

LEGALLY BLONDE

BOOK BY HEATHER HACH, MUSIC AND LYRICS BY LAURENCE O'KEEFE AND NELL BENJAMIN

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY AMANDA BROWN AND THE METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER MOTION PICTURE

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APRIL 20 - 29

Elle Woods reinvents herself to win her man and ends up winning on her own.



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1.) Write a letter to the editor.

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

2.) Write a guest column:

Contact Berl Schwartz for more

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

The Ingham County Housing Commission, on behalf of the Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for the demolition and disposal of various properties listed in Bid Packet# NSP2 11-009-02 available April 18, 2012 online at www.inghamlandbank.org or at the Ingham County Land Bank NSP2 Office, 600 W. Maple Street, Lansing, Michigan 48906, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Proposals will be due at the NSP2 office before 11:30 am on May 2, 2012. The Bid Opening will be May 2, 2012 at 11:31 a.m. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged

The Ingham County Housing Commission, on behalf of the Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for the Removal and Disposal of Hazardous Materials, including but not limited to asbestos, mercury and various containerized material, at sites listed in the Bid Packet# NSP2 11-009-01, which can be obtained online at www.inghamlandbank.org or at the Ingham County Land Bank NSP2 office, located at 600 W. Maple Street, Lansing, Michigan 48906 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Bid Packets will be available April 18, 2012. Proposals are due at the NSP2 offices before 11:00 am on May 2, 2012. The Bid Opening will be May 2, 2012 at 11:01 am. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, May 15, 2012, at 7:30 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider the following:

> A public hearing will be held to reconsider an application from Dino Cascardo Holdings, Lansing, LLC for Special Use Permit approval for the property at 504 Michigan Avenue. The applicant is requesting approval to allow the sale of packaged beer, wine, and spirits.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable accommodations, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting, upon notice to the City of East Lansing, prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations or services should write or call the City Manager's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-3777

> Marie E. McKenna City Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The City of East Lansing in the Counties of Clinton and Ingham

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADOPTION OF THE BROWNFIELD PLAN #17 FOR THE CITY OF EAST LANSING PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT 381, 1996, AS AMENDED, OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN.

Please take notice that a Public Hearing shall be held before the Council of the City of East Lansing on Tuesday, May 1, 2012 at 7:30 pm in Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing, MI 48823 on the adoption of the Brownfield Plan #17 for the City of East Lansing, within which the Authority shall exercise its powers, all pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, being Act 381 of the Public Acts of the State of Michigan of 1996, as

The brownfield site includes the property at 514 Michigan Avenue. The property consists of land and there is no personal property included. A detailed legal description of the property along with maps and a copy of the Brownfield Plan #17 are available for public inspection in the Department of Planning and Community Development, City of East Lansing, 517-319-6930.

Please note that all aspects of the Brownfield Plan are open for discussion at the public hearing, at which all interested persons will be provided an opportunity to be heard and written communication will be received and considered. The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable accommodations, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting, upon notice to the City of East Lansing prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations or services should write or call the City Manager's Office, 410 Abbott Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, 517-319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-3777.

Marie McKenna City Clerk

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News & Opinion. 4 Public Notices. 4, 6 Arts & Culture. 10 Turn it Down 20 Freewill Astrology. 25



7 p.m. Wednesdays

Bernero Chief of Staff Randy Hannan and Lansing City Council President Brian Jeffries

Tim Wendel, author of "Summer of '68"

Erica (Baby Gaga) Moul



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JOHN SCHNEIDER by VINCE JOY

by TOM TOMORROW

TOTALLY! THOSE OCCUPIERS ARE



















news & opinion

What's in a study?

Beneath the politics of consolidating Lansing police operations, a web of studies and planning

The Bernero administration is forging ahead with plans to move its Police Department into the old National Guard Armory, despite a nearly finished study that suggests at least one more option: the current North Precinct building.

Moreover, the owner of the North Precinct is willing to sell, which would satisfy one of the administration's objectives: no longer paying rent.

We've said we're perfectly happy to do build-outs and sell it," said Harry Hepler, resident agent of Summit Street Development Co. LLC, which owns the building. The city already owns the old armory, now called the South Washington Office Complex, at 2500 S. Washington Ave. The state sold it last year for \$1, but as part of that deal, the city had to pay \$22,000 for an adjacent piece of land.

The study, which began in 2010, cost \$175,000, Chad Gamble, the city's chief operating officer, said. The administration has been sitting on preliminary data since at least December, before former Finance Director Jerry Ambrose left the city to work on the emergency manager team in Flint, said Kevin Feuka, business development manager at C2AE, the firm that conducted the study.

But the administration has been preparing for consolidation since 2008, when it began appropriating money from the General Fund for consolidation studies. In total, the administration says less than \$200,000 has actually been spent on plans. The upcoming fiscal year appropriation would more than triple that and go beyond studies to actual design work. In other words, the beginning of moving to the armory.

Nearly everyone at City Hall agrees on the need to move police operations into one building that the city owns — not rents, as it does for more than \$300,000 a year at its North Precinct on May Street between Saginaw Street and Oakland Avenue, just west of Pennsylvania Avenue. Police administration and the jail are at City Hall downtown. The South Precinct will hopefully be completely empty by June, said Police Chief Teresa Szymanski.

But the administration has encountered Council opposition in the past week on several fronts: On its desire to use about 7 percent of police millage revenue (approved by voters in November) for upfront architectural and design costs; on its apparent decision to settle on the South

Washington Office Complex when another location is on the table; and on the fact that the city has annually appropriated money since 2008 on consolidation plans that have seemingly turned up little more than an incomplete study.

Gamble would not release the preliminary study to City Pulse until City Council members

all had a chance to review it.

"What is problematic is this is the first time I'm hearing we're ready to go on something," Council President Brian Jeffries said during a Police Department budget hearing Monday night. He added that he "didn't even know" a firm was hired to do the study. Lansing-based architectural and planning firm C2AE conducted the study. "I'd like to see a copy of whatever it is you have done so I can be brought up to speed on this."

Gamble said the report essentially suggests two buildings — the former armory or the current North Precinct - and a variety of renovation options for either of those buildings. But no one from the administration has entertained the idea publicly of buying out the space it's leasing for the North Precinct. When asked if it's 100 percent certain that the city will move into the former armory, Gamble said: "I think that is high on our priorities." And there are benefits to the armory, Gamble said: It's at the "geographical center of the city," the city owns it, and at the North Precinct there are "building maintenance issues we're trying to get figured out."

"We want to make an investment," Gamble said, "but make it smart."

The former armory was built in the early 1960s and includes about 95,000 square feet of floor area, property records show. The North Precinct is about 24,000

As for "building maintenance issues" at the North Precinct, those are disputed by Hepler, the landlord.

On maintenance issues, Hepler said the administration's position is analogous to proving a perfectly good car is faulty as a way to justify buying a new car. The Lansing State Journal reported late last month that Lansing Police Capt. Mike Yankowski signed an affidavit saying, in part, that the precinct "has had serious



Andy Balaskovitz/City Pulse

The Lansing Police Department's North Precinct, 740 May St. Mayor Virg Bernero wants to move the department out of the rented facility to a former National Guard armory south of REO Town, but the plan is drawing City Council opposition.

> roof leaks for not less than the past five (5) years." While that's resulted in "55 separate complaints since 2007, even then, the North Precinct roof has not been repaired," according to the affidavit.

Hepler said it has been repaired. Steve • Purchase, president of the property management company, H Inc., then produced • an email from Yankowsi on March 26, 17 days after Yankowski signed the affidavit, saying: "No reported leaks from over the weekend that I'm aware of."

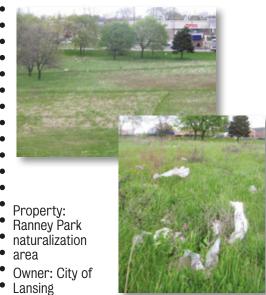
"I went up on the 10th floor of City Hall for the first time in three years," Hepler said in his office Friday about attending • tiles. People in glass houses"

Summit Street Development had to file long grass. for Chapter 11 bankruptcy after being more than \$5 million. Hepler said the original bank that issued the loan was takdenly out of nowhere, this affidavit."

Szymanski, chief of the LPD, said the showed the importance of having a larger neighborhood presence.

The decentralizing of services has served its purpose," Szymanski told the into one building. We have heard from front • title. line officers and detectives that this greatly • enhances our ability to coordinate with one another. I've also heard from community members that paying rent is a waste of money and that it's time to get out of leases."

- Andy Balaskovitz



Owner says: "Indicative of the city living within its means.'

Opponents of the city's naturalization plan that was announced last year have the right to proclaim: "Hate to say I told you so."

The city stopped mowing certain areas of 14 parks throughout the city last year as part the prior Monday's City Council meeting. • of that plan. The goal was to save money. But "I looked up and counted 28 leaky ceiling • City Council members and concerned citizens • warned the administration about unintended The State Journal also reported that • consequences. One was trash build-up in the

Turns out they were right on at least one • accused of defaulting on a loan worth of the parks. About three days a week I walk • through the north end of Ranney Park and have noticed the slow accumulation of random trash en over by the Federal Deposit Insurance and recyclables — McDonald's packaging, plastic Corp. and that the new Ohio-based bank, • water bottles, empty cigarette packs and plastic First Financial, refused to extend it after • bags — since the snow melted in the conspicuthe loan came to a term end. "Then sud- \bullet ously unmoved area. The long grass acts as a natural catch basin.

Chad Gamble, the city's chief operating officer idea of separate precincts goes back to the and director of the Public Service Department, Hollister administration, when studies a said the accumulating trash is: "Indicative of the city living within its means. There's lots of things • we wish we could do."

"Naturalization" is a nice way to package it — but judging on the amount of trash in these Council. "The time has come to consolidate • areas, "collection zones" would be a more apt

Andy Balaskovitz

"Evesore of the Week" is our look at some of the Candy of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call 999-5064

6 www.lansingcitypulse.com City Pulse • April 18, 2012





PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Z-2-2012, 3303 N. East Street Rezoning from "F" Commercial District to "G-2" Wholesale District

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 7, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI, to consider Z-2-2012. This is a request by Auto Warehouse Body Shop to rezone the properties at 3303 N. East Street, legally described as:

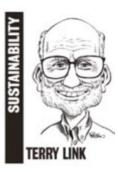
OUTLOT A EXCEPT NORTH 100 FEET ALSO EXCEPT SOUTH 200 FEET; SUPERVISOR'S PLAT OF SCHWORER'S BLOOMFIELD FARMS

from "F" Professional Office District to "G-2" Wholesale District. The purpose of the rezoning is to permit the use of the subject property for an automotive body shop (motor vehicle repair station).

For more information about this case, phone City Council Offices on City business days, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 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, Monday, May 7, 2012, at the City Council Offices, Tenth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 1696.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk

'Go Local' means invest local



Transparency note: I have been involved with Capital Area Local First as a founding board member and more recently in efforts to stimulate sustainable local community development.

As a dues-paying

member of CALF, last week I was able to view without additional cost (a privilege of membership) a webinar from the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies that is part of their "Accelerating Community Capital" series. The webinar featured the folks from Slow Money North Carolina, who have crafted a mechanism for connecting small local entrepreneurs who need an infusion of cash with local citizens willing to lend a hand. In less than two years they have helped funnel investments of more than \$500,000 into the hands of those trying to grow their local businesses. Investments as low as \$500 and as large as \$25,000 have been hatched through this relationship-building mechanism.

Unbeknownst to me, we exercised a similar approach locally in the past couple of months. A local businessperson was stymied in an attempt to accelerate her business because of a needed immediate infusion of about \$1,500. Insufficient cash flow in her business was going to delay this significant business accelerator for months. I floated the idea to her of raising the needed funds through folks who already supported her business. A short email note to a list I created of potential investors to invest \$100 each proved successful. Actually, we received commitments exceeding what was needed. One potential investor suggested being paid back through a gift card worth more than the initial investment, thus continuing the support for the business beyond the initial investment.

The business owner loved the idea and offered a generous return on investment for those who preferred that option.

This idea of building stronger relationships between a community and local businesses is the foundation of the many "Go Local" networks thriving across the country and around the world. Perhaps it's a response to globalization or to the "There is no alternative" mindset that globalizers since Margaret Thatcher have been selling us. But at its heart, I think, is the desire to build communities that are about strong relationships — between each other, between businesses, between businesses

and civil society. It's as if the first question an entrepreneur asks is, "What can I make that I love and the world needs?" as opposed to "How can I become financially well off?" To grow an idea, one does need enough financial flow to both keep the business afloat and support the owner(s); but businesses with a heart, whose owners see their own success tied to the health and well-being of the larger community in which they are housed, are getting additional support through the increased visibility of 'Go Local' initiatives.

Next month, Grand Rapids will host the national conference of the 'Go Local' movement. The 10th Annual BALLE Conference, which runs May 15-19, will attract more than a thousand local entrepreneurs from around the country who are building community while building their own livelihoods and who will share their ideas, enthusiasm and energy for local community development. Zingerman's CEO Paul Saginaw is one of the national leaders of this movement, as is restaurateur Judy Wicks and Longfellow Clubs owner Laury Hammel. They and many more entrepreneurs will be there to share their stories on how local businesses deeply committed to a community can build community wealth.

One of the conference keynotes will be by Grand Rapids' own Fred Keller, CEO of Cascade Engineering. Cascade Engineering is Michigan's first certified B-Corporation, a new form of corporation that affirms community interest as part of its charter. With more than 1,000 employees spread among 14 business activities, Cascade Engineering strives for a triple-bottom-line return — financial, social and environmental.

Attending one of the earlier BALLE conferences a few years ago inspired me to try and spark the localization focus, harnessing the combined energy of local entrepreneurs to simultaneously build a collaborative network of businesses that could strengthen the local community overall. I would unabashedly encourage any local businessperson or community development-minded citizen to attend this inspiring event next month. If you happen to join CALF before you register, you'll receive a discount now that CALF has become a local BALLE network member.

And among other things, you'll have free access to a year's worth of online webinars for building local prosperity.

(Terry Link was the founding director of MSU's Office of Campus Sustainability and recently retired as director of the Greater Lansing Food Bank.)

John Schneider's good streak

How Lansing's workaday knight took the city to heart

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

For 24 years, John Schneider woke Lansing up with a fanfare for the common man, in a voice as gentle and clear as a muted trumpet.

Let's get this lady's heat turned back on. Let's get this child an operation. Schneider patted the back of good, kicked the ass of bad and took trenchant note of almost everything else in town, on a human scale, about 8,000 times.

That note dropped out of the city's morning chord when Schneider, 63, wrote his last Lansing State Journal column Sunday

He could have pushed a mailbag or worked on an assembly line all those years, and nearly did. Instead, he combined the daily-grind work ethic of his Detroit roots with the knightly passion of the Watergateera journalism he absorbed in the early 1970s.

He picked up the lance in one hand, the lunch bucket in the other, and went quietly to work.

"The collateral effects were to help people, and I guess I've got that streak," he said last week, relaxing with a beer at his kitchen table "But it's such fun to do, it doesn't feel like this mission or anything."

Schneider talks dry, but his trail is wet. Last week, I talked to a woman in California whose two deaf children got cochlear implants because of a column Schneider wrote in 1988. After 24 years, she cried at the mention of his name. There are hundreds, probably thousands, of similar stories.

How do you wrap your head around a career like that?

Schneider took a swig and flashed his Irish grin.

"I was just very lucky to have the ability to help people and get paid for it."

'I was a greaser'

John Schneider's other voice, the one you hear when you're sitting on his back porch, is more elusive than his print voice. His leathery rasp drifts past you, like wood smoke. He doesn't raise his voice, but it somehow it carries, like an owl's.

An avid hunter, Schneider is at home in the woods. His house, tucked into rural Alaiedon Township only 15 minutes from downtown Lansing, smells of burning logs he chopped on his thickly wooded property. He's spent many hours, bow in hand, perched on a ladder stand on a tree behind his house. As we talked, he sat on his porch, wearing a flannel shirt, under a print of a

forest scene.

"I don't see all that much difference between that feeling I had in the 1970s and what I do now," he said. "I wish we could help everybody, but if you can do it one person at a time, sometimes that's all you can do."

Schneider grew up in a middle-class neighborhood in northwest Detroit where his father, John Schneider Sr., was a mailman. On summer nights, he sat on the porch and listened to his father tell stories about the people and places on his route.

"He put some effort into it," Schneider said. "Knowing how much information to withhold and how much to give, what sort of pace. There's a gift to that."

But John Schneider Jr. was far from destined to be a writer. Had he taken the path of least resistance, as he almost did several times, that morning note would never have sounded over Lansing. Hundreds of people might have been chewed up in the bureaucratic gears Schneider loved to spike with his pen.

Neither of his parents graduated from high school. All his uncles worked Detroit auto factories. The library was just a place to cool off during the summer.

"I was a greaser. All I cared about was my cool car, my cool clothes, my girlfriend and my job. My grades were abysmal in high school. It just wasn't important to me."

While still in high school, Schneider joined the Navy on a program that offered a one-year delay in deployment. His dad and uncle got him a job in the post office, where his years in the Navy would count as seniority.

"For a little while, it looked like I was going to deliver mail, get out of the Navy, marry Karen Coopersmith and that would be my life."

He learned the job in two weeks.

"I thought, 'Man, this is it? I don't think

He got an inkling of another life from Mr. Nicek, an English teacher at Cody High School.

Nicek told his 11th grade English class to write a radio play.

"I didn't want to do it. I waited until the night before it was due."

Sitting at the kitchen table with the blank page in front of him, his mind kept drifting to the most vivid experience of his life so far: a hunting trip with his dad to Hillman, near Alpena, the year before. The city-bound father and son didn't get a deer, but they saw one — Schneider's first — and he loved the time in the woods with his dad.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Schneider reminisced at his Lansing State Journal desk last week with a stack of retirement cards and his successor, columnist Mark Mayes, over his right shoulder.

"So I wrote this column — er, I wrote this radio play — about this father and son who go hunting," he said, ignoring the slip. "I embellished a little bit. Despite myself, I started to enjoy writing it."

The play got an honorable mention in a scholastic writing contest. The Detroit News printed the names of the winners. "I remember my dad cutting it out and carrying it in his wallet, showing it to his buddies."

Mr. Nicek asked Schneider if he had ever thought about journalism.

"It might have been the first time I heard that word," he said.

At 19, Schneider was stationed on the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Forrestal in the Mediterranean. With a lot of time to spare at sea, he started reading Hemingway, Fitzgerald, "all the classics I should have read in high school." He explored ports of call in France, Italy and Spain, walking past the bars to see how people lived, and kept a journal almost every day.

Two days after he was discharged in fall 1969, he and a Navy buddy filled out job applications at GM Diesel on Telegraph Road. With labor in short supply, they were asked to start work the next Monday.

"That's another step that might have doomed me," he said. "My friend took it. He was rolling in money for a long time, working overtime."

Schneider was tempted, but he balked, thinking again of Mr. Nicek and the play. Despite his high school grades, he enrolled in journalism at Wayne State University on the G.I. bill.

'Colorful, manly'

In Detroit and across the country, journalists were covering world-shaking stories, from race riots to Vietnam to Watergate. Wayne State's journalism department was packed with pros from the Detroit Free Press and The Detroit News,

then awash in Pulitzers. Schneider snagged a part-time job as copy boy at the Free Press, under the stewardship of fabled editor Neal Shine, "when it was really a writer's paper."

"Journalism students were just aflame with this idealism," he said. "I don't see that so much in the younger journalists anymore."

He also kindled a flame for a whip-smart classmate at Wayne State, Sharon Emery, his wife of 37 years this June. Emery also worked at the Free Press, in the advertising department.

When Emery's former boyfriend moved to a farm in Alberta, city boy Schneider hustled into the picture. Meanwhile, he sent resumes to all the big papers and a lot of small ones.

"I was so eager to get to work that school seemed like an obstacle to getting out in the field and working," he said.

He took the first offer he got: county reporter/farm editor at the Sidney Daily News in Ohio, 12,000 circulation. Jeff Billiel, Schneider's editor at the Daily News, is now the paper's publisher.

"He was very good at telling a story in human terms so you really felt it," Billiel said. "He was only here four years, and a lot of people here still remember him."

But the learning curve was steep. "He knew absolutely nothing about rural life or agriculture," Billiel recalled. "I remember him asking me, 'What's a hy-fer?' (for 'heifer.') We had a lot of fun at his expense."

On one of his first assignments, Schneider asked a farmer how many times a month he milked his cow. "Oh, about 60," was the polite reply.

On a small-town paper, duties were various. A fashion shoot featured the reporter, in majestic blow-dried blond locks, modeling "colorful, many fall fashions" on Sidney's courthouse square.

Schneider

from page 7

But Schneider made the most of the job, winning the farm community's trust while seizing any chance to flex his investigative chops. When a local sheriff made a habit of buying groceries for himself, his dog and his horse on the county tab, a deputy tipped Schneider off.

"Due primarily to John's reporting, the sheriff had to leave office," Billiel said.

While Schneider worked at the Daily News, Emery wrote for a competing paper, the Troy Daily News.

One night, the couple found themselves in the middle of a labor riot in downtown Sidney.

"We were tear gassed together," Schneider said.

It sounds romantic, but when Schneider got inside information on the riot from the sheriff, he refused to share it with his wife.

Rake Muck

All along, Schneider wanted to go back to Michigan. Soon after he became news editor, he fired off another round of resumes to the Michigan dailies. In January 1977, he was hired as assistant city editor at the Lansing State Journal.

He lasted two weeks in the job.

"The reporters were having all the fun," he said. "I was sitting at a desk, making assignments, editing copy and laying out pages."

Schneider found his editor, Hal Fielding, sympathetic. He took a cut in pay and jumped at the next opening for a writer — the East Lansing city beat, which was heating up.

Just 10 days after Schneider started at the Journal, a young woman, Martha Sue Young, disappeared.

She was murdered by her former fiancé, Donald Miller, the only serial killer in East Lansing history. Soon Schneider joined a top Journal writer, Mark Nixon, to cover the fast-breaking story.

Well before Schneider took on his daily column, soulless institutions were his favorite target.

"He had a bumper sticker: Rake Muck," Nixon recalled.

One day in the mid-1970s, a man walked into the Lansing State Journal newsroom carrying a packet of papers.

"He looked like a wild street person," Schneider said. "All the reporters ducked. They didn't want to talk to this guy. I guess I was the slowest to duck."

The man introduced himself as Richard Prangley. He told Schneider that in 1956, at age 6, he was thrown into the Coldwater State Home and Training Center, where he was beaten and molested. His parents were advised to put him into an institution and told he could never live outside, even though his learning disability was mild by today's lights.

"These were days when anybody who



Courtesy of Sidney Daily Nev

Young reporter John Schneider did a little bit of everything at his first job at the Sidney (Ohio) Daily News, including modeling clothes for a feature story. But he also cost a corrupt sheriff his job.

was the least bit challenged was closeted," Schneider said. "It was a warehouse. No education or training at all." When Prangley was released 15 years later, unable to read or write, he came to Lansing, determined to see the governor.

Impressed with Prangley's pluck, Schneider smelled a major story.

A front-page feature story and a series of follow-ups spurred Gov. William Milliken to create a new civil service classification just so Prangley could deliver mail for state offices.

Prangley worked 30 years, retired, and lives in Lansing. He became an advocate for the disabled and appeared on TV and visited the White House. In 1998, Schneider took a month sabbatical and expanded the series into a book for Grand Rapids' Eerdmans Press, "Waiting for Home." The Prangley story was a career high for Schneider, but he views it more as a life lesson.

"He was called a low-grade imbecile with no chance of any learning anything, but in spite of all this, he was determined to carve out a decent life for himself," Schneider marveled. "He wanted to become selfsufficient and he did it. I still don't know how, and why he wasn't totally bitter."

Prangley and Schneider still see each other and go to movies together. "He's helped me. Every time I think I got it hard, look at Richard."

The cat was OK

"I always wanted to be a columnist," Schneider said. "I thought pretty much everybody in journalism did."

In 1988, popular "Onlooker" columnist Jim Hough retired, opening up a premier space at the Journal. Most staffers thought Nixon would be Hough's successor in the daily column, but Nixon was more interested in moving up the editorial ladder.

Schneider was at another crossroads. He had a nemesis at the Journal, editor Tom Callinan, who canceled a weekly column by Schenider because he wrote too much about his family.

"Callinan damn near drove me out of the business," Schneider said. "I was so frustrated at one point I actually went down and got a civil service test application. I never filled it out."

The Journal's publisher, Mel Applegate, was sympathetic. He ordered the column reinstated and lobbied for Schneider to take over The Onlooker.

But he still wasn't sure he wanted the gig. "I was fairly young, in my 30s, and I still felt I had something to prove," he said. "I thought maybe I'd do that for a while and get a job with the Chicago Tribune or

something."

Schneider didn't care much for Hough's brighter-side triviality. "His style was kind of hambone folksy," Schneider said. "Who's got the oldest refrigerator in Lansing. Turnips that looked like Richard Nixon. Hell, they all do, don't they?"

He told the editors he'd take on the column, but only if he could do it his way.

In his first column, June 1, Schneider announced he would write about "the comic-tragic consequences that often occur when self-important bureaucrats hide behind rules, policies and regulations to avoid behaving like human beings."

He also wanted to praise do-gooders, as Hough did, offering a public nod to motorists who rescued ducklings and firemen who got cats out of trees.

"The cat was OK and everybody was happy," was the closer of a June 1988 column.

"Later, I wrote columns about how that was a waste of taxpayer's money," he said with a grin.

As Schneider hit his stride and his family took root in Lansing, his thoughts of moving to a major market faded.

"I don't know exactly when that dream sort of — I can't really say it died, all of a sudden didn't become all that important to me," he said. "I felt like I was born to do this."

Acknowledging all of John Schneider's good deeds is no more feasible than writing a sonnet about all of Al Kaline's base hits. To dip a spoon into the ocean, go back to 1988, Schneider's first year as daily columnist. Two deaf East Lansing siblings, 4-year-old Mitchell Gingras and his 6-year-old sister, Leanna, needed cochlear implants. Insurance wouldn't pay, but a sympathetic family friend brought the matter to Schneider.

The day after Schneider's column ran, checks started to arrive. Soon there was enough for both children to have the operation. A third child in need was helped as well with the extra money.

"I had garbage bags full of letters in the basement," Viki Keeton-Gingras, their mother, said last week. "I would sit down, read them and cry. I still have them."

Right after Mitchell got his implant, his

mother found him in the hospital bathroom, flushing the toilet and slamming the door over and over.

"He didn't know what sound was," Keeton said, crying. On the way home, Leanna started to sing.

One year after the column ran, Mitchell said "Mama" for the first time. He is now a student film-maker, living in Arizona, with a script in production. Leanna is a globetrotting speaker and consultant.

Keeton had been told her kids would never talk and was advised to put them into an institution.

"We never forget him," she said of Schneider. "We think of him all the time."

Town meeting

Schneider took a journeyman's approach to the writing game. Every morning, he went to his desk, rubbed his lucky baseball, checked his messages and planned the next day's column.

The 2012 edition of Who's Who in Baseball, with Justin Verlander on the cover, sat on his desk last week.

"You can't get a base hit every time. Maybe one out of three, you feel proud of. One out of 10, you feel really proud of."

Not every day brought a Richard Prangley into the room.

Seasonal nods to Christmas, Valentine's Day and so on got harder and harder to freshen up as the years went by.

"The readers want it, so you have to do it," he said. "Easter is especially hard because it's so religious. And Mother's Day is a real bitch."

But Schneider was in the game for the long haul. Readers adopted him as a loyal companion, whether he curled up by the fire, jumped on a bone or growled at the screen door. Mickey Hirten, editor of the Lansing State Journal, was already a fan when he came to the paper in 2001.

"He was the voice of the paper, for all intents and purposes," Hirten said. "To do that, you need a certain temperament and big helping of strong journalistic skills, and he's got both."

Nixon called Schneider's column a "daily town meeting" where "a mechanic with no pull whatsoever at City Hall can stand up in the back of the room and have his voice heard."

When Nixon left the Journal to become a spokesman for the Board of Water and Light, the time came for his ox to be gored.

"John would find out that one of our crews had butchered somebody's tree. He was very polite, but it was 'O.K., Nixon, what are you going to do?' He relishes the role, but never tries to rub it in."

Looking back, Schneider is amazed at the autonomy he had.

"There were times when an editor would try to insert themselves, but it never lasted and they would go away," he said. He flatly declared that he was never asked to write, or not to write, anything because of pressure from advertisers.

Schneider

from page 8

"I was proud that nobody told me to ease up on Meijer or Shaheen Chevrolet, anybody."

In a fall 2002 column, Schneider grabbed a "Citizen Kane" moment when he chided State Journal publisher Michael Kane for including a commemorative 9/11 supplement in the paper and requiring readers to opt out to avoid payment.

Schneider told Kane the opt-out provision was illegal under state law, but Kane waffled.

"I think he said it was a gray area," Schneider recalled. "It wasn't." Schneider printed Kane's reply, and filled the next day's column with irate letters from readers.

Schneider wondered how Kane would react. He even talked with Emery about what they would do if he were fired.

The next day, columnist and publisher had a talk.

"He told me he thought the second column was kind of piling it on," Schneider said. "That was the end of it."

Human touch

Schneider enjoyed writing about his own family, and readers eagerly sought a reflection of their own lives in his family's ups and downs.

"Nobody wants to see home movies," Schneider said, "but if I can come up with some sort of universal truths about how we live, I find that rewarding."

In a 1988 column, he described his feelings as he cut his tie in half to outfit his 3-year-old son, Justin, for pre-school graduation. "In the time it took to draw the knot around his neck, he went from post-toddler to miniature baby-faced man," he wrote.

13 years later, Justin no longer fit the description.

"I just happened to be driving past him and there he was with a cigarette," Schneider said. The shock generated another column.

"He just hit the ceiling," Schneider said. "I told him he was right, I apologized and that was the end of it."

Schneider's comfort with writing about himself and his family was put to a severe test when his daughter, Jessica, drowned in 2002 at age 25.

"It's difficult to write about a subject like that without getting maudlin," he said. "To me, that destroys it because I've read maudlin things, and that doesn't appeal to me."

His first thought after the accident was that he would never write a personal column again. "Soon afterward, there was an instant realization that I had to. It was a matter of hours. If I was a writer, there was no way I could avoid the subject."

He pitched the columns perfectly, in prose as transparent as a window into his struggling mind. Readers responded more warmly than ever to his frankness and



awrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Schneider spends a lot of time in the woods around his Alaiedon Township home and joins his extended family for hunting and epic poker games at a retreat near Petoskey each year.

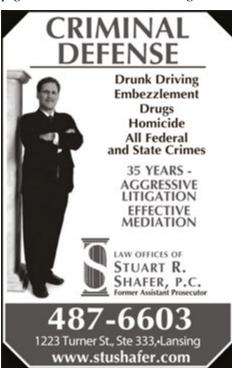
sincerity.

"I never thought it would turn into 15 or 20 columns," he said. "It was a real catharsis for me."

The series of columns following Jessica's death burned with the human touch that lifted Schneider's work above the average watchdog column. When Schneider and Nixon worked together at the Journal, Nixon recalls more conversations about the craft of writing than about the grind of reporting.

"We'd talk about sweating bullets looking for the right analogy, the right verb," Nixon said. "John was, and is, a voracious reader. The beauty of the written word means a lot to him"

In retirement, Schneider plans to work in shorter and longer forms than his accustomed 700-word straitjacket. He'll keep up his blog (johnschneiderblog.com) and maybe "stare down that scary first blank page of the novel that's been rattling around





Courtesy of John Schneid

In 2009, at son Justin's wedding. From right to left, Justin, 31; Schneider's wife, Sharon Emery; John Schneider; Benjamin, now 28; and Caitlin, 25. Schneider's oldest daughter, Jessica, drowned in an accident in 2002.

in my noggin."

Just don't confuse Schneider with Mitch Albom, the Detroit Free Press columnist who bedewed the best-seller lists with wet material like "Tuesdays With Morrie" and "The Five People You Meet in Heaven."

"If I ever write a book like that, I hope you come up here and just shoot me," Schneider said. "There's a fine line between something that expresses emotion and something that just makes you want to brush your teeth."

Schneider was also disappointed with

a recent read, Char Harbach's baseball bestseller, "The Art of Fielding" (too much love story and not enough baseball).

But a reference to "Moby-Dick" in Harbach's book made Schneider prick up his eyes. The epic of the elusive white whale, the embodiment of life's ultimate mysteries, is the first in a long list of books he plans to crack in the coming months.

"It really made me realized I hadn't read it since high school," he said. "I don't think I appreciated it enough. I want to savor it."



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art • books • film • music • theater

Common Ground adds Bush and Kevin Costner

By CITY PULSE STAFF

No one can say the Common Ground Music Festival isn't full of surprises: It's added Bush, Three Days Grace and Kevin Costner and Modern West to the schedule.

Yes, that's the same Kevin Costner you know from "Field of Dreams," "Dances With Wolves" and "The Bodyguard." He formed the Modern West band in 2007 and released a country album, "Untold Truths," in 2008. Costner and Modern West come to Common Ground July 11.

Bush, performing July 9, ruled the airwaves in the mid-1990s with songs such as "Everything Zen" and "Glycerine." The British band's latest CD, "The Sea of Memories," was released last September.



Kevin Costner

Canadian band Three Days Grace, which has charted with "Animal I Have Become" and "Break," plays July 14.

Concerts are held at Adado Riverfront Park in Lansing. Tickets for all three shows will be priced at \$15 during a 13-hour sale from 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday. Visit www.commongroundfest.com for details.

For Bell's first tour with the Academy as leader, he didn't wait for the wind to blow from home

"I'll be standing up and playing it, as I would

plate. For starters, he's tackling Beethoven's epic

normally, except there won't be a conductor, an

in-between," he said. (There he goes again. Cover your ears, Toscanini.) "During the parts where I

don't play, I'll turn around and be a conductor.

double duty forces him to focus harder. "I have

to be very aware of everything going on, every

instrument at every time, but that's really some-

It's one thing to play and conduct baroque

masters like Bach or Vivaldi while sitting a chair

as first among equals, as Bell and other guests

have done many times with the Academy. It's

another thing to multi-task while navigating

I play my own part better because of my forced

understanding of every part because I'm leading

"I know the piece better," he said. "I feel like

thing every soloist should do anyway," he said.

Far from bifurcating his brain, Bell finds that

violin concerto without a maestro.

It's a bit of a juggling act."



Courtesy Photo

"Chelsea Lately" star Loni Love is a native of Detroit who used to do comedy shows in college. When she moved to Los Angeles, her hobby became her career.

Fiddler on the podium

Joshua Bell becomes conductor of Academy of St. Martin in the Fields

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Joe Cronin, Hall of Fame player-manager of the Boston Red Sox in the 1940s, joked about sending himself up to pinch-hit whenever the wind was blowing away from home plate.

There hasn't been a player-manager in baseball since Pete Rose in the 1980s, but the breed is far from extinct. Classical violinist Joshua Bell, already destined for the Fiddle Hall of Fame, will both solo with and conduct the fabled Academy of St. Martin in the Fields in a meaty all-Beethoven program at the Wharton Center Saturday.

In a phone interview last month, Bell, still boyish at 44, cracked wise about his punishing

"Normally, on tour with an orchestra, I'll play a concerto, and I can already start eating my dinner during the second half of the concert," he said. "This is more work."

But it's clearly a dream job for an incandescent artist with musical ideas to burn.

"Doing it this way has forced me to really get inside the orchestra and get inside the score of the piece, beyond my part," he said.

"In a way, it's getting rid of the middle man. It actually becomes more organic with the orchestra."

Academy of St. Martin in the Fields

Joshua Bell

director and violin 8 p.m. Saturday, April 21 Wharton Center (800) WHARTON www.whartoncenter.com

Bell immediately backtracked, perhaps picturing the epic scowl on Herbert von Karajan's or Georg Solti's faces at being called a "middle man."

"Of course, playing with a great conductor can be very inspiring. But not having a conductor feels very natural to

The mop-haired Indiana kid earned his new stripes the hard way. Last fall, after many acclaimed gigs with Britain's

venerable chamber ensemble, he was the first American to be named its music director, by vote of the musicians, with the blessing of its famous founder, Sir Neville Marriner. Bell is only the second man, after Marriner, to be named director.



Joshua Bell conducts and plays solos with the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields chamber orchestra. "It's a bit of a juggling act," admits the 44-year-old.

The player-conductor learning curve cuts both ways, making demands on the orchestra, too. When Bell and the band play Beethoven's Fourth Symphony to close Saturday's concert,

storm fronts of Beethoven.

everybody."

Bell will sit down, like a concertmaster, projecting his will with the expressive face and torso moves that have become his trademark. If Bell's violin bow gets too busy, some other part of his anatomy — usually his bouncing hair — takes

"It's something I started to develop, figuring out the language of how to cue and inspire every musician on stage with my vision of the piece," he said.

The result is a symphony-turned-chamber-music, an orchestral super-brain crackling with cross-connections, instead of a topdown operation.

"Everyone really has to take charge in a way they don't have to when there's a conductor with a baton in front," Bell said. "But that adds to the musical experience. It becomes more visceral, more engaged from every single player."

Bell isn't only seen in Beethoven's company these days. He played an all-star gig March 28 with an eclectic roster that included Emmylou Harris, Carole King and Merle Haggard at the opening of Las Vegas' Smith Center.

"I love doing those kinds of things," he said. "I shared a dressing room with (jazz trumpeter) Arturo Sandoval."

Funny kind of Love

It's homecoming week for 'America's Sister,' comedian Loni Love

By ALLISON M. BERRYMAN

This weekend, Loni Love returns to her home state and to her first love: standup comedy.

The comedian plays Thursday, Friday and Saturday at Connxtions Comedy Club. She is best known for her role as a recurring panelist on E!'s hit show "Chelsea Lately" and appearances on truTV's "The Smoking Gun Presents: The World's Dumbest." She is often referred to as "America's Sister" because of her ability to connect with a wide range of audiences.

"In the entertainment industry, everyone should be represented," Love, 40, said in a phone interview. "And I represent a lot of people. I represent the fat asses, I represent the females, I represent the black people, I represent the people that love bacon. I'm relatable because I don't talk about just one thing."

Love's Connxtions dates may be her first performances in Lansing, but she will not be far from home. The comic grew up in Detroit's Brewster-Douglass Housing

See Bell, Page 12



April 22,



Book & Lyrics by Alan Gordon Music by Mark Sutton-Smith

Directed by Tony Caselli Featuring: Leslie Hull, Emily Sutton-Smith and Joseph Zettelmaier

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Ready to run

Lansing Marathon is set for Sunday

By CITY PULSE STAFF

An estimated 2,000 runners are expected to participate in the first Lansing Marathon on Sunday. The 26.2 mile course begins at the Accident Fund building and runners will travel through Kircher Park, Potter Park Zoo, Michigan State University and REO Town before finishing at the Capitol Building. Participants have seven hours to complete the marathon, which begins at 8 a.m.

A relay for teams of six also begins at 8 a.m., followed by a 5K run/walk at 8:15 and a half-marathon at 9:30. A 1.5K race for kids takes place at 11:30 a.m. Saturday; details are still being confirmed, according to the marathon's website.

Proceeds from the marathon support such charities as the Lansing Moves the World Foundation, Lansing Boys and Girls Club, the South Lansing Community Development Association, the American Cancer Society and the Greater Lansing Food Bank.

Lansing Marathon

Sunday, April 22 8 a.m. full-marathon (\$100 registration) 8 a.m. marathon relay (\$270 registration for a team of six) 8:15 a.m. 5K run/walk (\$25 registration) 9:30 a.m. half-marathon (\$60 registration) Race packets must be picked up in person between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Saturday, April 21, at the Health & Fitness Expo at Cooley Law School Stadium, 505 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing.

A 1.5K race for kids takes place at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, April 21; details are still being confirmed. Register online at

Seek 'Shelter'; you'll find a great psychological thriller

something wrong, but he's not sure exactly what it is. He hears thunder when there are no clouds in the sky.

He wakes up screaming from nightmares in which hundreds of birds swoop down upon him, oily rain falls and a seismic jolt shakes his house, causing his living

'Take Shelter'

Presented by East Lansing Film Society 7 and 9:15 p.m. Friday, April 20, Saturday, April 21 and Sunday, April 22 Wells Hall, Michigan State University 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, Wednesday, April 25 and Thursday, April 26 Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing \$8; \$6 seniors; \$3

room furniture to hang suspended in mid-air, like something out of "Inception." Could these terrifying visions be premonitions, or are they merely warning signs that he's losing touch with reality?

That's the "Twilight Zone"-style premise of writer-director Jeff Nichols' marvelous psychological thriller "Take Shelter."

Set in a small Ohio town that seems to have been brought to its knees by the recession, "Shelter" initially paints what looks like a comforting portrait of family

Curtis has a steady job in construction,

Curtis (Michael Shannon) knows there's a loving wife named Samantha (Jessica Chastain) and a lovely 6-year-old daughter, Hannah (Tova Stewart).

> But the closer we look, the more cracks we see in the picture: money is tight, so Samantha sells crafts on the weekends to raise extra cash; Hannah is hearingimpaired and needs surgery; Curtis' mother (Kathy Baker in an electrifying cameo) is a paranoid schizophrenic who has spent decades in an institution.

> Naturally, Curtis is beginning to wonder if he is headed in the same direction; after all, he is now 35, the same age his mom was when she was diagnosed.

> Although he appears to be a mountain of a man, Shannon expertly plays against his size: Inside the body of a linebacker is someone being torn apart by fears he can't express and questions he can't answer. Curtis struggles to keep going, but his journey becomes more daunting with each new day.

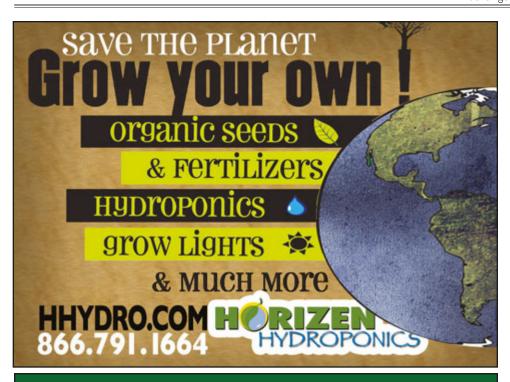
> Chastain provides a sensitive, insightful reading of Samantha, who clings to her faith as Curtis' troubles become increasingly apparent. This riveting drama manages to tie the nerves in knots while breaking your heart at the same time.



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Love

from page 10

Projects before she moved west to pursue a career in electrical engineering.

"I started doing comedy in college to make extra money," Love said. "When I moved to L.A. I went to a comedy club to check it out, and I noticed that there weren't a lot of women performing that particular night. I thought there should have been more representation of females in the comedy arena."

It wasn't long before Love became a regular in the Los Angeles comedy scene, and what started as what she calls a "means to an end" turned out to be her true calling.

'One day, there happened to be layoffs at my job, and I told my boss, 'Save somebody else's job and lay me off and I'll try comedy professionally.' I haven't looked back since."

Love found success when her onehour Comedy Central special "Loni Love: America's Sister" premiered in 2007. In 2009, she was named one of the "Top 10 Comics to Watch" by both Variety and Comedy Central.

Love says performing for a Michigan audience is different from doing shows for the celebrity-fixated crowds of Los Angeles.

"Midwestern people are hardworking

people that are family-oriented,' Love said. "They laugh at things that affect their own lives, whereas with L.A audiences, they tend to want to laugh at the stars. Detroit and Lansing is more down home. To me, it's a better

Loni Love

Connxtions Comedy Club 2900 North East St., 8 p.m. Thursday, April 19. and 8 and 10:30 p.m. Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21 \$12-\$17 (517) 374-4242 www.connxtionscomedyclub.

show because they are real people."

After spending much of her career performing in front of a camera, Love said she's eager to get in front of a live audience again.

"Standup is one of the last form of speech or performance that allows you to be yourself," Love said.

from page 10

Shortly before, he got the call to play a Feb. 14 soiree for Vice President Joseph Biden and his guest, Chinese Vice President Xi Jinping.

Bell just returned from a March tour of China after laying down the soundtrack for Zhang Yimou's epic film "Flowers of War."

"I don't think (Jinping) knows much about classical music, but he was very impressed the Chinese had chosen me to play for their film," he said.

Bell has often ventured beyond classical music, including the 1999 album, "Short Trip Home," a fine foray into bluegrass with bassist Edgar Meyer. Bell says he has no wish to be pigeonholed.

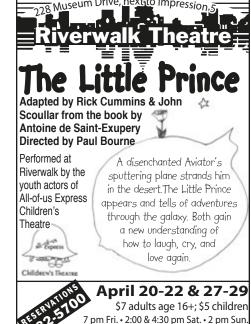
"If I go to Europe, they say, 'You're American, play Samuel Barber," he lamented.

"If I did that over and over, I would start to be the guy that plays the American music. So I try to keep people guessing by playing a lot of things. As a modern-day classical musician, you wear many hats already. To try to get inside the style of bluegrass or jazz is not so strange."

The Academy gig takes Bell's career back to the classics, only with deeper involvement and more opportunities than a hired-gun soloist.

"With the Academy I'm able to explore the symphonic repertoire," he said. "These are works I've known my whole life as an appreciator, but now I get to put my stamp





RiverwalkTheatre.com



whartoncenter.com

Art farmers

Broad Museum infiltrates the soil with the launch of 'The Land Grant'

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

What would happen if Fritz Haeg, the L.A. artist/gardener and (literally) groundbreaking author of "Attack on the Front Lawn," brought his message of liberated land use to the only university in the nation with a turfgrass library?

The culture shock of the ultramodern Eli and Edythe Broad Museum springing up at agricultural-rooted Michigan State University has already been compared to a spaceship landing in a cornfield. Little did we know the infiltration would start from the grass roots.

If "The Land Grant: Art, Agriculture, Sustainability," a new artist residency program to be launched this week by the

'The Land Grant: Art, Agriculture, Sustainability'

Sponsored by the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum 7 p.m. Friday, April 20: Screening of "The Greenhorns," 107 South Kedzie Hall, MSU Saturday, April 21: 333 East Grand River Ave., East Lansing (former Barnes & Noble space) 3-5 p.m. Town hall meeting to explore what The Land Grant means for MSU. 3-5 p.m. Students for the Broad Art Museum present farming and sustainability

activities for kids of all 5-7 p.m. Indoor farmers' market featuring local food and musical performances

broadmuseum.msu.edu

Broad, is any indication, art can speed the plow and divert and subvert it - in ways yet unimagined in East Lansing.

BroadThe Museum building isn't set to open until late September, but curator and Land Grant project mastermind Alison Gass is already thinking outside the steel and glass

A series of between-thecracks "art as social practice"

public events will launch the Land Grant project Friday and Saturday, inside the temporarily reclaimed husk of the defunct Barnes & Noble bookstore across from the museum.



Broad Art Museum's "Land Grant" project. The two-day event was the brainchild of Broad Museum curator Alison Gass, right.

"I love the example this sets in terms of finding art in uncommon places," Gass said.

It begins with a Friday screening of "The Greenhorns," a film about young farmers, with producer/director Severine Tscharner Fleming on hand to answer

At 3 p.m. Saturday, there will be a town hall discussion with the first Land Grant artists in residence, Amy Franceschini and Fritz Haeg, along with Laingsburg farmer Alex Bryan and a slate of sustainabilityconscious MSU brains, from landscape planners to organic gardeners. From 5 to 7 p.m., a community party is planned, with local food, beer, music and art.

The idea for a major mashup of art and land use came to Gass as soon as she came to MSU last fall and began to take in spectacles like Beale Gardens, the agricultural pavilion, the surrounding farmland, and, yes, the turfgrass study center.

Right away, she wanted a program that would graft the university's land-grant history with 21st-century sustainability issues a concern she found in common with professors across several departments.

While Gass was a curator at San Francisco's Museum of Modern Art, she got to know the work of Amy Franceschini, founder of Futurefarmers (a wry riff on the Future Farmers of America) a San Francisco-based artist-activist collective.

"She did this amazing community garden in San Francisco City Hall and a series of sculptures you could use in a garden that we bought for the museum," Gass said.

Gass also enlisted Haeg, the kind of un-hierarchical, all-over-the-place artist Gass wants the Broad Museum to showcase. His projects turn up at places like the Tate Modern in London and the Whitney Museum of American Art, but he isn't above popping in on Martha Stewart's show to talk about his "edible estates."

Haeg's manifesto echoes that of Gass and the Broad, with its ambitious talk of "bridging audiences of artists, architects, environmentalists, foodies, urban planners and typical homeowners."

Where is the art in all of this? In your mind, mostly. Although Land Use artistsin-residence may or may not produce physical objects like Franceschini's garden sculptures, Gass suggested that their work is closer to conceptual or performance art.

"They work in the medium of social activity, whether it's farming, building, and teaching," she said. "They're doing

things people do every day; they're just framing them in an aesthetic and philosophical context."

Haeg's "edible estates," for example, is mental amalgam of what gardens are and what they are not.

"If we see that our neighbor's typical lawn instead can be a beautiful food garden, perhaps we begin to look at the city around us with new eyes," Haeg wrote in the book. "The seemingly inevitable urban struc-

tures unravel as we begin to realize we have a choice."

The art of art-ifying life, a primary tenet of much contemporary art, extends to the choice of venue for the Land Grant kickoff. Gass was saddened to see the Barnes & Noble bookstore on Grand River Avenue close Dec. 31, only a few weeks after she moved to town.

"Part of what I want the Land Grant project to do is reactivate senses of what spaces can be," Gass said. "I love the idea of seizing a single moment in this building's long life and totally changing its meaning for a minute."

Gass and her team are already scanning for more ways to infiltrate and art-ify the surrounding university and community. Maybe farmers can reciprocate by sneaking into the Broad Museum and growing a few radishes before Jeff Koons takes notice.







'Blonde' and beyond

A sorority sister gets schooled in MSU musical

By ALYSSA FIRTH AND JON JAMES

Director Rob Roznowski says Michigan State University's "Legally Blonde" will be a moving production fast-moving, that is.

MSU senior Erika Moul — known for her Lady Gaga impersonation as Baby Gaga — plays Elle Woods, a former sorority girl who becomes an unlikely Harvard Law student after her boyfriend, Warner (Wes Haskell) dumps her before heading to Harvard himself.

Although the plot is basically the same as the popular 2001 Reese Witherspoon movie, the musical's songs help quicken the pace. For example, Elle's depression over her breakup with Warner and her

'Legally Blonde'

April 20-29

Michigan State University Theatre Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center 8 p.m. Fridays; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays; 7:30 p.m. April 25 and 26.

Pre-show talk at 1:15 p.m Saturday, April 21; postshow talk on April 26 \$20; \$15 for students www.whartoncenter.com (800) WHARTON decision to attend Harvard Law School is packed into a seven-minute musical piece.

This is also the MSU Theatre Department's first production using "show control," an automated scenery system that employs a turntable.

"The scenery moves as quickly as the songs

move," Roznowski said.

The play is choreographed by three students, and Roznowski plans to discuss how they worked together in the pre-show and post-show discussions on April 22 and 26.

Baby Gaga hits the road

Moul has performed as her alterego Baby Gaga at Spiral Dance Bar, Lansing Pride 2011 and Michigan State University. Soon she'll be making a bigger scene, as the first licensed Lady Gaga tribute artist.

The Grand Rapids native leaves Lansing on June 6 to start a national tour; she'll settle in Las Vegas this fall.

What leads someone to become a tribute artist? For Moul, 22, it was a desire to excite in others the same positive reaction that her idol inspired in her. After attending Lady Gaga's first Monster Ball tour in Detroit, Moul says she was struck that Lady Gaga's performance could be so motivational and that she could encourages her fans to be free to be who they are.

Photo by G. "Max" Maxin IV

The cast of MSU's "Legally Blonde" includes, clockwise from top, Scott Long, Trish Hubbard, Chris Robinson, Kelly Studnicki, Erika Moul, Casey Shipman, Claudia Dibbs and Neva Keuroglian.



"As an actor, that's my job," Moul says, "to create, and inspire people."

Moul says Baby Gaga doesn't try to exactly replicate its progenitor's performance, but reinterprets it instead. "I want my own thing," Moul says. "I think that's (Lady Gaga's) message, too: Be yourself."

Moul creates all of her own costumes from modified thrift store finds. "I take my BeDazzler to an old jacket," she says. "I'm a big fan of safety pins, nail polish and glue."

She says that helped her stand out when auditioning for recruiters in Las Vegas. "I make pretty much everything from scratch. There's nothing creative about wearing a Halloween USA costume."

Like her muse, Baby Gaga has an energy and quirkiness that can't be ignored. "For me," Moul says, "life isn't about finding who I am, but creating who I am.

"My goal is for every show to be able to touch at least one person out there that's insecure — to touch someone the way I was touched at (Lady Gaga's) concert."

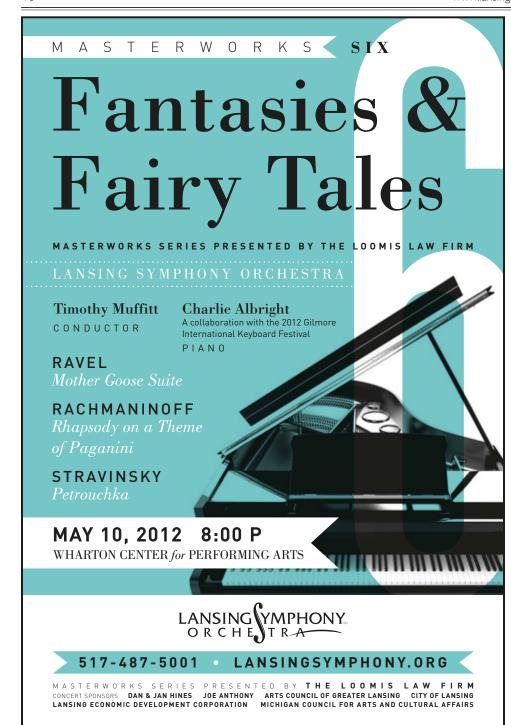




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Viva vinyl!

Local shops await annual Record Store Day sales

By RICH TUPICA

Each year on the third Saturday in April, vinyl-record junkies congregate outside independent record shops, waiting for the doors to open in hopes of getting their hands on limited slabs of wax, freshly pressed for Record Store Day.

While the 4-year-old event is a day validating the love of digging through crates of LPs and 7-inches, it's also a huge financial boost for the indie shops. Local stores participating this year include Flat, Black and Circular, The Record Lounge and Schuler Books and Music (Eastwood).

"For the last few years, Record Store Day has been the best day we've ever had," said Heather Frarey, owner of the Record Lounge in East Lansing.

Prior to the chaotic sales day, Frarey said ordering the exclusive Record Store Day 12-inches and singles from distributors, pressed by an assortment of major and indie labels, can be a headache.

"You may order five copies of something, but because of the limited amount pressed you may only be allocated two copies, so that is very frustrating," Frarey said. "Also, you have to spend a lot of money to get all the releases into the shop. Otherwise, I look forward to Record Store Day all year. It's amazing what it's done for vinyl, as well as the indie record store community world-wide."

Flat, Black and Circular manager Jon Howard said the event is also a "frantic" sales day at his East Lansing store. The day starts with around 30 people lined up, waiting to get inside.

"It is our biggest sales day," Howard said.
"We actually don't make that much off of Record Store Day releases. The markup is



Rich Tupica/City Pulse

Record Lounge owner Heather Frarey prepares for Saturday's Record Store Day.

not that high, and once in a while a release will totally tank and we will sit on a pile of copies.

"On the other hand, many customers get out the door with a huge bag of other records, which makes this a huge sales day."

Howard said he projects this year's top Record Store Day sellers to be the "Flaming Lips and Heady Fwends" set, as well as the Flaming Lips/Mastodon 7-inch split and the Phish "Junta" LP set.

A few of the other big-name releases include Animal Collective, Bruce Springsteen, Metallica, Paul McCartney, Ryan Adams, Regina Spektor, Black Keys, The Byrds, The White Stripes and Gorillaz.

Record Store Day is often topped off with in-store performances from local and national acts. This year, Record Lounge has a roster of bands playing inside the store from 7 to 11 p.m., and also up the street at Espresso Royale (527 East Grand River Avenue) from noon to 5 p.m. Proceeds collected at the in-stores will benefit the residents of Dexter, which was recently hit by a tornado. Some of the performers include Kyle Pentecost, Tiger! Tiger!, Tania Hayward, Jory Stulz, Fertile Brainsoil, Sherman's Wake and Sabertooth Fiancee.

Meanwhile Flat, Black and Circular hosts Lansing rockers Lord Vapid and Jackpine Snag. Out-of-town indie bands include A New Benjamin Britten (from New York), and Drunken Barn Dance (from Ypsilanti).



'Justice' is served

MSU adjunct professor pens a legal thriller

By KURT ANTHONY KRUG

Being an appellate lawyer was both an asset and a hindrance for author Anthony J. Franze when he was writing his first novel, "The Last Justice."

"It was helpful because when you've chosen to write for a living, whether you're writing as a lawyer, a journalist, or in some context, you enjoy the process and get a lot of experience," said Franze, 41, an adjunct professor of law in Michigan State University's Washington, D.C., Semester Program. "On the other hand, legal writing and fiction writing are quite different. As a lawyer, I try and say as much as I can in as few words as possible and cut out unnecessary detail. I'm still a believer of less-ismore in fiction writing, but I admit that my editor made me go back in a few places to add some details to help set a scene."

In "The Last Justice," an assassin murders six Supreme Court justices as they are hearing a case. Solicitor General Jefferson McKenna, the government's top lawyer in the Supreme Court, is placed in charge of a multi-agency commission that is investigating the slayings. As Congress butts heads over who is going to replace the murdered justices, McKenna It took almost five years for himself becomes a suspect. He has no choice but to go on the lam in an effort to prove his innocence.

"The idea for (the book) came about when I was actually doing research for an academic article and looking into the Supreme Court confirmation process," Franze said. "I know that the process can



Courtesy Photo

there."

Anthony J. Franze to complete his novel "The Last Justice."

be controversial, and we all remember the Anita Hill/ Clarence Thomas hearings. As I dug in, I learned it's been controversial since the very beginning: John Rutledge — George Washington's nominee for chief justice - tried drowning himself after he was rejected by the Senate. As Supreme Court. the wheels were turning, I

realized that replacing just one justice can be a dramafilled, contentious event in our country. What would happen if the nation were faced with a situation where the president would have the opportunity to replace

the majority of the Supreme

Court or all of it? That was the spark. From there, I wrote the first two pages of the book and it took off from

It took Franze a little more than five years to complete his book. "Writing the novel was the hardest thing I've ever done, harder even than writing complex appellate briefs. Just finding the time to write with a busy law practice and spending time with my wife and three young children was extraordinarily difficult. Much of the book was written between the hours of 11 p.m. to 3 a.m., or on an airplane or train, as long as I could write without getting too tired."

For Franze, the best part about writing this novel was detailing the workings of the

"I got to write something I was familiar with and also introduce readers to an institution a lot of people don't know too much about. It's not only an important institution, it's also got an air of mystery about it," he said. "People know it exists, but somebody once did a survey and more of the public could identify Judge Judy before they could a Supreme Court justice. I took something I love and try to integrate accurate Supreme Court history and procedures into what I hope is a fast-paced story and introduce readers to a fascinating world."

Not-so-fine

'Vino Veritas' is diluted by unconvincing acting

By PAUL WOZNIAK

In addition to its power to impair our vision, speech and judgment, imbibing too much alcohol can also coerce people into saying what they really mean. Hence the premise of "Vino Veritas" roughly translated "in wine, truth" -aplay by David McGregor about unbridled honesty.

Although the script suffers from unbridled preachiness toward the end, the pri-

Review

mary problem in this Lansing Civic Players production stems from an overall lack of honest performances.

Set on Halloween night, "Vino Veritas" finds two married couples meeting up to prepare for the dreaded annual costume party. But the Peruvian pre-party aperi-

tif (made from the skin of the blue dart tree frog) is no ordinary drink. After one glass each and a series of intrusive questions, the couples' conversation quickly devolves into a night of humorously dark revelations that test the boundaries of every

'Vino Veritas'

Lansing Civic Players Curry Lane Theatre 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing 8 p.m. Thursday, April 19 and Friday, April 20; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 21 Thursday prices: \$10 adults, \$8 students, seniors and military Friday, Saturday, Sunday prices: \$14 adults, \$12 students, seniors and military (888) 419-5458 www.lansingcivicplayers.org

relationship in the room.

Amanda Devlin-Knowlton plays Lauren, a socially repressed wife and mother who fondly recalls former adventures in professional photography with her husband, Phil (Christian Powell).

Lauren's lines like "after 10 years and two kids," provide borderline-excessive exposition as well as the explanation for Lauren's current anti-provincial cynicism. Phil, on the other hand, is content with trivial knowledge and a love of junk food and guilty-pleasure films.

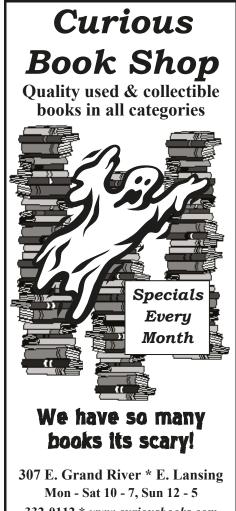
Their neighbors and close friends, Ridley (John Roache) and Claire (Abbie Tykocki), attend the same church and share in baby-sitting duties.

Lansing Civic Players and director Tony Sump should be commended for attempting a script with a number of interesting layers and changing character dynamics. The material is not beyond the



reach of any of the actors, and the middle portion flows quite smoothly.

Unfortunately, beyond the exquisitely detailed set designed by Sump, Molly Epstein and Delvin-Knowlton, this production suffers from a lack of sincerity.



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ADVICE GODDESS

Inner booty & Romeo must dial



AMY ALKON

to "Dismayed," the 32-year-old woman with a Ph.D. who was unimpressed by the men she was meeting, I was struck by how

cold and calculating it all sounds: Women evolved to marry money and power; men look for eye candy to parade around on their arms. As a man who doesn't bring money or power to the table, what do I have to give up? Why can't you just fall in love like you got hit by a ton of bricks and have that be enough?

-Male Romantic

A: Day to day in a relationship, it's inner beauty that counts. Unfortunately, it takes outer beauty to draw a man close enough to find out how wonderful a woman is on the inside...which is why cosmetics companies make bajillions with stuff like L'Oreal Visible Radiance and not L'Oreal Sandwich-Making Kit To Feed The Homeless.

People wax on about "love at first sight" (or getting "hit by a ton of bricks") because the reality — "My genes made me drool on your shoe" — doesn't sound very romantic or nice. As evolutionary psychologist Dr. Michael Mills explained on my radio show, our genes don't care if we're happy. They're selfish little buggers, manipulating us to do whatever it takes so they can hop on to the next generation. If one big purple eyeball on a woman were an indicator of her health and fertility, Playboy would be called Cornea, and men in bars would be chatting up women's foreheads instead of their cleavage. Instead, men evolved to go for women with the features that actually do indicate fertility, like youth and an hourglass figure. Women, on the other hand, evolved to be hot for men who can protect and provide, as women who went for wimpy deadbeats would've been more likely to have children who starved to death or got eaten by lions. (Genetic fail!)

If the reality seems depressing to you, check out the results of thumbing one's nose

Q: In your answer at it: a broke, girlfriendless guy sleeping on a buddy's couch, gnawing on pizza crusts and complaining about how superficial women are — and what a tub Megan Fox has become. Being honest about what women want and realistic about how you stack up is how you improve your chances of having love in your life. You can either optimize what you have to offer or scale back your demands for supermodeliciousness. So, maybe you can't get Miss Universe, but make your peace with that and you could end up living happily ever after with Miss Hottie of the Cul-de-Sac. Winning her isn't a simple matter of flashing a bunch of cash. The protector-provider stuff just gets you in the door so you can show her the stuff money can't buy. That's when you convince her that the two of you can have a beautiful future together - one filled with liberal applications of CoverGirl Heal The Wounded Squirrel.

> Q: I'm online dating, and I'm uncomfortable giving my number out, probably because I'm reluctant to give a stranger several ways to access me. Also, I consider myself a good judge of character, and phone calls don't reveal as much as seeing a man's mannerisms, body language, etc. I like to get to know a man through emails and then meet and, if the chemistry is there, open myself up to calls. This arrangement seemed fine until today, when it was greatly stressed that a phone conversation would help the process

-Woman On Hold

A:A person's nonverbal expressions can tell you many things - whether they're tense, angry, socially awkward — but probably not everything you need to know: "Uh-oh...that's the posture of a man with human remains in his freezer."

Understandably, you're grasping for control and privacy - probably because you give up much of both in online dating. But, consider the ridiculousness: You're standing firm on telephonic privacy after posting your picture and hopes and dreams like you're a

pair of shoes for sale on eBay. And you actually don't need to "give a stranger several ways to access (you)"; just explain that you aren't comfortable giving out your number, and ask for his. Use caller ID blocking to keep your number from being displayed (dial *67 before dialing his number), or call from

It's good to be cautious, but in all probability this man's asking for your number to see whether meeting you seems worth an hour of his time, not because it's the first step in coming to your home and torturing you for days. There ultimately may be torture involved, but probably not the kind they write screaming headlines about: "Woman Has Coffee with Man from Dating Site; Dies a Little on the Inside During Their 37 Minutes Together."

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Jonesin' Crossword

27 Big shot in the flexible

Domani wine

37 "La Traviata" com-

40 Cuba or Curacao:

41 Bartender on "The

42 Stuck in the micro-

43 Title role for Jodie

Melissa Aronson

49 Nincompoop

51 Five, in France

45 Plus-size model born

46 Big shot in charge of

50 Genetic messenger

straw industry?

36 Big berry

38 Fend (off)

Love Boat"

poser

abbr.

Foster

By Matt Jones

"Who's in Charge Here?"— four who should be. by Matt Jones Across 1 Plenty of 6 Coffeehouse drink 10 Post your thoughts online 14 Hit the town 15 "Get 16 Hawaiian island where much of "Lost" was filmed 17 Room under a roof 18 WWI spy ___ Hari 19 Mufasa, for one 20 Big shot overseeing metamorphoses? 23 Brother of Michael and Jermaine 24 Buenos Aires' loc. 25 Dunking Ming

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53 Big shot in the salad factory? 59 Guilty or not guilty 61 Furniture giant 62 Spotted laugher 63 Brazen 64 D.C. team 65 Fencing swords 66 Hot month 67 Watches closely 68 Income, in Paris

Down

"Twister"

1 "Jumpin' Jack Flash, it's 2 Women's rights activist Lucretia 3 Arby's side item 4 He wears green and eats mushrooms 5 "I could go on and on" 6 Actress Gertz of

7 Cracked open a smidge 35 Heat 'n' eat 8 Take to the polls 9 Genesis album that looks like a rhyme scheme 10 Meat sauce 11 Grizzly hideaway 12 "I'm onto your scheme!" 13 "Bop_ " (Parliament song) 21 Qatar's capital

22 Roman fountain 50/50 answer 26 Go on the fritz 28 Cupcake topper 29 Prop for Bob Ross 30 Girl, in Grenoble 31 Everything's always about her 32 Dutch cheeses 33 Jasmine and basmati

39 Patsy's "Absolutely Fabulous" friend 44 Shoe string 47 Nobel Prize-winning novelist Gordimer 48 Be indecisive 52 Semiconductor variety 53 " no, we won't go" 54 Just fine 55 Party 56 Scottish miss 25 Kind of question with a 57 Technology website now owned by CBS Interactive 58 Effortlessness 59 Sandwich with the crusts cut off 60 Reed or Rawls

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On the TOWN

Wednesday, April 18 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Grande Paraders Square Dance Club. Round dancing and alternating and more. 7:30 p.m. \$4 members; \$5. Holt 9th Grade Campus, 5780 Holt Road. Holt. (517) 694-0087.

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

Community Yoga. Power yoga class. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Drop-in figure drawing. Easels and drawing boards provided, bring other supplies. 7:30-10 p.m. \$5, \$3 students. Kresge Art Museum, located at Physics and Auditorium roads, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 337-1170.

Parent Workshop. Help youth make healthy decisions and avoid consequences of pregnancy and more. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Eastern High School, 220 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 541-8771.

Anime & Manga Drawing. For teens, to learn how to draw their own characters in the popular Japanese Anime style. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Eastern Orthodox Christianity. Discussion. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. www.PilgrimUCC.com.

The Ecological Role of Fungi. With Paul Olexia, Professor Emeritus Kalamazoo College. 7 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 887-0596. www.wildoneslansing.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 21

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APRIL 20-22



Courtesy Photo

From the page to the stage

A favorite book comes to the Riverwalk Theatre stage, as All-of-us Express Children's Theatre presents "The Little Prince" April 20-22 and 27-29. The play follows an aviator (played by Grace Hinkley) stranded in the Sahara Desert as he embarks upon a two-week journey with a child known as "the little prince" (played by Olivia Sawa). The production is directed by Paul Bourne, and has been adapted by Rick Cummins and John Scoullar from the original 1943 book by Antoine de Saint Exupery. The cast of more than 60 youths — ranging in age from 9 to 18 — comes from East Lansing, Okemos, Haslett, Williamston, Grand Ledge, Dewitt, Perry, Bath, Holt, Dimondale and Lainsburg. Through April 29. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. 7 p.m. Fridays, 2 and 4:30 p.m. Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. \$7 adults, \$5 for 17 and under. (517) 482-5700, or www.cityofeastlansing.com/allofus.

APRIL 21

Flavor for the week

This weekend, the Community Relations Coalition will unveil the first-ever Taste of East Lansing. The event features food samples served by Noodles & Company, The State Room, Harper's Restaurant and Brewpub, Sultan's Restaurant, Menna's Joint, Spartan Signature Catering, Goombas Pizza and Swagath Indian Cuisine. The day includes a raffle, entertainment from West Michigan Capoeira dance group and music from Capital City Groove, Bard Owls and Three Eyed Fish. "This is a great opportunity for East Lansing community members from all walks of life to come together for a fun evening that truly showcases our local community," said CRC Intern Coordinator Olivia Seifert. 5-8 p.m. \$2 for food tickets, \$1 for raffle tickets. Parking Lot 1, off of Albert Ave. and in Ann Street Plaza, East Lansing. www. WeAllLiveHere.org/TasteofEastLansing.

APRIL 22



Courtesy Photo

'Mother Earth' comes to life

The Greater Lansing Ballet Company celebrates Earth Day through dance at Pattengill Middle School. First choreographed by Barbara Banasikowski Smith in 2002, "Mother Earth" is an original ballet that addresses ecological issues, with creatures portraying the many facets of the planet: The birds become Mother Earth's voice, butterflies serve as her arms and lions become her legs. "Mother Earth" stresses the effect of human negligence and the importance of protecting Earth and coexisting with nature. 3 p.m. \$18, \$15 students and seniors, \$8 children 12 and under. Pattengill Auditorium at Pattengill Middle School, 626 Marshall St., Lansing. (517) 372–9887. www.greaterlansingballet.org.

APRIL 22

Wander through the woods

The Fenner Conservancy teams up with the Michigan State University Fisheries and Wildlife Club, along with six other MSU clubs and organizations, to celebrate Earth Day. Beginning at 7 a.m., participants will have the opportunity to take part in activities such as bird mist netting, small mammal trapping, pond dipping, wildflower identification hikes, herpetological surveys and bird identification hikes. Tree identification hikes will be led by university students and professionals. Fenner Nature Center will also kick off its butterfly garden restoration, and teams will be formed for the Garlic Mustard Pull Challenge. Those interested in volunteering are asked to sign up at www.mynaturecenter.org. 7 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.



Courtesy Photo

www.lansingcitypulse.com City Pulse • April 18, 2012

TURNIT DOWN

MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA

DJ DAN SPINS HOUSE AT THE LOFT



"My whole sound is kind of this funky house, funky disco and a bit of techno," said DJ Dan, who is playing The Loft Friday. The event is hosted by X Theory Collaboration: "Lansing's newest electronic music movement." DJ Dan (a.k.a. Daniel Wherrett) has been a fixture in the techno scene since 1991, when he began to make a name for himself in Los Angeles. Since then he's toured the world and released stacks of records. "I've definitely gone more underground," Wherrett said in a phone interview. "I've decided to go back to my roots and play funkier house — more underground stuff. I really have no desire to go into the mainstream."

Courtesy Photo

Wherrett said he's happy to avoid the trends (think David Guetta) and continue making his own path. "I've noticed that since (electronic music) has become more commercial, in the same song there will be elements of trance, electro, and house, all in one. But to me, it's just not appealing. I think eventually that will mature. Also, as far as the people just getting into the music, their tastes will also mature. They will pick a sound."

While this is DJ Dan's first trip to Lansing, Wherrett said he's "always loved" Detroit. "For me, Detroit people have always seemed serious about the music. They go out for the music. A lot of people go out so they can be seen with their friends, I always felt people in Detroit came out because they had specific DJs they wanted to hear and they are very passionate about those DJs."

Opening the show is a roster of Michigan DJs, including Xάos (techno-house-electro), Superdre (deep house/minimal), AKDJ (funk/dubstep), Elemnt (house), Juan & Sketch (breaks/house/ scratching,) Ruckus (electro funk), Andy & Roque (house), Dubboi (ghettotech), Fireant & Fahzee (dubstep). The after party is set for the Six Lounge in downtown East Lansing, with more live music from Hugh Cleal, WilliamPaul, Nimbus, PepStep & Crackula and Breezv.

Friday, April 20 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, \$15 advance, \$20 at door, 18 and over, doors at 9 p.m.

SETH & MAY PLAY THE FIDDLE



May Erlewine and Samuel Seth Bernard

In addition to being a married couple, Samuel Seth Bernard and May Erlewine are also a respected duo in the Michigan folk community. The pair will perform songs off their latest album, "New Flower," along with some other fan favorites, at the Ten Pound Fiddle on Friday. Prior to meeting, they both had a strong background in songwriting and performing. They also had a shared love of folk, blues, and rock, including mutual influences like Neil Young, Patti Griffin, and Woody Guthrie.

They met in 2003 at the Ann Arbor Folk Festival, and by early 2006 they had released their first collaborative LP through Earthwork Collective, simply called "Seth Bernard and Daisy

Friday, April 20 @ Ten Pound Fiddle

- Unitarian Universalist Church, 855 Grove Street East Lansing, all ages. Box office at 7 p.m., doors 7:30 p.m., 8 p.m. show. Tickets are \$15 public, \$12 Fiddle members, \$5 students.

COKE DICK MOTORCYCLE AWESOME DROPS FOGCITY

Aside from having a thoroughly obnoxious (yet creative) band name, Coke Dick Motorcycle Awesome also has a new CD, "Fog City." The Lansingbased punk/thrash band releases the disc Friday at Oade's Hidden Camel in REO Town. This special "4-20" album release show also serves as the band's tour kick-off show. Since its first release in 2004, the band has played hundreds of shows across Michigan and the Eastern half of the United States. Opening the show are local pop-punks Frank and Earnest and The Fisticuffs (Chicago-based Irish punk). Friday, April 20 @ Oade's Hidden Camel, 1210 South Washington Ave, Lansing, 21 and over. \$5,9 p.m.

GREAT LAKES COLLECTIVE HOSTS INDIE SHOW AT GONE WIRED

Vince Dynamic, Mountain Nobility, One Short of Half a Dozen, Joseph & Stephanie Huson and Jory Stultz (formerly of the Sunset Club) play an all-ages show at Gone Wired Café on Saturday. The event is hosted by the Great Lakes Collective, which has been hosting shows and promoting a list of talented locals for the past couple years.



Coke Dick Motorcycle Awesome

This show features the Bay City-based band Vince Dynamic, an indie-pop band that blends together diverse influences from Weezer, The Beach Boys and The Carpenters.

Saturday, April 21 @ Gone Wired Café, 2021 E Michigan Ave, Lansing, all ages, \$5, 9 p.m. to mid-

SUPERCHRIST BRINGS OLD-SCHOOL THRASH TO MAC'S

Since 1998, Superchrist has been banging out some genuine old-school trash metal. The Chicago-based headbangers play Mac's Bar on Saturday. Opening the show are Lurking Corpses (horror-punk/metal from Fort Wayne), Scaphism (Boston-based death metal) and Sauron. Since 2000, Sauron has been a force in Lansing trash metal. It includes Victor "Lore Lord" Ruiz (guitar), Mike "Skinthrasher" Hudson (drums) and Doomy G. Blackthrash (bass/ vocals). Fans of Motorhead, Sodom, Kreator or Exodus may want to check out this show.

Saturday, April 21 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18 and over. \$7, 18 and over, 9 p.m.

UPCOMING

POST IT AT WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TURNITDOWN

To be listed in Live and Local, e-mail your information to liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com by Thursday of the week before publication.

LIVE AND LOCAL WEDNESDAY Brandon Marceal/DJ Radd1, 9 p.m. 621, 621 E. Michigan Ave Phil Denny, 8 p.m. Ray Potter/DJ Craig, 8:30 p.m. DJ Leeky, 9 p.m. Connxtions Comedy Club 2900 N. East St. Comedy Open Mic, 8 p.m. Loni Love, 8 p.m. Loni Love, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Loni Love, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m. Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Jr. Blvd. DJ, 9 p.m. Homespun, 9 p.m. Homespun, 9 p.m. Brannigan Brothers, 210 S. Washington Square Jammin' DJs, 9 p.m. Jammin' DJs, 9 p.m. Jammin' DJs, 9 p.m. Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave. Cloud Magic, 10 p.m. Karaoke, 9 p.m. Karaoke, 9 p.m. Karaoke, 9 p.m. The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave. Tryst Thursdays, 8:30 p.m. Showdown, 9 p.m. Showdown, 9 p.m. DnW Sound DJs, 9 p.m. The Firm, 227 S. Washington Square Various DJs, 9 p.m. DJ Donnie D, 9 p.m. Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave. Driver & Rider Show, 7 p.m. Kathy Ford Band, 7:30 p.m. Karaoke with Joanie Daniels, 7 p.m. Lady Luck, 8 p.m. Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave. Stan Budzynski & Third Degree, 9:30 p.m. Hydrophonics, 9:30 p.m. Squids, 9:30 p.m. Soulstice, 9 a.m. Red Cedar Ransom, 3 p.m. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave. As Empires Decay, 7 p.m. DJ Dan, 9 p.m. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave. Wavvy Hands, 9 p.m. Vive Le Vox, 9 p.m. Freddy Todd, 9 p.m. Superchrist, 9 p.m. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. Rob Kladja Open Mic, 9 p.m. Big Willy, 10 p.m. Big Willy, 10 p.m. Rick's American Cafe, 224 Abbott Road ICE DJs, 10:30 p.m. DJ Dan, 10:30 p.m. The Crutches, 10:30 p.m. The Crutches, 10:30 p.m. Rookies, 16460 S. US 27 Sea Cruisers, 7-10 p.m Water Pong DJ with Ryan, 9 p.m. Karaoke with Bob, 9 p.m. Karaoke with Bob, 9 p.m. Rum Runners, 601 East Michigan Ave. Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m. Open Mic Night, 9 p.m. Dueling Pianos & DJ, 9 p.m. Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m. Blind Ambition, 9 p.m. Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave. Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m. Blind Ambition, 9 p.m. Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St DJ, 9 p.m. Dani Jamerson Band, 9 p.m Dani Jamerson Band, 9 p.m

Sunday Open Jam with Bad Gravy, 9:30 p.m., Green Door; Karaoke, 9 p.m. Drag Queens Gone Wild, 11 p.m., Spiral Dance Bar; DJ Mike, 9:30 p.m., LeRoy's Bar & Grill; Open Mic, 5 p.m., Uli's Haus of Rock.

Monday Steppin' In It, 9:30 p.m., Green Door: Easy Babies funk trio, 10 p.m., The Exchange. Open-Mic Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Michigan Brewing Company-Lansing.

Tuesday Tommy Foster & Guitar Bob, 9 p.m., The Exchange; Neon Tuesday, 9 p.m., Mac's Bar. Jazz Tuesday Open Jam, 9 p.m., Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave.

Carol Hess. Professor of Musicology, on what do we in the U.S. know about Latin American music. 7 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 100 Main Library, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.lib.msu.edu.

EVENTS

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. Grand Ledge Baptist Church, 1120 W. Willow Hwy., Grand Ledge, (517) 256-6954.

Practice Your English. Speaking and listening to English in a friendly, relaxing atmosphere. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Youth Service Corps. East side youth grow food, develop leadership skills. Ages 11-17. 3:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community Garden House, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910. Knee High Naturalist. Ages 2-5 for a playgroup featuring a different nature theme each week. 1-2 p.m. \$5. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

Colonial Village Neighborhood Meeting. The Association meets on the third Wednesday. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 482-5750.

Medication. Safely dispose of medications. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE. PGPA Pharmacy, 3544 Meridian Crossings Drive, Suite 120, Okemos. (517) 381-7472. "Spy Kids 4." Part of Flick's Family Film Fest. Time varies, \$4 adults, FREE for kids. Celebration Cinema, 200 F. Edgewood Blvd., Lansing.

DTDL Book Club. Discuss Melanie Benjamin's "The Autobiography of Mrs. Tom Thumb." 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

Open Jam. Rock night. 8 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Zeppelins Music Hall, 2010 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 580-8722.

Jazz Wednesdays. Featuring the Jeff Shoup Trio. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracies Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston, (517) 655-1100.

Jazz Wednesdays. Live entertainment. 7-10 p.m. FREE. ENSO, 16800 Chandler Road, East Lansing. (517) 333-1656. www.enjoyenso.com.

Greater Lansing Community Concert. Double Reed Ensemble. 7 p.m. FREE. Independence Village of East Lansing, 2530 Marfitt Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-9958.

Stan Budzynski & 3rd Degree. Live music. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. FREE. Green Door Blues Bar & Grill, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 482-6376. Sammy Gold Band. '80s pop-rock. 6-8:30 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River, Lansing. (517) 484-4825. www.sirpizzagrandcafe.com. Greater Lansing Community Concert Series. Double Reed Ensemble. 7 p.m. FREE. Independence Village of East Lansing, 2530 Marfitt Road, East Lansing. (517) 337-0066. www.msu.music.edu.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Baby Time. Books and songs for ages 2 years and younger, with caregiver. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.

Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Meeting. New location. Informal dinner and lively conversation every week. 7 p.m. FREE. Buddies Grill, 2040 Aurelius Road, #13, Holt. (517) 402-4481.

Naomi Shihab Nye. Known for poetry with a fresh perspective to ordinary events, people and objects. 7 p.m. FREE. MSU Snyder Hall, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.poetry.rcah.msu.edu.

Thursday, April 19 **CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Yoga 2XL. Learn to move with confidence. 7:15-8:15 p.m. \$8 suggested donation. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Eating Disorders Annonymous Meeting. A group of people recovering from eating disorders who talk about recovery. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason Library, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 899-3515.

Yoga Classes for Beginners. With Gaby Kende, yoga teacher and certified yoga therapist. 9:30-11 a.m. \$84 for 8 weeks. Center for Yoga, 1780 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-6640.

Advising Day. For the University of Michigan-Flint in Lansing. 2-6 p.m. FREE. Lansing Community College University Center, 422 N. Washington Sqruare, Lansing. (517) 483-9727.

Computer Class. Learn Microsoft office. 7 p.m. FREE. Community of Christ, 1514 W. Miller Road, Lansing, (517) 882-3122.

 $\textbf{Farm to Table}. \ \textbf{On raising backyard chickens}. \ \textbf{7}$ p.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Successful Gardening. Learn to garden wiser, low maintenance plants, labor saving techniques and more. 7 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156.

Deck Building. Workshop from Greater Lansing Housing Coalition classes. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Lowe's (lansing), S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 699-2940.

Morning Storytime. All ages welcome for stories, songs, rhymes. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

Karaoke. Every Thursday night with Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar and Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.

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

Mid-day Movies. Watch recent releases on the big screen. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. Bananagrams Night. Play the hot new timed word game. 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495.

Kids Time: Ages 5-11. Help the Eastside youth to grow food, develop leadership skills. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910. Garden Tour. Tour begins near the pond, in the southeast corner of Beal Garden. 12:10-12:50 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 100 Main Library, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.lib.msu.edu.

MSU Film Collective Series. Showing "The Secret Life of Things." 8-11 p.m., FREE. Wells Hall, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

Chipmunk Story Time. Children can join Chicory Chipmunk for 'Once Upon a Springtime." 10 a.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Spanish Conversation Group. English & Spanish will be spoken. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. "Spy Kids 4." Time varies, \$4 adults, FREE for kids. (Please See Details April 18)

What is Creativity? The Alliance of Creative Students express abstract idea of creativity in exhibit. 6-9 p.m. FREE. Technology Innovation Center, 325 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (516) 319-6861.

Zonta Meridian East. Meeting with Stella Cash, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Sparrow Hospital. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Burcham Hills Retirement Community, 2700 Burcham Drive, Fast Lansing (517) 899-2297

Breakfast with Bauer. Join State Rep. Joan Bauer for breakfast to share thoughts & opinions.

9-10 a.m. Price Varies. Flap Jack, S. Waverly Road, Waverly. (517) 373-0826.

MUSIC

Jazz Thursdays. Various artists featured each week. 6:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Mumbai Cuisine, 340 Albert St., East Lansing. (517) 336-4150..

Jazz Octet I, II, III, IV. Live music. 7:30 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors, FREE students. MSU Music Building Auditorium, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.music.msu.edu.

New Horizons Band Performance. Band Performance. 2 p.m. FREE. Independence Village of East Lansing, 2530 Marfitt Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Steve Lippia. Jazz. 7:30 p.m. \$15-35. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982. LCC Vocal Pop & Jazz Ensemble. Vocal jazz classics and contemporary pop music, directed by Kelly Stuible. 7:30 p.m. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1488.

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

THEATER

"The Usual: A Musical Love Story." Original musical about love in a neighborhood bar. 8 p.m. \$22. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-SHOW.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Writers Roundtable. Get feedback and connect with other writers. 6-7:45 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

International Book Club. Discuss "Across Many Mountains" by Yangzom Brauen. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE.

East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Gregg Granger. Author of "Sailing Faith: The Long Way Home." 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 1982 Grand River Ave. Okemos. (517) 349-8840.

Friday, April 20 **CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

(517) 999-1212.

Relics of the Big Bang. Emphasizes research currently underway at CERN. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students and seniors, \$2 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4676. Cork and Canvas. An instructional art class. We provide the canvas, paint and instruction. Bring a beverage. 6-8:30 p.m. \$25. 1210 Turner St., Lansing.

Our Daily Work/Lives. Paul Lawrie on African Americans and penal labor in the American Military 1917-1919. 12:15-1:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum Auditorium, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.museum.

MSU Community Club Luncheon. Recipients of the Endowed Scholarships, and the Irene Arens Scholarship announced, 11:30 a.m. Call for price. University Club, 3435 Forest Road, Lansing. (517) 655-1378. www.universityclubofmsu.org.

The Land Grant. Residency program for artists focusing on land use, food and urban development. 7 p.m. FREE. South Kedzie Hall, corner of Farm Lane and Auditorium. www.broadmuseum.msu.edu/ events/LandGrant.

Alcoholics Anonymous. Open meeting for family and friends with American Sign Language interpreta-

See Out on the Town, Page 22

Capital Area District Library

Raising Backyard Chickens

In 2009, Ingham County passed an ordinance allowing households to keep chickens. Lansing resident and chicken owner Corie Jason will explain how to get started raising chickens in your own backyard. Co-sponsored by the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition.

Thursday, April 19 • 7 pm CADL STOCKBRIDGE

200 Wood Street, Stockbridge • (517) 851-7810

Get Started Composting

Learn how to turn yard trimmings and food waste into low-cost, environmentally friendly compost from Rebecca Titus of Titus Farms, a local sustainable vegetable and fresh-cut flower farm

Saturday, April 21 • 11 am **CADL HASLETT**

1590 Franklin Street, Haslett • (517) 339-2324

Monday, April 23 • 6 pm **CADL MASON**

145 W. Ash Street, Mason • (517) 676-9088

The Purple Carrot Truck

The Purple Carrot is Michigan's first farm-to-truck food stand. Owners Nina Santucci and Anthony Maiale buy fresh, high-quality ingredients directly from farmers and turn them into delicious, creative cuisine. Hear about their fresh food mission and enjoy delicious samples. Even better, treat yourself to lunch first! The truck will be selling food outside our library from 12-2 pm.

Saturday, April 21 • 2 pm CADL DOWNTOWN LANSING

401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing • (517) 367-6363



from page 21

tion. 8 p.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

Storytime. Stories, rhymes and a craft for ages 2-5. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. LAP Gets Better. With live entertainment featuring swing jazz, classical, and folk music. Sample Michigan wines paired with foods. 6-10 p.m. \$75. Spartan Stadium, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 372-6671. www.laprespitecenter.com.

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

"Puss in Boots." Part of the Flicks Family Film Fest. Call for Show times, FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. Celebration Cinema, 200 E. Edgewood Blvd., Lansing. (517) 393-7469.

BBQ Ribs & Chicken Dinner. Come early to purchase rib and chicken dinners, sandwiches and slabs. 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m. \$6-\$25. Trinity AME Church, 3500 W Holmes Road, Lansing. (517) 882-5722. LAP RESPITE. Live music, silent auction and wine and food pairings. 6 p.m. \$75. Stadium Towers, Spartan Stadium, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www. laprespitecenter.com.

MUSIC

Greater Lansing Community Concert. Haobing Zhu, piano solo. 7 p.m. FREE. Burcham Hills Retirement Community, 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-9958. www.burchamhills.com.

Faculty Recital. Featuring Caroline Hartig, clarinet. 8 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors, FREE students. MSU Music Building Auditorium, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.music.msu.edu .

Concert and Swing Dance. With Jazz Orchestra I, II, III. 7:30 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors, FREE students. Demonstration Hall, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.music.msu.edu.

Jesse & The Gnome. Live concert. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River, Lansing. (517) 483-1000. www.lcc.edu/radio.

Life Size Ghost. Live concert. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River, Lansing. (517) 483-1000. www.lcc.edu/radio.

Lorrie Morgan and Pam Tillis. Country music stars in an acoustic show. 8 p.m. \$32-85. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON. Coffee House Music. Featuring local musicians including Brandon Grafius and Randy Roy. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. www.PilgrimUCC.com.

Of Virtue and Brothers. Live music. 5 p.m. \$7 advance. Mae's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795. www.macsbar.com.

Greater Lansing Community Concert Series. With Haobing Zhu, piano. 7 p.m. FREE. Burcham Hills Retirement Community, 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. (517)351-8377. www.msu.music.edu.



Seth Bernard and May Erlewine. Michigan folk music artists. 8 p.m. \$15, \$12 members, \$5 students. Unitarian Universalist Church, 855 Grove St., East Lansing. www.tenpoundfiddle.org.

THEATER

"The Usual: A Musical Love Story." 8 p.m. \$25. (Please See Details April 19)

"The Little Prince." A world-weary Aviator journeys with the Little Prince in an All-of-us Express production. 7 p.m. \$7, \$5 under 17. Riverwalk Amphitheater, 101 Energy Plaza, Jackson. (517) 482-5700. "Legally Blonde." Sorority girl Elle reinvents herself at Harvard Law School in a musical based on the 2001 film, 8 p.m. \$20, \$15 students. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (800) WHARTON.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Music & Movement Storytime. Dance and sing to music, and learn to play with instruments and more. 1 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3.

Saturday, April 21 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Relics of the Big Bang. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 student-sandseniors, \$2 kids. (Please See Details April 20) Beginner Tai Chi. Can build strength and reduce stress. 8-9 a.m. \$8. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Tai Chi in the Park. Meditation at 8:45 a.m. followed by Tai Chi. 9:30 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. Contact Bob Teachout (517) 272-9379. Overeaters Anonymous. 9:30 a.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-6003.

Parenting Group. Lecture and group discussion each week. 10-11 a.m. Call to register. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

Farm to Table. On the Purple Carrot truck. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave. Lansing. (517) 367-6363. www.cadl.org/farm. Farm to Table: Composting. Turn waste into low-cost, environmentally-friendly compost. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Haslett Library, 5670 School St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324. www.cadl.org/farm.

Life in the Peace Corps. Find out about the history, current activities, and how to apply. 1-2 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

Parenting Group. Lecture and group discussion each week. 10-11 a.m. Call to Register. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

The Land Grant. Residency program for artists focusing on land use, food and urban development. 3-7 p.m. FREE. At the former Barnes and Noble, 333 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 324-3944. www.broadmuseum.msu.edu/events/LandGrant. Occupy Lansing. General assembly meetings. 1 p.m. FREE. Reutter Park, Corner of Kalamazoo & Townsend St., Lansing.

EVENTS

Global Youth Service Day. Help make garden-in-a-box kits, signs for park cleanliness, and more. 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3919.

Sketch Crawl. Come with your sketch pads and your creativity. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Artie's Filling Station, 127 W. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 797-5582. Salsa Dancing. DJ Adrian "Ace" Lopez hosts Lansing's weekly salsa event. Singles welcome. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$5. Gregory's Bar & Grille, 2510 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 323-7122.

Ballroom Dance. With beginning/intermediate waltz, followed by general dancing. 7 p.m. \$13, \$9 members, \$8 students. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. www. usadance2037.org.

The Lansing Capitals vs. Chicago Redline. Lansing's own men's professional basketball team. 7 p.m. \$5. Aim High Sports, 7977 Centerline Dr. Dimondale. (517) 455-3200.

April Shower's Dance. German style dinner with roast pork, sauerkraut and dancing. 5:30-11:30 p.m. \$9, \$4 children, \$6 dance. Lansing Liederkranz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 882-6330. llcgerman.com.

Taste of East Lansing. Purchase samples from E.L. restaurants. 5-8 p.m. \$2 per food ticket. Downtown East Lansing, Grand River Ave., East Lansing. www.wealllivehere.org/tasteofeastlansing.

An Evening of Magic. The best magicians of Michigan will entertain families with unique magic. 7 p.m. \$10, \$5 kids 12 and under. Pattengill Middle School, 626 Marshall St., Lansing. (517) 325-3876.

"Puss in Boots." Call for Show times. FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 20)

Volunteers. Help prepare flower beds, pull invasive plants & more. 9-11 a.m. FREE. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866. Sunday on Saturday Service. A worship service, contemporary & casual. 5-6 p.m. FREE. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road,

Okemos. (517) 349-4220. **The Great Cloth Diaper Change**. Help break the Guiness record of 5,000 babies changed worldwide. 11 a.m. FREE. Kinawa Middle School, 1900 Kinawa Drive, Okemos. (517) 699-0359.

Home Showcase. Twenty properties will be open for tours. 1-5 p.m. FREE. Old Town, Grand River Avenue and Turner Street, Lansing. (517) 267-5221. Document Destruction Day. Recycle obsolete bank statements, canceled checks and more. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., FREE. Friedland Industries, 405 E. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 485-4283.

BBQ Ribs & Chicken Dinner. Purchase rib and chicken dinners, sandwiches and slabs. 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m. \$6-\$25. Trinity AME Church, 3500 W Holmes Road, Lansing. (517) 882-5722.

Pancake Brunch. Including sausage links, oatmeal, fresh fruit, applesauce, coffee, tea and more. 8:30-11 a.m. \$6, \$3.50 for kids, \$15 family of 4. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 482-5750.

MUSIC

Ernie Block. Live music at dinnertime. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Altu's Ethiopian Cuisine, 1312 Michigan Ave., East Lansing. (517) 333-6295.

Jazz Orchestra I, II, III. With guest artist Michael Dease, jazz trombone. 8 p.m. \$25, \$20 seniors, \$15 students. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.music.msu.edu.

40 Stitches Later and Clint Dickerson. Live music. 9 p.m. FREE. Log Jam, 110 W. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-4300.

Mug & Music. So your child wants a career in the arts? Presented by Jill Woodward. 10 a.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841 Timberlane St., East Lansing. (313) 579-9716. www.cms.msu.edu. 32nd Annual Jazz Spectacular. The essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE. MSU Music Building Auditorium, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.music.msu.edu/ensembles/jazz.php.

Joshua Bell. Violinist, with the Academy of St. Martin-In-The-Fields orchestra. 8 p.m. \$25-78. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (800) WHARTON. www.whartoncenter.com.

THEATER

"The Usual: A Musical Love Story." 3 & 8 p.m. \$22 matinee, \$25. (Please See Details April 19)

"The Little Prince." 2 & 4:30 p.m. \$7, \$5 under 17. (Please See Details April 20)

Happendance 2 teen concert. Hip-hop, lyrical, jazz and modern dance. 8 p.m. \$5. Wilson Center Auditorium, 101 W. Cass St. St. Johns. (517) 333-3528. www.happendance.org.

"Legally Blonde." 2 & 8 p.m. \$20, \$15 students. (Please See Details April 20)

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Lecture & Book Signing Event. Stacy A. Cordery author of "Juliette Gordon Low: The Remarkable Founder of the Girl Scouts." 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$6, \$4 seniors, \$2 kids. Michigan Historical Museum, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 373-3359.

Sunday, April 22 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. Meets on the third floor. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300. www.cadl.org.

Overeaters Anonymous. 2 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-8789.

Relics of the Big Bang. 4 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 students and seniors, \$2 kids. (Please See Details April 20) Gardener's Roundtable. Discuss various garden topics, swap ideas, tips, and occasionally seeds and plants. 12:30-1:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

EVENTS

Salsa Dancing. DJ Mojito spins salsa, merengue, bachata. 7 p.m.-Midnight, \$5 21, \$7 under 21. Fahrenheit Ultra Lounge, 6810 S. Cedar St., Lansing.

Alcoholics Anonymous. Closed meeting for those

who desire to stop drinking, with American Sign Language interpretation. 9 a.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

Occupy Lansing. Direct Action meeting. General Assembly each Sunday at 7 pm. 5 p.m. FREE. Gone Wired Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 853-0550. www.gonewiredlansing.com.

Capital Area Singles Dance. Meet new friends with door prizes. 6-10 p.m. \$8. Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 819-0405.

"Puss in Boots." Call for showtimes. FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 20) Earth Day. Activities to help families connect with nature on Earth Day. 3 p.m. \$7 per family. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Award Luncheon. For the Tri-County Environmental Leadership Award. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. www.midmichiganrecycles.org.

Earth Day. Participate in mammal trapping, pond dipping, wildflower identification hikes and more. 7 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

Home Showcase. 1-5 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 21)

Comic contest. Adults only. Featuring Melik, Dolo, Jonathan Stars and Mike Hughes. 6-9 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River, Lansing. (517) 484-9197. www.sirpizza-mi.com.

The Fight for Water. Featuring filmmaker Joshua Spencer and his documentary. 2 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.

MUSIC

Garber Studio Recital. Students from the studio of Sue Garber perform. 3 p.m. FREE. MSU Com-

See Out on the Town, Page 23

munity Music School, 841-B Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Wind Symphony. And with Spartan Youth Wind Symphony. 3 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors, FREE students. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON.

Kathryn Brown. Piano. 7 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors, FREE students. MSU Music Building Auditorium, MSU

Campus, East Lansing. www.music.msu.edu. Lansing Symphony Chamber Series IV. The Music of J.S. Bach and Sons. 3 p.m. \$15. First Presbyterian Church, 510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. (517) 487-5001, www.lansingsymphonyorchestra.com. Children's Concert. The enchantment of the harp, Brittany DeYoung. 3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300. Heller, Steyer & Green. Vocal group, performs exciting concert of American and Jewish music. 7 p.m. \$10, \$5 students. Congregation Shaarey Zedek, 1924 Coolidge Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-3570. LCC Percussion Ensemble. With the Holt Jr. High Percussion Ensemble, both directed by Beth Lewis. 3 p.m. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1488. The Lange Choral Ensemble. A spring concert,

"The Usual: A Musical Love Story." 2 p.m. \$22. (Please See Details April 19)

"Basically British: Music of Celebration." 7 p.m. \$10,

\$8 students & seniors. St. Paul's Episcopal Church,

"The Little Prince." 2 p.m. \$7, \$5 under 17. (Please See Details April 20)

218 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. (517) 482-9454.

"Mother Earth." Greater Lansing Ballet Company

will performance for Earth Day. 3 p.m. Price varies. Pattengill Middle School, 626 Marshall St., Lansing. (517) 755-1130. www.greaterlansingballet.org. "Legally Blonde." 2 p.m. \$20, \$15 students. (Please See Details April 20)

Monday, April 23 **CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

Divorced, Separated, Widowed Conversation Group. For those who have gone through loss and are ready to move on with their lives. 7:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272.

GriefShare Seminar. DVD series, with support group discussion. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 490-3218. Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (989) 587-4609. www.stdavidslansing.org.

Chronic Pain Support Group. For those experiencing any level of chronic physical pain. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

HomeWork Help. Drop-in help for grades K-8 from the MSU Student Michigan Education Association. 5-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. www.elpl.org. Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (989) 587-4609. www.stdavidslansing.org.

Farm to Table: Composting. Turn waste into low-cost, environmentally-friendly compost. 6 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason Library, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088.

EVENTS

Euchre. Play euchre and meet new people. 6-9

See Out on the Town, Page 24

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TO PLAY

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

To avoid erasing, pencil in your possible answers in the scratchpad space beneath the short line in each vacant square. For solving tips, visit www.SundayCrosswords.com

Answers on page 25

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NEW IN TOWN

Greenfield Collection Antiques



By Allison M. Berryman

Call it a case of "back by popular demand": The Greenfield Collection Antiques store returns to Old Town Lansing, nearly eight months after closing its doors.

"We came back to Old Town for the people and the atmosphere," said Dave Polston, co-owner of Greenfield Collection. "The businesses down here are tremendous. It's a great community to be a part of."

Despite being a favorite among Old Town residents, Greenfield Collection closed for business in August 2011 so that Polston, along with his partners Mike Polston and Ron Cosson, could pursue other business ventures. However, it wasn't long before the community of Old Town, including longtime customers and fellow business owners, felt the void left behind by the antique store.

"We decided to reopen because of the support from our customers and the fact that they missed the store," Polston said.



Genna Musial/City Pulse

Greenfield Collection Antiques

On the afternoon of April 14, after receiving what Polston calls an overwhelming amount of support from the Old Town community, the partners opened the Greenfield Collection's new 1,500 square-foot location.

"We needed a larger store," Polston said. "We wanted something that had a bigger opening, and a good feel for our customers. The design of the new building is larger and has a more open feel to it. We have sections now, and rooms to put certain items, so the store is more organized and not so cramped."

Greenfield Collection's Noon-5 p.m. Sunday

new location is home to a larger collection of antiques, including furniture, glassware and collectables. Despite minor changes, the antique store still upholds the image that made it an Old Town favorite.

"The outcry of 'please reopen the store' was just amazing," Polston said. "We couldn't say no to this community."

Greenfield Collection Antiques

117 E. Grand River Ave. (517) 374-1040 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday

Garden Beds

 Spring & Fall Cleanup Weeding Edging Mulching Design Restoration New Plantings Fertilization

Outdoor Color

 Color Beds Containers with Annuals & Tropicals Spring, Summer, Fall & Winter Designs



Color-To-Rent for Parties & Events

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from page 2

p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

Social Bridge. Play bridge and socialize. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

"Puss in Boots." Call for Show times. FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 20) Garden Storytime. Stories with the River Ridge Garden Club, decorate a container, and plant a bean seed. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014

Celebrating Chris Clark. Hors d'oeuvres and DJ Sammy Courtney spinning some of Chris' music. 5-8 p.m. FREE. 621, 621 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. RSVP (517) 372-4636, www.621downtown.com.

Monday Morning Movie. Get your film fix at the library. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext.4.

MUSIC

Open-Mic Mondays. Sign up to play solo, duo, with your band. 6:30-10:30 p.m. FREE. Michigan Brewing Company, 402 Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 977-1349.

Charm City Devils. Rock and roll music. 7:30 p.m. \$8, \$10 door. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. www.theloftlansing.com.

Tuesday, April 24 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Schizophrenics Anonymous. A self-help support group for those affected by the disorder. 10 a.m. Room 215-F, Community Mental Health Building, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 485-3775.

Yoga 40. For those in their 40s, 50s, 60s and beyond. 7:15 p.m. Suggested \$7. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

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. Judy @ (517) 543-0786.

Schizophrenics Anonymous Self-help Support Group. For persons with schizophrenia and

related disorders. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-3775.

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 505-0068.

Intro to Computers. Professionals from Career Quest teach the basics. 2:30-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 492-5500.

On the Way To Wellness. Barb Geske provides nutrition and wellness coaching in a positive, informative format. 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. \$10. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 349-9536.

Computer Class. Learn Excel. 7 p.m. FREE. Community of Christ, 1514 W. Miller Road, Lansing. (517) 882-3122. Laughter Yoga. With Kiran Gupta, a licensed clinical social worker. 5:30-6 p.m. FREE. Campus Village Center, 1151 Michigan Ave., East Lansing. (517) 775-4834.

Yoga for Well Being. With Amy Noren, RYT 200, trained in alignment based yoga. 6:30-8 p.m. \$10. Full Spectrum Family Medicine, 2025 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

Speakeasies Toastmasters. Become a better

speaker. 12:05-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Bldg., 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. **Wildflowers with Naturalist.** Look for spring

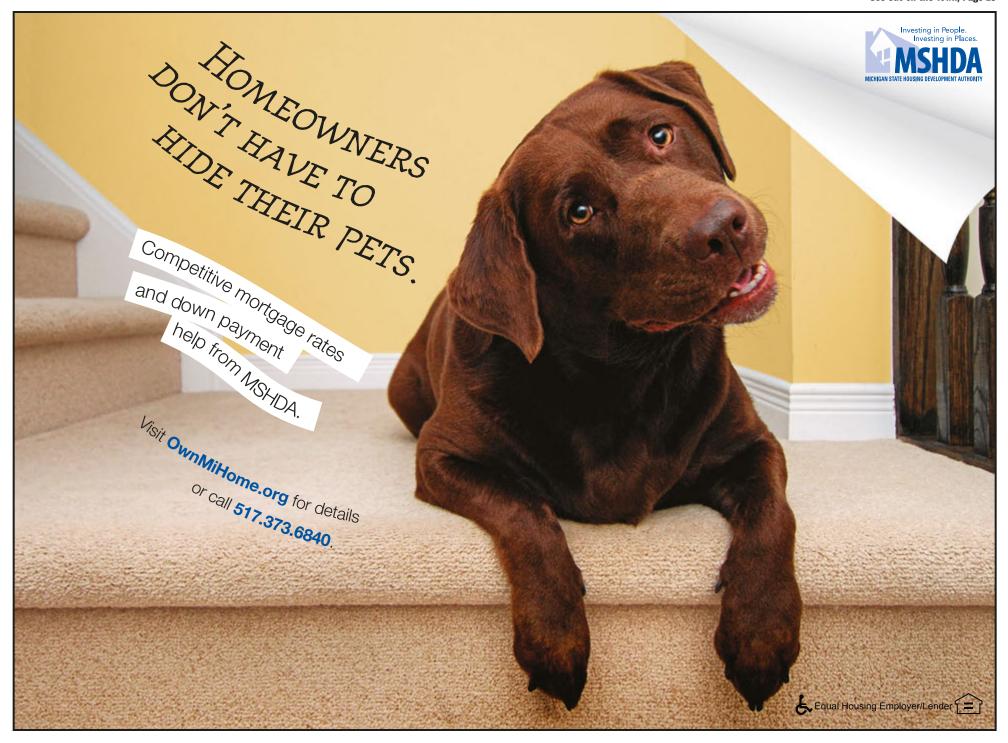
Wildflowers with Naturalist. Look for spring wildflowers with a naturalist. 10:30 a.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Estate Planning. Gain control of affairs-avoiding the possible expense and delay of probate. 10-11 a.m. FREE. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. jcn@thegallagherlawfirm.com. Improve Your Balance. Improve balance with Rodney Moore, Licensed Physical Therapist. 10:30-11:30 a.m.. FREE. First Presbyterian Church, 510 W. Ottawa, Lansing.(517) 321-0945.

EVENTS

Compassionate Friends. For grieving parents. 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Salvation Army Community Center, 701 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 351-6480. Mid-day Movies. Watch recent releases on the big screen. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. Game On. Play a variety of board and video games. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130

See Out on the Town, Page 25



from page 24

Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3. **Morning Storytime**. Stories, songs, rhymes & fun. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014. **Kids Time: Ages 5–11.** 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 19)

Storytime. Stories, rhymes, songs and a craft for ages 2-5. 10:30-11:15 a.m. & 6:30-7:15 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

"Puss in Boots." Call for showtimes. FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 20) Grand River Connection Networking. With appetizers and beverages from Fenner and GRC. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

MUSIC

Jazz Tuesdays. With Jeff Shoup Quartet, artists from the MSU Jazz Studies Department and the mid-Michigan jazz community. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Writing a Mystery. Richard Baldwin, author of the popular "Louis Searing" and "Margaret McMillan" mystery series. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156.

Tuesday Morning Book Club. Read and discuss "Minding Frankie" by Maeve Binchy. 10:15-11:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4.

Wednesday, April 25 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Grande Paraders Square Dance Club. 7:30 p.m. \$4 members; \$5. (Please See Details April 18) Meditation. 7-9 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details

Community Yoga. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 18)

The Purple Carrot Truck. Hear about their ffood mission & enjoy samples. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021. Southern Poverty Law Center. Discuss the SPLC's current priorities. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing, (517) 484-7434.

Prayer & Meditation Group. Improve experience. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. www.PilgrimUCC.com.

EVENTS

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. Grand Ledge Baptist Church, 1120 W. Willow Hwy., Grand Ledge. (517) 256-6954.

Practice Your English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 18)

Youth Service Corps. Ages 11-17. 3:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 18)

"Puss in Boots." Call for showtimes. FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 20) Spring Rummage Sale. With household items, clothing, furniture, books, toys, antiques, etc. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Lansing Liederkranz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 882-6330. Ernesto Todd Mirles. Explores models of resistance both physical and intellectual. 6-8:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 323-6452. www.cadl.org. Knee High Naturalist. 1-2 p.m. \$5. (Please See Details April 18)

MUSIC

Open Jam. Rock night. 8 p.m.-Midnight, FREE. Zeppelins Music Hall, 2010 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 580-8722.

Jazz Wednesdays. Live entertainment. 7-10 p.m. FREE. ENSO, 16800 Chandler Road, East Lansing. (517) 333-1656. www.enjoyenso.com.

Jazz Wednesdays. Featuring the Jeff Shoup Trio. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracies Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (517) 655-1100.

Jessica Smucker. Performs "dark pop" songs: catchy melodies in minor keys. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 1982 Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-8840.

THEATE

"Legally Blonde." 7:30 p.m. \$20, \$15 students. (Please See Details April 20)

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Baby Time. 10:30 a.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 4)

Lansing Area Science Fiction Association
Meeting. 7 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 18)
Fair Housing Center Book Group. Civil and Human Rights related readings, fiction and non-fiction.
Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (877) 979- FAIR.
Jane Taylor. Poet, editor and teacher with a special interest in creative collaboration. 8 p.m. FREE.
MSU Snyder Hall, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www. poetry.rcah.msu.edu.

Out of this World Book Club. Discuss 'Grave-minder" by Melissa Marr. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420

| SUDOKU SOLUTION From Pg. 23 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Free Will Astrology By Rob Brezsny

April 18-24

The astrology column that appeared last week should have appeared this week. This week's column is the one that should have appeared last week. We regret the error.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Some people misunderstand the do-it-now fervor of the Aries tribe, thinking it must inevitably lead to carelessness. Please prove them wrong in the coming weeks. Launch into the interesting new possibilities with all your exuberance unfurled. Refuse to allow the natural energy to get hemmed in by theories and concepts. But also be sure not to mistake rash impatience for intuitive guidance. Consider the likelihood that your original vision of the future might need to be tinkered with a bit as you translate it into the concrete details.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): There is a possibility that a pot of gold sits at the end of the rainbow. The likelihood is small, true, but it's not zero. On the other hand, the rainbow is definitely here and available for you to enjoy. Of course, you would have to do some more work on yourself in order to gather in the fullness of that enjoyment. Here's the potential problem: You may be under the impression that the rainbow is less valuable than the pot of gold. So let me ask you: What if the rainbow's the real prize?

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "It's eternity in a person that turns the crank handle," said Franz Kafka. At least that should be the case, I would add. The unfortunate fact of the matter is that a lot of people let other, lesser things turn the crank handle — like the compulsive yearning for money, power, and love, for example. I challenge you to check in with yourself sometime soon and determine what exactly has been turning your crank handle. If it ain't eternity, or whatever serves as eternity in your world view, get yourself adjusted. In the coming months, it's crucial that you're running on the cleanest, purest fuel.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): For a white guy from 19th-century England, David Livingstone was unusually egalitarian. As he traveled in Africa, he referred to what were then called "witch doctors" as "my professional colleagues." In the coming weeks, Cancerian, I encourage you to be inspired by Livingstone as you expand your notion of who your allies are. For example, consider people to be your colleagues if they simply try to influence the world in the same ways you do, even if they work in different jobs or spheres. What might be your version of Livingstone's witch doctors? Go outside of your usual network as you scout around for confederates who might connect you to exotic new perspectives and resources you never imagined you could use.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The flag of California features the image of a grizzly bear, and the huge carnivore is the state's official animal. And yet grizzly bears have been extinct in California since 1922, when the last one was shot and killed. Is there any discrepancy like that in your own life, Leo? Do you continue to act as if a particular symbol or icon is important to you even though it has no practical presence in your life? If so, this would be a good time to update your attitude.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The cartoon character Felix the Cat made his debut in 1919. He was a movie star in the era of silent films, and eventually appeared in his own comic strip and TV show. But it wasn't until 1953, when he was 34 years old, that he first got his Magic Bag of Tricks, which allowed him to do many things he wasn't able to do before. I bring this up, Virgo, because I believe you're close to acquiring a magic bag of tricks that wasn't on your radar until you had matured to the point where you are now. To ensure that you get that bag, though, you will have to ripen even a bit more.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I have one child, a daughter, and raising her conscientiously has been one of the great privileges and joys of my life. Bonus: She has turned

out to be a stellar human being. Every now and then, though, I get a bit envious of parents who've created bigger families. If bringing up one kid is so rewarding, maybe more would be even better. I asked an acquaintance of mine, a man with six kids, how he had managed to pull off that difficult feat. He told me quite candidly, "My secret is that I'm not a good father; I'm very neglectful." I offer up this story as a way to encourage you, at this juncture in your development, to favor quality over quantity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): I expect there'll be some curious goings-on this week. A seemingly uninspired idea could save you from a dumb decision, for example. An obvious secret may be the key to defeating a covert enemy. And a messy inconvenience might show up just in time to help you do the slightly uncool but eminently right thing. Can you deal with this much irony, Scorpio? Can you handle such big doses of the old flippety-flop and oopsie-loopsie? For extra credit, here are two additional odd blessings you could capitalize on: a humble teaching from an unlikely expert and a surge of motivation from an embarrassing excitement.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Some of our pagan forbears imagined they had a duty to assist with nature's revival every spring by performing fertility rituals. And wouldn't it be fun if it were even slightly true that you could help the crops germinate and bloom by making sweet love in the fields? At the very least, carrying out such a ceremony might stimulate your own personal creativity. In accordance with the astrological omens, I invite you to slip away to a secluded outdoor spot, either by yourself or with a romantic companion. On a piece of paper, write down a project you'd like to make thrive in the coming months. Bury the note in the good earth, then enjoy an act of love right on top of it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Once upon a time, I fell in love with a brilliant businesswoman named Loreen. I pursued her with all my wiles, hoping to win her amorous affection. After playing hard to get for two months, she shocked me with a brazen invitation: Would I like to accompany her on a whirlwind vacation to Paris? "I think I can swing it," I told her. But there was a problem: I was flat broke. What to do? I decided to raise the funds by selling off a precious heirloom from childhood, my collection of 6,000 vintage baseball cards. Maybe this story will inspire you to do something comparable, Capricorn: Sacrifice an outmoded attachment or juvenile treasure or youthful fantasy so as to empower the future of love.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): We all know that spiders are talented little creatures. Spiders' silk is as strong as steel, and their precisely geometric webs are engineering marvels. But even though they have admirable qualities I admire, I don't expect to have an intimate connection with a spider any time soon. A similar situation is at work in the human realm. I know certain people who are amazing creators and leaders but don't have the personal integrity or relationship skills that would make them trustworthy enough to seek out as close allies. Their beauty is best appreciated from afar. Consider the possibility that the ideas I'm articulating here would be good for you to meditate on right now, Aquarius.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Have you ever had the wind knocked out of you? It feels weird for a short time, but leaves no lasting damage. I'm expecting that you will experience a form of that phenomenon sometime soon. Metaphorically speaking, the wind will get knocked out of you. But wait — before you jump to conclusions and curse me out for predicting this, listen to the rest of my message. The wind that will get knocked out of you will be a wind that needed to be knocked out — a wind that was causing confusion in your gut-level intuition. In other words, you'll be lucky to get that wind knocked out of you. You'll feel much better afterwards, and you will see things more clearly.











"I always wanted to own my own restaurant," says Taiwanese-born Dave Chou. He got his wish: Chopstix Fine Asian Food recently opened in East Lansing.

East Lansing's new spots

Chopstix serves Asian cuisine, while Smoothie Café gives you Hawaiian Breezes and Mocha Madness

By JOE TOROK

Dave Chou, owner of the new Chopstix Fine Asian Food restaurant in East Lansing, came to the United States with a marine engineering degree. He found a career in the culinary arts.

Chou joined his immigrant family in the food service business and learned on the job at restaurants and as a banquet chef before taking a leap on his own.

"I always wanted to own my own restaurant," Chou says. "I decided to go for it."

The new venture is based on Chou's Taiwanese heritage, a heritage that

includes southern Chinese, Korean and Japanese culinary influences, Chou says. All of those flavors find a home on his menu, but as any conscientious restaurateur will tell you, flavors are only as good as the ingredients.

"I choose fresh, high-quality ingredients," Chou says.

"I stay away from canned food."

Chou is especially proud of Chopstix's beef noodle soup. The menu offers a wide range of options, from spicy black pepper chicken (\$8.95) and tofu with ginger and garlic sauce (\$7.95) to the basil shrimp (\$10.95) with a house sauce and twice-

cooked pork (\$9.25). The back of the menu also features an authentic Chinese section, which most non-native speakers of Mandarin will need a translator to read.

"It's just a passion," Chou says, referring to his time in the kitchen preparing food for others. "I like to talk to people, too, and get feedback to make it better.'

More than smoothies

A few blocks east of Chopstix is a little slice of tropical paradise. On Monday, Tropical Smoothie Café opened for business. It's the first Tropical Smoothie franchise in the area; there are nearly two dozen in the state and over 200 across the country.

Owner Ruth Buko, an attorney by trade, comes from a family of business owners. She decided the time was right to run her own show.

"It's nice to get a break" from the legal scene, Buco says. Besides that, Buco was goaded into this particular concept by

"My daughter loves these smoothies," Buco says. "Every time we would pass one she would beg me to stop."

Smoothies, of course, are at the heart of the menu. The very first Tropical Smoothie, founded in Florida in 1993, sold only fruity drinks. When the company began franchising in the late 1990s, wraps, flatbread sandwiches, salads and more were added

Smoothies

from page 26

to the menu.

Toasted sandwiches (\$6.99) include unique combinations such as the wasabi Caeser roast beef on ciabatta bread. The Caribbean Luau is one of the toasted flatbread (\$3.99) options. It's dressed with

Tropical Smoothie Café

1201 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing 7 a.m.-11 p.m. daily (517) 708-8565 www.tropicalsmoothie.com TO, D, P, OM, \$ chicken, mozzarella, pineapple, romaine lettuce and a touch of Jamaica with a jerk sauce. Salads (\$6.39) and wraps (\$6.99) round out the food end of the menu.

Whether you're looking for something on the lighter side or you're treating yourself to something more indulgent, the smoothie menu should have it. The Hawaiian Breeze (\$4.59) is the slimmest at 210 calories with sugar substitute. Mango, kiwi, pineapple, peaches and berries fill the low-fat smoothies.

Those with dessert on the mind might head for the smoothies with chocolate

like the Mocha Madness or the Chocolate Chiller (\$4.99). There's even a smoothie menu for energy addicts: the Muscle Blaster (\$4.99) combines strawberries, banana and whey or soy protein.

Tropical Smoothie also offers an all-day breakfast menu and deals such as adding a smoothie to any food item for \$3 or to a half sandwich or half salad for (\$7.29).

The tropical concept is rooted in the menu, but the atmosphere brings it to life. Vibrant greens and oranges fill the dining space, a wicker-bladed fan adorns the ceiling, and bamboo and palm tree décor lines the walls.

"When you come in, we want you to feel like you've been on a 10-minute vacation," says Buco.

Au revoir to Augie's

Augie's Broasted Chicken has closed. Last August, owners of the poultry house, noted for a giant rotating chicken marquee, reinvented the spot that long stood as an Arby's at the corner of Larch and Cedar streets. While the homemade sides will be missed, fans of Broaster-style meals can find the pressure-fried chicken at Leo's Outpost in Lansing and Leo's Spirit's and Grub in Okemos.

foodfinder

Food Finder listings are rotated each week based on space. If you have an update for the listings, please e-mail food@lansingcitypulse.com.

CASUAL DINING

ALTU'S — Traditional Ethiopian food served with specials, including the Friday special of spicy shredded beef with jalapenos and ginger served with Ethiopian bread, yellow cabbage and a house salad. 1312 Michigan Ave. East Lansing. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; closed Sunday & Monday. (517) 333-6295. www.EatAtAlfus.com, OM, TO, P\$

BENSON'S VINAIGRETTES -

Benson's makes all of its "Michigan Farmhouse" cuisine from scratch and rotates the menu daily and seasonally. For lighter appetites, try one of the restaurant's many sides and salads. 940 Elmwood St., Lansing. 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-

Saturday; closed Sunday. (517) 703-9616. OM, TO, D (for orders more than \$20), P, \$\$.

BEST STEAK HOUSE

— Low-cost dining for meat lovers, serving steaks and sandwiches including a modified Philly cheesesteak. 3020 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday. (517) 337-2210. TO, RES, OM \$\$.

BLUE GILL GRILL — This eclectic restaura

This eclectic restaurant features a variety of fresh fish, including grouper, salmon, walleye, cod and bluegill made with a unique blend of spices in a secret family recipe. 1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett. 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Monday-Saturday. 12 p.m.-2 a.m. Sunday. (517) 339-4900. www. bluegillgrill.com. FB, TO,

RES (eight or more),

---, ----, ++

BRUNCH HOUSE — Walking out of a diner, you don't often find yourself thinking, "That was one fantastic Lebanese salad." You might think that, however, after eating at The Brunch House, since owner Leo Farhat has peppered his traditional breakfast house menu with dishes rooted in his Lebanese heritage. Try "Leo's house special," which begins with seasoned beef, onions and pine nuts sauteed in a frying pan, then combined with a couple of eggs. 1040 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday- Friday, and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday (517) 484-1567 TO. WiFi. \$

CLARA'S LANSING STATION — Fun dining

is the motto at this onetime railroad station with impressive decor and less-impressive food A massive menu offers breadth but not much depth. Full review online at tinyurl.com/66g876o 637 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday & Saturday; 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday. (517) 372-7120. www.claras.com, OM, TO, FB, WiFi, P, RES \$\$-\$\$\$

COLONIAL BAR &

GRILL — This 45-yearold Lansing institution features an upgraded menu, including deluxe burgers, grilled pizzas and daily specials. 3425 S. Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing. 9 a.m.-2 a.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 a.m. Saturday, noon-2 a.m. Sunday. (517) 882-6132. TO, FB, \$-\$\$

Average price per person, not including drinks:

\$ Less than \$8 | \$\$ \$8 to \$14 | \$\$\$ \$14 to \$20 | \$\$\$\$ Over \$20

FB Full Bar WB Wine & Beer TO Take Out OM Online Menu RES Reservations P Patio WiFi Wireless Internet D Delivery



April Special: India
The entree begins with a refreshing
Mango Lassi and a Samosa. Then
enjoy the Fenugreek Chicken served over fresh spinach alongside
steamed Basmati Rice, some lightly
curried Green Peas, and a Chick
Pea & Herb Salad in lime dressing





349-1701

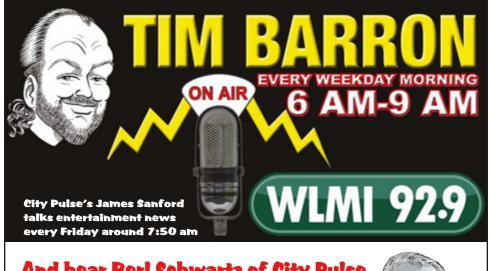
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