

FREE

CityPULSE

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April 25-May 1, 2012

Strike up the band

Lansing Symphony Orchestra announces new season

See page 9



MAIDNESS IN THE MITTEN ROLLS INTO TOWN

PAGE 6



SAVE! Lansing



ONLINE THIS WEEK ONLY

Save 55% at Lansing Symphony Orchestra's MasterWorks Concert May 10

See page 2

New in town

ZEPPELIN'S MUSIC HALL

See page 23

LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN'S



NIGHT FOR NOTABLES

HONORING MICHIGAN'S NOTABLE AUTHORS
CELEBRATING MICHIGAN PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS

Saturday, April 28, 2012

5:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M.

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2010 and 2011 National Book Award Winners for Fiction Jesmyn Ward (*Salvage the Bones*) and Jaimy Gordon (*Lord of Misrule*)

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DEAL OF THE WEEK

USE BONUS CODE:

MUS10

SAVE 55%

AT Lansing Symphony Orchestra's
MasterWorks Concert Thursday May 10

only on savelansing.com



Fantasies & Fairy Tales

Join the Lansing Symphony Orchestra for a program of fantasy, drama and passion! Ravel wrote his "Mother Goose Suite" as a piano duet and later set the work for strings, winds, and percussion. Stravinsky's Petrouchka is also a fairy tale but of the Russian variety. Originally a ballet, this piece colorfully tells the story of a puppet that comes to life. Closing the program will be Rachmaninoff's blockbuster hit, "Rhapsody" on a "Theme of Paganini." Rich textures and harmonies will wash over the audience, complementing the stunning lyricism and virtuosity of the piano.

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WICKED

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

1.) Write a letter to the editor:

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

2.) Write a guest column:

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Ingham County Housing Commission, on behalf of the Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for the **Identification and Marking of Hazardous Materials**, including, but not limited to, asbestos, mercury and various containerized material, located at various sites listed in the **Bid Packet# NSP2 12-002**, which can be obtained 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 or at the website: www.inghamlandbank.org, refer to "NSP2 12-002". Proposals will be due at the NSP2 office before 11:00 am on May 9, 2012. The Bid Opening will be May 9, 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 EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

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 for the purpose of considering Ordinance 1276, a City-initiated ordinance to amend the RM-54 District, University Oriented Multiple-Family Residential, of the Zoning Code to modify allowed building heights.

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 A PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

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 **Ordinance No. 1278**; an Ordinance to amend Section 8-251 of Division 2 – Entertainment License – and Sections 8-281, 8-301, 8-302, and 8-303 of Division 3 – Dances and Dancehalls – and to amend the title of Division 3 and Section 8-331 of Division 4 – Amusements and Video Arcades – of Article IV – Amusements and Entertainment of Chapter 8 – Businesses – of the Code of the City of East Lansing.

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 HEARINGS EAST LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on Thursday, May 10, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Matt and Courtney Trunk to construct an addition on the rear of the house located at 309 University.
2. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Jim Secor to construct a patio at the rear of the house located at 605 Butterfield.
3. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Matt Hagan, LLC to remove the wood siding from the house at 544 Abbot and replace it with cement board siding.

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

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

Marie E. McKenna
City Clerk

CityPULSE

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Editor & Publisher
Berl Schwartz



7 p.m. Wednesdays

This week

Retired Lansing State Journal columnist John Schneider

East Lansing attorney Mike Nichols on pot and driving



COVER ART



MUFFIT SKATES by RACHEL HARPER

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

MITT ROMNEY MAN OF THE PEOPLE
 WE ARE NOT SO VERY DIFFERENT, YOU AND I--
 --EXCEPT THAT I'M RICH BEYOND DREAMS OF AVARICE!!

BOY! THERE WAS THIS ONE TIME, I GOT STUCK IN AN ELEVATOR--
 --IN ONE OF MY WIFE'S MANY CADILLACS!!

LET ME REGALE YOU WITH AN AMUSING ANECDOTE--
 --ABOUT PEOPLE GETTING FIRED!
 THAT ONE NEVER GETS OLD, MY TURN!

WHEN MITT AND I WERE YOUNG, WE WERE SO POOR--
 --WE HAD TO LIVE OFF OUR INVESTMENT INCOME!!

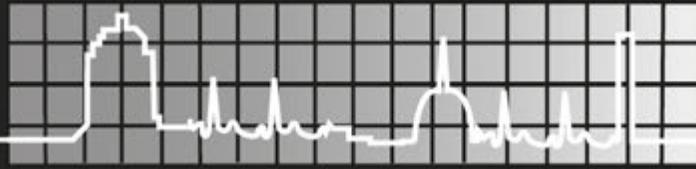
WE WERE PRACTICALLY HOBOS!
 HEH HEH HEH

OH FOR GOODNESS SALES--CAN'T WE JUST BUY THE WHITE HOUSE?
 I DON'T THINK YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SAY THAT OUT LOUD, DEAR.

MEANWHILE
 YES, THAT'S RIGHT--I WAS BITTEN ... BY A PENGUIN!

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PULSE



news & opinion

'We need help. It's every day'

A grim season for a neighborhood of refugees in south Lansing who are the targets of ongoing vandalism, theft and physical intimidation. LPD: 'This is big as far as attention-wise right now.'

"You know what happens at Summer Place, right?" Sat Bo, 20, asks a woman customer of roughly his same age. Bo is manning the cash register at Bobo Market near the corner of Jolly and Waverly roads. It's about 8 p.m. on Saturday.

"Yes, yes," replies the girl who, like Bo and his family, lives in Summer Place Townhomes across the street.

"See? Everybody knows," Bo says. Bo is a refugee from Burma and has lived in Summer Place Townhomes for about seven years. You can see his neighborhood from the cash register. He's helped his mother manage the small market since it opened about four months ago, which sits in a small strip of businesses next to a shuttered Rite Aid in southwest Lansing.

But since November, Bo and his family haven't been sleeping due to a combination of fear and duty — they take turns staying up all night to keep intruders away. Several other neighbors in Summer Place report similar situations.

"It's been quiet, safe, secure," Bo said, referring to the years leading up to November. Then he rattles off nearly daily instances when he and his neighborhood have been the target of a group of local teenagers, between 10 and 20 of them: car break-ins, "30-plus" broken windows, an old man getting punched in the face, a young woman "about my age kicked by those people," theft.

So this is why you stand guard overnight. "Yeah, it's very dangerous. We all worry. You gotta watch out and stay awake."

Bo fears the worst: that the harassment will turn deadly. At one point, he armed himself with a pellet gun, which he said was subsequently taken by the Lansing Police Department. "We are not shooting for anything. I believe I'm doing the right thing. It's like I'm security, protecting all people, not just the Burmese."

As I walk through the neighborhood Saturday before meeting Bo, refugees from Iraq and Bhutan tell similar stories.

Dozens of young children — from toddlers to teenagers — were playing in the street and courtyards. Adults gathered around, keeping an eye on them. The day before, the group came and broke a car window, said Ammar Mahdi, a 41-year-old refugee from Iraq. Mahdi's English was broken and, at times, his 10-year-old son, Yousif, acted as a translator.

"We need help. It's every day," Mahdi said. "I am not sleeping."

Attempts to reach the Summer Place



Photos by Andy Balaskovitz/City Pulse

Sat Bo, 20, manages Bobo Market with his mother. The market is across the street from where Bo and his family live, Summer Place Townhomes, a place Bo says has become "very dangerous" due to ongoing harassment.

property manager, Ray Neatfeld, were unsuccessful. A meeting was scheduled to take place at 7 p.m. Saturday with neighbors and City Council members, but Neatfeld canceled on Friday because he didn't have a translator, At-Large Councilman Derrick Quinney said. Help from management has been scarce, Mahdi said: "It's in this ear and outside the other."

Devi Ghimisey is from Bhutan and about the same age as Mahdi. He lived in a refugee camp in Nepal for 18 years before coming to the U.S. three years ago.

"They come while we're sleeping. Kids playing football — they come and beat them up. They come and throw rocks," Ghimisey said.

Recently, the group stole Mohammed Mohahamed's children's three bikes. Two weeks ago, they broke his neighbor's house windows. Mohahamed is 33 and also came from Iraq. "I want to change this trouble," he said. "I want the street here safe."

When asked why they thought this was happening, Mahdi, Bo, Ghimisey and Mohahamed all responded separately: "I don't know."

While this has been going on, arrests have been scarce. Though neighbors say the response from the Lansing Police



of the week



Property: Ehinger Park, 315 Chesterfield Parkway, East Lansing
 Owner: City of East Lansing
 Assessed value: \$0

It's easy to forget how many unique features there are in our communities when you travel the same routes day in and day out. If it isn't on a main corridor or located right next door to work or home we miss it — out of sight, out of mind.

Ehinger Park is one of those unique features. Deep inside the Chesterfield Hills Neighborhood is this superbly located pocket park — a small park accessible to the public in an urban setting. This one is located on an irregular piece of property at the lowest point in the neighborhood, unsuitable for a house. So, ta da: a pocket park.

Ehinger Park is really superb because it's not only centrally located within the neighborhood, but also surrounded by houses with "eyes on the park." And according to reformist Jane Jacobs, this makes neighborhoods (and parks) safer.

Everyone has a special place like Ehinger Park where they like to retreat. It may be in your neighborhood or another's. The question is, what is your Ehinger Park?

— Amanda Harrell-Seyburn

"Eye candy of the Week" is our weekly look at some of the nicer properties in Lansing. It rotates each with Eyesore of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call 999-5064.



City officials say they're aware of the ongoing harassment targeting residents of Summer Place Townhomes at the corner of Jolly and Waverly roads. A community meeting is scheduled for Thursday night.

Pushing (and sliding) Michigan onto the map

Longboarders, under the radar, converge on Lansing for the state's largest competition

Two races took place in Lansing last weekend. One you may have heard of — the inaugural Lansing Marathon on Sunday had nearly 2,000 runners participate and got plenty of news coverage. You probably didn't hear about the second one.

On Saturday, the fourth annual "Madness in the Mitten" became the largest and longest-running longboarding event in Michigan.

The two-day event included a "main event" four-mile push race from Lansing's east side to downtown on the River Trail, followed by a "slide jam" and a slalom race in south Lansing. Imagine that: Nearly 100 longboarders packing the River Trail from the Whiskey Barrel to the City Market. And doing so without the city knowing about it.

Madness in the Mitten started four years ago due to the efforts of Go Green Longboarding, a small group of longboarding Lansing-natives.

Winning the race was Go Green Longboarding member and co-owner of the Lansing skate company Bees Knees Skathletics, Jay Yerke. Yerke is considered one of the fastest longboard racers in the world. (Indeed, Bees Knees' website lists upcoming events "we're likely attending," which includes races in Missouri, New York, Florida, Texas and Kentucky, among others.)

"It's my home course, I know every rock and every crack," Yerke said after the race, finishing the course in 15 minutes and 21 seconds. "I'm just trying to defend the home turf."

The second event was a slide jam, which

consists of boarders skating down a hill and pushing their board to either side of them, utilizing their momentum and softer wheels to spin, slide and contort their bodies while gliding over pavement. Skaters wear gloves with plastic pucks attached for additional points of contact with the road, shifting their body weight and board around to achieve the desired motion. Around 50 people participated the slide jam session.

Yerke's brother and business partner, Derek Yerke, said event attendance has increased every year since its inception. Last year they had roughly 50 participants — this year that number doubled with nearly 100 skaters of various ages, races and sexes descending from all over the state.

Marketing the Madness in Lansing

In previous years the event has attracted skaters from other states, some coming from as far as New York and West Virginia. This year was an all-Michigan skater year, but longboard companies from all over the country wanted to sponsor the event.

"In years past we've had to ask for sponsors but this year people actually contacted us and said, 'Hey is Madness happening this year? We really want to hook it up,'" said Go Green Longboarding member Peter Croce. Croce also founded the Michigan State University Longboarding Club. "You can see there are over 100 people here. A lot of these people have a lot of buying power so it's in the companies' best interest to hook it up."

Michigan skate companies also made a strong showing at the event.

"This one is definitely the premiere longboarding event in Michigan," said Jim MacGregory, owner of Action Board Sports in East Lansing, a board shop that opened last year. "Which means good exposure for businesses. Longboard racing has been the fastest growing sector of the action sports



Alex Kwiecinski participates in the Madness in the Mitten longboarding slide jam. He's considered by many as the "Godfather" of the Lansing longboard scene.



Photos by Genna Musial/City Pulse

Nearly 100 longboarders participated in the main race Saturday, making it the biggest of its kind in Michigan. The race began near the Whiskey Barrel on the east side and ended downtown, using the River Trail as a course.

market for the past four years."

Action Board Sports, Bees Knees Skathletics, Smokin' Mad Love from Grand Haven and Rey Trucks in Muskegon all pitched in gear and swag to sponsor the event and made a presence at Ranney Skate Park on Michigan Avenue where the event was hosted.

"There's a community aspect to it," said Paul Kuyt, owner of Rey Trucks, which opened in January. "That's why I think this sport has more legs than some. You don't have to be an angry, 14-year old male to do it or anything. It's fun and it's a great form of exercise."

At 47 years old, Kuyt also participated in the four-mile push race.

"It's a great community. Very accepting. Where else am I going to go and have teenagers think I'm OK?," he wondered.

And it's growing.

"In '04 and '05 there were maybe five people that I could think of off the top of my head that even had longboards in this area," said Alex Kwiecinski, who's been skating for 18 years. He's one of the founders of Go Green Longboarding and grew up in the Lansing area.

Derek Yerke referred to Kwiecinski as the "Godfather" of the Lansing longboard scene.

"There were maybe five of us who knew what we were doing. We didn't have the proper safety gear, we didn't know proper braking techniques or proper sliding techniques. We would just find hills and ride down them and just hope, you know? Like Calvin and Hobbes in a wagon," Kwiecinski said laughing.

Even with the growing popularity of the sport, this year's Madness in the Mitten exceeded expectations.

"I did not expect it to get this big, I really didn't," Kwiecinski said. "If you told me the first year that we'd have 100 people here in four years, I would have said, 'No, are you kidding me? There aren't 100 people with longboards.' But obviously it's gotten to that point," he said.

On the map, off the radar

"When you think longboarding you think East Coast, West Coast, Vancouver and Colorado. Those are the first places that people are going to bring up. So to be able to put Michigan on the map with an event like this is something else," Kwiecinski said.

The event may be on the maps of skateboarders around the state and country, but it remains off the official radar and attention of the city of Lansing. The event has taken place every year with no official permit from the city. Racing without the city's graces has never been a problem, including this year, but that hasn't stopped Kwiecinski from considering the notion of getting an event permit in the future — especially considering the growing numbers. The city encourages that, considering the possibility of simultaneous events on the River Trail.

"We don't require a permit but we definitely encourage the organizers of events held in the city to use our Special Event Planning Application so we are aware of the event and can provide whatever assistance might be required to make it a success and to prevent conflicts with other users of the River Trail," Randy Hannan, Mayor Virg Bernero's chief of staff, said in an email. "It is important for event organizers to let us know when they are planning to use public facilities so we can ensure that there are no other events scheduled for the same time. As you might imagine, holding longboarding races on the River Trail while other events are happening on the trail could be problematic."

Kwiecinski is OK with that. "I don't think that it would be a problem. Lansing and East Lansing don't really care about longboards," he said. "When we were skating back [to Ranney Skate Park] probably five cop cars passed by us. Nobody even asked, 'Jesus Christ, why are there 100 skateboarders going down the sidewalk right now?'"

— Sam Inglot

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Summer Place

from page 5

Department has been inadequate, the department says it's "very engaged and very aware of ongoing issues out there," department spokesman Officer Robert Merritt said.

"I'm very satisfied to know that our department is fully engaged and aware of any and all issues going on down there," he said, adding that Capt. Mike Yankowski has authorized two "problem solving" tours of the area to get a more detailed report of what's going on. "Once you make an arrest or show some presence, it's a hell of a deterrent. ... This is big as far as attention-wise right now," Merritt said.

Between Jan. 1 and April 16, LPD responded to 23 calls for service and filed 15 reports at Summer Place. They included

Searching for solutions

Lansing City Council members and other city officials will host a community meeting with Summer Place residents to seek solutions to the ongoing problems at the neighborhood made up largely of refugees.

Thursday, 7 p.m.
Faith United Methodist Church
4301 S. Waverly Road,
Lansing

stolen property, "trouble with a subject" and fights, Merritt said. The bulk of the reports, 11, occurred in March and eight of those were for damaged property. There were two in January, one in February and one in March, Merritt said. He added that three arrests have been made at the complex since Jan. 1, which occurred Saturday night on two adults and a juvenile after reports of a loud party and "trouble with subjects." Merritt was unclear whether those arrested were Summer Place residents.

However, neighbors say they feel discouraged from calling the police because the trouble keeps happening — even after reports. "There might be some truth to that," Merritt said, after describing the call volume as "not out of the ordinary."

Alfonso Salas, who owns Lansing Athletics sporting goods store two doors down from Bobo Market, has seen the trouble unfold since it began. He contacted City Council members a few weeks ago for help. "They target one duplex" at a time and

"break all the windows," Salas said. "I took it upon myself: This has got to stop. It's uncalled for. A lot of us do care and need to help them."

Neighbors say they've been trying to meet with Lansing teachers, and suggest the group is made up of Everett High School students. However, Everett Principal Howard Cousins had not heard of any of the incidents as of Monday afternoon. The Churchill Downs Community Association, whose boundaries include the Summer Place complex, also is not aware of the ongoing incidents, association President Kathy Tobe said Monday in an email. Merritt, of the LPD, said the data he has seen does not indicate who may be causing problems in the neighborhood.

The Lansing City Council is holding a community meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday to look for solutions. The Bernero administration is also aware of the activities and is "working with Councilmember Quinney, as well as the management and residents at Summer Place, to bring all the right city resources to bear on resolving these issues," Chief of Staff Randy Hannan said. "LPD has increased enforcement efforts in the area, and we are also working with Dr. Joan Jackson Johnson, Bishop Maxwell and the Refugee Development Center to address the unique language and cultural needs of the residents." David Maxwell, a minister, is the director of the city's Community and Faith-Based Initiatives office.

The LPD's data also does not indicate whether residents are being targeted based on race or ethnicity, Merritt said, but he said it is possible due to the fact that human service and religious officials with the city are getting involved.

Salas, of Lansing Athletics, says that while it's a rough neighborhood to begin with, he thinks it's racially charged. And he warns that something needs to change, or "it's gonna get bad."

"Because of the color of their skin and who they are, they get beat up on," he said. "I feel for them. We all have a responsibility to put a stop to this. It used to be a very, very fun place. It's not right."

— Andy Balaskovitz



PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF LANSING'S PROPOSED FY 2012-2013 BUDGET

The City Council of the City of Lansing will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, May 7, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers on the 10th Floor of Lansing City Hall located at 124 W. Michigan Ave., on the proposed City of Lansing budget and capital improvements.

The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.

The proposed budget is available for public inspection on weekdays, in the City Clerk's Office, 9th floor City Hall, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

All persons desiring to express an opinion about the proposed city budget, the tax rate, or proposed capital improvements are invited to attend this public hearing or submit written comments. 517-483-4141.

CHRIS SWOPE, LANSING CITY CLERK




Hosted by
Berl Schwartz

**A weekly look at the issues
and the people behind the issues
in Greater Lansing**

This week's guest:
Mark Grebner
Ingham County Drain
Commissioner candidate



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Capital Area District Library

The Purple Carrot Truck
Wednesday, April 25 • 7 pm

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.

CADL OKEMOS
4321 Okemos Road, Okemos • (517) 347-2021

Get Started Composting
Thursday, April 26 • 7 pm

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. Co-sponsored by the Stockbridge Area Wellness Coalition.

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

Homesteading
Thursday, April 26 • 6:30 pm

How did our ancestors manage to keep wholesome, homegrown food on the table? Alex Bryan, owner of Apollo Farms orchard in Laingsburg and Volunteer Coordinator at the Greater Lansing Food Bank, and Gabriel Biber, garden program manager at the Greater Lansing Food Bank will talk about seed saving and preservation techniques, using rain barrels and more.

CADL WILLIAMSTON
201 School Street, Williamston • (517) 655-1191



cadl.org/farm

Phone spy

How Google, Facebook and Apple can predict your next moves

Not only do websites like Google and Facebook track your moves online and sell them to advertisers, but smartphones track your daily movements and know where you are at any given time.

The concept of smartphones' storing data about where you go and when is a concern of Kirk Goldsberry, a geography professor at Michigan State University.

Last spring, two U.K. researchers discovered that Apple's iPhone tracks its users' location with a time stamp. That information can be kept in the phone for up to a year and transferred to any computer the phone gets synced to.

"In my case when I was working at MSU, my movement patterns were being stored on my iPhone and being synced in my work computer and that info was then the property of MSU," Goldsberry said.

Goldsberry wanted to learn more about the location data his phone was tracking about him. He then mapped out six months of his own cross-country movements that were stored on his iPhone.

"What I wanted to do was look at those files and look at what info was possible to glean from those date files. What could I tell about myself and life from these files in my iPhone data," Goldsberry said.

Goldsberry found that the tracking data could tell him what airports he had been to, what hotels he stayed at, and could figure out which baseball game he attended while on a trip to Seattle.

Some may argue that this information is meaningless, but Goldsberry said that this information could impact a lot of people.

"There are numerous cases of jealous spouses who can use this information to

track them," Goldsberry said. "What is really critical in 2012 is if the Syrian government or less democratic countries get a hold of his data, this information can be exploited by very powerful entities."

Goldsberry said he considers this type of information gathering a threat to privacy.

"The biggest thing for me is if I were to follow you around for five days, that would be against the law, but essentially I can do that now without the trench coat and hiding behind the bushes," Goldsberry said. "These technologies are helping people virtually stalk people."

The tracking information inside of smartphones is very valuable when it comes to advertising.

According to Goldsberry's blog, his iPhone's location data could be used to tell if there was a Starbucks nearby and create an ad to let him know.

"Pair this information with information with my credit card activity and you know a lot about what I do, what I buy, when I buy, and where I buy," Goldsberry wrote.

And that's exactly what sites like Facebook and Google are already doing. They can sell user's information to advertisers so ads can target specific users.

Patricia Huddleston, an MSU retailing professor, said targeted ads make sense and seem to be working. She said mobile commerce went up 25 percent this past holiday season compared to the previous year.

"If you are Google or Facebook, you want to target the sweet spot and want to target consumers that are more likely to purchase a product or service," Huddleston said.

Emilee Rader is a professor at MSU who teaches a course in digital privacy. She said sites like Facebook can make money off of what users post.

"The value of the company is based on advertiser belief that Facebook is the holy grail of behavioral data," Rader said.

Google's privacy settings were changed last month. Rader said the changes would allow Google to be able to predict its users' next moves.

"One of the new interesting things about Google's new privacy policy is that it can tell you if you are sitting in traffic that you are going to be late for a meeting," Rader said.

All of that can happen with the combination of location tracking on Android phones, the e-mails sent through Gmail, the events logged in Google calendar, and web habits.

Google's new privacy settings went into effect March 1.

— Emily Fox

An unconventional script



KYLE MELINN

To say the brewing showdown between Ingham County Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann and potential Democratic primary challenger Mark Grebner is unusual is like saying owning a pet pig is unusual (as Grebner once did).

Let's start with the basics.

Lindemann is the 20-year incumbent running for a sixth term managing the county's numerous drains. It's a deceptively powerful position that comes with the ability to blow up million-dollar developments or tax entire communities without a public vote.

Lindemann is an oversized personality who prefers doing business over a glass of wine or a good meal than a stuffy office. He loves photography, traveling to exotic locations and talking about both.

He's a screaming liberal, a die-hard environmentalist and a tad unorthodox, which is about par for the course in this race.

His campaign manager is Steve Ross, an up-and-coming political mind who's interned at the White House. He sits eight

'Newsmakers'

Ingham co. Drain Commissioner candidate Mark Grebner will be the guest on "City Pulse Newsmakers" at 11 and 11:30 a.m. Sunday on Comcast channel 16 in Lansing. It will air at 11:30 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. May 6 on Comcast channel 30 in Meridian Township.

inches away from Grebner at Practical Political Consultants, where both are consultants.

PPC is the East Lansing political firm Grebner made famous for selling any voter list

on the planet. About a year ago, with PPC on financially unstable footing, Grebner sold out to his sales manager, Penelope Tsernoglou.

Tsernoglou sought three years ago to be appointed to an Ingham County Board of Commissioners vacancy, which required majority support of the 15 remaining members. Grebner, who has sat on the board (barring a couple years) since Jerry Ford was president, didn't back Tsernoglou then. In fact, he tried to get other people to run. It wasn't until she lost the appointment and then ran for the post in 2010 that Grebner supported her. She won that time.

Anyway, Tsernoglou ran Pat Lindemann's re-election campaign four years ago. She stood behind him at his re-election press conference two weeks ago.

Ross and Tsernoglou are engaged. Both Grebner and Lindemann are invited to the July wedding.

"It's pretty awkward," Tsernoglou admitted about the small office's dynamics.

Around the office, she's asked that neither Ross nor Grebner use the PPC postage machine for campaign purposes and that everything is kept professional. Grebner said Ross can hang "Pat Lindemann" signs

all over the office for all he cares, but that's not going to happen.

"We've worked it out. We'll just pretend it's business as usual," Grebner said.

Tsernoglou tried talking Grebner into running for judge, but his heart is set on sending Lindemann packing. He said he doesn't care whose in that office. Just so it's not Lindemann.

"If Pat would agree to retire, I'd drop out of the race, since any of the likely alternative candidates would be fine. My entire campaign will be devoted to explaining the reasons Pat should be replaced," Grebner wrote on a draft mailer he intends to send out.

Why Lindemann? Grebner said he loves to fix broken bureaucracies and sees the Drain Commissioner's Office as being packed with "political hacks" who bring no real skills to the table. Instead, the same outside engineers, lawyers and management staff who contribute to his campaigns are given a little county-taxpayer rain to compensate for what should be done in-house.

Grebner apparently started looking into the office a year ago when City Pulse ran an article on Lindemann's being late on his taxes on a rental property. Since then he's picked up a volume of strange short stories about personal and professional financial mismanagement that he's salivating to share with voters ... as long as the stories tie into Lindemann's alleged financial incompetence.

Grebner claims he'll only serve one four-year term. In that time, he'll find a "superstar chief deputy" who "combines engineering, management and political skills," to run for the commissioner spot in 2016.

If he were drain commissioner once, his county pension — after a combined 36 years of service — would be based on the \$82,800 a year he would make as drain commissioner, not the roughly \$12,371 he makes as county commissioner.

In short, a retired Grebner could live off the pension in one case. In the second, he could not.

Grebner says that's not a motivating factor. He's actually putting together a proposal to change the county's retirement system so he'd receive roughly half of the \$62,000-a-year pension he'd get if elected drain commissioner. He said his political opponents on the board are trying to defeat his plan, allegedly to keep a campaign issue alive.

Strange enough? I haven't even gotten to 80 percent of what's in Grebner's draft flier on Lindemann, which was mailed to exactly 20 people for reaction, or the 40 minutes of jaw-dropping Lindemann stories Grebner shared with me around midnight Tuesday morning, which is when Grebner prefers to do his work.

What are they? Those can be saved for my next strange column on this strange race.

(Kyle Melinn is the editor of the MIRS Newsletter. He's at melinn@lansingcitypulse.com.)

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Stalin is dead – let's party

An exclusive look at the 2012-2013 Lansing Symphony line-up

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

A double shot of piano concertos featuring piano god Ralph Votapek, the mighty rumble of Shostakovich Tenth Symphony, big choral works from Brahms and Monteverdi, the return of pianist Christopher O'Riley and a generous salvo of lesser-known music promises to make the 2012-2013 Lansing Symphony season a ride and a half.



Ralph Votapek

The judicious recipe of comfort food and triple espresso buzz has Timothy Muffitt's prints all over it, but the symphony's music director of six years shied away from any hint he's turning the ratchet.

"You do it ever so gently and

nobody notices," he said.

Principal bassoonist Michael Kroth, in his 10th year with the Lansing Symphony, has noticed. Kroth said that under Muffitt, programming is "much more adventurous than it used to be."

"He's demanding," Kroth said. "He wants the orchestra to improve and has programmed to build the orchestra."

"I think our audience wants to be stretched a little bit," Muffitt said. "Any time I do something that's a little bit out there, I'll get a note or an e-mail that says, 'Thanks for the opportunity.'"

The lid will open and close on the 2012-2013 season with ambitious piano extravaganzas.

For the opener Sept. 14, Michigan

State University pianist Ralph Votapek returns to play with the orchestra for the first time since 2005. He'll play two major piano concertos — Beethoven's massive Fourth and Sergei Prokofiev's sparking Third — to mark the 50th anniversary of his first-place triumph at the first Van Cliburn competition. (Those are the same concertos he played in 1962.)

"We can't ever lose track of the fact that this is a world-class pianist and we're fortunate to have him," Muffitt said.

The season ends with the return of pianist Christopher O'Riley, the henna-tattooed, trench-coated NPR darling who won over young and old with his Radiohead transcriptions at the opener of the symphony's 2009-2010 season.

"I couldn't get him back fast enough," Muffitt said. "Everything clicks with him. I love the spirit of music-making he brings."

This time, O'Riley will tackle the Rachmaninoff First Concerto on a massive program that opens with music from Sergei Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet."

The surprise monster of the season is the Tenth Symphony of Dmitri Shostakovich, a vast tapestry of angst, doom, defiance and grotesquerie that includes a ferocious musical portrait of Shostakovich's oppressor, dictator Josef Stalin, who died shortly before the piece was written in 1953.

"It was time for some Shostakovich," Muffitt said.

Guest conductor David Rayl tackles two major choral works, Johannes Brahms' magisterial "German Requiem" and a rare early-music treat, Claudio Monteverdi's ringing "Vespers of 1610." Brahms's First Symphony, a favorite with musicians and audiences, will anchor the Jan. 5 concert.

But there's no such thing as a night



Courtesy Photo

Timothy Muffitt begins his seventh season as maestro of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra this fall. "He's demanding," said principal bassoonist Michael Kroth. "He wants the orchestra to improve and has programmed to build the orchestra."

of reruns with Muffitt. On Jan. 5, he'll balance Brahms' First Symphony with John Corigliano's suite from the film score for "The Red Violin" and an obscure bit of exotica by Ottorino Respighi, "Brazilian Impressions," inspired in part by the composer's visit to a reptile house.

Even when Muffitt programs a familiar composer, he goes for a fresh perspective. There's only one bit of Mozart on the slate this year, but it's a bassoon concerto, with Kroth as soloist. The concerto, like last year's tuba concerto with principal tuba Phil Sinder, puts the spotlight on an artist who seldom gets to move his chair to the front of the stage.

"They're not quintessential prima donna solo instruments, but Tim doesn't care," principal flutist Richard Sherman said.

Muffitt got lucky when he programmed the season curtain-raiser, "Millennium Canons" by Alma-born, New York-based composer Kevin Puts. Last week, Puts won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize in music for his opera, "Silent Night." Unafraid of narrative in music and aware of the broader culture, Puts is the kind of contemporary composer

Muffitt likes to showcase. His Third Symphony, "Vespertine," was inspired by Icelandic pop queen Björk.

"One of the most interesting things about Tim is his programming," Kroth said. "We do the major works everybody is looking forward to, a chance to play those moments we've practiced our whole careers to do. And then he throws these tidbits that are really interesting."

Muffitt said he programs the bigger works in five-year chunks, orchestrating them to maximum variety and impact, and fills in the shorter works each year.

His first five years, he said, built on the last decade of 28-year music director Gustav Meier's tenure. This fall, Muffitt will start his seventh year as maestro. That puts him in a position to make a deeper stamp on the institution, much like a president beginning a second term.

"All of us are pulling from the same basic canon of masterworks," he said. "We have a responsibility for the care and maintenance of the standard repertoire, and we have a responsibility for nurturing the music of today and tomorrow. Good programming has a balance."

A view from the ranks

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

We asked three musicians from the Lansing Symphony to look at the 2012-13 season as if they were one-crop farmers.

Will it be a bumper year for bassoons? Think the rain will hurt the percussion? Will clarinets get enough sun?

Bassoonist Michael Kroth, clarinetist Emmanuel Toledo and percussionist Gwendolyn Burgett Thrasher, all first-chair players, had trouble sticking with the program.

"It all looks so terrific," Kroth said.

"It's not just the standard stuff, things that are going to fall in our lap," Toledo

said. "The Shostakovich 10th is a real risk, something for all of us to step up to."

All three drooled at the prospect of lending a hand Oct. 6 to the Shostakovich epic, one of the 20th century's great musical canvases. "Every time you turn the page, it's exciting," Kroth said. "The slow movement is just poetry, with the flute, oboe and bassoon. It's so beautiful."

Toledo called it "a real doozy."

"There are lots of technical, super-exposed moments that will get me working in the practice room for sure."

"It's a big symphony, a lot of stuff for percussion," Burgett Thrasher said. "It's one we all have learned for years."

On the same night, Kroth will take the stage for a rare turn as soloist to play the Mozart bassoon concerto.

"I'll go from the frying pan into the fire," he said. "I couldn't have picked a



Michael Kroth



Emmanuel Toledo



Gwendolyn Burgett Thrasher

better concert for bassoon."

When Kroth saw the line-up for the Jan. 5 concert, he lit up. "Brahms One! Wow! There's beautiful playing from all instruments. One of my favorite moments doesn't even involve the bassoon." He laughed at his own bassoon-o-centrism.

"There's this lovely call between flute and horn. Beem-pa-paaahm, paaahm, it just gives me chills."

An intricate Mendelssohn overture ("Fingal's Cave") Oct. 6 will give Toledo some. "There's a clarinet duet, a really

Sound and soundness

Symphony harmonizes Bach with the bottom line

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

A big bronze bust of 28-year music director Gustav Meier still stares from a tabletop in the Lansing Symphony's tiny downtown office suite.

So far, at least, Timothy Muffitt is represented by a custom-designed bobble-head doll, purchased via Groupon.

Toscanini would see this as evidence for the decline of civilization, but for the Lansing Symphony, the tale of two heads is a happy one.

By all indicators, from artistic to economic, the symphony has successfully made the transition from classical music's marble-pedestal past to a new age of accessibility and budget consciousness.

The numbers defy national trends. Ticket sales jumped 13 percent in 2009-2010, rose another 5 percent the next season, and rose again "slightly" this season, according to general manager Courtney Millbrook. The symphony's deficit has dropped from 19 percent in 2008 to five percent this year, and Millbrook hopes to wipe it out completely in three years.

They're not doing it with symphonic Metallica, either. A concert with Beethoven's "Eroica" symphony and cellist Felix Wang on Jan. 7 grossed \$19,000 in single ticket sales, which exceeds most Pops concerts.

"It shows this community's support

for local artists and for classical music," Millbrook said. "It's a really nice buzz."

You may know Millbrook as the person who puts your cash in a box and hands you your tickets at the symphony's chamber music concerts. This is a tight operation. The symphony's entire annual budget is about \$850,000, about one-sixth that of the Louisville Orchestra and barely enough to buy bagels and lox for one New York Philharmonic rehearsal.

Yet, in recent years, the Lansing Symphony has been knocking the stuffing out of major works like Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra and Anton Bruckner's Fourth Symphony.

Muffitt won't take any credit, but others are happy to run interference.

"He has the highest expectations," said the symphony's two-year principal clarinetist, Emmanuel Toledo. "I could feel it immediately when I stepped into my first rehearsal."

Principal bassoonist Michael Kroth said that Muffitt makes a lot of demands, but also heeds suggestions from musicians. "He treats you like an artist and encourages you to bring your best," Kroth said.

"He doesn't seem like one of those Napoleon-like conductors everybody is so afraid of," principal percussionist Gwendolyn Burgett Thrasher said. "He's just a really

All three are looking forward to playing things they have never played before — a pleasure not to be taken for granted in orchestral music.

"I've never played the (Samuel) Barber First Essay for Orchestra" (March 2)," Kroth said. He found two other works he had never touched.

"I like that Tim Muffitt is very adventurous and he's going to go for the more challenging pieces," Toledo said.

Orchestral musicians aren't known for high job satisfaction, but our troika of analysts rated their experience with Muffitt and Lansing highly.

good leader and a great musician."

"I think it was fortunate they chose him," veteran pianist Ralph Votapek said. "He takes it seriously."

Votapek, who will open the 2012-13 season with a bravura two-concerto night, has played with the symphony a dozen times since the 1960s. He's played with nearly all the great orchestras and conductors, including the New York Philharmonic, the Los Angeles Philharmonic and 16 times with the Chicago Symphony, and still puts Lansing in the "top tier."

"The orchestra is better now," he said. "I think everybody realizes that. People don't take it for granted when they have to audition. Sometimes people who have been there for a while find they have to worry about it. It's a very professional atmosphere."

A few decades ago, Votapek said, it was unthinkable that the Lansing Symphony would tackle Shostakovich's colossal Tenth Symphony, as they will this fall.

"They can do very difficult stuff, and they only have five days to rehearse," he said. "The Bruckner Fourth (performed in November 2011) was excellent."

Muffitt is also a great guy to have on a visit to donors, according to Millbrook.

They need the maestro to keep that hat in his closet. While ticket sales went up in the past three seasons, private donations shrank. Ticket sales, once only a third of the budget, now shoulder about half the load. Last year, the symphony reluctantly cut its young peoples' concerts after 60 years to keep the budget goals on target.

Whether he's talking with donors or



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

A bobblehead of Lansing Symphony Orchestra music director Timothy Muffitt is displayed in the LSO's offices. Under Muffitt's direction, the LSO is increasing its audiences and reducing its deficit.

working on the podium, Muffitt relishes any chance to make the case.

"Like the national parks and museums, part of our job is to preserve things of great value, and help create new ones," he said. "In a lot of ways, we're in the same business. We serve as a place of retreat, a place of inspiration, a place of reflection and a place of appreciating some of the beautiful things that go with existence on the planet."

Next season, trios by Brahms and Ravel and quintets by Dvorak and Faure will fill in major blanks in music history.

Other programs bring newer music and lesser-heard combos.

"I try to balance traditional chamber music against the more eclectic stuff," Sherman said.

New or rarely heard music isn't often feasible for orchestras, with their limited rehearsal time. Chamber groups will gladly light some candles and burn the midnight oil, just for fun, if the music grabs them.

Guest artists appear from time to time, but Sherman wants to stick with showcasing members of the orchestra. Some of the combos, like Sherman's Icarus Trio and the Armonia Quartet play regularly as a team.

Sherman also likes to feature one non-traditional combination each year. A "tuba and bones" unit (Feb. 17) will find principal trombone Ava Ordman, principal tuba Phil Sinder and Garil Robertson on euphonium and trombone, tackling intriguing sounding stuff like David Gillingham's "Diversive Elements."

For that one, Sherman left the programming to Ordman and crew. He'll sit back and get an education, like everyone else.

"I've never heard any of that music," he said. "I love that."

Ranks

from page 9

nice moment, just a slow melody," he said.

Prokofiev's "Romeo and Juliet," on the season closer May 9, drew hand-rubbing from Burgett Thrasher and Toledo.

"It doesn't get done a whole lot, but it's really beautiful," Burgett Thrasher said. She is also excited at the prospect of playing "Millennium Canons," by Kevin Puts, which is new to her.

Zeroing in: Chamber series

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Two flute melodies darted in and out of 80 ears in a breath-taking butterfly chase that spiraled to the ceiling of Lansing's Molly Grove Chapel Sunday. The silvery echo lasted barely half a second. It was too late to grab the net. Flutists Richard Sherman and Bryan Guarnuccio smiled at their fleeting communion.

The final Lansing Symphony chamber concert of the season gave delicate notice that the symphony isn't all about blasting brass, soaring strings and booming tympani.

"You're in a smaller hall, there's one person to a part," Sherman said. "You get to zero in on the instruments in a personal way."

Next season, the long-running series will bring musicians close to the audience in combinations that are familiar and not so familiar.

Sherman, the symphony's principal flutist and artistic director of the chamber series, said that many of the greatest composers wrote their best music in smaller forms.

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2012-2013 Lansing Symphony Orchestra Schedule



Ralph Votapek

8 p.m. Sept. 14
"MasterWorks 1: Opening Night," celebrating Ralph Votapek's 50th anniversary
Guest Artist: Ralph Votapek, piano
Puts: Millennium Canons
Beethoven: Piano Concerto No. 4
Prokofiev: Piano Concerto No. 3

8 p.m. Oct. 6

"MasterWorks 2: Shostakovich Symphony No. 10"
Guest artist: Michael Kroth, bassoon
Mendelssohn: Fingal's Cave Overture
Mozart: Bassoon Concerto
Shostakovich: Symphony No. 10

3 p.m. Oct. 14

Lansing Symphony Jazz Band
Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College

3 p.m. Oct. 28

"Chamber Series 1: Icarus Trio in the Americas"
Richard Sherman, Flute Robert deMaine, cello
James Wilhelmsen, piano
Elisenda Fabregas: Voces de mi Tierra for Flute, Cello and Piano
Norman Dello Joio: Trio for Flute, Cello and Piano
Alberto Ginastera: Pampeana No. 2 for Cello and Piano
Manuel deFalla: 7 Populaire Chansons for Flute, Cello and Piano
Andres Sas: Sonatina — Fantasia

8 p.m. Nov. 10

"MasterWorks 3: From London to Germany"
Guest conductor: David Rayl
Guest artists: Melanie Helton, soprano & David Small, baritone
University Chorale, State Singers, Michigan State University Choral Union
Haydn: Symphony No. 104 "London"
Brahms: A German Requiem

3 p.m. Nov. 18

"Chamber Series 2: Lush and Romantic"
Armonia Quartet:
Fangye Sun, violin
Yoonah Na, violin
Mikhail Bugaev, viola
Daniel Tressel, cello
A Ram Lee, piano
Antonin Dvorak: Quintet in A Major, Op. 81
Gabriel Faure: Quintet in C minor, Op. 115

3 p.m. Dec. 16

"Holiday Pops"
Guest artist: MSU Children's Choir

8 p.m. Jan. 5

"MasterWorks 4: 'Red Violin' & Brahms"
Guest artist: Philippe Quint, Violin
Respighi: Brazilian Impressions
Corigliano: Chaconne from "The Red Violin"
Brahms: Symphony No. 1

3 p.m. Jan. 13

"Chamber Series 3: Trio Favorites"
Arcos Trio:
Seunghye Lee, violin
Carl Donakowski, cello
Anthony Padilla, piano
Johannes Brahms: Trio in C Major, Op. 87
Maurice Ravel: Trio in A minor

8 p.m. Feb. 9

"Classical Mystery Tour: A Tribute to the Beatles"



Classical Mystery Tour

3 p.m. Feb. 17

"Chamber Series 4: Tuba and 'Bones'"
Ava Ordman, trombone
Philip Sinder, tuba
Gail Robertson, euphonium and trombone
Derek Polischuk, piano
Eric Ewazen: Ballade
David Gillingham: Diverse Elements
James Meador: Reciprocity

8 p.m. March 2

"MasterWorks 5: Dvorak's New World"
Guest artist: Allison Sanders, mezzo soprano
Barber: First Essay
Gaber: Ancestral Waters
Dvorak: Symphony No. 9 "From the New World"

3 p.m. March TBD

Lansing Symphony Jazz Band
Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College

8 p.m. April 6

"Bravo Broadway!"

7 p.m. April 14

"Sacred Music"
Guest conductor: David Rayl
Guest artist: University Chorale
Monteverdi:
Vespers of 1610

8 p.m. May 9, 2013

"MasterWorks 6: Season Finale with Rachmaninoff"
Guest artist: Christopher O'Riley, piano
Prokofiev:
Scenes from "Romeo and Juliet"
Rachmaninoff: Piano Concerto No. 1



Christopher O'Riley

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Running against the wind

First Lansing Marathon came together, despite difficulties and challenges

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Sunday, April 22, downtown Lansing.

At 7:35 a.m., several hundred people are milling about in the shadow of the Accident Fund Building, jumping and stretching to keep warm. It's cold enough to snow, but clear blue skies belie that fear. The cutting northeast wind is their concern today. Well, that and the daunting challenge of running 26.2 miles before lunch.

After a year of build-up and countless challenges, including eleventh hour infrastructure reorganization and course changes, the first-ever Lansing Marathon is about to begin.

Angie Simpson is pacing with nervous energy, ready to go. The 45-year-old Chicago resident has never run a full marathon before, but says that she's "feeling strong" — and she's got humor to spare.

"I'm originally from Lansing, so I know the route, my friends and family live here, and the emergency rooms are close by," she says. "I think I've got this."

Simpson says that the novelty of running a first-year event spurred her to sign up last winter. She encountered some online registration problems, including having her \$15 coupon get rejected, but says that things seem to be working fine now.

"Thank God for Playmakers," she says. "This race was definitely having some communication and organization issues, but once they got involved, everything just fell into place."

Playmakers is the runningwear store in Okemos that is synonymous with well-organized races throughout the region. It came aboard several weeks ago to help Lansing Marathon founder Owen Anderson in the

Sisyphian task of putting together his first major running event. Anderson, a Lansing-based runner, speaker and author, proposed the Lansing Marathon last year and was the driving force in launching it. With the addition three months ago of famed race organizer Bill Ewing of Detroit, things were finally in place for a successful event.

"Owen is very passionate, but we had some differences in opinion that kept us out initially," says Brian Jones, one of the owners of Playmakers and an official adviser of Sunday's activities. "But you can have different offenses and still be successful. Operations is like the third leg of a stool, and that was something this race needed."

At 7:50 a.m., announcer Tim Barron's voice booms over the loudspeakers, beckoning runners toward the starting line. He then hands the microphone to Anderson.

"A marathon is about 26 miles, but more than that: It's about dreams," Anderson said, before turning the mike over to Mayor Virg Bernero who decreed April 22 as "Dr. Owen Anderson Day." Bernero then pledged to be there for every step of the marathon — in spirit — before leading the countdown that sent the runners on their way at 8:05 a.m.

Almost right on time.

At the 5K starting line on Capitol Avenue several minutes later, the countdown makes it to "3" before someone on the ground shouts, "Hold the race!" After a couple of seconds of awkward silence, Barron quips that a train is responsible for the holdup — the joke being the course map's first draft included a train track crossing, a big no-no in race course design.

Bernero doesn't miss a beat: "Did someone say, 'Speech?'" Thirty seconds later, the

delay is resolved, and Barron does his best race-starting "beeeeeeeep" in lieu of an actual air horn.

Barely 15 minutes later, the first sprinter crosses the finish line. Eight minutes after that, Jerry Platte, 36, finishes with a time of 23:35 — well within his goal given the training he put into it.

"I signed up yesterday, and last night I only had four beers and a shot," he says. "The course was easy — just a square (up and down Allegan and Ottawa Streets) that you run around twice. It was nice."

By the time the half-marathon starts at 9:30 a.m., most of the 5Kers are done and the full marathoners are well into their race. At the Mile 8 marker, marathon runner — er, walker — Kent Moore, 45, was striding down Mt. Hope Road.

"I have no interest in running," says the Atlanta native. "I've walked 11 marathons in the last 10 months. My goal is to walk one in every state."

Moore says he sought out the Lansing marathon because it seemed "interesting" — and enabled him to see two new sports stadiums (his hidden agenda): Spartan Stadium and The Big House in Ann Arbor.

"But they did a good job putting this together," he says. "I know I'm in last place, and I'm still seeing 10 people at the water stations helping out. Usually by the time I come around, they've already packed up. But not here."

The course takes a right on Beaumont Road and a left down Bennett, leading into an idyllic golf course neighborhood in East Lansing. Runners cut down East Sunwind Drive, a block of stately homes and manicured lawns, before the course gets slightly rural through a paved bike path in the woods. Then a 5-mile dip down to Willoughby Road and back up College Road toward Michigan

State University, where the view became bleak and the smell of cow manure overpowering. Reported 22 m.p.h. winds (with gusts up to 31 m.p.h., according to weather.com) made the going tough, cold and dispiriting. Elizabeth Demers chose to walk the stretch leading up the Mile 19 marker.

"This wind is brutal," she says. "I'm ready for this part to be over."

In fact, it was already over for marathon winner Nicholas Maiyo, from Kenya, who completed the course in two hours and 20 minutes. Reportedly, he complained about the wind, too.

After the turn west down Forest Drive, Thanh Truong, 50, chugs along at a healthy 10-minute-mile pace past the 21 Mile marker. Truong drove 10 hours up from Springfield, Va. to run, and, like Moore, has the goal of completing a marathon in all 50 states. But why the Lansing Marathon?

"This is a good time of year for a race," he says. "Not too hot, not too cold, plus it's nice and small. I really like that. This is a very pretty course, with parks, farms and streets. This is the only good way to see a city."

Truong says that he's taking in the sights while he's in town. He paid a visit to the Capitol on Saturday, where he was bummed to learn they don't do weekend tours.

"But I don't leave till tomorrow, so you never know," he says.

At Mile 25, Doug Graustein, 26, is starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

"I'm part of a triathlon team in metro Detroit, and I wanted to do a spring marathon before tri season really gets going," he says. "This seemed better than the Dearborn one. It was beautiful. I'll definitely be back next year."

He runs a couple of steps, then adds, "Provided I can make it this last mile."

At the finish line, 86 cadets from the Michigan Youth Challenge Academy in Battle Creek are handing out medals, picking up debris and sorting recyclables. Like the plover birds that clean crocodile teeth, the benefit is mutual: Race volunteers don't have to worry about clean-up, and MYCD cadets get precious community service hours needed for graduation. With



Allan I. Ross/City Pulse

Inspirational signs were posted along the 26-mile Lansing Marathon course.

See Marathon, Page 13

Marathon

from page 12

spit-shined boots, berets, sashes and last names sewn on the breasts of their uniforms, they're a paramilitary-looking crew, exceedingly polite and fastidiously adhering to their code of conduct.

According to the official Lansing Marathon website, lansingmarathon.com, there were 412 marathon runners, 882 half-marathoners, 226 5Kers and about 174 people making up the relay teams, for a grand total of 1,694 — less than the 2,000

that organizers had hoped for and well short of last year's stated goal of 10,000. In addition, there were 600 volunteers helping out at 150 locations around the course.

But whether it was a case of post-race ecstasy or true adulation, nearly everyone agrees that whatever Anderson and his team did, they did it right.

"This was a hell of a lot better than I was expecting," says DeWitt resident Steve Brodeur, 40, as he stands wrapped in a silver blanket and going to town on a bagel. "Both in terms of participation and support, for a first-year event, this was fantastic. But man, I wish they could have done something about that wind. Phew!"

*Choreographed and Directed by
Gregory M. George*

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THE SCREENING ROOM

by JAMES SANFORD

Connect with the superb Oscar-winning 'Separation'

When tragedy strikes, we often look for someone to blame. Who was responsible? Who was negligent? Who's the victim?

The engrossing, fascinatingly detailed Iranian drama "A Separation" reminds us that pointing fingers can be very risky business indeed. Writer-director Asghar Farhadi argues that the workings of the world are so tricky that simple solutions and easy answers are often hard to find.

The film, which won the Academy Award for best foreign film earlier this year, provides us with a picture of Iranian life that might surprise many Westerners. The women may wear chadors or head scarves, but they are

not always subservient and they are certainly not silent: In fact, the movie opens in a judge's chambers, where Simin (Leila Hatami), a strong-willed mother who wants to leave Iran with her daughter, is challenging her husband, Nader (Peyman Moaadi).



Courtesy photo

Leila Hatami plays a strong-willed wife who leaves her husband in "A Separation."

Disgusted by Nader's refusal to honor her wishes, Simin leaves him, the first of several separations in "A Separation."

That forces Nader to find someone to look after his elderly father, who has Alzheimer's disease and requires near-constant attention. Enter Razieh (Sareh Bayat), who is trying to provide for her family while her husband, Houjat (Shahab Hosseini), is out of work.

What could have been a mutually beneficial arrangement takes a terrible turn as a series of unwise choices and misunderstandings lead to accusations and violence.

Farhadi refuses to simplify the situation by drawing a clear-cut "bad guy": Razieh and Nader are each flawed in their own ways, allowing stress and anger to cloud their decision making. The ghastly situation that results from their clash is as provocative as it is heartbreaking because there is fault on both sides. Complex and splendidly acted, "A Separation" is a powerhouse domestic drama, a first-rate mystery and a superb piece of cinema.

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Some activities may require a small materials fee.

Congo lines

A brothel madam battles brutal realities in the Pulitzer-winning 'Ruined'

By JAMES SANFORD

No brawls, no bullets — and, if you're a miner, you'd better wash your feet and hands in the bucket outside. These are some of the rules to be followed at the Congolese brothel run by Mama Nadi in Lynn Nottage's Pulitzer Prize-winning "Ruined," which Peppermint Creek Theatre Co. is producing as its season finale.

Tough-talking, cunning Mama Nadi has designed her illicit establishment as a haven for those who want to escape the terrors of daily life, particularly the ongoing civil war that she refuses to discuss. In a country of rough men and rough diamonds, Mama Nadi is determined to maintain a place of peace and pleasure. So, in exchange for cold beer, icy Fanta and steamy trysts with her stable of girls, Mama Nadi expects her clientele to honor her high standards.

"Once you step through my door, then you're in my house," she declares. "And I

has designed her illicit establishment as a haven for those who want to escape the terrors of daily life, particularly the ongoing civil war that she refuses to discuss. In a country of rough



Courtesy Photo

Mama Nadi (Chelsea Lucas) and Josephine (Teri Brown) sell pleasure amid the chaos of the Congolese civil war in Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.'s "Ruined."

make the rules here."

But while Mama Nadi may be able to manipulate her customers and her employees, she can't shut out the realities of what's going on outside her door, nor can she turn away from the traumas her employees have experienced: broken

families, sexual slavery and the disgrace of being "ruined" by rapists.

It's a play that addresses what Peppermint Creek artistic director Chad Badgero calls "topics that aren't talked about," which is one of the reasons he was eager to add to it to his schedule.

"After reading 'Ruined,' I was overwhelmed by it," Badgero said. "I thought, 'It's not going to be done anywhere else in the area,' which was a huge motivating factor. That topicality is part of our mission, and the subject of war, both here and abroad, is definitely in our society. The show is intriguing in the way it addresses war through the specific standpoint of these characters."

Nottage's script draws inspiration from Bertolt Brecht's "Mother Courage," both in its theme of Mama Nadi simultaneously profiting from conflict and suffering from it, and in its use of musical interludes to add extra dimensions to the characters.

"The music brings a different tone to the production," Badgero said. "It gives the ability to set tone and atmosphere in a way you can't do solely with language. It gives a sense of locale and it evokes a lot of emotion."

Badgero picked Deborah Keller (Lansing Community College's "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" and "American Buffalo") to direct the show.

"That was an easy choice!" he said, with a laugh. "I've worked with her before and we teach at LCC together. This play is really daunting in a lot of ways, and it posed some casting challenges in our town, as far as finding actors and directors who were willing to tackle it in a brave, respectful way.

"This is the kind of material she thrives on, so this play is so well-suited to her. She's so brave; she doesn't shrink back from issues or topics in any manner. So it was a natural fit."



Courtesy Photo

Elle Woods (Erika Moul) is pretty in pink in Michigan State University's "Legally Blonde."

Honors college

Michigan State University's sparkling 'Blonde' earns straight As

By TOM HELMA

How does a musical that focuses on the stereotype of a blonde woman being a superficial airhead become a substantial piece of theater? In the case of Michigan State University's production of "Legally Blonde," simply by demonstrating the obvious: that while beauty might seem to be skin deep, intelligence is not.

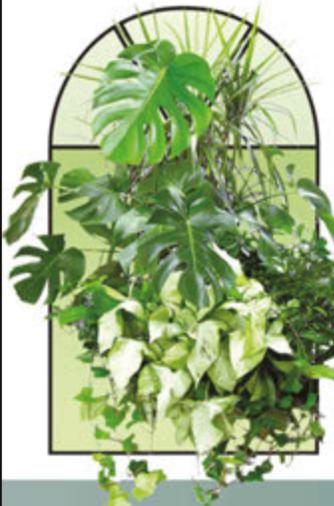
Add a wide range of excellent performances to the

nuanced texture of the script, and you have a potentially award-worthy show from director Rob Roznowski. Scenic designer G. Max Maxim creates a dazzling wall of fuchsia-lipstick red doors with pewter gold swirls that opens and closes at will to trigger a revolving peripheral stage that brings set pieces on and off the stage with minimal assistance from a running crew. Costume designer April Townsend clearly has the pulse of college clothing styles and dresses the sorority "girlies" and their fraternity counterparts with great accuracy.

Then there is the acting. Start at the top with the central character, Elle, (pronounced "L") Woods. Blonde and

Review

See Blonde, Page 15



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'Wicked' is back at Wharton Center, starting June 27

College outcast Elphaba (Anne Brummel) gets a bit of musical advice from her ever-popular classmate, Glinda (Tiffany Haas), in the touring production of the Broadway blockbuster "Wicked," which returns to the Wharton Center June 27 and runs through July 8. Tickets — which start at \$38 — go on sale to the public at 10 a.m. Friday, April 27. Call (800) WHARTON, or visit www.whartoncenter.com.

Straight from the harp

Deidreanna Potter plays with Lansing Concert band

By CITY PULSE STAFF

Deidreanna Potter, a 17-year-old harpist from Charlotte, receives the Kenneth G. Bloomquist

Lansing Concert Band

8 p.m. Saturday, April 28
Dart Auditorium
500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing
Free
(517) 641-4263
www.lansingconcertband.org

Award at Saturday's Lansing Concert Band performance; she will perform composer David Bennett's "La Rougette" at the concert.

The home-schooled Potter has performed with the MSU Symphony, the

Lansing Symphony Orchestra and the Jackson Symphony.

The Bloomquist award — named for

the former LCB director — is presented to a Michigan high school student who demonstrates a high level of musical proficiency.

Also joining the Concert Band on Saturday will be pianist Sangmi Lim, a visiting assistant professor at the MSU College of Music and a member of the faculty at Lansing Community College. She will play the first movement of the Grieg Concerto in A Minor.

Additional pieces in the concert include Leonard Bernstein's Overture to "Candide," Respighi's "The Pines of the Appian Way," Grainger's "Handel in the Strand," Wagner's "Trauersinfonie," Davide Delle Cese's "L'Inglesina" and "Impulse!," a 2011 work by LCB music director Gary T. Sullivan.

Blonde

from page 14

glamorous, to be sure, Elle (Erika Moul) turns out — duh — to have a mind of her own, and when she is rejected by boyfriend Warner Huntington III (Wes Haskell), Elle sings and dances her way into Harvard Law School.

Moul is brassy and bright, tender and tough, embracing the sartorial excesses of her character with abandon as she dazzles with an intuitive self-possessed stage presence. She belts it out, she evokes empathy and she is the heart of the story.

A supporting cast of characters and a snappy song and dance ensemble add to the richness of "Blonde." Haskell is crisp and snobby, while Christopher Robinson as Emmett Forest, the poor-boy law student from Boston, charms his way into Elle's heart and into the audience's heart as well. Who knew a person could sing with a spot-on Boston accent?

Trish Amanda Hubbard, as working-class Irish hair stylist, Paulette, comes close to stealing the show with her comic solos, while Landon Duyka, as the dour and almost sinister Professor Callahan, performs a tutorial on how the spoken word can be almost musical — with the assistance of a talented pit orchestra.

Three choreographers share the lime-

light for this production: Dionte Brown, Travis Staton-Marrero, and costumer Townsend. Both group numbers and individual dances are performed splendidly.

Two older gents were overheard at intermission discussing the question of whether a musical can have substance. Capturing the essence of the idea that we can never completely know the depth of one's intelligence nor one's inner beauty and then putting that insight to music, to song and dance adds up to something substantial.

Bravo.

'Legally Blonde'

Through April 29
Michigan State University Theatre
Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 25 and Thursday, April 26; 8 p.m. Friday, April 27; 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 28; 2 p.m. Sunday, April 29.

Pre-show talk with director Rob Roznowski at 1:15 p.m. Saturday, April 21; post-show talk on April 26
\$20; \$15 for students
www.whartoncenter.com
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Local rockers Frank and Earnest accepted the award for Best Original Band.



Left: Frog of Frog & the Beeftones provided musical entertainment for the event, along with Root Doctor.

Below: City Pulse Sales Associate Shelly Olson chatted with Erik Nelson of English Inn and girlfriend Kristin Bloomquist.

Gennifer Musial/City Pulse



Above: Food and drink were provided by Fork in the Road Local Artisan Diner, Dan Henry Distributing Co., Biggby Coffee, Grand Traverse Pie Co., Houlihan's, Sweetie-licious Bakery Cafe, Vine & Brew, Uncle John's Cider Mill, Soup Spoon Cafe, Mitchell's Fish Market and Dusty's Cellar.



Right: Best Environmentalist winner Pat Lindemann collected his award from City Pulse publisher Berl Schwartz.



CityPULSE TOP of the TOWN



Above: WLMI-FM morning show host Tim Barron and WLNS news anchor Evan Pinsonnault served as the MCs for the awards. Barron won Best Local Radio Personality and Pinsonnault won Best Local TV Personality.



Craig Doepker, winner of Best Bartender, and co-worker Anna Capps represented Mac's Bar, which won as Best Venue and Best Weeknight Hangout.

Photos by
Karah Keller

City Pulse presented its annual Top of the Town awards last Thursday at a ceremony at Perspective 2 in Old Town. The evening was emceed by Tim Barron of WLMI-FM and Evan Pinsonnault of WLNS-TV, and included music by Root Doctor and Frog and the Beeftones. The winners were selected in an online readers' poll co-sponsored by WLNS that drew approximately 13,000 voters; to see the full list of winners, visit tinyurl.com/TOTTCityPulse.

Booking the big names

Award-winning Michigan authors take the spotlight at Night for Notables

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Three recent National Book Award honorees found the prize created an almost oxymoronic situation for them: They couldn't write.

Jesmym Ward, Jaimy Gordon and Bonnie Jo Campbell all discovered that their brush with writing fame left them overscheduled, living out of suitcases and a little gun shy about living up to the expectations created by the coveted award.

Ward, who won the National Book Award in 2011 for "Salvage the Bones," and Gordon, the 2010 award winner for "Lord of Misrule," will join 2009 finalist Campbell ("American Salvage") for a conversation about winning, writing and life after the award at the 2012 Night for Notables award ceremony Saturday at the Library of Michigan.

Given their commitments it's almost incredible to see three National Book Award honorees on the same program, said Carolyn Sparks, executive director of the Library of Michigan Foundation,

which hosts the event.

Besides the obvious, the three writers have much in common. All were considered underdogs in the award competition. Gordon and Campbell's books were published by small presses, and Ward was a virtually unknown author.

All have Michigan ties. Ward graduated from the University of Michigan; Campbell lives in Portage, and Gordon is a professor of English at Western Michigan University.

None of the authors had any inkling

This year's Michigan Notable Books:

- "Elly Peterson: 'Mother' of the Moderates," by Sara Fitzgerald (University of Michigan Press)
- "Everyday Klansfolk: White Protestant Life and the KKK in 1920s Michigan," by Craig Fox (Michigan State University Press)
- "Fever: Little Willie John, A Fast Life, Mysterious Death and the Birth of Soul," by Susan Whitall (Titan Books)
- "Ghost Writers: Us Haunting Them, Contemporary Michigan Literature," edited by Keith Taylor and Laura Kasischke (Wayne State University Press)
- "Hank Greenberg: The Hero Who Didn't Want to Be One," by Mark Kurlansky (Yale University Press)
- "Here Comes Trouble: Stories from My Life," by Michael Moore (Grand Central Publishing)
- "In Stitches: A Memoir," by Anthony Youn, M.D. (Gallery Books)
- "Jacobson's, I Miss It So!: The Story Of A Michigan Fashion Institute," by Bruce Allen Kopytek (History Press)
- "Magic Trash: A Story of Tyree Guyton and His Art," by J.H. Shapiro and

illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton (Charlesbridge)

- "Michigan and the Civil War: A Great and Bloody Sacrifice," by Jack Dempsey (The History Press)
- "Misery Bay," by Steve Hamilton (Minotaur Books)
- "Miss Martin Is a Martian," by Colleen Murray Fisher and illustrated by Jared Chapman (Mackinac Island Press)
- "Motor City Shakedown," by D. E. Johnson (Minotaur Books)
- "A Nation's Hope: The Story of Boxing Legend Joe Louis," by Matt De La Pena and illustrated by Kadir Nelson (Dial Books for Young Readers)
- "Once Upon a Car: The Fall and Resurrection of America's Big Three Automakers — GM, Ford, and Chrysler," by Bill Vlasic (William Morrow)
- "Once Upon a River," by Bonnie Jo Campbell (Norton)
- "Songs of Unreason," by Jim Harrison (Copper Canyon Press)
- "South of Superior," by Ellen Airgood (Riverhead Books)
- "Vintage Views Along the West Michigan Pike: From Sand Trails to US-31," by M. Christine Byron and Thomas R. Wilson (Arbutus Press)
- "Wire to Wire," by Scott Sparling (Tin House Books)

they would be in consideration for the award before the announcement of the finalists. Gordon didn't prepare any comments for the award ceremony, Campbell had to borrow a dress, and Ward says she still can't believe it.

"It was such an impressive list," she said. "It still isn't real to me. It has made my life very busy."

All three writers candidly admit that before being honored their writing careers were on the ropes. Ward considered taking up nursing, Campbell thought about replacing writing with teaching, and Gordon was losing hope.

In a recent essay, Gordon, who wrote about a down and out race track in "Lord of Misrule," compared her writing career to a race horse at the end of its career that makes one last unexpected run for glory.

"I always wanted to publish 'Lord of Misrule' ... with a major press. I wanted more people to read at least one of my books. I wanted it to be difficult for anyone in the business to dismiss me."

Gordon, who said she was published for 35 years by "good small presses," was treated as an unknown writer when she became a finalist. "Vulgar as this is, I wanted one book with my name on it in airport bookstores, with the front cover turned out to passersby."

The writers will also discuss a common aspect of their writing: Each has a strong, young female protagonist — all lost girls — who overcomes her flaws, looking out for herself and others.

Moderator Campbell hopes to thoroughly investigate that idea. "Our characters seem to defy expectations," she said, "and I want us to talk about why that is."

The Michigan Notable Book Award is celebrating its 20th year and has its roots in the state's Michigan Week celebration. Each year, a committee (including this writer) reviews hundreds of books written by Michigan authors, or books about Michigan.

Bruce Kopytek, whose book on the history of a department store ("Jacobson's, I Miss It So") and its closing was selected as a Notable Book, said, "My book is in good company, but as a first-time author I was caught off-guard. The honor certainly goes to the subject matter."

Several first-time authors were selected as award winners, including Scott Sparling, for his edgy, noirish crime novel "Wire to Wire," and Ellen Airgood's "South of Superior," about a charming Upper Peninsula diner and its denizens.

Other award winners helped resurrect the lives of important Michiganders who otherwise may have been lost to time, such as Detroit News reporter Susan Whitall's biography of Detroit soul and blues singer Little Willie John ("Fever: The Fast Life and Mysterious Death of Little Willie John"). Former Washington Post writer

Sara Fitzgerald's "Elly Peterson: 'Mother' of the Moderates," illuminated a Michigan activist who was one of the first major female political leaders in the country.

Next week, the award-winners start touring the state, making appearances at 50 local libraries.

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As a 19-year-old, Jim beat the vaunted Cuban National Team. By 21, he'd won the gold medal game at the 1988 Olympics and cracked the starting rotation of the California Angels. In 1993 he would don Yankee pinstripes and deliver a one-of-a-kind no-hitter.

In this honest and insightful memoir, Jim reveals the insecurities of a life spent as the different one. With a riveting pitch-by-pitch account of his no-hitter providing the ideal frame for his story, he offers readers an extraordinary and unforgettable memoir.

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AMY ALKON
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Q: This woman and I have been friends for a year. She's a free spirit of sorts with zero boundaries. In the time I've known her, she's been married and divorced and then engaged, and now that has ended. She always has another man on the side. (She did even when married and engaged.) She frequently mentions my husband — how he likes animated films and so does she (they're not my thing) and offers to accompany him to them. She always gives him a big hug hello, even when I'm around, and goes on about how similar they are, and it just strikes me as odd. Here's the killer: Last week, she saw my husband at a gathering, came up behind him, and kissed him on the neck! Of course he told me, as he has no interest in her, but I was shocked. We are planning a business together, but now I don't want her near my husband! Should I confront her?

—Disturbed

A: "She's a free spirit of sorts." Of sorts. The classic, harmless sort is the cute hippie girl who dyes her hair teal, changes her name to Magic Rainbow, and goes off for a year to live in a teepee. What does your free-spirited friend do, make lingerie out of found materials that she can wear when she climbs on your husband?

Boundaries aren't such a bad thing; they keep the cows from roaming the freeways. Should the urge strike to let one's lips prowl the neck of another woman's husband, true friendship and empathy make the best fences. A true friend might find herself attracted to your husband but would be careful to avoid saying or doing anything to tempt him or make you feel threatened. This "friend's" sneak attack on your husband's neck meat, along with her notion of sexual fidelity — "Till death do us part or the NBA shot clock runs down" — suggests that she's a narcissist, a self-absorbed, manipulative user.

Narcissists lack empathy and can't

be true friends or partners because their aggressive self-interest always comes first, although they tend to be good at faking friendship or partnership and painting their toxic opportunism as, say, free-spiritedness: A woman must follow her bliss!...right down the pants of another woman's man. (Oh, come on, Stuffy...she always has another man on the side — why not yours?)

Do you really want to be in a partnership with a woman whose moral compass seems fixed on magnetic ME! ME! ME!? In deciding that, be careful not to let momentum get the best of you. We're prone to want to continue down the path we've been on and rationalize why that's a good idea — even when evidence that it isn't keeps popping up like dogs in humiliating outfits on YouTube.

If you're hellbent on working with her, get a partnership agreement drawn up by a lawyer (one who is not your alcoholic brother-in-law). Probably your best bet, however, is bowing out now with a host of vague but plausible reasons: You're not ready; you don't have the energy right now; it wouldn't be fair to her. Keep the actual reason to yourself: A startup takes a hands-on approach, but she's only got two hands, and they're usually crawling up some other woman's husband.

Q: My girlfriend had a drug problem but claimed she'd been clean for seven years. It turns out she's been using for the entire year we've been together. Two months ago, she went to rehab. I thought she was doing all right afterward, but then she admitted that she'd twice gotten high and had sex with a guy she met at rehab. I think I can forgive her, but I'm wondering whether I can ever believe her again.

—Duped

A: Random urine tests can say a lot about a person, like that she either got the dog to pee into a cup or could one day give birth to a fine litter of Labradoodles. Drug addicts lie. Yours has been lying to you from day one, and not about inconsequential stuff. (Don't

run to get an HIV test; grow wings and fly there.) Your girlfriend's motto appears to be "Just say 'Don't mind if I do!' to drugs." You could say she's been cheating on you with drugs. Actually, she's been cheating on drugs with you. Make no mistake about what comes first and who comes second. That's not going to change overnight — and maybe not ever. You can someday have a loving, mutual relationship — once you find a partner whose moments of painful honesty involve admitting to stuff like scraping your new car getting into the garage, not "Oh, I had sex with a crackhead I met in rehab. And how was your day?"

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Serving Greater Lansing's LGBT Community

Lansing Association for Human Rights

LAHR • LGBT News • Coming Out Group • Frim Awards • Breakfast Club • Downtowns Lunch • Cafe Night

An advocate by and for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and their allies in the greater Lansing community since 1979.

www.LAHRonline.org

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Let's Go

Sigh-Seeing"—we won't miss a thing.
by Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Practice in the ring
- 5 Country between Canada and Mexico, cheesily
- 10 Off-road rides
- 14 "A Shot at Love" reality star ___ Tequila
- 15 Lose one's cool
- 16 Salad ingredient that stains
- 17 Home of the Runnin' Rebels
- 18 It may be stuffed in a jar
- 19 Actress Sofer
- 20 "Come run the rapids at this specially assigned locale!"
- 23 Overly
- 24 Words following "doe" in song lyrics
- 25 It may be amassed
- 28 Emma Peel's show, with "The"
- 31 "Come see the view, for all you nosy types!"
- 33 They're in their last yr.
- 34 "Uh-oh, better get..." company
- 35 Ave. crossers
- 38 "Come see how everything crystallizes during the winter!"
- 42 "Sure thing!"
- 45 More creepy
- 46 "Barracuda" band
- 47 Oktoberfest's beginning mo., oddly
- 48 "Come to the sheltered spot you can't wait to get away from!"

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13	
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59							60						61		
62							63						64		

- 56 Ohio's Great Lake
- 57 Actor Crawford of "Gossip Girl"
- 58 Defensive spray
- 59 Jazz great Horne
- 60 HBO founder Charles
- 61 Feels under the weather
- 62 "Dianetics" author ___ Hubbard
- 63 Fork over
- 64 Slot machine fruit
- landia" catchphrase)
- 8 "Take ___" (Dave Brubeck classic)
- 9 Scored 100% on
- 10 Shorten into one volume, maybe
- 11 The idiot box
- 12 Wood cover
- 13 Ringo and Bart
- 21 Seek out
- 22 Went off
- 25 Bathrooms, poshly
- 26 Continent on the Atl.
- 27 Subject for the Mark Twain Prize
- 28 Type of marble
- 29 Sotto ___
- 30 Wear away gradually
- 32 Be bratty
- 35 Fail to appear in court, maybe
- 36 Ball prop
- 37 Georgia, once: abbr.
- 38 ___ Times (UK mag taglined "The World of Strange Phenomena")
- 39 Frequent early "Hollywood Squares" panelist Lee
- 40 "___ we forget"
- 41 Local layout
- 42 "Darn it," a little more strongly
- 43 Phobic sort
- 44 Place to place bets
- 49 Calculator displays
- 50 "Just ___, skip..."
- 51 Area between hills
- 52 "___ Has Cheez-burger?"
- 53 Cell phone button
- 54 Gp. concerned with rights
- 55 Southern response

Down

- 1 Poker variety
- 2 Scent of a tree on a rear-view mirror
- 3 Superior athletes
- 4 Pillows on a plate
- 5 "___ my word"
- 6 Room in a Spanish house
- 7 "Put a bird ___" ("Port-

City Pulse Classifieds

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

DELIVERY DRIVER NEEDED

City Pulse needs a driver with car to deliver the paper on Wednesdays starting by 9 a.m. Call (517) 999-5069.

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

OUT on the TOWN

Wednesday, April 25

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.

Farm to Table: The Purple Carrot Truck. Hear about their fresh food mission and 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 both in prayer and in meditation. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

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

See Out on the Town, Page 21

R. Knott

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

APRIL 26

Art performance sparks gender dialogue

This Thursday, Lansing artist Chelsea Roberts gives a theatrical performance titled "Put-On: Wearing Gender" at (SCENE) MetroSpace. Roberts' past work includes collage installments at Basement 414 and Creole Gallery in addition to performances at The Root Cellar and Mac's Bar. The performance highlights gender as being socially constructed on the body via clothing. Roberts hopes to develop a conversation about pieces in wardrobes that signify gender by utilizing clothing, audio effects, movement and words. The 45-minute piece was inspired by her research on performance art and fashion theory. 7:30 p.m. FREE. (SCENE) MetroSpace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832. www.scenemetrospace.com.



Photo by Meghan Colson

APRIL 27

Meet your match

Looking for love, or just a chance to mingle with other young professionals? The Country Club of Lansing could be the answer. The Grand River Connection — co-hosted by Gabrielle Johnson, Tom Ruis and Evan Pinsonnault — will dedicate an evening to those looking for a new relationship, either platonic or romantic. It also provides people who are new in town with a casual networking environment. The cost includes a glass of champagne and light hors d'oeuvres; there will also be a cash bar available. The GRC advises attendees to dress up for the event. 8 p.m. \$10. Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Dr., Lansing. To RSVP, call (517) 484-4567.

APRIL 28

Art benefit for AIDS

The Lansing Community College's Gay Straight Alliance is hosting Art for AIDS, a silent auction to support the Lansing Area AIDS Network. The Gay Straight Alliance has collected over 30 pieces of art to be auctioned, including pottery, photography and illustrations donated by alliance members and LCC students. All proceeds from the auction will be donated to the Lansing Area AIDS Network. The event takes place on Saturday at the Kennedy Cafe on the second floor of Lansing Community College's Arts and Sciences Building. Light refreshments will be served. Noon-5 p.m. FREE to attend. Kennedy Café, LCC Art's and Sciences Building, 419 N. Washington Square, Lansing. For more information, or to view the art pieces collected so far, visit www.lccgsaartforaids.blogspot.com

APRIL 28

Through the Looking Glass

The Allen Neighborhood Center, in partnership with Lansing Community College and the Ingham County Land Bank, sponsors the Restoration Works program. Restoration Works offers monthly tours and tutorials presented by local experts. On Saturday, participants can learn about wood window restoration, with Conn Allison of Looking Glass Studio. Allison specializes in preserving and restoring historic wood windows and hardwood entryways, but also has experience with stained glass installations and executing new designs. The workshop focuses on wood window restoration, preservation and how to maintain repairs. Allen Neighborhood Center's Joan Nelson stated, "The tours and tutorials offer neighbors inspiration, instruction, and even hands-on skill-building opportunities for their own retrofits." 10-11:30 a.m. FREE. 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. www.restorationworks.org.



Courtesy Photo

TURNIT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

ROCKING FOR ROLLING

The Mitten Mavens, a Lansing-based all-female roller derby team, hosts a rock show fundraiser Friday at Mac's Bar. Taking the stage is a bill full of local rockers, including Narc Out the Reds, The Playback (local indie rock), Charlie Slick (electro-glam from Ann Arbor), Inflatable Best Friend (Kalamazoo-based rock), and The Dolphins (local garage/rock-n-roll). Narc Out the Reds, who play "noise-pop-noir," have been gigging since 2008 and are on the Good Time Gang Records roster. The band includes Chris Baratono (vocals, guitar, keys), Ben Southwell (guitar), John Miller (drums), and Joshua Siwek (bass). Attendees who arrive at Mac's in Mitten Mavens gear, or bring a past, or future Mitten Mavens ticket stub pay a \$5 admission at the door (\$2 cheaper than regular price). For more information about the Mitten Mavens, visit mittenmavens.net.

Friday, April 27 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18 and over. \$7, 7 p.m.

WERKS BRINGS FUNKY-PSYCHEDELIC JAM TO MAC'S BAR

Thanks to its high-energy live show, The Werks has become a fixture at an assortment of festivals, including the Electric Forest and Hookah in the Hills. The band, which tours rigorously, plays dance music infused with psychedelic/classic rock guitars, funky slap bass, and electro — topped off with a jam-band feel. The band plays Mac's Bar Saturday, along with openers Me3Mind, a South Haven-based progressive jam rock band). The Werks has been establishing a growing national fan base, which the



Courtesy Photo

The Werks

band credits largely to the hard work of their street team and devoted fans. The band has released three albums, including "Dig It" (2007), "Synapse" (2009), and "The Werks Live at The Werk Out Music Festival" (2010). Each September, the band hosts its annual fest, The Werk Out Music and Arts Festival, in Thornville, Ohio.

Saturday, April 28 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18 and over. \$12 doors, \$10 advance, 9 p.m.

AMERICANA AND INDIE-FOLK AT (SCENE)

Red Tail Ring, a vintage-flavored Americana duo made up of Michael Beauchamp and Laurel Premo, plays an all-ages show Saturday at (SCENE) MetroSpace. Red Tail Ring, based in Kalamazoo, prefers to keep busy: The pair released two albums in April 2011, "Middlewest Chant" and "Mountain Shout." The duo plays old-time ballads and instrumentals with fiddle, guitar, banjo, mandolin, jaw harp and harmonica.

Doug Mains & the City Folk, a local indie-folk band, will also play a set. Back in February, the band released its first full-length album, "The Mountain's King." The group features songwriter Mains (guitar/ vocals), Kelly Pond (vocals/violin), Kim Wren (upright bass), Rob Germeroth (percussion) and Josh Michaels (cello/accordion). Visit dougmainsmusic.com.

Saturday, April 28 @ (SCENE) MetroSpace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing, all ages, doors 7 p.m.; music at 8 p.m. \$5.



Photo by Sean Cook

Frontier Ruckus

FOXY SHAZAM PLAYS THE LOFT

After a "serious case of pneumonia" hit a few of the band members earlier this month, Foxy Shazam canceled its April 5 show, but the major-label rockers are already back in action; the band is playing its rescheduled all-ages show at The Loft Monday. Tickets sold for the April 5 show will be honored. Foxy Shazam, a Cincinnati-based glam-rock band, is on a roll with its Queen-style hit, "I Like It," which is the single from its latest album "The Church of Rock and Roll" (IRS Records/EMI Group). Opening the show are Maniac, Cadaver Dogs and Wilson. Tickets are available at fusion-shows.com and local outlets Music Manor and Flat, Black and Circular.

Monday, April 30 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, all ages, \$13 advance, \$15 door, doors 6:30 p.m.

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR FRONTIER RUCKUS

While there's still plenty of time to grab tickets, Frontier Ruckus fans may want to mark Friday, May 4 on the calendar. The band is playing an all-ages show at The Loft to celebrate the end of another school year, along with

opens Gun Lake and Gifts or Creatures, a local Americana group featuring songwriters Brandon John Foote and Bethany Foote.

It's been six months since Frontier Ruckus played The Loft. The band has been busy working on a new album in Ann Arbor. The band's sound is mainly centered on the lyricism and songwriting of front man Matthew Milia (vocals/guitar); the music is described in the band bio as "hyper-experiential minutia-obsessed memorialism, dealership of dense intense worlds, '90s nostalgia, and tender pathos within a universal particularity." Frontier Ruckus also includes David W. Jones (banjo, vocals, dobro), Zachary Nichols (horns, singing-saw, melodica, keyboards), Ryan Etcorn (drums, percussion) and John Krohn on bass.

Friday, May 4 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, all ages, \$10 advance, \$12 door, doors 7 p.m.

UPCOMING SHOW?

POST IT AT

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TURNITDOWN

LIVE AND LOCAL

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

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
621, 621 E. Michigan Ave.	Phil Denny, 8 p.m.	NuEra/DJ Radd1, 8:30 p.m.	Native Sons/DJ Moe, 9 p.m.	DJ Leeky, 9 p.m.
Connxtions Comedy Club 2900 N. East St.	Comedy Open Mic, 8 p.m.	Alysia Wood, 8 p.m.	Alysia Wood, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.	Alysia Wood, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.		DJ, 9 p.m.	Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m.	Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Mighty Medicine, 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.	Smoking Jackets, 9 p.m.	Smoking Jackets, 9 p.m.
The Firm, 227 S. Washington Square		DnW Sound DJs, 9 p.m.	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.	Don and The Seacruiser, 8 p.m.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Dewanyes, 9:30 p.m.	Still Rain, 9:30 p.m.	Global Village, 9:30 p.m.	Global Village, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	Breathe Carolina, 6 p.m.	Touche Amore, 6 p.m.	Alco, 7 p.m.	
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Basement Shark Attack, 9 p.m.	Palkoski, 9 p.m.		The Werks, 9 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Rob Kladja Open Mic, 9 p.m.	Pork Chop Express, 9:30 p.m.	Big Sur, 10 p.m.	Big Sur, 10 p.m.
Rick's American Cafe, 224 Abbott Road	DJ Dan, 10:30 p.m.	ICE DJs, 10:30 p.m.	Collision 6, 10:30 p.m.	Collision 6, 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.	Open Mic Night, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m.	Bear Band, 9 p.m.	Bear Band, 9 p.m.
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.	DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.	Kris Hitchcock and Small Town Son, 9 p.m.	Kris Hitchcock and Small Town Son, 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., Ull'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.

Out on the town

from page 19

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, and 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.

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

Spring Rummage Sale. With household items, clothing, furniture, books, toys, antiques, etc. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Lansing Liederkrantz 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. 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.

"Take Shelter." Directed by Jeff Nichols, a man in a small Ohio town begins dreaming about an apocalyptic storm. 7:30 p.m. \$8, \$6 seniors, \$3 students. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. www.elff.com.

South Lansing Business Association. Membership meeting on reducing business interruption following a disaster. 11:30 a.m. \$10. Chisholm Hills, 2395 Washington Road, Lansing. (517) 394-4614.

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.

Breathe Carolina. With The Ready Set. \$18, 6 p.m. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. www.theloftlansing.com.

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.

THEATER

"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

Baby Time. Books and songs for ages 2 years and younger, with caregiver. 10:30 a.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 4)

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.

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. www.fhcmichigan.org.

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.rcmh.msu.edu.

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

Ernesto Todd Mirles. "The New Indian Wars: Space Time=Will" explores models of resistance both physical and intellectual to these attacks. 6-8:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 323-6452. www.cadl.org.

Thursday, April 26

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

DIY Home Maintenance. On porch repairs. 6 p.m. FREE. Lowe's (Lansing), S. Cedar St. Lansing. (517) 372-5980.

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 Anonymous 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.

Melissa R. Klapper. Professor of History, Rowan University. On the arrival of nearly 25 million im-

migrants in the U.S. between 1880-1924. 7 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 100 Main Library, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.lib.msu.edu.

Farm to Table: Composting. Turn waste into low-cost, environmentally-friendly compost. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Farm to Table. On time-tested seed saving & preservation techniques, using rain barrels & more. 6:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Williamston Library, 201 School St., Williamston. (517) 655-1191.

Estate Planning. Gain control of affairs-avoiding the possible expense and delay of probate. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. jcn@thegallagherlawfirm.com.

Friends of Historic Meridian Spring Lecture. Howard Tanner, Michigan Land Trust Fund. 7:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Ct., East Lansing. (517) 347-7300.

Growing Peppers. Learn the ins and outs of pepper production and get pepper transplants to take home. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Southside Community Center, 5825 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 374-5700.

EVENTS

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.

www.cadl.org.

Kids Time: Ages 5-11. Help the Eastside youth to grow food, develop leadership and life skills. n, 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community Garden-House, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

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

Spring Rummage Sale. With household items, clothing, furniture, books, toys, antiques, etc. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 882-6330.

"Puss in Boots." Call for Show times. FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 25)

Sierra Club's John Muir. "Imagining the Wilderness World of John Muir" with Martha Bates. 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 487-6467.

Talk, Tour & Taste. An evening of networking at the home of MSU's Artisan Distilling Program. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE GRC members, \$25. Michigan Brewing Company, 1093 Highview Drive, Webberville. RSVP: info@GreenAndWhitePAC.com.

Autism Speaks. With comedy by Alysia Wood, featuring Michael Harrison and Chris Young. 8 p.m. \$10. Connxtions Comedy Club, 2900 N. East St., Lansing. (517) 488-3733. www.connxtionscomedyclub.com.

"Take Shelter." 7:30 p.m. \$8, \$6 seniors, \$3 students. (Please See Details April 25)

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.

New Horizons. Band performance. 2 p.m. FREE.

See Out on the Town, Page 22

May 17 - June 17, 2012



Take a trip behind the scenes as a trio of theatre professionals struggle to balance ego, art and commerce in this biting, thoughtful comedy that highlights the ridiculous and fleeting nature of fame.

By Theresa Rebeck
 Directed by Rob Roznowski
 Featuring: Tony Caselli, Michelle Held and Drew Parker

Performances:
 Thurs., Fri. & Sat. @ 8PM
 Sunday @ 2PM
 With 3PM performances on Saturdays starting May 26

Williamston Theatre
 122 S Putnam St., Williamston
 517-655-7469
 www.williamstontheatre.org





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Out on the town

from page 21

Burcham Hills Retirement Community, 2700 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.
Touche Amore. Hardcore music with Defeater. 6 p.m. \$10, \$12 door. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. www.theloftlansing.com.

THEATER

"Legally Blonde." 7:30 p.m. \$20, \$15 students. (Please See Details April 25)

Theatrical Performance. Local artist Chelsea Roberts performs "Put-On: Wearing Gender." 7:30 p.m. FREE. Scene MetroSpace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832.

"Ruined." A brothel madam in the Congo tries to shield her employees from the civil war going on around them in a Pulitzer Prize-winning drama; presented by Peppermint Creek Theatre Co. 8 p.m. \$15, \$10 students & seniors. Curry Street Theatre, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. www.peppermintcreek.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Teen Poetry Showcase. Submit a poem before April 21 then share work. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3. www.dtdl.org.

Poetry Chalking. On river trail, behind Shaw Hall, express experiences. 2 p.m. FREE. MSU Shaw Hall, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.poetry.rcah.msu.edu/chalking.

Poetry Reading. The National Society of Arts&Letters. 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 1982 Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-8840.

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

MSU Libraries
Colloquia Series Event

SMALL STRANGERS: IMMIGRANT CHILDREN IN AMERICA, 1880-1925

Thursday, April 26, 7:00 p.m.
Main Library, W449

Melissa R. Klapper
Professor of History, Rowan University

Dessert reception will precede the lecture.

Nearly 25 million immigrants arrived in the United States between 1880 and 1925. Learn how the experiences of their children contributed to shaping the twentieth century.

This program is part of Telling Family Stories, an initiative of the MSU Jewish Studies Program, made possible by the Legacy Heritage Jewish Studies Project. Co-sponsored by the Greater Lansing Welfare Jewish Federation, Lansing Chapter of Hadassah, MSU Hillel, MSU Department of History, MSU Department of English, MSU Program for Peace and Justice Studies and the Center for Gender in a Global Context.

FREE PARKING is available in stadium lot 62W on Red Cedar Road after 6:00 p.m.



www.lib.msu.edu

Friday, April 27

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Building Relationships. Join for casual networking & work on building new relationships- both romantic and platonic. 8 p.m. \$10. Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing. (517) 484-4567.

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.

EVENTS

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

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

Spring Rummage Sale. With household items, clothing, furniture, books, toys, antiques, etc. 9 a.m.-Noon. FREE. Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 882-6330.

Arts in Action. Discuss creativity such as music, dance, visual arts, drama and writing, 6-8 p.m. FREE. Dimondale Elementary School, 330 Walnut St., Dimondale. (517) 646-8063.

"Happy Feet Two." Part of Flick's Family Film Fest. Call for showtimes. \$4 adults, FREE for kids. Celebration Cinema, 200 E. Edgewood Blvd., Lansing. www.celebrationcinema.com/flicksfamilyfilmfest.

White Cane Drive. Lions Club collecting for the White Cane Drive at Quality Dairy, Family Fare Store and the Family Fare Gas Station. 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Donations. Downtown Eaton Rapids, Eaton Rapids.

Rummage Sale. Household items, clothes, shoes, and more. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. FREE. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-3139. www.mayflowerchurch.com.

MUSIC

Concert With Doug Mains. Live concert featuring Doug Mains. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River, Lansing. (517) 483-1000.

Twyla Birdsong & Mike Skory. Live concert. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River, Lansing. (517) 483-1000.

228 Museum Drive, next to Impression 5

Riverwalk Theatre

The Little Prince

Adapted by Rick Cummins & John Scoullar from the book by Antoine de Saint-Exupery
Directed by Paul Bourne

Performed at Riverwalk by the youth actors of All-of-us Express Children's Theatre

A disenchanting Aviator's sputtering plane strands him in the desert. The Little Prince appears and tells of adventures through the galaxy. Both gain a new understanding of how to laugh, cry, and love again.

RESERVATIONS 482-5700

April 20-22 & 27-29
\$7 adults age 16+; \$5 children
7 pm Fri. • 2:00 & 4:30 pm Sat. • 2 pm Sun.

RiverwalkTheatre.com

LCC Jazz. The LCC Jazz Band, directed by Jon Gewirtz. 8 p.m. FREE. Darr Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1488.

Alco. A five-piece ambient rock band. 7 p.m. \$8, \$10 door. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. www.theloftlansing.com.

Community Collage Concert. Large ensemble selections and solos. 7:30 p.m. \$5, 18 and under FREE. Haslett High School, 5450 Marsh Road, Haslett. (517) 339-8249.

THEATER

"The Little Prince." Takes place in Sahara Desert, where a world-weary Aviator journeys with the Little Prince. 7 p.m. \$7, \$5 under 17. Riverwalk Amphitheater, 101 Energy Plaza, Jackson. (517) 482-5700.

"Legally Blonde." 8 p.m. \$20, \$15 students. (Please See Details April 25)

"Mostly Funny with a Chance of Mamet." An evening of acts by a variety of playwrights. 8 p.m. FREE. LCC Black Box Theatre, Room 168 Gannon Building, 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1488.

"Ruined." 8 p.m. \$15, \$10 students & seniors. (Please See Details April 26)

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.

Poetry Reading. By Patrick Ryan Frank, author of "How the Losers Love What's Lost." 6 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 1982 Grand River Ave. Okemos. (517) 349-8840. www.schulerbooks.com.

Saturday, April 28

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Relics of the Big Bang. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 student-seniors, \$2 kids. (Please See Details April 27)

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.

Clase por Compradores de Casa. A home buyer education class in Spanish. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Center for Financial Health, 230 N. Washington

Sqr. Lansing. (517) 708-2550.

Song Birds Nest Box. Build a nest box to attract song birds to your backyard. 3 p.m. \$20. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Couponing 101. Strategies, and tips for staying organized from local couponing group A Mitten Full of Coupons. 12-1:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. www.dtdl.org.

Occupy Lansing. General assembly meetings. 1 p.m. FREE. Reutter Park, Corner of Kalamazoo & Townsend St., Lansing. www.occupylansing.net.

Wood Window Restoration. Conn Allison of Looking Glass Studio on restoration & preservation. 10-11:30 a.m. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 367-2468.

Tune-up in the Park. Bring bike to be inspected, check the tire pressure and more. 10 a.m.-Noon, FREE. Wainwright School, 4200 Wainwright Ave., Lansing.

EVENTS

Salsa Dancing. DJ Adrian "Ace" Lopez hosts 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.

Art for AIDS. The LCC Gay/Straight Alliance is looking for your art work to be donated to us to be auctioned off. Noon. FREE. Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. https://www.facebook.com/even. www.lcc.edu.

Greater Lansing Wood Carvers Show. Creations from a simple peices of wood. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$3, FREE for 16 and under. Haslett High School, 5450 Marsh Road, Haslett. (517) 492-7853. glwc.org.

Creative Educators Summit. On innovative high-school projects and featuring cutting edge practices in K-12. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Erickson Kiva, MSU campus, corner of Shaw lane and Farm Lane, East Lansing. (517) 355-3354.

Recycle. Recycle electronics, pharmaceuticals, books, metal, bikes and more. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Meridian Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. www.recycle.meridian.mi.us/news/.

"Happy Feet Two." Call for showtimes, \$4 adults, FREE for kids. (Please See Details April 27)

Church-wide Garage Sale. Collectables, books, dishes, linens, furniture and more. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

Pancake Breakfast. Dimondale Cub Scout Pack 643 Annual Pancake Breakfast. 8 a.m.-Noon, \$6, \$5 kids & seniors. First Presbyterian Church, 510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. (517) 482-0668.

World Tai Chi and Qigong Day. Four local teachers are volunteering their time to lead practice. 10 a.m.-Noon, FREE. Hunter Park, 400 S. Holmes St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

White Cane Drive. Lions Club collecting for the White Cane Drive at Quality Dairy, Family Fare Store and the Family Fare Gas Station. 6 a.m.-6 p.m. Dona-

See Out on the Town, Page 23

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PEACE & LOVE

NEW IN TOWN » Zeppelin's Music Hall



By Allison M. Berryman

Zeppelin's Music Hall, Lansing's newest entertainment venue, offers both a spotlight for local musicians and a safe place for teens to hang out.

Located on East Michigan Avenue, Zeppelin's is a small, all-ages club that includes a live music room, movie lounge and private rehearsal rooms. Since the club opened in early April, it has already been nicknamed the CBGBs of Lansing, after the legendary New York punk rock bar: Many of Zeppelin's live shows include local rock, punk, alternative and metal bands.

"I'm trying to bring something into Lansing where there is a voice," said Zeppelin's owner, Michael Malott. "Basically, I've dubbed this club as the CBGBs of Lansing because it's got a lot of New York style, flair and feel to it. It's just like a very comfortable, big living room."

One of Malott's main objectives in opening Zeppelin's Music Hall was to give local teenagers a place to experience the Lansing music scene in a secure environment. It is the only venue in Lansing that gives teen bands an



Allison M. Berryman/City Pulse

Zeppelin's Music Hall owner Michael Malott

opportunity to perform for a live audience. Because it is usually an all-ages club (unless posted otherwise), Zeppelin's does not serve alcohol.

"There is a need for a venue here in Lansing that allows teens and (hosts) all-age shows because there isn't one right now," Malott said. "I'd rather have the kids here in the venue, listening to their friends play music rather than have them out there drinking and driving."

The opening of Zeppelin's Music Hall was also an opportunity for Malott to showcase his collection of music memorabilia, which includes signed contracts, posters and original art.

"The place has a lot of very unique music memorabilia. There are several hundred stage passes that are framed and

on the walls. We've got Stevie Nicks' stage-worn jacket down there. It's kind of like the low-budget Hard Rock Cafe of Lansing."

Besides featuring live music, the venue also shows cult films in their basement movie lounge, as well as hosting art exhibits featuring local artists.

"It's a welcoming type place," Malott said. "It has cool stuff going on, and it gives people an opportunity to do something else in the city that they might not have had an opportunity to do before, especially the younger people."

Zeppelin's Music Hall

2010 E. Michigan Ave.
Lansing
8 p.m.-close Thursday-Sunday
All ages welcome
(517) 580-8722

Out on the town

from page 22

tions. Downtown Eaton Rapids, Eaton Rapids.

Relay for Life Fundraiser. A pancake breakfast with bacon and a beverage. 8-10 a.m. \$9, \$6 12 & under. Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar, 6270 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 664-1404.

Enter the Element. Fashion and hair show, with live music and more. 8 p.m. \$20. Lou & Harry's Sports Bar and Grill, 16800 Chandler Road, East Lansing. (517) 321-2663.

Greater Lansing Amazing Race. Divine Connections will send you on arace. 4 p.m. \$25. Downtown Lansing, Washington Square between Michigan and Washtenaw avenues, Lansing. www.mydivineconnections.com/sample-page/.

MUSIC

Leon Gregorian. Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, with Melanie Helton, soprano. 8 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors, FREE students. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (800) WHARTON.

Scarlet Runner Stringband. Live music at dinnertime. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Altu's Ethiopian Cuisine, 1312 Michigan Ave., East Lansing. (517) 333-6295. www.EatAtAltus.com/music.

Choral Union Concert. 8 p.m. Price varies. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

Rotting Out and Focused Minds. Live music. 5 p.m. \$10, \$12. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795. www.macsbars.com.

Red Tail Ring. With special local guest Doug Mains and the City Folk. 8 p.m. \$5. Scene MetroSpace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832.

Kenneth G. Bloomquist Award Concert. This year's winner, Deidreanna Potter, harpist, will play La Rougette by David Bennett. 8 p.m. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 641-4264.

THEATER

"The Little Prince." 2 p.m. & 4:30 p.m. \$7, \$5

under 17. (Please See Details April 27)

"**Legally Blonde.**" 2 p.m. & 8 p.m. \$20, \$15 students. (Please See Details April 25)

"**Echoes of a Heartbeat.**" Dance that celebrates the emotions of the heart. 7 p.m. \$15. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 339-3090.

"**Ruined.**" 8 p.m. \$15, \$10 students & seniors. (Please See Details April 26)

"**Anything Goes.**" A farce set below decks on an ocean liner, The S.S. American, bound for London. 2:30 p.m. \$10, \$5 students & seniors. Okemos High School, 2500 Jolly Road, Okemos. <http://www.okemoschools.net/education/school/school.php?sectionid=14>.

"**Mostly Funny with a Chance of Mamet.**" 8 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 27)

Sunday, April 29

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 27)

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.

Bird Watching. Give bird watching a try with the help of an experienced birder. 9 a.m. FREE. Legg Park, 3891 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866.

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.

See Out on the Town, Page 24

ERASER-FREE SUDOKU

MEDIUM

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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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Friday - May 4th - 9:00 am to 9:00 pm
Saturday - May 5th - 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
All Saints Church, 800 Abbot Road
East Lansing, Michigan

Potters Guild
www.glpjg.org

Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

April 25-May 1

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "True life is lived when tiny changes occur," said Leo Tolstoy. I agree. It's rare for us to undergo rapid, dramatic transformations in short periods of time. That's why it's delusional to be forever pining for some big magic intervention that will fix everything. The best way to alter our course is slowly and gradually, by conscientiously revamping our responses to the small daily details. Keep these thoughts close at hand in the coming weeks, Aries. Be a devotee of the incremental approach. Step-by-step. Hour-by-hour.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): "What people really need and demand from life is not wealth, comfort, or esteem, but games worth playing," said psychiatrist Thomas Szasz. I love that thought, and am excited to offer it up to you right now. You have been invited or will soon be invited to participate in some of the best games ever. These are not grueling games foisted on you by people hoping to manipulate you, nor pointless games that exhaust your energy for naught. Rather, they are fun challenges that promise to stretch your intelligence, deepen your perspective, and enhance your emotional riches.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Is it conceivable that you've gotten a bit off track? As I close my eyes and ask my higher powers for a psychic vision, I get an impression of you staring at a blurry image of a symbol that is no longer an accurate representation of your life goal. Now of course there's a chance that my vision is completely unfounded. But if it does ring at least somewhat true to you — if it suggests a question worth asking yourself — I invite you to meditate on the possibility that you need to update your understanding of what your ultimate target looks like.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): From an astrological point of view, it's prime time for you to attend a networking extravaganza or collaboration spree. Likewise, this is an excellent phase in your long-term cycle to organize a gathering for the close allies who will be most important in helping you carry out your master plan during the next 12 months. Have you ever heard of the term "Temporary Autonomous Zone"? It's a time and place where people with shared interests and common values can explore the frontiers of productive conviviality. It might be a dinner party in an inspirational setting, a boisterous ritual in a rowdy sanctuary, or a private festival for fellow seekers. I hope you make sure something like that materializes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): To begin one of his performances, comedian and musician Steve Martin ambled on stage and told his audience what to expect. "Before every show," he said, "I like to do one thing that is impossible. So now I'm going to suck this piano into my lungs." That's the kind of brag I hope to hear coming from you sometime soon, Leo — the more outrageous the better. Why? Because I'd love to see you cultivate a looser, breezier relationship with your actual ambitions. To make boastful jokes about wacky or farfetched goals might inspire you to be jauntier and friskier about those real ones. And that would rouse a burst of fresh motivational energy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The text for this week's oracle comes from Frederick Douglass (1818-1895), a great American statesman who, after escaping slavery, became a leader of the abolitionist movement. "Those who profess to favor freedom and yet depreciate agitation," he said, "are people who want crops without plowing the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning . . . The struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, or it may be both. But it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand." Please apply these thoughts to your own situation, Virgo. You have entered the liberation phase of your cycle.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I'm about to list some declarations that I hope will come out of your mouth at least once in the next three weeks. If for any reason you're not finding yourself in situations where these words would make sense for you to utter, please rearrange your life accordingly. 1. "There's nothing else I'd rather be doing right now." 2. "Is it okay with you if we take this really slow?" 3. "No one's ever done that before." 4. "Squeeze my hand when it feels really amazing." 5. "It's like we know what each other is thinking." 6. "Can I have some more, please?"

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A political strategist told me one of her most important rules: To win an election, you have to help your candidate choose the right fights. I think that would be an excellent guiding principle for you in the coming weeks, Scorpio. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you will be getting invitations to spar, joust, and wrangle. Although it might be exciting to leap into each and every fray with your eyes blazing, I suggest you show careful discernment. Try to confine your participation to those tangles that will downplay your weaknesses and highlight your strengths.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In the famous children's book *The Little Prince*, the hero lives on an asteroid with three volcanoes, two active and one dormant. One day he decides to leave home and travel to other realms. Before departing, he meticulously scours all three volcanoes. "If they are well cleaned out," the narrator reports, "volcanoes burn slowly and steadily, without any eruptions." I recommend that you take after the Little Prince, Sagittarius. It's high time to attend to the upkeep of your volcanoes. Make sure they will burn slow and steady in the coming months, even when you're not at home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): One of the classics of ancient Sanskrit literature is the Kama Sutra, which gives practical advice about erotic love. The most popular edition of the book offers instructions on eight kinds of kisses and 64 sexual positions, with additional tips on styles of embracing and caressing. This would be an excellent time for you to get inspired by information like that, Capricorn. Your relationship with the amorous arts is due for expansion and refinement. You don't necessarily need to rely on book learning, of course. You could accomplish a lot of empirical exploration simply by getting naked and firing up your imagination.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Singer-songwriter Tom Waits was strongly influenced by Bob Dylan's down-to-earth album *The Basement Tapes*. "I like my music with the rinds and the seeds and pulp left in," Waits testifies. "The noise and grit" of Dylan's rootsy, intimate songs, he says, creates a mood of "joy and abandon." That's the spirit I wish for you in the coming weeks, Aquarius. Wherever you are and whatever you're doing, get down to the gritty, organic core of things. Hunker down in the funky fundamentals. Hang out where the levels of pretension are low and the stories are fresh and raw.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You're not really breaking the rules, right, Pisces? It's more like you're just testing their elasticity; you're helping them become more supple and flexible. I'm sure that sooner or later people will thank you for how you're expanding the way the game is played. It may take a while, but they will eventually appreciate and capitalize on the liberties you are now introducing into the system. In the short run, though, you might have to take some heat for your tinkering and experiments. Try not to let that inhibit your eagerness to try creative risks.

Out on the town

from page 23

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.

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.

"Happy Feet Two." Call for showtimes, \$4 adults, FREE for kids. (Please See Details April 27)

Native Wildflowers. Walk with a naturalist to see native wildflowers. 3 p.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

MUSIC

CMS Flute Day. Participate in a flute ensemble reading session, and to attend faculty recital. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841-B Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

Jonathan Ortloff. Young award-winning theatre organist from Boston. 3 p.m. \$12, \$10 in advance. Grand Ledge Opera House, 121 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. www.lto-pops.org.

LCC Concert Choir. A variety of classical music, blues, art song and spirituals. 4 p.m. FREE. First Presbyterian Church, 510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. (517) 483-1488. www.lcc.edu/showinfo.

Mighty Medicine. Rock, jazz, blues and originals. 10 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 487-4464.

THEATER

"The Little Prince." 2 p.m. \$7, \$5 under 17. (Please See Details April 27)

"Legally Blonde." 2 p.m. \$20, \$15 students. (Please See Details April 25)

"Ruined." 2 p.m. \$15, \$10 students & seniors. (Please See Details April 26)

Monday, April 30

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.

EVENTS

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

Homeschool Connect. All ages. Educational and fun activities for homeschooling families. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3.

"Happy Feet Two." Call for showtimes, \$4 adults, FREE for kids. (Please See Details April 27)

Atheists & Humanists Dinner Meeting. Dr. Darrel Ray on his books such as, 'Sex & God: How Religion Distorts Sexuality.' 5 p.m. \$10. Great Wall Buffet Restaurant, 4832 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. (517) 914-2278.

Monday Morning Movie. Get your film fix. 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.

Tuesday, May 1

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. 1926. toastmastersclubs.org.

Seeking Safety: Co Occuring/PTSD/Trauma. A class series practice skills and learn about new resources. 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. Justice in Mental Health, 520 Cherry St., Lansing. (517) 887-4586.

Nia. Blending martial arts, dance and healing arts. 6:45-7:45 p.m. 8 classes for \$80. Creative Wellness, 2025 Abbot Road, #200, East Lansing. (517) 351-9240.

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

Helpful Hints for Successful Gardening. Part 2 of Master Gardener Jerry Nester's April 19th gardening program. 7 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156.

Out on the town

from page 24

DIY Home Maintenance. On building a deck. 6 p.m. FREE. Lowe's, S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980.

Ingham County Board of Health Meeting. Hear about the role of the BoH and share the communities concerns. Noon. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing.

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. www.cadl.org.

Game On. Play a variety of board and video games. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 x3.

Morning Storytime. Stories, songs, rhymes and fun. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014.

Kids Time: Ages 5-11. Help eastside youth to grow food, develop leadership and life skills. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

"Happy Feet Two." Call for showtimes, \$4 adults, FREE for kids. (Please See Details April 27)

MUSIC

Spring Concert. Arts Chorale of Greater Lansing, performs music from Schubert's Mass in G and more. 8 p.m. FREE. University Lutheran Church, 1020 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. (517) 332-2559.

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.

Mid-Michigan Youth Symphony. Live performance. 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing High School, 509 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

Hundredth. Hardcore band. 5 p.m. \$8, \$10 door. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795. www.macsbars.com.

THEATER

"A Dream Play." Andy Callis directs Caryl Churchill's adaptation of "A Dream Play" by August Strindberg. 7:30 p.m. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1488. www.lcc.edu/showinfo.

Wednesday, May 2

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Grande Paraders Square Dance Club. 7:30 p.m. \$4 members; \$5. (Please See Details April 25)

Meditation. 7-9 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 25)

Community Yoga. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 25)

Christianity's First Feminist. Why feminist theologians consider Jesus to be feminist. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

Tax Prep for Artists. Financial advisers give an overview of tax preparation for artists and arts organizations. 10 a.m.-Noon. \$5-10. MSU Federal Credit Union, 3777 West Road, East Lansing. (517) 372-4636.

EVENTS

Knee High Naturalist. 1-2 p.m. \$5. (Please See Details April 25)

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 25)

Practice Your English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 25)

Youth Service Corps. Ages 11-17. 3:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 25)

"Happy Feet Two." Call for showtimes, \$4 adults, FREE for kids. (Please See Details April 27)

Spring Salad Luncheon. Featuring sauerkraut, brats, a variety of salads, coffee, tea and dessert. 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. \$7. Lansing Liederkranz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 882-6330.

Post Polio Support Group. Those affected by polio can share information, ideas, and support. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 339-1039.

MUSIC

Jazz Wednesdays. Live entertainment. 7-10 p.m. FREE. ENSO. (Please See Details April 25)

Jazz Wednesdays. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracies Place. (Please See Details April 25)

Together, Let's Jam. Teenagers & adults of all levels can participate in various music activities. 7:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841 Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

THEATER

"A Dream Play." 7:30 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details May 1)

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Baby Time. 10:30 a.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 25)

Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Meeting. 7 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 25)

Jim Abbott. Presents his memoir, "Imperfect." 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 1982 Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-8840.

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Saturday, May 5 - 10:00am - 3:00pm



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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 18

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Joe Torok/City Pulse

The prices are inexpensive and the selections are limited at East Lansing's No Thai!

Bringing the east to East Lansing

No-frills No Thai! caters to the college crowd

By JOE TOROK

Thai cuisine, when done properly, combines an ambitious variety with a trapeze artist's sense of balance.

There are a couple of spots in town that I head to if I don't feel like rustling up my own Thai curry at home, but it's not like the Lansing area is a magnet for the southeast Asian cuisine. Within the last couple of years, though, downtown East Lansing has ushered in a few Thai restaurants, one of which sits along the fast-moving Grand River Avenue corridor.

No Thai! is the fourth incarnation of a fast-casual concept born in Ann Arbor, where the other three restaurants are located. Unlike other full-service Thai spots in town, at No Thai! diners order at the counter and find a seat as they await their names to be shouted when an order is ready.

As you might imagine, there's a high energy level at No Thai!, and it works well for a college town. On our Friday evening visit, the place was crowded with students, couples on a date, a group with a contented infant and plenty of bustle.

The music is a touch too loud, the wide open kitchen shares its sizzle, clanks and steam, and diners fend for themselves on the floor. One large group rearranged half of the dining space, putting together enough tables to nearly wall off the order counter.

It's vibrant and, for those of a certain age, nostalgic: Tunes from Aerosmith, R.E.M.

and The Smiths are typical, and the mini-mural of the Atari "Asteroids" video game along the back corridor wall is the most prominent piece of décor.

Nostalgia is nice, but it won't cook a plate of delicious pad Thai, or, as it's known at this excitable restaurant, Pad Thai! (\$8.50). (If the question crossed your mind, the answer is no, the exclamation point does not make it taste any better.)

Pad Thai is not a difficult dish to make, and it should combine a bit of tang with a gentle sweetness, brought together with vegetables, sticky rice noodles and crushed peanuts. We ordered ours with chicken at the "Yoga Flame!" spice level. Most pad Thai recipes use tamarind paste and lime to reach a nice acidity, but the flavor profile on this dish is muted. We did have a rather sad wedge of lime to squeeze atop of the meal, but the tang just didn't get to where it needed to be.

The peanuts are perhaps my favorite part of many Thai meals, and No Thai! is not stingy with the legume. But when the nut is crushed a little too fine, like ours, a peanut butter-like effect begins to creep in, turning what should be a well-balanced dish into a lunchroom sandwich.

Along with a noodle menu, No Thai! offers a stir fry and fried rice menu. We went with the gang ped (\$8.50) stir fry for our second entrée, a dish that combines eggplant, bell pepper, onion and mushroom in a curry sauce with a choice of protein — tofu, in our case.

Like the pad Thai, a good curry sauce should find a balance of flavors. Our dish was heavy on the fish and soy sauce, and so a bit too salty. My companion longed for just another teaspoon or two of sugar to balance

No Thai!

403 E. Grand River Ave.,
East Lansing
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-
Saturday; noon-10 p.m.
Sunday
(517) 336-5555
nothai.com
TO, D, OM, \$\$



Review

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.

CAFES & DINERS
CONRAD'S COLLEGE TOWN GRILL — The menu includes creative sandwiches, such as the J.F.K. (with chicken, tomato, mushrooms, jalapenos, banana peppers, mozzarella and

honey mustard) and a full slew of breakfast items. 101 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. 11 a.m.-3 a.m. Monday-Friday, noon-3 a.m. Saturday, noon-2:30 p.m. Sunday. (517) 337-2723. www.conradsgrill.com.

D, OM, \$.

CORAL GABLES — A family-style restaurant offering desserts, homemade soups and a small menu of homemade Greek specialties. 2838 E. Grand River Ave.,

East Lansing. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday; 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday; 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. Sunday. (517) 337-1311. www.coralgablesrestaurant.com, WB, WiFi, FB, TO, OM, \$\$

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

No Thai!

from page 26

the savory flavors.

The eggplant and tofu, ingredients designed to soak up whatever sauce they find themselves in, reiterated the off-balance curry sauce. But that wasn't as bad as the undercooked eggplant, which took on the characteristic flavor of a scrap of wet carpet.

Unlike the eggplant, the rest of the vegetables were cooked a touch beyond that stage where they retain a nice crispness; while they weren't terrible, they did teeter on that precipitous edge of mushiness.

While it may sound like quibbling, the white rice came off as an afterthought — still wet and, if it was jasmine, all its fragrance was steamed or boiled out.

The menu is succinct, with no dessert, only soda or Thai iced tea to drink, and three sides.

We tried the crab wontons (\$4) and imagined bar-hopping crowds would be pleased with the deep-fried overstuffed cream cheese delivery system. They were tasty, with little bits of crab meat and scallions, but the plum sauce — self-served from a communal container at the order counter — somehow

lacked the right mix of sweet and sour despite a mild sweetness and a heavy dose of vinegar.

No Thai! seems to be comfortable in its own digs, and that's what seems to give it a sense of vitality. If you're looking for a quiet spot with really great Thai food, you're going to be disappointed. But if you're a student or you're just looking for a quick bite that goes beyond ground beef in a bun or a slice of pizza, you'll likely appreciate both the atmosphere and relatively inexpensive tab.

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