSU
Adam Woolsey, "Next to Normal," PC
Sineh Wurie, "Ragtime," LCC

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS (PLAY)

Teri Brown, "Good People," PC
LeAnn Dethlefsen, "Copenhagen," RWT
Alysia Kolasz, "Ebenezer," WT
Emily Sutton-Smith, "End Days," WT

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS (MUSICAL)

Mary Maurer, "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson," PC
Emily McKay, "Next to Normal," PC
Janine Novenske Smith, "Follies," RWT
Jacqueline Wheeler, "Funny Girl," MSU

BEST FEATURED ACTOR (PLAY)

Michael Hays, "August: Osage County," RWT
Paul Hopper, "Othello," ASC
James Houska, "Advice and Consent," RWT
Steve Ledyard, "Apartment 3A," OTL

BEST FEATURED ACTOR (MUSICAL)

Kenneth Beachler, "Funny Girl," MSU
Andrew Gourney, "Next to Normal," PC
Alec Nagy, "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson," PC
Rick Merpi, "Ragtime," LCC
Diego Ramirez-Love, "In the Heights," PC

BEST FEATURED ACTRESS (PLAY)

Margaret Daly, "Othello," ASC
Amelia Rogocka, "Slasher," LCC
Michelle Savala, "Slasher," LCC
Samantha Seybert, "Good People," PC
Deborah Tomlinson, "Good People," PC

BEST FEATURED ACTRESS (MUSICAL)

Paige Conway, "Funny Girl," MSU
Mandy Fuller, "Bloody, Bloody Andrew Jackson," PC
AnnaMaria Horn, "In the Heights," PC
Lisa Pappas, "My Favorite Year," RWT

BEST ENSEMBLE (PLAY)

"boom," WT
"Drama at Inish," OTL

BEST ENSEMBLE (MUSICAL)

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," OTL
"Adrift in Macao," MSU

BEST COSTUMES

Lark Burger, "Copenhagen," RWT
Patti Campbell, "Follies," RWT
LeAnn Dethlefsen, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," OTL
Lane Fragneli, "Funny Girl," MSU
Jodi Ozimek, "Shirley Valentine," WT

BEST LIGHTING

Ted Daniel, "Copenhagen," RWT
Joseph Dickson, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," OTL
Alex Gay, "The Understudy," WT
Genesis Garza, "Shirley Valentine," WT
Daniel Walker, "boom," WT

BEST MAKEUP

John Delaney, "Compulsion," PC
Jordan Jensen, "Follies," RWT
Susie Perazza, "Sleuth," RWT
Cheryl Smith, "Ragtime," LCC
Claire Young & Lane Fragneli, "Funny Girl," MSU

BEST PROPERTIES

Bruce Bennett, "Shirley Valentine," WT
Bruce Bennett, "boom," WT
Ray Kurtis & Melody Teodoro-Kurtis, "Sleuth," RWT
Ray Kurtis, "Yankee Tavern," RWT
Michelle Raymond, "Ragtime," LCC

BEST SET DESIGN

Leroy Cupp, "Yankee Tavern," RWT
John Delaney & Patrick Monroe, "August: Osage County," RWT

LeAnn Dethlefsen, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," OTL
Mary Job, Mark Mandenberg & Joni Starr, "Copenhagen," RWT
Daniel C. Walker, "Shirley Valentine," WT

BEST SOUND

Rick Dethlefsen, "The 39 Steps," OTL
Joseph Dickson, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," OTL
Julia Garlotte, "The Understudy," WT
John Lepard, "Shirley Valentine," WT
Nathan Tykocki, "Copenhagen," RWT

BEST MUSICAL DIRECTION

Seth Burk & Royce Phillips, "Adrift in Macao," MSU
James Geer, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," OTL
Ryan Mackenzie Lewis, "Funny Girl," MSU
John Dale Smith, "Follies," RWT
John Dale Smith, "Ragtime," LCC

BEST CHOREOGRAPHER

Devanand Janki, "Funny Girl," MSU
Amanda Kennedy, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," OTL
Missy Lilje, "Ragtime," LCC
Karyn Perry, "In the Heights," PC
Kelly Stuible, "Spring Awakening," RWT

BEST ORIGINAL SCRIPT

To be announced

FIND OUT WHO WON
AUGUST 17 at the
PULSAR AWARDS CEREMONY

THEATER KEY

ASC - American Shakespeare Collective

LCC - Lansing Community College

MSU - Michigan State University

OTL - Over the Ledge Theatre Co.

PC - Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.

RWT - Riverwalk Theatre

WT - Williamston Theatre

Around the world in 8 blocks

Great Lakes Folk Festival injects summer with international art, music, food

BY SEAN BRADLEY

Traditions and cultures from around the world will meet again this weekend at the 11th annual Great Lakes Folk Festival in downtown East Lansing. This year's edition of the multifaceted music, art and food festival will feature musical styles from Asia, the Caribbean and the Balkans.

Folk festival founding director Marsha MacDowell said a hallmark of the festival is its cultural diversity.

"It's not an ethnic festival," MacDowell said. "It's a celebration of ethnic richness of our community and our world. We have some of the best representatives of cultures and art."

Festivals like this tend to attract a more mature crowd, but MacDowell said the event's cultural representation is coming from an increasing number of twenty-somethings and college students.

"Some people think that folk music or folk art is only done by older people," she said. "We've got a lot of young practitioners who are fabulous (at what they do)."

MacDowell said the cultural and ethnic makeup of the festival artists, vendors and performers almost matches the makeup of the city of East Lansing.

"Several years ago we had a demographics studies done," she said. "The data showed us that the audience looked like the Lansing area any way you looked at it: education, race, ethnicity. That told us we have something that resonates with everyone."

Hmong vocal performer Mai Zong Vue, whose biggest performance of her career came in 1997 at the Smithsonian Mall in Washington, will perform all three days of the festival. She said one of her goals is to educate people, especially young crowds, about the Hmong people and their traditions.

"When I perform, I do a narrative about what Hmong is about, where it's from and doing a bit of poetry and singing," she said. "For the Hmong community, I want to inspire the young people to learn more about it. The culture and tradition often gets lost, so one of my hopes



Courtesy Photo
Les Poules a Colin perform Quebecois music at the Great Lakes Folk Festival this weekend.

is that they learn about it, they like it and help preserve the tradition."

The festival's cultural diversity shows itself in the food, too. Eva Menefee owns and operates Anishinabe Meejim, a concessions trailer that showcases the food of her Native American tribe. Serving buffalo burgers made with ground buffalo meat, fry bread and various soups, Menefee said

the food trailer gives the Native American people of the area a presence at the festival.

"People don't think about the American Indians when you think about folk life," she said.

"We feel bonded with like (things like) religion, food, even being a Spartan," she said. "This is a way of reminding people that everyone has traditions."

GREAT LAKES FOLK FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY: CITY HALL STAGE

6-6:45 p.m.: Lanialoha & Aloha Lives!
(Hawaiian ukulele and hula)

8-8:45 p.m.: Accordion Traditions Showcase

9-9:45 p.m.: Mai Zong Vue (Hmong vocal music)

10-10:45 p.m.: Boy=Girl (Bluegrass)

DANCE STAGE

6-7:40 p.m.: Johnny Koenig (Slovenian polka)

8-9:10 p.m.: Top Drawer String Band (Contra dance)

9:30-10:45 p.m.: Tumbao Bravo (Cuban Caribbean)

M.A.C. STAGE

6-6:50 p.m.: Les Poules a Colin (Quebecois)

7-7:45 p.m.: Kaivama (Finnish-American)

8-8:45 p.m.: Mike Epsy and Yakity Yak
(Chicago and Memphis blues)

9-9:45 p.m.: Les Bassettes (Cajun)

10-10:45 p.m.: Dentdelion (Quebecois)

SATURDAY: CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY STAGE

5-7 p.m.: Old Time Jam

CITY HALL STAGE

Noon-12:45 p.m.: Fiddle Traditions Showcase

1-1:45 p.m.: Clear Folk Bluegrass Quartet

2-2:45 p.m.: Dentdelion

3-4:30 p.m.: Community Sing

4:45-5:30 p.m.: Mike Epsy and Yakity Yak

5:45-6:30 p.m.: Airport Jam

6:45-7:30 p.m.: Cathie Ryan (Irish-American Celtic)

7:45-8:30 p.m.: Kaivama

8:45-9:30 p.m.: Traditions Showcase

9:45-10:30 p.m.: Lanialoha & Aloha Lives!

DANCE STAGE

Noon-1 p.m.: Johnny Koenig

1:30-2:40 p.m.: Bowhunter (Contra dance)

3-4:10 p.m.: Svetla Vladeva & The Eastern European Ensemble (Balkan)

4:30-6:30 p.m.: Paulette Brockington (swing dance and Lindy Hop demonstration, workshop, performance)

6:45-8 p.m.: Johnny Koenig

8:15-9:30 p.m.: Les Bassettes

9:45-10:45 p.m.: Tumbao Bravo

M.A.C. STAGE

Noon-12:45 p.m.: Tumbao Bravo

1-1:45 p.m.: Mai Zong Vue

2-2:45 p.m.: Lanialoha & Aloha Lives!

3-3:45 p.m.: Kaivama

4-4:45 p.m.: Les Poules a Colin

5-5:45 p.m.: Les Bassettes

6-6:45 p.m.: Red Tail Ring (Old-time string band)

7-7:45 p.m.: Svetla Vladeva & The Eastern European Ensemble

8-8:45 p.m.: Dentdelion

9-9:45 p.m.: Clear Folk Bluegrass Quartet

10-10:45 p.m.: Cathie Ryan

SUNDAY: CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY STAGE

Noon-12:45 p.m.: MSU Thai Student Traditional Dance

2-3 p.m.: Ukulele Jam

CITY HALL STAGE

12:15-1:00 p.m.: Clear Folk Bluegrass Quartet

1-1:45 p.m.: Lee Murdock
(Great Lakes songs)

1-1:45 p.m.: Lanialoha & Aloha Lives!

3:15-4 p.m.: Mai Zong Vue

3-3:45 p.m.: Kaivama

DANCE STAGE

Noon-1:10 p.m.: Svetla Vladeva & The Eastern European Ensemble

1:30-2:40 p.m.: Dentdelion

3-4:10 p.m.: Bowhunter

4-5:15 p.m.: Les Bassettes

M.A.C. STAGE

Noon-12:45 p.m.: Les Poules a Colin

1-1:45 p.m.: Red Tail Ring

2-2:45 p.m.: Mike Epsy and Yakity Yak

3-3:45 p.m.: Clear Folk Bluegrass Quartet

4-4:45 p.m.: Cathie Ryan

5-5:45 p.m.: Dentdelion

*NOTE: SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.



M.A.C. STAGE: Albert Avenue next to the Marriott Hotel

CITY HALL STAGE: Abbot Road, just north of the East Lansing City Hall building

DANCE STAGE: Albert Avenue

CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY STAGE: Abbot Road, across from Great Lakes Folk Festival Marketplace

CURTAIN CALL Odd 'Duck'

Performances shine through off-kilter Mitch Albom script

By PAUL WOZNAK

Over the Ledge Theatre Co.'s production of Mitch Albom's "Duck Hunter Shoots Angel" is A.) a caricature of Southern stereotypes; B.) a multi-pronged tragic-comedy with pseudo-"Twilight Zone" plot twists; or C.) an oversimplified commentary on racial/cultural relations.

Actually, it's "D," for "all of the above." Thankfully, the cast of community theater

all-stars, including Mark Boyd, Bruce Bennett and Michael Hays, make the better sections of Albom's clumsy script shine. The rest is unavoidable collateral that stays on track thanks to Rick Dethlefsen's broad but steady direction.

Boyd plays Sandy, a burned-out journalist who sold his soul to write "crap" for a National Enquirer-esque tabloid. Sandy's editor is Lester (Martin Underhill), a shrewd, cigar-chomping entrepreneur who smells money from miles away. When Lester catches wind of a too-good-to-be-true lead on Alabama duck hunting brothers Duane and Duwell (Bennett and Hays respectively) who allegedly shot a heavenly entity, he sends Sandy and photographer Lenny (Sidney Sauseda) on a road trip to find the hunters and buy the exclusive rights to their story.

But all is not what it seems. A God-like voice frequently interrupts the play's events to engage Sandy in dialogue. Meanwhile,

Rachelle Garyett pops in during other seemingly unrelated flashbacks as the lover Sandy left behind. Albom's eventual Hallmark resolution (a prodigal son returns to reunite with his family) feels like the literary equivalent to a careless driver cutting off five lanes of expressway traffic to make his exit. It's a dramatic mess, but the cast keenly avoids turning it into a pile-up.

At times, Sandy sounds like a fictionalized Albom avatar, a journalist struggling with existential issues whose atheistic cynicism stems from his own intellectual self-righteousness. Boyd makes the most of the role, grounding Sandy's pessimism with authentic pathos. While Boyd gets to deliver a few laugh lines, he tends to play the straight man to the duck hunters.

Pronounced with a two-syllable twang, "Du-ane" and "Du-well" are the epitome of the Southern stereotype: well-armed, homophobic redneck hillbillies who believe

conspiracy stories at face value. Zingers from Duane like "He's got a Yankee accent ... he must be from hell," have a distinct vaudevilian crack to them, but Bennett and Hays are straight shooters. The show's best scene is the initial meeting of Sandy, Duane and Duwell. The three actors milk genuine laughs from a misunderstanding drawn out by dry delivery and deadpan timing. If only their boisterous banter made up the bulk of the show.

"Duck Hunter" is ultimately like a trashy tabloid all its own, a story that doesn't live up to the hype of the headline. Remarkably, its cast finds the comedic silver lining in Albom's muddled clouds.

"Duck Hunter Shoots Angel"

Over the Ledge Theatre Co.
Through Sunday
8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday
Ledges Playhouse
137 Fitzgerald Park Drive,
Grand Ledge
\$10 adult / \$8 seniors / \$6 students
(517) 318-0579
overtheledge.org

Review

Mr. 'Blue Skies'

How the 'industrial heartland' decayed into the Rust Belt

By BILL CASTANIER

Edward McClelland purposely chose "Nothin' But Blue Skies" as the title for his new book on the rise and fall of America's once great manufacturing cities because it was ambiguous.

Edward McClelland book signing

1 p.m. Saturday
Lansing Mall Barnes & Noble
5132 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
(517) 327-0437

"I wanted it to have double meaning," he said in a telephone interview from his home in the northern Chicago neighborhood of Rogers Park. McClelland said the inspiration for the title came from a story relayed to him by a former steel worker from south Chicago who looked up one day at the site of

a former steel plant and said, "Nothin' but blue sky." He was referring to the wide open horizon where massive smoke stacks once blocked the sky in more ways than one.

"But I also wanted the title to represent a blank slate and the chance for cities to reinvent themselves," he said.

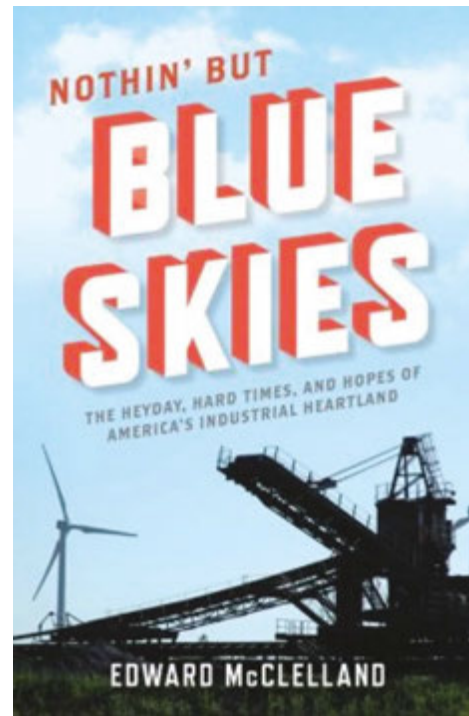
McClelland, 46 (real last name Kleine), grew up in Lansing, attending Sexton High School in the shadow of the General Motors Fisher Body Plant on Verlinden Street. McClelland said he feels like he's been writing this book for 20 years. His book opens with his nostalgic recollections of running on the Sexton track while inhaling paint fumes from the Fisher Body plant. Recalling the many bars facing the plant, "Fisher Body's shoprats could speed from punch out to bar stool in five minutes or less," he said.

McClelland, who has authored two other nonfiction books, is a graduate of both Michigan State University and Lansing Community College. While in Lansing, he wrote for the Lansing State Journal, LCC's The Lookout, The State News and the Capital Times.

While researching "Blue Skies," McClelland visited six states — Michigan, Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, New York and Pennsylvania — that have seen their industrial backbone broken in recent decades. In each of those states he examined the causes of the decline and takes a look at what is being done to rebuild cities such as Detroit, which during World War II, was called the "arsenal of democracy."

He said Chicago and Pittsburgh were probably the best at weathering the apocalyptic storm while Detroit and Flint are at the other end of the spectrum. Reflecting on the outcomes of deindustrialization, he is sometimes brutally honest about why some cities (mostly in the South) grew, while others faltered.

"It wasn't just about what government could do, but the differences in the work environment," he said. "Flint never let go of



Courtesy Photo

Lansing native Edward McClelland explores the fate of Midwest industrial factories in his newest book.

the spirit of the sit-down strike."

McClelland highlights Lansing for its ability to land two new GM plants through regionalism and management-labor cooperation. He also points to certain positive high-tech manufacturing start ups and their success, particularly Niowave.

"There are few places besides Lansing where this could be started," he said, citing the marriage of former Oldsmobile craftsmen and university researchers. When McClelland made a return visit to his old high school he observed the educational focus had turned to health care education and training for what he called "taking care of retired Olds workers."

"We can't forget shop class," he said.

McClelland said allowing Detroit to go bankrupt is "not going to solve the underlying problems." He believes that Detroit's loss of population, loss of the middle class and loss of the tax base will only be exacerbated by bankruptcy.

"No state needs an urban policy more

than Michigan," he said. And although he is not shy about faulting government officials, he said, "Governor Snyder had to do something." Even when he was writing the book, McClelland said he thought Detroit was not a functional city.

"It's basically a lower class neighborhood of a metro area without enough tax base to support the infrastructure," he said. Part of that is due to the loss of the middle class. He recalls talking recently with a retired Detroit police officer who is worried about his pension due to the bankruptcy.

"That's part of the problem," McClelland said. "He moved out (of the city). Chicago has a residency requirement (for municipal employees) that helped maintain the middle class."

He also said Detroit's fall has contributed to the out migration of college graduates from Michigan.

"There are as many MSU bars in Chicago as there are in East Lansing," McClelland said.

He said he strongly believes that what happens in Detroit matters to the whole state, where it's likely that the negative ramifications will reverberate through the entire state. As if on cue on Friday, a Wall Street Journal article reported on a \$53 million Genesee County bond sale that was delayed because of what the paper called "Detroit Fallout." The Journal also reported that the next scheduled bond sale is for the city of Saginaw. Good luck there.

"Detroit has got the whole nation's attention," he said. No doubt about that; in just this past week national columnists Clarence Page, Paul Krugman, Frank Bruni and George Will have weighed in on the Detroit bankruptcy, and every national news organization has had in-depth coverage on the bankruptcy. The architectural porn articles that were all the rage a few years ago now have turned to economic decline porn diatribes with Detroit as the focus.

He also looked carefully at the urban pioneer movement that some point to as our cities' saving grace. He learned Youngstown, Ohio, residents call this back-to-city movement "Rust Belt Chic."

"Only suburbanites romanticize the city," he wrote about Detroit.

SCHULER BOOKS & MUSIC

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Young Adult Author Panel

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The Goddess Test series

COURTNEY ALLISON MOULTON
The Angelfire series

SUSAN DENNARD
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OUT ON THE TOWN

Listings deadline is 5 p.m. the THURSDAY BEFORE publication. Paid classes will be listed in print at the cost of one enrollment (maximum \$20). Please submit them to the events calendar at www.lansingcitypulse.com. If you need help, please call Dana at (517) 999-5069. Email information to calendar@lansingcitypulse.com.

Wednesday, August 7

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Video Game Lab. Ages 9-12. How to create games. Must register. 1-3:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3. dtdl.org.

Fenner Field School. Session 2. For grades 3-8. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$400. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.

Summer Nature Day Camp. Grades K-2. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$140 residents, \$155 non-residents. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.

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

MSU Community Music School Strings Camp. Instruments provided. Ages 6-10. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. \$185. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes & activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

Drawing Class. All skill levels, with Penny Collins. Pre-registration required. 6-8:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 999-1212.

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. First Congregational United Church of Christ, 210 W. Saginaw Highway, Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954. fcgl.org.

EVENTS

Practice Your English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Art from the Lakes. Exhibit dedicated to lakes. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400 ext. 2. lansingartgallery.org.

Materializing Mandela's Legacy. Exhibit on Nelson Mandela. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7474. museum.msu.edu.

AUG. 1-SEPT. 30 >> GALLERY AT RIVERWALK THEATRE

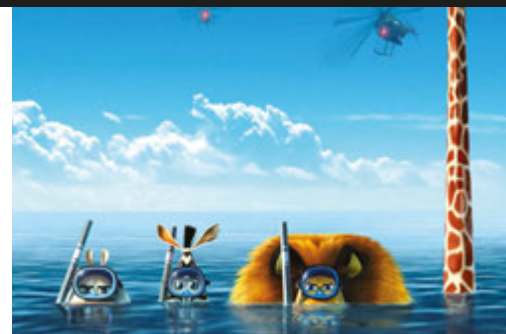
The photography of retired Michigan State University entomology professor Stuart H. Gage is featured at Riverwalk Theater's lobby gallery until Sept. 30. Primarily featuring Twin Lakes in Cheboygan, the photos document the landscapes and subjects seen by Gage as he travels on his pontoon boat on the lakes. Gage, who still conducts soundscape ecology research and has projects in Michigan, Australia, Alaska and British Columbia, became a Distinguished Faculty member based on his research, teaching and outreach. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing

AUG. 7 >> FARMERS MARKET MUSIC SERIES

The Allen Street Farmers Market features music every Wednesday through September as you browse for local and homegrown fruits and vegetables. Local rockabilly musician Chaz Brackx performs from 4 to 6 p.m. today, rain or shine. Upcoming performers include Art Cameron, Ben Hassenger Sr., Temesgen and Jen Sygit. Market is 2:30 to 7 p.m. Every Wednesday through October. Corner of East Kalamazoo and Allen streets, Lansing. FREE

AUG. 8 >> MOONLIGHT FILM FESTIVAL

Valley Court Park in downtown East Lansing hosts a concert and a movie. A musical performance by 16-year-old musician Taylor Taylor is followed by the Dreamworks film "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted." Taylor, known for her inviting stage presence, lets her roots shine through a musical combination of blues and jazz. Taylor has competed in talent competitions and has done songwriting showcases. She has also opened for Radio Disney star Shane Harper. Her first EP was released last year. 8 p.m., music. 9 p.m., film. Thursday. Valley Court Park, 300 Valley Court, East Lansing. FREE.



AUG. 9 >> ALZHEIMER'S BENEFIT SHOW

The second annual Benefit to End Alzheimer's Comedy 4 a Cause features comedian, author and blogger Jeremy Greenberg. A portion of the ticket sales go toward the Walk to End Alzheimer's, starting at the Capitol on Sept. 22. Greenberg has written three books, performed many overseas tours for U.S. troops and contributed to "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Jokes" and "Comics Unleashed" by Byron Allen. 8 p.m. Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St., Lansing. \$15. Contact Angie Amman at (517) 488-8467 or angie.amman@gmail.com for tickets.



AUG. 9 >> TURNER STREET OUTDOOR THEATER

The Old Town Commercial Association hosts a free showing of "Ghostbusters" at the Lot 56/Cesar Chavez Plaza. Sponsored by the Lansing Public Media Center, Such Video, Jackson National Life and Cravings Popcorn, the outdoor theater allows for watching the adventures of the ghoulish-snatching Ghostbusters under the stars. A limited supply of vintage movie posters will be for sale for \$10. Cravings Popcorn will announce specials over Twitter and Facebook for moviegoers and will stay open during the showing. 10 p.m. Cesar Chavez Plaza, Turner Street and Grand River Avenue, Lansing. FREE. iloveoldtown.org.

AUG. 9 >> POWWOW IN MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP

The cultures of Michigan Native American tribes the Ojibwa, Odawa and Potawatomi are featured at the "Powwow regalia and The People of the Three Fires" this week. Presented by the NOKOMIS Learning Center and the Native American Culture Center, the presentation will showcase a woodland fur trader's kit, the medicine wheel, a bracelet-making activity and Powwow regalia. Refreshments and other activities are also included. 2-4 p.m. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. FREE. Call NOKOMIS at (517) 349-5777 or email info@nokomis.org.

AUG. 11 >> OUTTA CONTROL CAR CLUB



Featuring more than 200 cars from low riders to muscle cars to motorcycles, the third annual Outta Control Car Club Car Show features an International Auto Sound Challenge Association-sanctioned "DB Drag" event, as well as a competition with 30 different award categories. There will be several competitions for Best Car Club. Registration, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Show, Noon-6 p.m. Adado Riverfront Park, Lansing. Registration is \$20 for cars; \$15 bikes. FREE for spectators. Contact Kenneth Baker for more information at (517) 960-8254 or email at ockennyb@yahoo.com.

TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S
MUSICAL LANDSCAPE
BY RICH TUPICA

SAT. SEPT
28TH



DIANA KRALL AT WHARTON

Wharton Center. Tickets: \$37, \$67, \$77. 8 p.m.

Jazz pianist and singer Diana Krall has had eight albums debut at the top of the Billboard Jazz Albums chart and has sold more than 15 million albums worldwide. The two-time Grammy winner's world tour stops at the Wharton Center on Sept. 28. Krall's new album, "Glad Rag Doll," was called "one of her freshest, most satisfying albums" by The Seattle Times. Krall, 48, has nine Gold albums, three Platinum and seven multi-Platinum LPs. Since her debut in 1990, she has released 12 studio albums, a live album and three concert DVDs. In December 2009, Billboard Magazine named Krall one of the best-selling jazz artists of her time.

STONECUTTERS AT MAC'S BAR

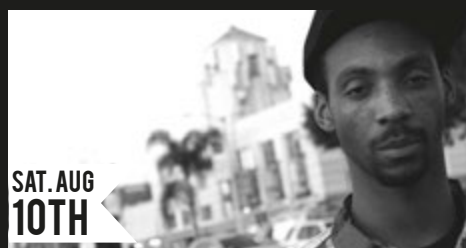


FRI. AUG
9TH

Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing, \$5, 18+,
9 p.m.

Stonecutters, a Kentucky-based heavy metal band, headlines Friday at Mac's Bar. Opening the show are Death Valley Dragline, Cavalcade and Jackpine Snag. Stonecutters is made up of Louisville metal scene veterans. The band is led by vocalist/guitarist Brian Omer, who previously spent time recording and touring the world with My Own Victim. The band describes its sound as "punishing, brutal, beautiful, soothing and primal music." Stonecutters' primary influences include Black Sabbath, Iron Maiden, Motorhead and early Metallica. The band has issued three full-length albums, including a self-titled LP in 2007 and "Christhammer" in 2009. The band's new album, "Creatio Ex Nihil," was released earlier this year.

BOLDY JAMES AT THE LOFT

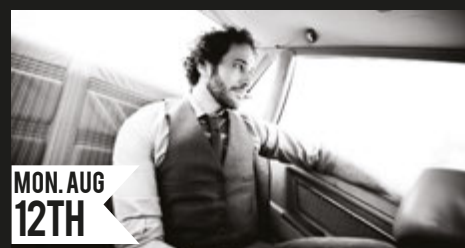


SAT. AUG
10TH

The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lan-
sing, \$12, \$10 adv., all ages,
7:30 p.m.

Boldy James (real name James Clay Jones III), a Detroit-based MC, got his first big break in 2009 after he was included on The Cool Kids and Don Cannon mixtape "Merry Christmas." That was followed up by his record "Gettin Flicked" and his spot on The Cool Kids' 2010 "Tacklebox." Also in 2010 he was featured on the "Fat Raps" remix alongside Big Sean and Asher Roth. His "Trappers Alley Pros and Cons" album was named "One of 2011's Most Overlooked Projects" by Pitchfork Media. Last year his "Consignment: Favor for a Favor" release received praise from The Source and Stereogum. Saturday, Boldy James performs at The Loft. Also performing are Willie the Kid, Ill Nutured, L Soul, D Frazee and Rafael de la Ghetto.

STEPPIN' IN IT AT THE GREEN DOOR



MON. AUG
12TH

Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing. 21+,
9:30 p.m.

Even though the band's members have been dedicating ample time to musical side projects, the weekly Green Door tradition continues for the American stylings of Steppin' In It. For years, the band performed each Monday at the blues bar, playing a rustic blend of legit Americana and roots rock. Steppin' In It has become known for its top-notch playing skills. The band members expertly throw down on some trombone, trumpet, Cajun accordion, dobro, slide guitar, Cajun fiddle and clawhammer banjo, along with other more traditional instruments. As for the side projects, one of them was a new solo disc, "A Miracle of Birds," from songwriter Joshua Davis (guitar/vocals). It was released in February.

CYANIDE SUNRISE AT ULI'S HAUS OF ROCK



THU. AUG
15TH

Uli's Haus of Rock, 4519 S. Martin
Luther King Jr., Lansing, 18 and over,
8 p.m.

Cyanide Sunrise, a high-energy hard-rock/metal band from Pennsylvania, headlines a night of metal Thursday at Uli's Haus of Rock. Sharing the bill is Distant Decend. Cyanide Sunrise was formed in 2005 by Andy Strausser (bass/vocals), Jason Zaharick (guitar/vocals), Kev-e-Twosocks (guitar/vocals), Dave Cantwell (drums) and lead vocalist Jason Dembinsky. The band has shared the stage with over 50 national touring bands, including The Misfits, Trivium and 12 Stones. Over the last eight years, the band has toured across the Midwest and East Coast. For the last three years Cyanide Sunrise has played the main stage at Rockapalooza in Jackson. The band is completing a full-length album, due out this fall.

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.		Judson Branam Jazz Band, 8 p.m.		Brian Wheat Band, 8 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.		DJ Juan Trevinio, 8 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.
Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.		Kathy Ford Band, 7:30 p.m.	Karaoke w/Joanie Daniels, 7 p.m.	Home Spun Band, 8 p.m.
Tin Can DeWitt, 13175 Schavey Rd.		Drew Macheck, 7 p.m.		
Tin Can West, Milgadi Ln.		Joe Wright, 7 p.m.		
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive	Suzi & the Love Brothers, 6 p.m.	Rhythms on the River, 6 p.m.	Joe Wright, 6 p.m.	
Whiskey Barrel, 410 S. Clippert	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 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 13

Watershed Wellness Center Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Watershed Farmer's Market, 16280 National Parkway, Lansing. (517) 886-0440.
Allen Street Farmers Market. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 999-3911.
Grande Paraders. Squares, 7 p.m. Casual attire. 7 p.m. \$3 members, \$4 non-members. Lions Community Park, 304 W. Jefferson St., Dimondale. (517) 694-0087.
Park Cart. Buy nutritious snacks. 1-4 p.m. Hunter Park, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3918. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.
Why did we drop the bomb? Hiroshima Remembrance Day. 6-7 p.m., FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 517 484-7484.

MUSIC

Sam Winternheimer Quartet. 7-10 p.m. Midtown Beer Company, 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing.
Concert in the Park Series. Shout! Beatles Tribute. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Ranney Park, Michigan Ave. at Morgan Lane, Lansing. (517) 483-4277.
Marshall Music Open Jam. Play on stage with anybody who wishes to play. All welcome. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337 9700. marshallmusic.com.
St. Johns Concert in the Park: Toppermost. Beatles cover band, bring blankets and lawn chairs. 7 p.m. FREE. St. Johns City Park, located off Morton and Park streets, St. Johns. (989) 224-2429.

Thursday, August 8

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Summer Nature Day Camp. Grades K-2. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$140 residents, \$155 non-residents. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.
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.
Fenner Field School. Session 2. For grades 3-8. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$400. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.
MSU Community Music School Strings Camp. Instruments provided. Ages 6-10. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. \$185. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. .cms.msu.edu.
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.
Computer Training. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Faith United Methodist Church, 4301 S. Waverly Road, Lansing. (517) 393-3347.
Take Root Garden Club. Ages 5-10. 10:30 a.m.-Noon, FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3918. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.
Wildchild Forager. Family Education Day. Eating from the garden. 5 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. 517-483-7460. lansingcitymarket.com.
Sharing Digital Photos. Learn to share your photos. Pre-registration required. 2-3:30 p.m. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 993-5201.

EVENTS

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. Come play Euchre and meet new people. 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.
Art from the Lakes. Exhibit dedicated to lakes. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400 ext. 2. lansingartgallery.org.
Materializing Mandela's Legacy. Exhibit on Nelson Mandela. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7474. museum.msu.edu.
Youth Art Show Reception. All ages. Celebrate the young, local artists. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3. dtdl.org.
City of East Lansing Moonlight Film Festival. "Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted." Bring blanket or lawn chair. 9:30 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Court, East Lansing.
South Lansing Farmers Market. 3-7 p.m. FREE. South Lansing Farmers Market, 1905 W. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 374-5700.
Food and Fun. Breakfast & lunch. Crafts & activities. Up to 18. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Elmhurst Elementary School, 2400 Pattengill Ave., Lansing. (517) 887-6116.
Park Cart. Buy nutritious snacks. 1-4 p.m. Hunter Park, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3918. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.
Jeremy Greenberg. Ticket price varies according to attendance date. 8 & 10:30 p.m. \$8-\$15.

Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St., Lansing. (517) 374-4242. connxtionscomedyclub.com.

MUSIC

Williamston Summer Concert Series. Army's 126th Band. 7-9 p.m. FREE. McCormick Park, located at North Putnam and High streets, Williamston.

THEATER

"Tuna Does Vegas." Town of Tuna, Texas goes to Vegas. 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$22 & \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469. williamstontheatre.com.
"Duck Hunter Shoots Angel." Mitch Alborn comedy. 8 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors. Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Drive, Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579. overtheledgetheatre.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Authors in the Garden. Authors Jon Wiljanen and Shelby Pontius. 6 p.m. FREE. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. (517) 316-6888.

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Tee Off"--songs that lost their #1 position.
Matt Jones

Across

1 "___ me a river!"
4 "Back to the Future" nickname
7 Pillager
13 "Welcome to Hawai'i" gift
14 Folkie Guthrie
16 Become a success
17 Elvis song about a whirlpool-loving grizzly?
19 Ace a test
20 Attaches
21 2008 Mariah Carey song in dire need of painkillers?
23 Part of a bridal outfit
24 "Barbarella" actor Milo
25 "One ___ Beyond"
26 Threesome per inning?
27 Portland-to-Las Vegas dir.
28 "Don't touch my squeaky toy!"
30 Pretty much out of fuel, according to the gas gauge
31 "Kazaam" star, familiarly
33 Close election aftermaths
35 Cyndi Lauper song that's full of regret?
38 Handlebar, e.g.
41 Per unit
44 Interloper on a blanket
45 Female in a forest
46 Board head: abbr.
48 Gypsy, more correctly
50 Actor Luke of "Kung Fu"
52 Boxer Ali
54 Not for here
55 With 59-across, Taylor Swift song about medicine leaking during a jam session?
57 1993 Texas standoff city
58 Dictation taker, for short
59 See 55-across
61 National park in Alaska
62 "High" places for pirates
63 Paris's ___ de la Cite
64 "Be right with you!"
65 "The Chronic" Dr.
66 "Happy Days" setting

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12
13				14			15		16				
17			18					19					
20					21			22					
23					24					25			
26				27				28		29		30	
	31		32				33				34		
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50			51		52		53				54		
55				56							57		
58							59			60			
61							62					63	
64								65				66	

2 Gets flushed
3 Language "bubkes" comes from
4 Bit of Vaseline
5 Discontinued black-and-white cookie cereal
6 Contract provision
7 Main section of Venice
8 "Aren't you ___ of sunshine today?"
9 Night spots for tots
10 Unit of a huge explosion
11 Clearly visible
12 Enters a password again
15 Conductor's group: abbr.
18 Armani competitor, initially
22 "The Philosophy of Right" philosopher
27 Cheerleading unit
29 "Air Music" com-

Friday, August 9

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Keep Michigan Wolves Protected Lansing Kick Off. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 993-5201. keepwolvesprotected.com.
Summer Nature Day Camp. Grades K-2. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$140 residents, \$155 non-residents. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.
Oil Painting. For all levels with Patricia Singer. Preregistration required. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing.
Fenner Field School. Session 2. For grades 3-8. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$400. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 16

SUDOKU

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

INTERMEDIATE

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 17

Out on the town

from page 15

MSU Community Music School Strings Camp. Instruments provided. Ages 6-10. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. \$185. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed women's meeting. 7:30 p.m. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 6500 Amwood Drive, Lansing. (517) 882-9733.

EVENTS

Materializing Mandela's Legacy. Exhibit on Nelson Mandela. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7474. museum.msu.edu.

Pow Wow Regalia. History and cultural life of Ojibwa, Odawa and Potawatomi. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517-706-5046. okemosschools.net.

Art from the Lakes. Exhibit dedicated to lakes. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400 ext. 2. lansingartgallery.org.

Karaoke. At the Valencia Club. 8 p.m. FREE. Best Western Plus Lansing Hotel, 6820 South Cedar St., Lansing.

Park Cart. Buy nutritious snacks. 1-4 p.m. Hunter Park, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3918. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

MUSIC

MSU CMS Strings Camp Performance. 2 p.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Grand River Radio Diner. WLNZ 89.7 hosts Ben Hall. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1710. .lcc.edu/radio.

Lindsay Lou & the Flatbellys. A nod to traditional American music. 8 p.m. \$10. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (919) 489-4824. fusionshows.com.

THEATER

"Tuna Does Vegas." Town of Tuna, Texas goes to Vegas. 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$22 & \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469. williamstontheatre.com.

"Duck Hunter Shoots Angel." Mitch Albom comedy. 8 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors. Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Drive, Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579. overtheledge theatre.org.

overtheledge theatre.org.

"Mr. Toad's Mad Adventures." Presented by Mid Michigan Family Theater. 3 p.m. \$5-\$7. Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. 517-483-6686. mmft.net.

Saturday, August 10

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Tai Chi in the Park. Taught by Bob Teachout. 9 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Wheel of Life: Single Mothers Working Together. Pre-registration required. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

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

Art from the Lakes. Exhibit dedicated to lakes. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400 ext. 2. lansingartgallery.org.

Materializing Mandela's Legacy. Exhibit on Nelson Mandela. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7474. museum.msu.edu.

Second Saturday Family Program: Engineer Your Ride. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. \$6 adults, \$4 seniors, \$2 kids 6-17, FREE under 5. Michigan Historical Museum, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 373-3559.

Watershed Wellness Center Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Watershed Farmers Market, 16280 National Parkway, Lansing. (517) 886-0440.

Urbandale Farm Stand. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Urbandale Farm, 700 block S. Hayford Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3916.

Author Signing with Edward McClelland. Signs and discusses his book, "Nothin' but Blue Skies." 1 p.m. FREE. Barnes and Noble (Lansing), 5132 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 327-0437. bn.com.

Holt Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. 2050 Cedar St. 2050 Cedar St., Holt.

MUSIC

MSU Community Music School Children & Youth Choir Program Auditions. Ages 7-18. 9

a.m.-Noon, FREE. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Brian Wheat Band. "From the Heartland to New Hope" tour. With Devil's Cut. 8 p.m. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 Michigan Ave., Lansing.

THEATER

"Tuna Does Vegas." Town of Tuna, Texas goes to Vegas. 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$22 & \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469. williamstontheatre.com.

"Duck Hunter Shoots Angel." Mitch Albom comedy. 8 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors. Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Drive, Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579. overtheledge theatre.org.

"Mr. Toad's Mad Adventures." Presented by Mid Michigan Family Theater. 3 p.m. \$5-\$7. Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. 517-483-6686. mmft.net.

Sunday, August 11

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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.

EVENTS

Art from the Lakes. Exhibit dedicated to lakes. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400 ext. 2. lansingartgallery.org.

Materializing Mandela's Legacy. Exhibit on Nelson Mandela. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7474. museum.msu.edu.

City of East Lansing Farmers Market. Growers-only market. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Court, East Lansing.

MUSIC

Great Lakes Folk Festival Ukulele Workshop. Led by Lanialoha & Ben Hassenger. 10-11 a.m. \$25. Marriott, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. 517-355-7661.

THEATER

"Tuna Does Vegas." Town of Tuna, Texas goes

to Vegas. 3 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$22 & \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 655-7469. williamstontheatre.com.

"Duck Hunter Shoots Angel." Mitch Albom comedy. 8 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors. Ledges Playhouse, 137 Fitzgerald Park Drive, Grand Ledge. (517) 318-0579. overtheledge theatre.org.

"Mr. Toad's Mad Adventures." Presented by Mid Michigan Family Theater. 3 p.m. \$5-\$7. Alfreda Schmidt Southside Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. 517-483-6686. mmft.net.

Monday, August 12

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Fenner Field School. Session 2. For grades 3-8. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$400. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave. Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.

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.

Metaphysical Mondays. Discussion, 7-8 p.m. FREE. Triple Goddess New Age Bookstore, 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 347-2112. triplegoddessbookstore.net.

Zumba Gold. For seniors or beginners. 11 a.m.-Noon, \$8 drop in rate, \$35 5 visit punch card, \$65 10 visit punch card. Kick it Out! Dance Studio, 1880 Haslett Road, East Lansing. (517) 582-6784. kickitoutdance.com

Computer Training. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Faith United Methodist Church, 4301 S. Waverly Road, Lansing. (517) 393-3347.

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

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.

EVENTS

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

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

Art from the Lakes. Exhibit dedicated to lakes. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400 ext. 2. lansingartgallery.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 17



AUDITION

MARK TAYLOR SCHOOL OF DANCE HIP HOP COMPETITION TEAM

August 14, 2013

- Ages 9-12 - 5:30
- Ages 12-17 - 6:30

3315 E. Michigan Ave., STE 7
Lansing, MI 48912

(517) 332-4060
www.marktaylorschool.com



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TOTALLY NUDE 18+

\$5 OFF ADMISSION WITH THIS COUPON

LANSINGS ONLY ALL NUDE SHOWBAR

W/ THIS AD / 18+ WHERE THE PARTY NEVER ENDS! EXPIRES 8/15/13 SAGINAW NOT VALID FOR SPECIAL EVENTS



Out on the town

from page 16

Materializing Mandela’s Legacy. Exhibit on Nelson Mandela. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7474. museum.msu.edu.

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.

Cool Car Nights. Cars, trucks & more. 5-8 p.m. FREE. Downtown Williamston, Grand River Ave., Williamston. (517) 404-3594. williamston.org.

Club Shakespeare. Rehearsing “Scenes of Shakespeare.” 6-8:45 p.m. Donations. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 348-5728. cadl.org.

Park Cart. Buy nutritious snacks. 2:30-4 p.m, Hunter Park, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 999-3918. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Lansing Area Post–Polio Support Group. 1:30-3 p.m. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 339-1039.

MUSIC

Open–Mic Blues Mondays. Solo, duo, band & spoken-word acts welcome. Drink specials. 6:30-10:30 p.m. FREE. Midtown Beer Co., 402 Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 977-1349.

MSU Community Music School Children & Youth Choir Program Auditions. 4-7 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Tuesday, August 13

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Summer Nature Day Camp. Grades K-2. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$140 residents, \$155 non-residents. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Anyone wanting to lose weight is welcome. 7 p.m. FREE to visit. Eaton Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. (517) 543-0786.

Intro to Computers. Learn from professionals. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St., Lansing.

Fenner Field School. Session 2. For grades 3-8. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$400. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.

Speakeasies Toastmasters. Become a better speaker. 12:05-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Building. 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517)

887-1440.

Be A Friend First: Anti–Bullying Program. Talk about issues. All girls welcome. 10-11:30 a.m. FREE. 1223 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 742-4751.

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.

Not So Happy Endings Support Group. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women’s Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 896-3311. womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

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.

Be Clear with Berries. Learn the benefits of a “berry-ful” diet. 5 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive,, Lansing. 517-483-7460. lansingcitymarket.com.

EVENTS

Paws for Reading. Kids read aloud to therapy dogs. Call to register. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3. dttdl.org.

Cruise–N–Tuesdays. Concessions & D.J. 6-8:30 p.m. FREE. Colonial Village Baptist Church, 2010 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 484-4446.

Materializing Mandela’s Legacy. Exhibit on Nelson Mandela. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7474.

See Out on the Town, Page 18

City Pulse Classifieds

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

2001 Isuzu VehiCross Very rare & unique performance sport ute. Must sell this week at half book value - dog needs surgery... Needs some work to be top notch. \$4800 or best reasonable offer. Comes with official dealer service DVD. Come see and make offer. 517-575-5599

Leslie Community-wide Yard Sale 60+ sales, 2 church rummage sales, maps at area businesses. Friday & Saturday Aug. 9 & 10 at 9 a.m.

Meridian Mall Fall arts, crafts, antiques, collectibles & home-business shows. Sept. 27-29 & Nov. 8-10. Don't forget Midland Mall — Nov. 15-17, 22-24, 29-Dec. 1, Dec 13-15, 20-22. Space limited. For info, visit smetankacraftshows.com or call (810) 658-0440 or 658-8080

Distribution Driver - PT Job opening to stock schedule racks in Greater Lansing area. flexible hours. Must have van or SUV w/own insurance, computer, cell phone w/text and energy. e-mail resume to: garrett@wayforwardinfo.com

City Pulse is seeking candidates to join its sales team. Full time and part time positions available. Sales experience required, preferably in advertising/marketing. Opportunity to grow. EEO. Submit resume to shelly@lansingcitypulse.com.

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezsný

Aug 7-13

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Normally, International CAPS LOCK DAY happens only once a year, on June 28. But in alignment with your current astrological omens, you have been granted the right to observe the next seven days as your own personal International CAPS LOCK DAYS. That means you will probably be forgiven and tolerated if use OVERHEATED ORATORY and leap to THUNDEROUS CONCLUSIONS and engage in MELODRAMATIC GESTURES. You may even be thanked -- although it's important to note that the gratitude you receive may only come later, AFTER THE DUST HAS SETTLED.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): William Turner was a 19th-century English landscape painter born under the sign of Taurus. His aim was not to capture scenes in realistic detail but rather to convey the emotional impact they made on him. He testified that on one occasion he had himself tied to the mast of a ship during a snowstorm so that he could experience its full effects firsthand. The result was "Snow Storm - Steam-Boat off a Harbor's Mouth," a painting composed mostly of tempestuous swirls. What would be the equivalent for you, Taurus? I'm trying to think of a way you could be perfectly safe as you treated yourself to an up-close encounter with elemental energies.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Some years back, the Greek government launched a huge anti-smoking campaign. In response, cigarette sales spiked dramatically. When my daughter was six years old, I initiated a crusade to ban Barbie dolls from our home forever. Soon she was ripping out pictures of the accursed anti-feminist icon from toy catalogs and leaving them on my desk. With these events in mind, I'm feeling cautious about trying to talk you into formulating a five-year master plan. Maybe instead I should encourage you to think small and obsess on transitory wishes.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "Wings are a constraint that makes it possible to fly," the Canadian poet Robert Brinhurst reminds us. That will be a good principle for you to keep in mind during your own adventures during the coming weeks. I suspect that any liberation you are able to achieve will come as the result of intense discipline. To the degree that you cultivate the very finest limitations, you will earn the right and the power to transcend inhibitions that have been holding you down.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new." When I came across that quote while surfing the Web, I felt that it jibed perfectly with the astrological omens that are currently in play for you. Every website I consulted agreed that the speaker of this wisdom was Socrates, but I thought the language sounded too contemporary to have been uttered by a Greek philosopher who died 2,400 years ago. After a bit of research, I found the real source: a character named Socrates in Way of the Peaceful Warrior, a New Age self-help book by Dan Millman. I hope this doesn't dilute the impact of the quote for you, Leo. For now, it is crucial that you not get bogged down in quarreling and brawling. You need to devote all your energy to creating the future.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do you know that you are a host for more than 10,000 different species of microorganisms? Many of them are bacteria that perform functions essential to your health. So the stunning fact of the matter is that a large number of life forms share your body and constantly help you in ways about which you have no conscious awareness. Might there be other examples of you collecting benefits from unknown sources? Well, do you know who is responsible for providing you with the water and electricity you use? Who sewed your clothes and made your medicine? Who built the roads and buildings you use? This is an excellent time to take inventory of all the assistance, much of it anonymous, that you are so fortunate to receive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): More often than not, your fine mind does a competent job of defining the problems that need solving. It comes up with concise questions that lead you in the right direction to find useful clues. It gathers evidence crisply and it makes smart adjustments as the situation evolves. But after studying the astrological factors currently at work, I'm a little concerned that your usually fine mind might temporarily be prone to suffering from the dreaded malady known as paralysis through over-analysis. To steer yourself away from that possibility, keep checking in with your body and your feelings to see what alternate truths they may have to tell you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): By the standards of people who don't know you well, the triumph you achieve in the coming days might seem modest. But I think it will actually be pretty dramatic. Here's my only concern: There's a slight danger you will get grandiose or even a bit arrogant in the aftermath of your victory. You could also get peeved at those who don't see it for the major achievement it is. Now that I've given you this warning, though, I'm hoping you will avoid that fate. Instead you will celebrate your win with humble grace, feeling gratitude for all the help you got long the way.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "All my life, my heart has yearned for a thing I cannot name." So said French writer André Breton. I suspect that many of us feel the same way, which is kind of depressing. But the good news for you, Sagittarius, is that there will be times in the coming months when you will get as close to naming that mysterious thing as you have ever gotten. On more than a few occasions, you may be able to get a clear glimpse of its true nature. Now and then you might even be fully united with it. One of those moments could come soon.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The *Paris Review* did a story on novelist William Gass. The interviewer asked him why he wrote his books. That was "a very dumb question," he sneered. Nevertheless, he answered it, saying, "I write because I hate. A lot. Hard." In other words, his primary motivations for expressing himself creatively were loathing, malice, and hostility. I beg you not to use him as your role model, Capricorn. Not now. Not ever. But especially now. It is essential to your long-term health and wealth that you not be driven by hate in the coming weeks. Just the opposite, in fact: The more you are driven by love and generosity, the better chance you will have of launching a lucky streak that will last quite a while.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Until we have seen someone's darkness, we don't really know who they are," said author Marianne Williamson. "Until we have forgiven someone's darkness, we don't really know what love is." Your assignment, Aquarius, is to seek out the deepest possible understanding of these truths. To do that, you will have to identify the unripe, shadowy qualities of the people who are most important to you. And then you will have to find it in your smart heart to love them for their unripe, shadowy qualities almost as much as you do for their shiny, beautiful qualities.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Aldous Huxley was the renowned 20th-century intellectual who wrote the book *Brave New World*, a dystopian vision of the future. Later in his life he came to regret one thing: how "preposterously serious" he had been when he was younger. "There are quicksands all about you, sucking at your feet," he ruminated, "trying to suck you down into fear and self-pity and despair. That's why you must walk so lightly. Lightly, my darling . . . Learn to do everything lightly. Yes, feel lightly even though you're feeling deeply." I would love for you to put this counsel at the top of your priority list for the next ten months, darling Pisces. Maybe even write it out on a piece of paper and tape it to your bathroom mirror.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezsný'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.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 15

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 15

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MUNCHIE'S / KFC / CARIBBEAN BBQ



Eric Finkler/City Pulse

Leaf Salad Bar moves into the former location for Promise Jewelers, next to Baryames Cleaners across from Frandor, this week. It will serve salads, soups and smoothies.



By ALLAN I. ROSS

After this Friday, you'll have one less excuse for eating an unhealthy lunch because you can't fit it in your busy schedule. **Leaf Salad Bar** opens across from Frandor in the traffic island bounded by Coolidge Road, Saginaw Street and Grand River Avenue. Co-owner Igor Jurkovic said the concept is "healthy fast food."

"It was one of those napkin ideas," Jurkovic said. His partner in the project is Mark Sprinkle, owner of **Showroom Shine** car wash and detailing center in East Lansing. "Mark had this idea for a long time, we brainstormed, looked at some places, and when this location opened last spring we moved on it."

The 1,100-square-foot location is the former home of Ronny Medawar's **Promise Jewelers**; the duo took over Medawar's lease when he moved out. (The building owner is Art Baryames, owner of **Baryames Cleaners** next door.) Jurkovic said the building was in good shape, and needed only minor interior upgrades, including the construction of a small kitchen, new flooring and natural stone work in the dining room.

"We also custom-made

the big salad bar in the dining room," he said. "We have 110 items to choose from, and we couldn't find anything that could hold that many items. You have to drive to Detroit to find a salad bar this size."

He said most of the items are organic and are sourced locally as much as possible. Out-of-the-ordinary items include Mediterranean grapes, Turkish figs and dates. He said there will be 20 dressings to choose from. And if eating your vegetables is too consuming, you can order a smoothie with your favorite items.

Jurkovic, 34, also owns **Restaurant Meditaran and Deli** in downtown Lansing, which his parents operate. He's the kitchen manager for 414 Entertainment as well, servicing **Omar's Show Bar** and **The Exchange**. He went to culinary school in Croatia, where his father owned a restaurant and a hotel, but his family fled when war broke out in the early '90s. He said Leaf was designed to be easily duplicatable.

"We'll see how this space works, but the idea would be to franchise it sometime next year," he said. "There seems to be a market for healthy fast food."

Peddling down the street

The big news last week was the 35,000-square-foot **Whole Foods Market** that was coming to Meridian Township in 2015. The Texas-based natural/organic grocery chain will be built on the site of the present

location of **Velocipede Peddler**, which is moving down the street as soon as next month. Velocipede owner Mark Sanderson will set up shop at 1353 E. Grand River Ave. in East Lansing's Brookfield Plaza, where his neighbors will be the recently opened **Bikram Yoga Capital Area Studio** and the upcoming second location for **Tamaki**, the fast food sushi concept in Frandor.

"The new space isn't much bigger (at 4,600 square feet), but it will have much higher ceilings, so we'll definitely be able to fit more bikes in. "It will be fresh start."

Velocipede opened in East Lansing in 1973, where **Chipotle** now stands. Sanderson's family bought the business in 1975, and he took over in 1989 when his father retired. In 2000, Sanderson moved the business to its current location, 2758 E. Grand River Ave., but he said a move closer to campus was something he was looking to do for awhile.

"This has been a locally owned bike store for 35 years," Sanderson said. "It opened in the middle of the student population, and it will be nice to return there."

Leaf Salad Bar

1542 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
10 a.m.-8 p.m. daily
(517) 351-5323
leafsaladbar.com

Out on the town

from page 17

museum.msu.edu.

Art from the Lakes. Exhibit dedicated to lakes. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400 ext. 2. lansingartgallery.org.

Tea & Talk. Salon Style discussions. 8 p.m. FREE. Triple Goddess New Age Bookstore, 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 347-2112. triplegoddessbookstore.net.

Food and Fun. Breakfast & lunch. Crafts & activities. Up to 18. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Elmhurst Elementary School, 2400 Pattengill Ave., Lansing. (517) 887-6116.

Park Cart. Buy nutritious snacks. 1-4 p.m. Hunter Park, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3918. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

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.

MUSIC

Annual Summer Music Series. Cheap Dates. At Center Court. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Eastwood Towne Center, 3000 Preyde Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-9209. shopeastwoodtownecenter.com.

American Jazz Greats: Detroit. Discussion of Detroit's influence on jazz. 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (810) 282-1338. americanjazzgreats.com.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

The Life List. Author Lori Nelson Spielman visits. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtdl.org.

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Wednesday, August 14

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Fenner Field School. Session 2. For grades 3-8. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$400. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.

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

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes & activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

Summer Nature Day Camp. Grades K-2. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$140 residents, \$155 non-residents. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224. mynaturecenter.org.

Drawing Class. All skill levels, with Penny Collins. Pre-registration required. 6-8:30 p.m. \$50 for 4 weeks. Gallery 1212 Fine Art Studio, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 999-1212.

Ayn Rand & Objectivism. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. pilgrimucc.com.

Transgender Support Group. Discussion for parents & guardians. 7:15-9 p.m. FREE. MSU Student Services Building, 556 E. Circle Dr., East Lansing. (517) 927-8260.

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. First Congregational United Church of Christ, 210 W. Saginaw Highway, Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954. fcgl.org.

EVENTS

Strategy Game Night. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtdl.org.

City of Bones Party. Movie release event. Trivia, food and prizes. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3. dtdl.org.

Practice Your English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Materializing Mandela's Legacy. Exhibit on Nelson Mandela. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7474. museum.msu.edu.

Watershed Wellness Center Farmers Market. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Watershed Farmers Market, 16280 National Parkway, Lansing. (517) 886-0440.

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

Prospectors Protectors Summer Block Party. 6-9 p.m. FREE. Prospect Place, 1427 Prospect St., Lansing.

Grande Paraders. Squares, 7 p.m. Casual attire. 7 p.m. \$3 members, \$4 non-members. Lions Community Park, 304 W. Jefferson St., Dimondale. (517) 694-0087.

Park Cart. Buy nutritious snacks. 1-4 p.m. Hunter Park, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 999-3918. allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Art from the Lakes. Exhibit dedicated to lakes. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square, Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400 ext. 2. lansingartgallery.org.

MUSIC

Sam Winternheimer Quartet. 7-10 p.m. Midtown Beer Co., 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing.



Courtesy Photo

The Brys Estate Vineyard and Winery on Traverse City's Old Mission Peninsula features award winning wine tastings and private tours.

On a mission

Touring the wineries of Traverse City's Old Mission Peninsula

By MICHAEL S. BRENTON

Jutting north from Traverse City is Old Mission Peninsula, a jagged tendril of land separating the west and east arms of Grand Traverse Bay and home to some of the finest vineyards in Michigan. Its rolling hills and varying soil types, combined with the moderating influence of Lake Michigan, create a superb environment for growing fruit which reflects its terroir. Of course, vintage variation can always be expected, and that

is part of the intrigue of producing great wines. Old Mission Peninsula boasts eight wineries: Black Star Farms, Peninsula Cellars, Chateau Grand Traverse, Brys Estate Vineyard & Winery, Bowers Harbor Vineyards, Chateau Chantal, Two Lads Winery and Hawthorne Vineyards.

Brys Estate's vintner Coenraad Stassen is one of the most decorated winemakers in the state. Born, raised and educated in South Africa, he brings a varied background to the art of creating wine in the Grand Traverse Bay region. I asked Stassen to comment on the 2010-'12 vintages, which encompass the majority of wines on Michigan retail shelves.

Stassen said an early frost in 2010 caused a crop loss of approximately 20 percent; however, the ensuing warm summer, which continued into the fall,

created the opportunity for deep, concentrated reds and whites with lower acidity levels. Sometimes crop loss in the spring can create the blessing of higher quality among the grapes that survive. He also said that 2011 was the largest crop in history for most Old Mission wineries. The 2011 vintage generated many clean, lean whites and medium-bodied reds with good aging potential.

Each year, Trattoria Stella, an exquisite Traverse City restaurant, hosts a dinner that serves as the inaugural presentation for many Old Mission wines. Tasting through these wines certainly supports the buzz about wine quality. A Bowers Harbor Cuvee Evan Blanc de Blanc, a white sparkling wine made from white grapes, displayed rich fruit with a great acid backbone. It was refreshing and clean.

Three 2012 Pinot Blancs were sampled, one from the new Hawthorne Vineyards, one from Brys Estate and one from Left Foot Charley, a perennial award winner for its Island View Vineyard Pinot Blanc. The three wines had very different styles. The Hawthorne had a dry presentation with a leaner, crisper mouth feel. Brys Estate Pinot Blanc displayed a strong floral component to the nose and a sweeter, more viscous presentation with nice acids but still broad mouth feel. A good companion to halibut with morels and caramelized onions. Left Foot Charley Pinot Blanc has a touch of natural residual sugar and is riper and fuller than past iterations of this wine.

A 2012 Riesling flight included Left Foot Charley Terminal Moraine, Chateau Grand Traverse Whole Cluster and Chateau Grand Traverse Lot 49. The Terminal Moraine was dry, crisp and clean: my style of Riesling. The Whole Cluster presented with a sweeter profile and a softer mouth feel, while the Lot 49 was still softer, with more subdued acids. These were good accompaniments to smoked pork belly with green tomato jam and arugula.

Two 2011 Pinot Noirs were paired with foie gras. Bowers Harbor Nicholas Vineyard had great nose, nice mouth feel, broad flavors, good depth of flavor and a good finish, belying its modest pink color. The Two Lads Beatrice, aged 12 months in French oak, presented with moderate tannin, bright red berry flavors and a touch of vanilla. Give it a bit more time to fully integrate the oak, then enjoy.

The 2011 Bordeaux varieties including Black Star Farms Leorie Vineyard Cabernet Franc, Chateau Chantal Trio Merlot/Cabernet Franc/Pinot Noir, and Brys Estate Merlot. The excellent Leorie Cab Franc was rich, broad, deep and concentrated. The Chateau Chantal Trio has a flavor profile emphasizing red and dark fruits under an oak backbone. The Brys Merlot presented with a fruity, soft bouquet emanating from a wine that was concentrated with peppery overtones, modest tannins and good acids.

For dessert, a 2011 Black Star Farms Tribute Montague Vineyard Riesling, despite its sweetness, tasted surprisingly dry, probably a testament to great acid balance. Find more information about the wines and wineries of Old Mission Peninsula at wineriesofoldmission.com.

Wine event

Lansing-area oenophiles will have an unparalleled opportunity to taste some of these wines and sample dozens of medal winners at the 2013 Michigan Grape & Wine Industry Council Gold Medal Wine Reception. The reception will be at Kellogg Center at 5 p.m. Aug. 8. Tickets are \$40, or \$30 for Vintage Michigan members. For more information and to purchase tickets go to michiganwines.com.

In Vino Veritas

(Michael Brenton is president of the Greater Lansing Vintners Club. His column appears monthly. You can email him at brenton@lansingcitypulse.com.)



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