

FREE

CityPULSE

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April 11-17, 2012

INSTRUMENTAL OPENER
Capital City Film Festival launches with
Elderly Instruments documentary
See page 8



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PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING
PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST
FOR THE TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2012
WAVERLY SCHOOL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the public test of the program which will be used for tabulating the results of the Waverly School Election to be held Tuesday, May 8, 2012 in the City of Lansing will be conducted at the City Clerk's Election Unit located at the South Washington Office Complex at 2500 South Washington Avenue on Tuesday, May 1, 2012 at 2:00 p.m.

The public accuracy test is conducted to determine that the program used to tabulate the results of the election counts the votes in the manner prescribed by law.

Chris Swope
Lansing City Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

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

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

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

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

Marie McKenna

NOTICE OF ELECTION
SCHOOL ELECTION
TUESDAY, MAY 8, 2012



CHRIS SWOPE
LANSING CITY CLERK
CITY OF LANSING

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham and Eaton, State of Michigan

Notice is hereby given that the City of Lansing will conduct the Waverly School Election in the City of Lansing, Counties of Ingham and Eaton, State of Michigan on Tuesday, May 8, 2012. **Polls will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m.**

The following proposal will be submitted to City of Lansing electors who reside in the Waverly School District

Waverly Community School District – Operating Millage Renewal Proposal

Voting Precincts and Polling Places are:

Lansing Ward 4
Pct. 41 - Cumberland School

All polling places are accessible and voting instructions are available in alternative formats of audio and Braille. An accessible voting device is also available.

Photo Identification Required to Vote:
Under Michigan law, ALL voters will be asked to show photo identification to vote at the polls. Voters without identification will be required to fill out and sign an affidavit in order to receive a ballot.

To see if you are registered or to find your polling location, check the Lansing City Clerk's web site at www.lansingmi.gov/clerk.

The Lansing City Clerk's Election Unit, 2500 S. Washington Ave., will be open on Saturday, May 5, 2012, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. to issue and accept absentee ballots to qualified electors. Saturday, May 5, 2012 at 2 p.m. is the deadline to request an absentee ballot be mailed to a voter or have one issued and taken out of the Clerk's Office.

Monday, May 7 at 4 p.m. is the deadline to request an absentee ballot. Ballots requested on Monday, May 7 must be requested and voted in person at the Clerk's Office at 124 W. Michigan Ave, 9th Floor.

Chris Swope
Lansing City Clerk

CityPULSE

Volume 11, Issue 35

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Editor & Publisher
Berl Schwartz

7 p.m. Wednesdays

This week

Mike McLaren, executive director, Michigan Press Association

Ari Adler, Press Secretary to House Speaker

Jase Bolger

Dan Hartley & Jake Pechtel of the Capital City Film Festival



COVER ART
GCFS by RACHFI HARPFR • PHOTOS by GFNNAFFR MIISTAI

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

<p>GOOFBALL AND GALAHAD</p> <p>GOOFBALL THINKS WE SHOULD ACKNOWLEDGE THE REALITY OF HUMAN MOR-TALITY.</p> <p>WE ALL NEED HEALTH CARE SOONER OR LATER!</p>	<p>GALAHAD THINKS ILLNESS AND INJURY ARE MATTERS OF PERSONAL DISCRETION!</p> <p>AMERICANS HAVE THE FREEDOM TO BE UN-INSURED!</p> <p>AND ANYWAY, YOU CAN ALWAYS GO TO THE EMERGENCY ROOM!</p>	<p>GOOFBALL BELIEVES IN THE SCIENCE OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE.</p> <p>IF AVERAGE TEMPERATURES RISE SIX DEGREES BY THE END OF THE CENTURY, LARGE PARTS OF THE PLANET BECOME UNINHABITABLE!</p>	<p>GALAHAD BELIEVES WHAT HE HEARS ON TALK RADIO!</p> <p>CLIMATE SCIENTISTS ARE BIASED! UNLIKE THE UTTERLY IMPARTIAL ENERGY INDUSTRY!</p>
<p>GOOFBALL WONDERS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE OIL RUNS OUT.</p> <p>DOESN'T IT MAKE SENSE TO START TRANSITIONING TO NEW TECHNOLOGIES NOW?</p>	<p>GALAHAD REFUSES TO ENTERTAIN THE POSSIBILITY!</p> <p>THE ONLY ENERGY POLICY WE NEED IS TO DRILL BABY DRILL--LIKE GOD INTENDED!</p>	<p>GOOFBALL UNDERSTANDS THAT PEOPLE HAVE SEX WHEN THEY GET OLDER.</p> <p>SO THEY SHOULD BE REALISTIC ABOUT CONTRA-CEPTION, I MEAN, I KNOW THAT MUCH.</p>	<p>GALAHAD'S THOUGHTS ON THE TOPIC ARE A LITTLE MORE CONFUSED.</p> <p>THE DIRTY LIBERAL SLUTS WANT THE GOVERNMENT TO BUY THEM BIRTH CONTROL FOR ALL THE DIRTY SEX THEY HAVE!</p> <p>IT IS AN OUTRAGE!</p> <p>AND MAKES ME FEEL FUNNY INSIDE.</p>

PULSE



news & opinion

Financially 'prudent'

Bernero's plan to spend a portion of police millage money lacks Council support. He says consolidating police headquarters at the South Washington Office Complex won't happen without it.

Support for the administration's plan to spend a portion of millage money on a new police headquarters is nowhere to be found on the City Council.

While at least two Council members — Jessica Yorko and Tina Houghton — are holding back support as they await more details, five others outright oppose it, saying the plan is not what they pitched to voters. "This is not what we told people," Councilwoman Carol Wood said last week — a sentiment echoed by Council members Derrick Quinney, A'Lynne Robinson, Jody Washington and Brian Jeffries. Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

At issue is a relatively small piece of Mayor Virg Bernero's fiscal year 2013 budget recommendation. He's asking to use \$193,900 in new millage revenue on renovations to a former armory on Washington Avenue that the administration plans to use as a new police headquarters.

"I resent the notion that I'm somehow attempting to misappropriate police millage money," Bernero declared Tuesday.

Bernero is adamant that "what we're doing is in compliance" with what was promised voters. "I guess what's being debated now is: Is it legitimate to have some go toward a police station. Why wouldn't it be? ... It's the financially prudent thing to do.

"These people are castigating me for doing the fiscally responsible thing," he added, specifically referring to Jeffries and Wood.

Of the nearly \$2.9 million of projected revenue coming in to the Police Department as a result of the millage, Bernero proposes using about \$600,000 to rehire seven officers who were laid off in this fiscal year. Another \$132,000 would go toward other capital improvements, like radar units, printers and modems in police cars. After the proposed \$193,900 renovation, the remaining \$2 million would be used to maintain services. The police budget overall is about \$34.5 million.

Lansing voters approved a 4-mill property tax increase Nov. 8, with "1.5 mills to be dedicated to police protection, 1.5 mills to be dedicated to fire protection, and 1 mill to be dedicated to local road main-

tenance and other essential services," the ballot language reads. A similar proposition failed in a special election earlier last year. Some say that part of the reason it passed the second time was the ballot language was more explicit about how the revenue would be distributed. The Council also approved resolutions in support of the millage on Oct. 24 and May 2 in the run-up to the elections. Yet language in those non-binding resolutions is even more vague than the ballot questions, saying the money should support "police, fire and roads." City Attorney Brig Smith said in an email: "I don't see any legal issues with the Mayor's proposal. The previous (Council) resolutions supporting the millage are indeed advisory in nature."

But Council members see Bernero's move as a fast one on voters. "We were very specific when we sold it to them, and it looks like it's coming up short," Council President Brian Jeffries said on "City Pulse on the Air" last week. While he will "concede" on other capital expenditures like police car equipment, "In terms of a build-out for a new police precinct, that goes way beyond what was anticipated and contemplated."

Moreover, the administration has proposed spending \$450,000 from the General Fund on capital improvements at the South Washington Office Complex, which is temporarily being used by the Office of Community Media. Bernero's budget says it's going to cost between \$3 million and \$14 million to relocate the LPD there. However, the wide gap in estimates is because the city hasn't decided on a final improvement plan. He hopes renovations will start in the next two to three years. The administration also plans to issue bonds to pay for the overall project. Bernero's chief of staff, Randy Hannan, said it's possible that a portion of the millage money would be used to pay off debt services in the future.

Police Chief Teresa Szymanski was unavailable to comment for this story. But stay tuned, as the Lansing Police Department is scheduled to have its budget hearing before Council on Monday night.

Jeffries said it costs \$70,000 to \$80,000 to bring back a police officer. Combine the General Fund and millage appropriations for the proposed renovation, and you're closer to \$650,000, which could almost double the number of officers the administration wants to bring back, he said.

But Bernero points out that there's been support on the Council for a consolidated police headquarters, including from Wood and Jeffries. (Indeed, after the millage failed



"I resent the notion that I'm somehow attempting to misappropriate police millage money."

in May last year, Jeffries, Wood and former Councilman Eric Hewitt suggested consolidating police operations to help close this fiscal year's budget gap. Hannan called it a "pipe dream" and "gum drops and lollipops." "You can't just pull the plugs on police stations without having an alternative, and the alternative costs millions of dollars," Hannan said at the time.) Appropriating millage funds means less money the city would have to borrow through bonding, Bernero said: "The only rationale for building a police station is because we need one. So if we need it, if we truly need it, then a percentage of it should come from the millage." If Council adopts a budget without the appropriation, is the transition to Washington Avenue still on? "No," he said.

While Bernero pins the "political bullshit, political rhetoric, political games" squarely on Wood and Jeffries, Council opposition — at this point — is coming on more than those fronts. At last week's Council meeting, 3rd Ward Councilwoman A'Lynne Robinson said the appropriation "infuriates" her. "I, too, am not happy," 1st Ward Councilwoman Jody Washington added at the time.

For 2nd Ward Councilwoman Tina Houghton, "The jury is still out. I need more information. I would like to find the money elsewhere. I totally agree we need to be out of leases and into SWOC (South Washington Office Complex). How we get there, I need to research."

Others are hearing directly from voters. "I just spent two days with folks having this conversation, with constituents," At-Large Councilman Derrick Quinney said Monday night. "We were very adamant about the way we proposed it the second time. In doing so, the catch phrase was personnel cuts. It's not what they bought, if you will. Folks are having issues with that. We talked about personnel, and that's what I promoted."

Bernero countered Tuesday: "I believe a vast majority of citizens were voting for the full enchilada."

— Andy Balaskovitz



Property: Tallulah's Folly, 1220 Turner St., Lansing

Owner: Clair Lindemann

Assessed value: \$100,700

Lansing residents love their outdoor spaces, clamoring for them at the first waft of warmth. One of these beloved outdoor spaces is the courtyard at Tallulah's Folly in Old Town. Whether for feasting on delicious food from a food truck or to relax during an afternoon of shopping, the courtyard is an oasis.

And why is it so great? Because it follows all of the rules of a great outdoor urban space. It is of good scale (not too big and not too small), well articulated and defined by edges. Visually pleasing, sorbet-colored masonry walls define the sides with planters filled with beautiful plants lining their edges. It is whispered that these walls may become living walls home to vines and foliage. The entry to Tallulah's is the terminated vista at the end of the courtyard. It is also a sensory place that plays to more than just the visual sense: Glass glitters in the concrete paving and the sparkling sound of water from the fountain greets you, beckoning you in.

David Gregware, owner of Tallulah's Folly, saw what few did: An opportunity to create a really inviting place in what was once a driveway to a garage. It has been transformed into a magical bit of urbanism.

— 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 PULSE NEWSMAKERS



Hosted by
Berl Schwartz

This Week: Lansing's Budget
Guests:

Brian Jeffries
President,
Lansing City Council

&

Randy
Hannan
Chief of Staff, Lansing
Mayor's Office



Randy Hannan



Brian Jeffries

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and the people behind the issues
in Greater Lansing

Sundays at
11 & 11:30 a.m.
on Channel 16 in Lansing

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

SLU-5-2012, 615 S. Capitol Avenue
Special Land Use Permit – Parking Lot

The Lansing Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 17, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., Neighborhood Empowerment Center Conference Room, 600 W. Maple Street (Corner of W. Maple and N. Pine Streets) to consider SLU-5-2012. This is a request by Studio Intrigue Architects to construct a surface parking lot on the property at 615 S. Capitol Avenue. Parking lots are permitted in the "D-1" Professional Office district, which is the designation of the subject property, if a Special Land Use permit is approved by the Lansing City Council.

If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing, or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at the City of Lansing Planning Office, Department of Planning and Neighborhood Development, Suite D-1, 316 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing, MI 48933-1236. For more information concerning SLU-5-2012, call Susan Stachowiak at 517-483-4085.

Beating the bushes

After seasonal cutbacks, city looks for help at Cooley Gardens

Brett Kaschinske was hustling through a round of meetings April 2 when he pulled his orange truck next to the early spring green of Cooley Gardens.

Unlike the downtown cubicle refugees who steal an hour of sanity in Cooley's cool pines and flowerbeds, Lansing's parks and recreation director was still working. In suit and tie, he started pulling weeds, picking up trash and tugging at storm-downed branches.

"This grass is really thick," he said.

Lansing's hidden treasure suddenly needs a lot of love. This year, Kaschinske said the parks department would be left with 29 seasonal employees, down from over 50 last year.

He said his staff is "still working out" how best to allot shrinking resources among Lansing's 115 parks and 10 miles of River Trail.

"We have over 2,000 acres of parkland to maintain, but shuttering Cooley is not on the table," he said. "We're looking for volunteers

To volunteer at Cooley Gardens, call Parks Director Brett Kaschinske at (517) 483-4277 or email him at bkaschin@lansingmi.gov.

to deal with the issues out there, planting, weeding, et cetera."

To put a "rush" on the requisition, Michigan's warm-

est March on record has suddenly thrust the garden into mid-May form. By the first week of April, the magnolias were shedding their petals and Cooley's fabled bed of magnificent old peonies was forming buds a month ahead of schedule.

"We didn't expect to be cutting grass in March," Kaschinske said.

But Cooley Gardens is not your average mow-and-move-on city park.

If Frances Park, the manorial sprawl of pavilions and lawns overlooking the Grand River, is the crown jewel of the city's park system, Cooley is the hidden gem. There are frequent weddings and public events here, but the place is best suited for solitary

respites and romantic lunches. "This is more for the purist," Kaschinske said.

Built and planted from 1938 to 1942 with money from Lansing industrialist Eugene F. Cooley, the gardens gracefully pack a lot of variety into less than an acre. There are cottage-y nooks, formal beds of perennials and annuals, shady corners, winding side paths and grand vistas.

Most important, Cooley is an oasis in a post-industrial plain of concrete, surrounded by Interstate 496 to the north and the parking lot of the former Oldsmobile plant to the west and south. Even the nearby Three Sisters, the towering smokestacks of the Eckert Power Plant visible for miles around the city, seemed to disappear when Kaschinske stepped down into the sunken annual bed. "You come down here and it's a different world," he said.

Soon that annual bed will need filling.

"It changes and it moves all the time," gardener Eric Stinson said. "You really can't leave it alone for very long."

Beginning in the mid-1990s, Stinson tended the gardens full time, often with the help of two interns, but he retired in 2010. In the garden's heyday, from 1942 up to the early 1960s, Stinson said, up to four full-time staffers kept the gardens going, with three to five seasonal laborers.

In 1984, after a period of neglect, a support group, Friends of Cooley Gardens, formed and Stinson came on board full time during the summer until 1995, when he went to full-time, year-round work. In the 1990s, the Friends held a yearly plant sale to help buy plants and pay outside help. Stinson credits forestry manager Paul Dykema ("He has the heart of a gardener.") with committing city funds to help.

"The parks department has been taking hits for as long as I can remember," Stinson said. "When I started, it took 30 minutes for everybody to punch out in the afternoon."

In addition to beating the bushes for volunteers, Kaschinske is reaching out to MSU's Master Gardener program for more expert guidance. However, Stinson insisted that any plans to keep Cooley in form without "very serious backup" are "not realistic."

Stinson said the Gardens need a "busi-

See Cooley Gardens, Page 7



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Lansing Parks and Recreation Director Brett Kaschinske chats with Beulah Voorheist, 83, a 20-year volunteer at the sunken gardens next to Cooley Gardens. The city is looking for funding help for this hidden gem in the parks system.

Ingham judges keep Repubs on edge



POLITICS
The mosquitos buzzing around Gov. Rick Snyder and the GOP-Legislature these days are wearing black robes. The Ingham County Circuit Court is making its presence known these days by raising legal questions about the laws coming out of the Capitol this session. At least six times in the last seven weeks, the court has temporarily put the breaks on a Snyder-signed law.

Their opinions aren't sticking at the appellate level, but the Ingham bench — if only for a few days — is raising public questions about what the heck Snyder & Friends are doing.

The latest example came last week when Judge Clinton Canady III suspended the immediate implementation of two new laws out of concern that neither had the required two-thirds support in the GOP-run state House to make them effective immediately.

He threw down a temporary restraining order on both laws. One law would stop graduate student research assistants from unionizing. The second would keep school districts from taking union dues out of employees' checks. Neither, he said, should take effect until next April or until the constitutionality of how the House conducts its immediate effect vote is settled.

The state Court of Appeals lifted the restraining order Monday and politely told Canady it would handle the case from now on. But the House Democrats benefited from a 17-minute scathing (albeit

inaccurate) portrayal of events on Rachel Maddow's national MSNBC show.

Why do Ingham County's judges get all the luck?

Since new laws are generated in the city of Lansing, most resulting court challenges originate in the Ingham County Circuit Court, giving our judges a bigger stage to opine on statewide issues. Back in the 1990s, Judge James Giddings, now retired, went a few rounds with then-Gov. John Engler for the former's rulings on a prisoners' rights lawsuit.

Now, Chief Judge William Collette has become Snyder's sparring partner. Recently, he ordered that financial review teams — the gubernatorial appointed group that figures out if an emergency manager should be named for a broke city or school district — meet in public.

The initial decision and others that followed created interesting theater this spring as emergency managers in Flint and the Highland Park School district were pulled from power only to be put back in by an appellate court.

The Ingham Court's decisions haven't all been for show. After Collette's decision on the unconstitutionality of a mandated 4 percent contribution that state employees were ordered to set aside for retiree health care, Snyder & Friends changed course and refunded each state employee around \$1,000 a piece shortly after the new year.

Collette's presence also has forced Snyder to go straight to the GOP-controlled state Supreme Court on two high-profile questions — the constitutionality of the

“pension tax,” or the elimination of the state income tax exemption on pension income, and a new law that gives appointed emergency managers the power to alter bargained contracts.

The Ingham County Court's power isn't a secret in the legal community, which makes a spot on the bench appealing to district court judges and local lawyers. It can also generate interest from statewide interest groups looking to support a particular candidate — a dynamic we could see this year with Judge Paula Manderfield opting not to seek re-election.

Here's a recap of the Court's most recent rulings.

2/15/12 Collette rules that emergency financial review teams should meet in public. The Highland Park School District's new emergency manager was temporarily removed from office and the Detroit Financial Review Team began meeting in public.

2/15/12 Collette overturns a state law that had scrapped Oakland County's new commissioner district maps. While upheld, in part, in the Court of Appeals, the state Supreme Court struck down Collette's ruling.

3/20/12 Judge Rosemarie Aquilina kicks out Flint Emergency Manager Michael Brown for about a week since the Flint Financial Review Team never met in public. The Court of Appeals put Brown back into office six days later.

3/20/12 Collette rules the state cannot enter into a consent agreement with Detroit until March 29, as part of another maturation of the Open Meetings complaint against the Detroit Financial Review Team. The Court of Appeals invalidated the ban three days later and told Collette they'd take care of the matter until further notice.

4/2/12 Canady agrees with House Democrats on their “immediate effect” argument. The Court of Appeals paused the injunction a week later.

4/2/12 Judge Joyce Draganchuk bans the Detroit Financial Review Team from meeting to sign a consent agreement with Detroit on the argument that state law only allows the body to exist for 90 days. The Court of Appeals lifted the ruling two days later, allowing a consent agreement to be signed.

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

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT INGHAM COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT FAMILY DIVISION

NOTICE OF HEARING

FILE NO.
12-606-CA & 12-605-GA

In the matter of Heywood Edwards

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on 04/19/2012 at 11:00 AM, at 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48933 before Judge Economy for the following purpose(s):

Hearing for guardian and conservator.

If you require special accommodations to use the court because of a disability, or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangements.

Date: 04/06/2012
Deann Moreno
5303 S. Cedar St.
Lansing, MI 48909
(517)-887-9664

Cooley Gardens

from page 6

nesslike and capable Friends group” like the Fenner Conservancy, which runs a robust array of educational programs and events at Fenner Nature Center on the city's east fringe.

“The Friends of Cooley are pretty much on ice now,” Stinson said. “We have \$4,000 in the bank and four or five well-intended people who don't have the business skills to make that kind of robust organization real,” he said, including himself in that description. “We're really not players anymore.”

Kaschinske said the parks department is looking for a “different model” of operations.

“We don't have the budget to maintain the quality we once had, but we're still trying to maintain the gardens,” Kaschinske said. “They're still beautiful.”

Kaschinske paused to straighten out an ornamental conifer that had bent double in the winter, getting a face full of needles for his trouble, when he spotted a van in the parking lot.

“There's somebody over there,” he said.

A cloud of white hair could be seen vigor-

ously bobbing up and down over the top of a sunken garden wall.

“That's Beulah,” Kaschinske said.

Lansing's hidden treasure has its own hidden treasure: century-old Scott Sunken Gardens, a small stone-walled sanctuary where Beulah Voorheist, 83, has worked as a volunteer for 20 years.

She worked her way through the beds with a narrow rake designed to catch leaves and trash without harming young plants. The rake was also good for leaning.

“I'm achin' all over, but I got a few things done,” she said. “We need to move some things. We need some men out here.”

A car-sized tree limb, partially downed by last week's high winds, was hanging from a splinter and sinking into the garden. Voorheist's native politeness was clearly at war with her impatience.

“It's blocking the tulips,” she said.

Kaschinske told her the crew would take care of it.

“What are you going to do, with this early spring?” she asked Kaschinske.

“We're looking for help.”

“Good. Working here is good for the soul. Well, if you like flowers.”

— Lawrence Cosentino

Capital Area District Library

Libraries are the original “recyclers,” loaning out the same books and movies over and over again! Join us for these events to help you celebrate and protect Mother Earth.



Rethink • Rewind • Restart: An Interactive Sculpture

As part of Ingham County's Recycle Rama, local artist Jane Reiter will lead participants in a project to build a sculpture from repurposed and recycled materials. Help create a recycled masterpiece in the library lobby!

Saturday, April 14 • 1–5 pm
CADL DOWNTOWN LANSING
401 S. Capitol Ave. • (517) 367-6363

Knitting with Recycled Materials

Go green with your needlework! Local artist Jane Reiter will demonstrate knitting with recyclable materials like t-shirts, audiocassette tapes, fabric and plastic bags. Basic knowledge of knitting is helpful but not required.

Tuesday, April 17 • 1–3 pm
CADL HASLETT
1590 Franklin Street • (517) 339-2324

Sunday, April 22 • 2–4 pm
CADL DOWNTOWN LANSING
401 S. Capitol Ave. • (517) 367-6363



WHEN THE CAPITAL CITY BECOMES CINEMA CITY

In its second year, the Capital City Film Festival reels in new ideas

By **JAMES SANFORD**

Sure, the Capital City Film Festival has movies. But it also includes a full day of speakers, courtesy of TedX Lansing and the Media Sandbox Capstone Series, as well as the dramatic poetry of Kinetic Affect and the retro rhythms of Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle. And let's not forget the nightly musical performances from acts like Greensky Bluegrass, Murder By Death, William Elliott Whitmore and Lights.

"It got to the point where we considered a name change," admitted Dominic Cochran, who cofounded the festival last year. "But we just decided we didn't want to depart from being a film festival at heart. That will always be the heart and soul of everything we do."

Besides, cofounder Jason Gabriel said, the different aspects of the festival are all tied together: "Hopefully, the music will help people find the films, and vice versa."

In some cases, the lineup fell into place through what Cochran called "happy accidents."

"For example, we had Greensky Bluegrass booked as the musical act for opening night," he said, "and then we got a documentary submission about (the Lansing music store) Elderly Instruments. It just made sense to put them together and make the whole evening a package: See the movie, then go across the street and hear the music played live."

Similarly, when Cochran and programming director Dan Hartley noticed that two of the festival submissions came from filmmakers taking part in the American Film

Institute's Directing Workshop for Women, Cochran and Hartley decided to reach out to the program. That led to a Sunday afternoon showcase of AFI films being added to the schedule.

"Nothing was preconceived, but I think if you stay open to those kinds of things natural patterns sometimes emerge," Cochran said. "Kismet? Is that what they call it when things naturally come together?"

The unofficial slogan for this year's festival, according to Gabriel: "Lose the disc." As much as possible, the CCFF is going to be all-digital.

"Last year, when we had a BluRay player we were using for some of the presentations, we killed it," Gabriel said. "It was brand-new. It lasted two days. We also had a couple of discs that played erratically."

So it's goodbye to unreliable DVDs and hello to purer digital presentations. Even the 24 teams competing in the new Fortnight Film Festival, which gives Michigan filmmakers two weeks to assemble a short movie, were told to shoot their projects with a digital camera, make their edits and upload the file to the judges instead of burning it to a disc.

According to Gabriel, the Fortnight contest has attracted filmmakers from all over the state. They started work March 23, and their finished productions were due last Thursday. The top 15 films will be screened Sunday, with cash prizes for the first-, second- and third-place entries. A decibel meter will help determine the winner of the Audience Award at the screening, so Fortnight contestants

are being advised to bring as many fans as they can round up to the showing.

Gabriel and Cochran are pleased with the growth of the festival in its second year.

"We had more than twice as many films submitted as we did last year — approximately 280 films," Gabriel said. "Remember: We have to whittle that down to 35."

That meant hours and hours of screenings for Hartley. "After last year's festival I set a mandate for myself for 2012: to be overwhelmed with great submissions." Hartley wrote in a blog post on the festival's website. "So much so that narrowing it down to our relatively short, four-day program would be a daunting task. ... Maybe I should have been careful what I wished for last year."

"We had to turn away so many great films," Cochran noted. "It's heartbreaking. But it's a good problem to have."

In the future, there may be more room on the schedule.

"This year, we're already at the point where we can call the festival a financial success," Cochran added. "Even if we didn't sell another ticket — and the week before the festival is always the busiest week, sales-wise — we've got plenty of seed money for next year."

So the tentative plan for the third Capital City festival involves expanding to two weekends, with a few films possibly screening on the weeknights in between. "We really wanted to grow slowly and smartly, and we think next year's the time to do it," Cochran said.

DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY

An opening-night documentary profiles a local success story: Elderly Instruments

By **RICH TUPICA**

Following Elderly Instruments purchasing manager Ray Aleshire through the "employees only" area in the level below the showroom one quickly realizes: this isn't a run-of-the-mill guitar shop.

Heading toward his office, Aleshire works his way through the labyrinth of shelving units bursting with stock, while he passes by a swarm of fellow employees, all busy filling Internet orders for rare vintage guitars, or perhaps tracking down an item for a customer waiting upstairs.

Either way, the hustle and bustle of the store inspired veteran filmmaker Bob Albers to make "Elderly Instruments: All

Things Strings," a 60-minute documentary about the 35,000 square-foot shop located in a large brick building on the edge of Old Town and its expert employees, some of whom are more eccentric than others. It premieres Thursday at the Capital City Film Festival at the Lansing Center.

"Musicians tend to fit in better here and musicians tend to have a wide range of personality quirks," said Aleshire, who's also the vocalist and harmonica player in Those Delta Rhythm Kings, a veteran jump blues outfit. "Our staff runs the whole gamut. There are all kinds here, a lot of extremes and weird senses of humor. Songwriting fosters that to some extent, you have to look at the world in a different way."

"Doing things differently" is likely the key to the store's success. Stan Werbin, Elderly Instruments' owner, cofounded the store in 1972 when he was 25 years



Genrafer Musial/City Pulse

Elderly Instruments got in early on the Internet business boom; the store's clients include such major musicians as Elvis Costello, John Mayer, Vince Gill and members of R.E.M. and Metallica.

old and it steadily became a fixture in the music scene, mainly in the acoustic/folk sect. Fast forward 40 years and its grassroots ideals are still intact, even with a customer list that includes superstars like Vince Gill, John Mayer, Elvis Costello and members of Metallica and R.E.M.

Albers, who also teaches film and documentary classes at Michigan State University, produced and directed the documentary over a three-year period, starting in March 2009 — with help from

15 Michigan State University students, including Brad Corlett, the coproducer and principal editor. Albers said he wanted to show viewers what a "magical place" the store is.

"I wanted to capture the feel of the place," Albers said. "When you walk in, there's a feeling of welcoming and you can pick up any instrument, from a couple hundred dollars to \$10,000 or

Elderly

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\$12,000. That's really unusual, and kind of amazing.

"I also wanted to be sure that the source of this place, which is the owner Stan Werbin, came across as both a sort of funky guy who never came out of the '60s and this very serious businessman who had a clear concept of what he wanted to do with the store, he's incredibly successful," Albers added.

Customers have always had the ability to walk in and nonchalantly pick up and play a \$7,000 guitar or a \$200 bass at Elderly — a "kid in a candy shop" vibe that's helped to build its local reputation, not to mention Werbin's foresight to jump on Internet sales during the web's genesis.

Werbin said today at least 75 percent of his business is accrued from online sales made from across the globe. The store first began to branch out far beyond Lansing back in 1975, the first year it printed a mail-order catalog.

But it was no doubt the 1990s Internet boom that solidified Elderly Instruments as an international leader in vintage fretted and stringed instruments, including banjos, electric guitars, mandolins, ukuleles, steel guitars and all the accessories that go along with them.

"The Internet changed everything. We still have a print catalog, but we used to print about four or five a year and send them out," Werbin said. "Now we print one a year and call it good, because really the idea is to get people to the website; there are no space constraints."

So what does Elderly's cofounder think of "Elderly Instruments: All Things Strings"?

"I liked it," Werbin said. "The interesting thing is that we gave them no direction at all. We said, 'Do what you want.' Also, there are people who have worked here for over 30 years and they're not in it. But we have 75 or 80 people working in the store, so they weren't going to have everybody in it no matter what.

"And that wasn't their plan anyway," he added. "I think their plan was to get a slice of the existence of Elderly Instruments."

Being a local musician and longtime Elderly employee, Aleshire said the store has been around for so long many folks view it as a usual part of the music community, rather than a local gem.

"A lot of people in town take Elderly for granted because they've grown up around it — musicians included," Aleshire said. "But if you've ever lived somewhere else and gone to music stores in other places there's really no other place like us.

"It's the number of products; it's our openness to playing the instruments that are here, no matter who you are. It's kind of a combination: learning center, cultural center, intellectual and interchange for musical ideas."

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

For more reviews, see Screening Room on page 12

"Man on a Mission"
6:30 p.m. Friday, April 13



If your dad is a Skylab astronaut and you grew up in a neighborhood full of NASA employees, it's understandable why you might be interested in space travel. But what would you pay to make that dream come true? Does \$30 million or so sound reasonable?

It did to Richard Garriott, who made his fortune by designing computer games for the Apple II back in the late 1970s and spent a sizable chunk of his savings to follow in his father's footsteps. The lighthearted "Man on a Mission" chronicles the engagingly eccentric Garriott (he's sort of like Dudley Moore's "Arthur" character, minus the alcoholism) as he prepared to head to the stars aboard the Soyuz TMA-13 in 2008.

Garriott's dedication is impressive, to say the least: In addition to writing a whopper of a check, he must endure punishing physical training, learn the Russian language and even undergo precautionary surgery. If Garriott ever griped about any of this or experienced self-doubts, director Mike Woolf must have looked the other way. "Mission" is so determinedly upbeat and sunny that it can't help but come across as much more than a mildly entertaining, starry-eyed puff piece. — James Sanford (Screening at Lansing Public Media Center, 2500 S. Washington, Lansing)

"Fake It So Real"
2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 14

Paint your face, squeeze into those Spandex pants with the glittery belt, lace up the boots and tie on your headband. Ta-da! You're either ready for '80s Night at the club, or an evening with the Millennium Wrestling Federation in Lincoln, N.C.

Director Robert Greene's reasonably gritty documentary follows a devoted band of musclebound guys as they prepare for

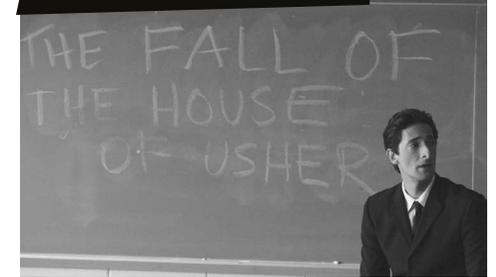
one of their Saturday night smackdowns; the enterprise is so bare-bones that the "stars" have to build their own ring and set up the folding chairs for their audience. They don't even have a street team to distribute their photocopied fliers to the local Pizza Hotline.

The show, they insist, is staged, but it's not phony: "Nothin' fake has real doctor bills," mutters Pitt, one of the veterans. Indeed, "Fake" is achingly frank when it comes to detailing how this head-cracking hobby ruins bodies and relationships. While none of the wives, girlfriends, parents or kids of the wrestlers are interviewed, all the fighters seem to have sacrificed marriages, friendships and romances in their quest for small-town celebrity status.

Much of "Fake" is devoted to Gabriel Croft, an amiable, slightly daydreamy rookie who's in the process of building up his body and creating his persona. He plans to play a sort of avenging angel, but his friends warn him against overanalyzing his character: "You're trying to write this guy a bibliography when you should really just write him a quote," one mentor helpfully suggests.

If the emotional and physical pain seem genuine, the humor in the film is largely unintentional. Although the men spend alarming amounts of time reminding everyone of their heterosexuality, they certainly take their sequins, feathers, eye makeup and rainbow halos as seriously as any card-carrying drag queen or pansexual rock star. — James Sanford (Screening at Old Town Temple, 502 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing)

"Detachment"
7 p.m. Saturday, April 14



Hell is a place with a blackboard, according to director Tony Kaye's "Detachment," a portrait of inner-city high school life that makes "Dangerous Minds" look like an Up With People pageant. Happiness is hard to come by in Carl Lund's sometimes unsettling screenplay, which spells out (in no uncertain terms) that poor supervision, lack of discipline, helpless administrators and misguided No Child Left Behind policies have put many kids and teachers on the fast track to disaster. Henry Barthes (Adrien Brody) is a substitute teacher who drifts from classroom to classroom, hoping for the best and usually ending up in a worst-case scenario. In his latest assignment, he's stuck trying to teach English to a few dozen zombies who are fluent in profanity and little else. Meanwhile, his fellow instructors pop pills to keep themselves in a state of false bliss, weather withering tirades from ignorant

See Reviews, Page 10

Capital Area District Library

Beginning Canning

Thursday, April 12 • 6:30 pm

Canning is a great way to preserve nutritious produce, but it's important to do it safely. MSU Extension educator Joyce McGarry will demonstrate several methods, including freezing, water bath and pressure canning.

CADL AURELIUS • 1939 S. Aurelius Rd., Mason • (517) 628-3743

Preparing Your Garden for Spring

Saturday, April 14 • 11 am

Join us for easy care tips to make this your best growing season yet. Sabrina Jenkins, certified Master Gardener and owner of Second Nature Designs, will talk about soil preparation, pruning, planting bulbs and adding low care native plants to your garden.

CADL HASLETT • 1590 Franklin Street • (517) 339-2324

The Vanishing of the Bees: Film Screening and Discussion*

Monday, April 16 • 6:30 pm

Honeybees world-wide are mysteriously vanishing from hives, bringing crisis to the food farming industry. Join us as we watch and discuss this important film, which the UK's channel 4 calls, "An essential documentary." Learn more at vanishingbees.com.

*Registration required; call (517) 694-9351 ext. 3.

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cadl.org/farm

Reviews

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parents or reminisce about the good old days when moms and dads actually showed up on Parent/Teacher Night. The soon-to-be-ousted principal (Marcia Gay Harden) can't offer much assistance to anyone as she struggles to hold herself and her career together. One associate (Lucy Liu) finally

explodes, lashing out at a smart-mouthed underachiever and informing her that life as an illiterate will be "a carnival of pain." It's often a rough ride, but "Detachment" is impressively played, and the dingy colors and rough-edged cinematography give it a documentary-style punch. While the movie brings up more issues than it has time to adequately address, its hard-nosed approach perfectly suits the unsentimental material. — James Sanford (Screening at Old Town Temple, 502 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing)

March 22 - April 22, 2012



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

Directed by Tony Caselli

Featuring: Leslie Hull, Emily Sutton-Smith
and Joseph Zettelmaier

Performances:
Thursday & Friday @ 8PM
Saturday @ 3PM & 8PM
Sunday @ 2PM

"Director Tony Caselli
chose his cast well."
- City Pulse

"And the actors are all winner."
- Lansing State Journal

"... lighthearted romance
with a great score"
- MLive.com

"From the very first number
you know you're in for
something special."
- lansingonlinenews.com

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



"Teddy Bear"

2 p.m. Sunday, April 15



In a beautiful character study that's every bit as good as director Sofia Coppola's "Lost in Translation," Dennis Peterson (Kim Kold) is a mountain of a man, a 38-year-old Danish bodybuilder who's still living at home with his nagging mother. Dennis is exceedingly socially awkward, but he really comes alive when he's powering weights around and flexing with other men in front of mirrors at the gym. Something's buzzing around in that thick skull of his, but you can never really tell what it is, creating a charming mystique. Why does he have such a hard time talking to women? Why is he so subservient to his mother? Will he find love in Thailand? The questions are compelling, and there's some surprisingly good acting from real-life bodybuilder Kold. — Allan I. Ross (Screening at Lansing Public Media Center, 2500 S. Washington, Lansing)

Read more reviews at
lansingcitypulse.com

"We Need To Talk About Kevin"

7 p.m. Sunday, April 15



The title refers to what the increasingly distressed mom Eva (Tilda Swinton) tries to tell her cheerfully clueless husband, Franklin (John C. Reilly), to no avail. But Eva has watched her son mature from an inconsolable screaming infant to a hostile child to a sullen, secretive teenager (Ezra Miller) who ties up his little sister in tinsel garlands ("Kevin and I were playing 'Christmas Kidnapping!' she happily squeals) and collects computer viruses; she's not sure what's coming next, but the almost relentlessly ominous mood maintained by director Lynne Ramsay suggests that whatever it is, it won't make a mother proud. This frequently jarring, sometimes uncomfortably funny adaptation of Lionel Shriver's novel constantly challenges viewer sensibilities a la "American Beauty" and "Little Children." At its center is a stupendous, extraordinarily complex performance by Swinton that keeps pulling you in, even when the subject matter threatens to become agonizingly grim. — James Sanford (Screening at Lansing Public Media Center, 2500 S. Washington, Lansing)

Igeek dialogue for change

geekthelibrary.org

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SCHEDULE

A full festival pass, including access to all screenings and events, is \$50. Individual tickets for screenings are \$5. Music shows are individually priced. Visit capitalcityfilmfest.com for details.

Thursday, April 12

4:30 p.m. — Opening Night Party at Troppo (free)
7 p.m. — Opening Night Film: "Elderly Instruments: All Things Strings," Lansing Center
8 p.m. — Music: Greensky Bluegrass, The Loft (\$10)

Friday, April 13

9 a.m.-1 p.m. — TEDxLansing, featuring Alison Gass, Stephen Thomas, Jim Luke, Jeana-Dee Allen Rogers, Terry Link, Suban Nur Cooley, Simon Perazza, Glenn Stutzky, John O'Malia, Erik Proulx and Tashmica Torok; music by Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle and poetry by Kinetic Affect, Lansing Public Media Center (\$35)
1 p.m. — Lunch
2 p.m. — Michigan State University Media Sandbox, Lansing Public Media Center (free)
6:30 p.m. — Film: "Man on a Mission" (with short, "Little Mom"), Lansing Public Media Center
7 p.m. — Music: Murder By Death, The Loft (\$13)
9 p.m. — Film: "Searching for Sonny" (with short, "Cotton County Boys"), Lansing Public Media Center

Saturday, April 14

Noon — Film: Student Shorts Block 1, Lansing Public

Venue addresses:

Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Lansing Public Media Center, 2500 S. Washington, Lansing

Media Center

Noon — Film: Professional Shorts Block 1, Old Town Temple

2 p.m. — Film: Student Block 2, Lansing Public Media Center

2:30 p.m. — Film: "Fake it So Real" (with short, "Street Pillow"), Old Town Temple

4 p.m. — Film: Two documentaries "Bath School Disaster" and "everydayPeople," Lansing Public Media Center

5 p.m. — Film: Professional Shorts Block 2, Old Town Temple

6:30 p.m. — Film: Long-form comedy shorts, Lansing Public Media Center

7 p.m. — Music: William Elliott Whitmore, The Loft (\$10)

7 p.m. — Film: "Detachment" (with short, "Yearning"), Old Town Temple

7:30 p.m. — Film: "Boogie Stomp" and "Horizontal Accidents," Lansing Public Media Center

9 p.m. — Film: Wes Anderson double feature, "Bottle Rocket" and "Rushmore," Old Town Temple (free)

Sunday, April 15

11 a.m. — Film: Fortnight Film Contest Screening, awards ceremony at 1:30 p.m., Lansing Public Media Center

2 p.m. — Film: "Teddy Bear" (with short, "The Telegram Man"), Lansing Public Media Center

4:30 p.m. — Film: American Film Institute Directing Workshop for Women Films, Lansing Public Media Center

7 p.m. — Music Lights, The Loft (\$13)

7 p.m. — Film: "We Need to Talk About Kevin" (with short, "Daddy's Pride"), Lansing Public Media Center

The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Old Town Temple, 502 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
Troppo, 111 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

Arts & Culture

art • books • film • music • theater

Two coups — beaucoup cool

Jazz legend Sonny Rollins and opera star Renée Fleming top Wharton Center's jazz and classics lineup in the new season

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Two musical titans, saxophone colossus Sonny Rollins and soprano supreme Renée Fleming, will headline the 2012-2013 Wharton Center jazz and classics series. Both artists are making their first appearances at Wharton.

Whether you dig the Scotch-on-the-rocks kick of Rollins' "St. Thomas" or swoon to the single-malt mellow of Fleming's "O mio babbino caro," that's two colossal coups for the Wharton Center. Both artists have combined popular appeal with critical acclaim as few artists have.

In the jazz world, it just doesn't get any better than Rollins, one the most enduring and accomplished musicians America has produced. His career stretches back to historic stints with Miles Davis and Thelonious Monk in the 1950s, followed by influential piano-less trio work that opened the tenor sax to wider realms of expression.

At 82, Rollins is still in fine form and more in demand than ever. Wharton Center executive director Michael Brand has been trying to land Rollins for years. Rollins' Wharton date on Oct. 7 falls among gigs in Marseille,

Vienna, Prague, Geneva, London and Bologna.

"He's not easy to book," Brand said. "He turns a lot of work down."

This year, Michigan got lucky with Rollins: the Wharton gig and Rollins' headlining appearance at the Detroit Jazz Festival Aug. 31 are two of only three U.S. performances on his schedule this fall. (The third is in St. Louis.)

Few would deny that Rollins and alto sax innovator Ornette Coleman are the two foremost living legends of jazz, but it would be a mistake to think of Rollins as a relic. Well before the Sept. 11 attacks sent Rollins fleeing from his New York apartment, saxophone in hand, he entered a new phase of creative energy and critical recognition. Last year's live CD, "Road Shows Vol. 2," was a near-unanimous critics' pick as best of the year.

For classical music lovers, the chance to get direct vibra-

Saxophonist Sonny Rollins comes to Wharton Center on Oct. 7; soprano Renée Fleming performs on Feb. 27.

Courtesy photos



tions from the spine-tingling voice of diva Renée Fleming is just as rare an opportunity. Fleming, who appears Feb. 27, limits her recitals to half a

dozen or so a year.

In the classical world, it would be hard to find an artist

See Wharton, Page 12

A real standup guy

Judah Friedlander is ready to 'Rock' Lansing

By ALYSSA FIRTH

Judah Friedlander holds several different titles and wears several different faces. In addition to being the self-proclaimed "World Champion of the World" and "World's Greatest Athlete," Friedlander is also known as the smart-mouthed, uncouth writer Frank Rossitano on the NBC sitcom, "30 Rock."

But the comedian said he has been doing standup comedy almost every night for more than 20 years, adding that he is looking forward to his first shows in Michigan.

Judah Friedlander

Fairchild Theatre,
Wharton Center
7:30 p.m. Friday, April 13
\$20; \$10 students
www.whartoncenter.com
(800) WHARTON

Center.

Friedlander's portrayal of Frank is based on several former "Saturday Night Live" writers that "30 Rock" with whom writer/star Tina Fey once worked. Friedlander said he had known one of the inspirations

behind the role when he originally auditioned, but was surprised to learn from Fey who else Frank was based on.

"There was one episode that was called the 'Sun Tea' episode, where my character Frank, instead of going to the bathroom, he just takes a leak in, like, a Mason jar in his office and leaves it there."

He asked Fey if that actually happened on "Saturday Night Live."

"And she's like, 'Yeah.' I'm like, 'Who the hell would do that?' And she's like, 'Actually, several people,'" he said.

Friedlander shared his World Champion of the World secrets in his book, "How to Beat Up Anybody: An Instructional and Inspirational Karate Book by the World Champion." The book features several fighting tactics, including offense as the best defense and a special chapter for women, "written in a language only women can understand," according to Friedlander.

"So if a male criminal read that chapter, he wouldn't be able to discover women's secrets to protect themselves against

male attackers," Friedlander said.

Another chapter that Friedlander said would especially be good for Michigan readers details how to beat up a Big Foot. Friedlander claims attacks are on the rise because of the country's deforestation problem.

"They're being forced out of their homes, into the suburbs, into the cities. That's why Big Foot attacks are on the rise," he said. "Most are cool, but like any society, you know, there's always some scumbags. You gotta watch out for them, so I teach you how to protect yourself against a Big Foot."



Friedlander, 43, has been in films and television for more than a decade.

While he is still filming "30 Rock" episodes, he said standup is his priority.

"Anything else I do is something I do, but standup is always home base and number one for me," he said.

Performing at a college rather than a comedy club or theater won't necessarily change his set, according to Friedlander. He said he often makes material up on the spot.

One of his latest bits is his campaign for the presidency. He asks the audience which issues they want addressed and responds with what he would do about them, as well as a few of his own platforms.

When asked if he would be seeking student votes on Friday, Friedlander said he firmly believes that the youth is ahead of current politicians.

"The government and television media are always behind where the people stand, and the young people, I think, are further advanced people in their thinking," he said. "I think people, especially young people, they have too many rules restricting them in general."

Viewers can preview Friedlander's act at www.judahfriedlander.com, which features clips and updates. You can also follow him on Twitter (@JudahWorldChamp).

Courtesy photo

"30 Rock" star and author Judah Friedlander returns to standup comedy Friday at the Wharton Center.

Wharton

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who combines accessible, popular appeal with lavish artistic acclaim (Sir Georg Solti called her one of the two greatest voices he ever worked with).

Fleming, 53, has nailed nearly every significant soprano role in opera, stretching into contemporary material like Blanche DuBois in Andre Previn's "A Streetcar Named Desire" while maintaining sway over the great Handel, Mozart and Puccini roles. She's also been game for offbeat excursions like playing diva Renata Flambé on "A Prairie Home Companion" and singing in the nonexistent language of Sindarin for the soundtrack of "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King." Fleming's 2010 disc "Dark Worlds" explored what she called an "alternate universe" of rock tunes by Muse, Death Cab for Cutie, Leonard Cohen and others.

"We've been trying for six years to get her and we finally got on her radar," Brand said. Last year, Wharton came close to snagging Fleming, but Ann Arbor's University Music Society lured her away.

While Fleming is here, she will do a master class for Michigan State University College of Music students.

Beyond the Sonny Rollins date, Wharton's 2012-2013 jazz series has more depth and strength than usual. On March 20, a true all-star package tour from the Monterey Jazz Festival teams vocalist Dee Dee Bridgewater, who sang at Wharton in 2011, with four of jazz's leading artists: bassist Christian McBride, pianist Benny Green, saxophonist Chris Potter and drummer Lewis Nash, each of whom has a truckload of recordings, awards and hard-core jazz-lover cred.

The Monterey date will be followed up April 7, with an intriguing all-star date headed by one of jazz's most respected gui-

tarists, John Scofield. "The Hollowbody Band" matches Scofield with two other top jazz guitarists, Peter Bernstein and Kurt Rosenwinkel, with Bill Stewart on drums and Ben Street on bass.

Brand said he thought the jazz series was complete until a colleague dragged him to New York in January to hear the Birdland Big Band, a Big Apple-based bebop machine devoted to the music of Charlie Parker and his worthy constituents, led by veteran drummer Tommy Igoe.

"Man, was that a band," Brand said. "Live at Birdland" will cram itself into the Pasant Theater Oct. 25, where Brand expects they will return every year. The jazz series is rounded out Dec. 6 by Latin powerhouse Tiempo Libre, returning to Wharton after successful dates there in 2006 and 2009.

Brand said the jazz series got a bit out of hand this year. "We thought we were only going to do a smaller thing in classical and jazz, because with the economy, you never know. But there were too many things to get."

As Brand acknowledged, Wharton's classics series is comparatively slim next season, with only two dates besides Fleming's. The BBC Concert Orchestra with conductor Keith Lockhart will come to town Jan. 31, and a perennial crossover favorite, flutist Sir James Galway, arrives with his "Legacy Tour" March 28. Galway will also do a master class at MSU.

That means there will be a complete absence of non-pops symphonies, opera and chamber groups at Wharton next year, other than performances by the Lansing Symphony and the MSU College of Music.

However, Brand said the classics will return in force the following season. Talks are under way to renew the Wharton's partnerships with the Michigan Opera Theatre and the Detroit Symphony. Brand is also working on a visit from Russia's St. Petersburg Symphony, with Yuri Temirkanov conducting, for the fall of 2013.

THE SCREENING ROOM

by JAMES SANFORD

Capital City Film Festival rolls out the documentaries

Part of the fun of a film festival is having the chance to make discoveries. The Capital City Film Festival is no exception. Here are a couple of the notable documentaries screening this weekend.

"**everydayPeople**" — How do you see the Saugatuck and Douglas area? Is it West Michigan's answer to Fire Island? Would you call it the Ann Arbor of the lakeshore?

In their insightful documentary "everydayPeople," directors Jeff and Steve Croley offer a slightly more complex portrait of the community as they investigate how a large lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender population has been welcomed (and even embraced) in what is seen as a largely conservative, heavily Christian region. The film takes its title from the name of a restaurant in Douglas that has become a gathering place for LGBT residents.

One longtime resident describes Saugatuck as being "like a Norman Rockwell painting." But which one of the artist's works showed rainbow flags flying in the annual Fourth of July parade or depicted gay men and lesbian couples happily blending into the country line dances at the local roadhouse?

To find the roots of this tolerant attitude, the Croleys look back to the beginnings of Saugatuck and Douglas, when, we're told, artists from the Ox-Bow colony rubbed shoulders with vacationing Chicago gangsters. Alienating the LGBT population in a small town would be foolish from an economic standpoint, according to local business owners.

The hour-long documentary sometimes repeats itself (too many sources seem to say the same thing), but it truly hits home when the Croleys discover the Hamlins, two retired Methodist pastors whose son was gay and who died of AIDS in the mid-1990s. They speak movingly about their reactions to his life and his passing, and they express great dismay at anti-gay attitudes.

"The power of people who can invoke this hatred because people don't think the same way is hurting everybody," Joan



Courtesy photo

The partnership of Bob Baldori (on harmonica) and Bob Seeley is chronicled in the documentary "Boogie Stomp."

Hamlin says. For the residents of Saugatuck and Douglas, those may be words to live by. (Screening at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 14 at Lansing Public Media Center, 2500 S. Washington, Lansing.)

"**Boogie Stomp**" — That Bob Baldori is a phenomenal pianist is no secret: He's been performing sizzling boogie-woogie around the world for decades. But his documentary "Boogie Stomp" demonstrates he's an accomplished filmmaker as well.

"Boogie Stomp" ambitiously weaves together three plotlines: Baldori's working relationship and friendship with his partner, Bob Seeley; Seeley's background in the Detroit music scene; and the rise of the boogie-woogie form in American music. Through careful scripting and smooth editing, "Stomp" seems to move effortlessly — even elegantly — from fascinating history lessons and helpful explanations of musical terms to the material that charts Seeley's long career before he teamed up with Baldori.

To those who don't know them, the men seem to be a mismatched team. Once they get behind their pianos, however, the combination is genuinely combustible. The musical segments in "Stomp" practically dare you not to dance in your seat: Number after number rocks, rolls and roars. (Screening at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, April 14 at Lansing Public Media Center, 2500 S. Washington, Lansing.)

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True blue

In Lansing Civic Players' 'Vino Veritas,' a weird Peruvian wine leads to shocking revelations

By JAMES SANFORD

Artists will tell you inspiration can strike in unlikely places. For playwright "Vino Veritas" playwright David MacGregor, it happened on a golf course.

He was on the links with an old friend. "We go about once a year," said MacGregor, in a phone interview from his home in Hartland Township. "We're not really there to golf, just to yap at each other."

Another man came up to MacGregor and his friend and said, "I'm a single. Can I join you?" MacGregor's friend waved the guy away, telling him that they were in the midst of a "private talk." In fact, they weren't, but MacGregor's friend knew the presence of a stranger would mean that the friends would have to tone down their conversation and censor themselves.

Cue the Muse.

"On the basis of that, I wrote a short play, '18 Holes,' which was 18 separate conversational snippets in 18 minutes," MacGregor said.

'Vino Veritas'

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at the Purple Rose Theatre in 2008, where MacGregor is a resident artist.

The Lansing Civic Players' production opens Thursday. It stars Amanda Devlin Knowlton, Christian Powell, John Roche and Abbie Tykocki; Tony Sump is the director.

MacGregor's other plays include "The

Late Great Henry Boyle," "Gravity" and "Consider the Oyster," all of which were produced at Purple Rose.

In "Vino," two couples meet up on Halloween night to enjoy a South American tribal libation made from the skin of blue dart tree frogs that gives the evening an unexpected kick.

"This bizarre Peruvian wine they drink has truth-telling qualities, of course, like all alcohol — that's where the phrase comes from. Three of them drink it, one doesn't. Things start off amusingly, and then get darker as the play goes on."



David MacGregor

"Vino" was a box office success at Purple Rose and has gone on to be produced across the nation. "For whatever reason, it strikes a chord with people," MacGregor said. "One of the women who came to see it at Purple Rose said to me, 'It's almost as if you're standing outside our living room window. How do you know what's going on in there?'"

I think it's kind of liberating and cathartic to realize there are some other people who think the same things you do."

MacGregor relates to the idea of getting in touch with primal emotions. He recalled taking his then-1-year-old son to a park, where the boy tried to play with 3-year-old twins. "One of these kids knocked him down and the other punched him in the face. And at that moment, I was going to kill those two kids, and I'm not talking figuratively. I was shaking with anger. That's the Mommy Crocodile response: 'That's my kid!' It's in all of us, and you can delude or kid yourself — 'Oh, I'm not like that' — but you are like that."

When he graduated from Michigan State University in 1981, MacGregor wanted to pursue a screenwriting career, but family obligations kept him from moving to Los Angeles. However, he did write the screenplay for the film adaptation of "Vino," which is in post-production.

"I just got the rough cut in the mail from the director yesterday," MacGregor said.

He neglected to mention if he was opening a bottle of Peruvian blue tree frog wine to celebrate.

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Silver screen songs

Singers on the Grand performs music from the movies at Riverwalk

By ADAM ILENICH

Lights! Camera! Vocals!

The 12-member Singers on the Grand performs "Mostly Movies" Saturday and Sunday at Riverwalk Theatre, with the help of a seven-member "Grand Band" and classical dancers Chloe Gonzales and Michael Chan. The program includes solos, duets and close-harmony numbers.

Among the films spotlighted will be "O Brother Where Art Thou?," "The Wiz," "The Bodyguard" and "My Fair Lady." Additional songs include "As Time Goes By" (from "Casablanca"), "Steam Heat" (from "The Pajama Game") and "My Heart Will Go On" (from "Titanic").

Music from Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet's "Titanic" is part of the "Mostly Movies" concert.

Courtesy Photo



Singers on the Grand: 'Mostly Movies'

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'The music is timeless'

Lansing Symphony teams with Jeans 'n Classics for a salute to Billy Joel

By CHRISTOPHER HORB

Roll over Beethoven, it's time to rock.

The lights go up on the Lansing Symphony Orchestra's "Piano Man: The Music of Billy Joel" at Wharton Center's Cobb Great Hall Saturday. It's the LSO's latest collaboration with the Jeans 'n Classics band.

According to Jeans 'n Classics headliner and former Detroit resident Jean Meilleur, the opportunity to put his own mark on Joel's hits is a huge thrill.

"This isn't a tribute act — we're not just going out there trying to clone an artist's performances," he said, in a phone interview. "There are certain inflections that must be there to be true to the originals, but I'm singing in my own voice. It's all about celebrating the music, some of the greatest pop music that's ever been written."

Founded by Peter Brennan, the Canada-based Jeans 'n Classics has been combining rock musicians and singers with symphony orchestras worldwide for over 20 years, and has tackled the likes of Michael Jackson, Bruce Springsteen

and Queen in its programs.

The troupe last paired with the LSO for a tribute to Elton John in 2009.

For "Piano Man," Joel hits including "Uptown Girl," "Only the Good Die Young" and the ubiquitous title tune have been given symphonic arrangements that remain true to the original compositions while making use of the sweeping instrumentation a full symphony orchestra provides.

Meilleur said it's not as unlikely pairing of styles as one might think.

"(Joel's) classical training comes through in his melodies. There's an availability in his songs that allows for really opening them up for other instruments. He's an easy choice to orchestrate."

Joel is a six-time Grammy-award winner and has sold over 150 million records worldwide.

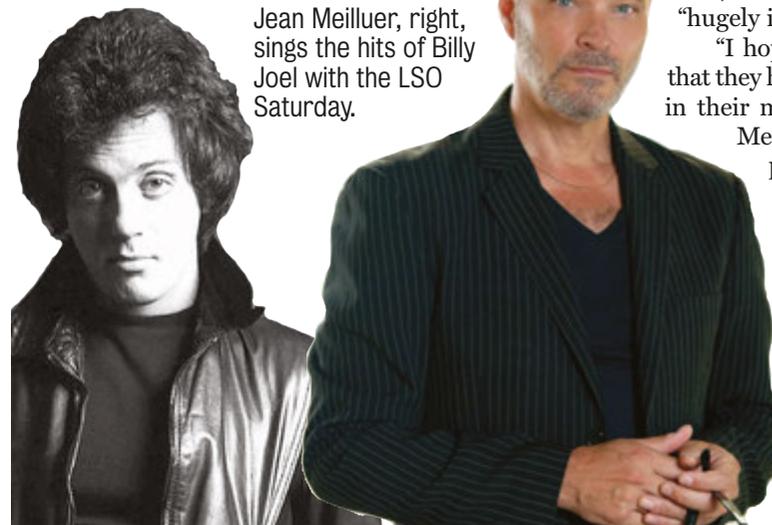
"The music is timeless," Meilleur said.

Meilleur, who has been performing professionally for over 25 years, and is in his 15th year of headlining for Jeans 'n Classics, sees the group's shows as chance to introduce the uninitiated to the work of symphony orchestras, something he says is "hugely important."

"I hope people discover that they have a cultural gem in their midst in the LSO," Meilleur said. "These people are incredible musicians, and it's so thrilling to play with them."

"For a town to have an orchestra that is capable of pulling off so many kinds of music is really something special."

Courtesy Photos



Jean Meilleur, right, sings the hits of Billy Joel with the LSO Saturday.

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For a night, and for keeps

CD party celebrates big year for Professors of Jazz

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

"The Teacher," the new CD by Michigan State University's Professors of Jazz, is no idle vanity project, and Saturday's release party at the Creole Gallery promises to be no run-of-the-mill concert.

The CD documents a watershed year in the members' artistic output. Through 2010-2011, with the support of the Arts Council of Greater Lansing, four of the professors wrote ambitious new suites and premiered them to sellout audiences at the Creole Gallery. The challenge inspired them to dig deep and deliver some of their best performances yet. The CD bottles some of that lighting, including tenor saxman Diego Rivera's multi-layered "Spanish Tinge," bassist Rodney Whitaker's lyrical "Up South" and Trinidad trumpeter Etienne Charles' rippling Caribbean suite.



Rodney Whitaker

The disc also includes three new tunes by the group's new pianist, Reginald Thomas.

Saturday's concert will reassemble the professors, backed by veteran drummer Randy Gelispie, with new faces Michael Dease on trombone, Perry Hughes on guitar and vocalist Mardra Thomas, all of whom perform on the CD as well.

Whitaker said the sessions at Glenn Brown's East Lansing studio were "serious fun." Whitaker was impressed with Brown, the award-winning guitarist.

"He's amazing," Whitaker said. "He's quick. You ask him about editing something, he's doing it while you're talking."

The four-concert series of commissioned works pushed the Professors artistically, and Creole audiences responded in kind. With so much music to include, Whitaker is leaning toward a double CD, but promised it would be affordable.

"A lot of this music was born out of that commission, and people came out and supported us at the gig," Whitaker said. "This was a way to put it down so it can last."

MSU Professors of Jazz CD Release Party

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Summer Camp

Special Section!

No time to be homesick
Camps offer a variety of summer activities
Page 18

Guide to Michigan's YMCA Camps
Page 19

Which Camp is Best for you?
Page 20



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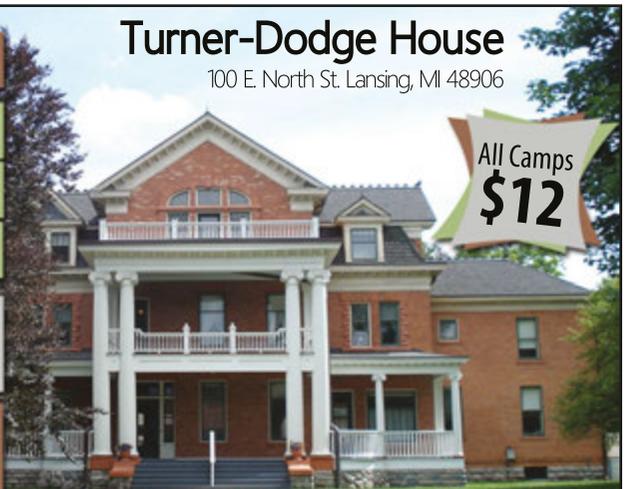
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No time to be homesick

Camps offer a variety of summer activities

By **ALYSSA FIRTH**

With the rise in temperatures comes the rise in children being sent off to Michigan's numerous summer camps. Parents in almost any area of the state have options to send their child or children for one day, one week or several weeks. Although times have changed, many of yesteryear's traditions still remain.

Camp Copneconic in Fenton is one of 15 Michigan YMCA Camps, all located in the lower peninsula. Shelly Hilton, an associate executive director for Copneconic, said while they all have that YMCA connection, they operate independently of each other.

"We're all governed by the YMCA of the USA, so we're all connected through that, but we're a complete separate association from

say, the Lansing association (which operates the Mystic Lake camp). We're very different," Hilton said.

Depending on what parents are looking for, each camp — including others outside of the Michigan YMCA Camps — has something different to offer. Children from age 3 to those entering 12th grade are welcome at Camp Copneconic. However different or similar each camp is, Hilton said a camp experience provides the opportunity for kids to boost their self-esteem and a chance to try something new, especially if it is their first time away from home.

"They gain some independence, a sense of responsibility for themselves and their belongings," Hilton said.

Hilton has been at Camp Copneconic for almost 11 years, and said the number of campers has remained consistent from year to year. The camp offers day camps, one-week camps and two-week camps. Hilton said the numbers for two-week campers are growing.

"We feel like there's still a lot of kids who are interested in having a summer camp experience, and we change things up every week," she said. "We still do a mix of those traditional camp activities that kids back in the '50s and '60s, but then we've also added some of the newer camp-type things."

High ropes courses, zip lines and aqua toys are among the more modern activities that Camp Copneconic provides, but traditional activities include arts and crafts, archery and nightly campfires.

For the concerned parent, a summer camp preview is provided where parents can ask questions, meet the staff and see where their child will be staying.

"They see that their kids are going to be



Courtesy Photo

Summer camp is a great place to learn the basics of scuba diving.

well cared for when they come to camp," Hilton said.

According to Hilton, some of the main concerns that parents have include how their children be supervised or what will happen if their child gets sick. She said the staff is always prepared for any child who is homesick or who is unsure about staying away from home. Campers are always grouped together with kids their own age, and Hilton said that many of them make friends during that first day at camp.

"We just tell them they're going to have so much fun that they won't have time to even be homesick, because they just go, go, go every day," she said.

Like other camps in the state, Camp Copneconic runs year-round rather than just operating during the summer. For more information on Michigan YMCA camps, visit www.michiganymcacamps.org.



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Sailing is one of the activities offered at several of Michigan's YMCA Summer Camps. Courtesy Photo

YMCA camps in Michigan

By **ALYSSA FIRTH**

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Camp Copneconic — A year-round camp and retreat center in Fenton. (810) 629-9622

Camp Eberhart — Located on Corey Lake, five miles west of Three Rivers. (888) 922-6732

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Camp Pandalouan — Summer camps on Big Blue Lake in Montague, near Muskegon. (231) 894-4538

Camp Pinewood — Archery, fishing, drama and outdoor living skills are among the activities at this camp in Twin Lake. (231) 821-2421

Sherman Lake YMCA — Multiple special-interest day camps and resident camps are provided, including dance camp, horse camp, Gilmore Piano camp, and Weird Science camp; located near Augusta. (269) 731-3000

YMCA Storer Camps — Camps for kids and teens, ranging from First Timers camps to leadership training for older campers; located in Jackson. (517) 536-8607

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Summer L.A.B.S. Camps 2012

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reachstudioart.org

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- ★ Cool reads
- + fun prizes
- + exciting entertainment
- = family fun all summer long

Last year almost 7,500 kids and teens signed up for CADL's free summer reading challenge.

This year, make sure your family is part of the equation.

Details at cadl.org, beginning May 1



Which camp is best for you?

By ALYSSA FIRTH

Overnight/Day

Dozens of camps offer overnight or day camps for children of all ages. For typical camp activities such as canoeing, swimming, hiking, archery and more, try Michigan YMCA Camps. There are 15 camps in Michigan and all offer something a little different (see the list in this section). Visit www.michiganymcacamps.org to see where the different camps are located, and which seems like the right fit for your child.

Sports

Camps are available for almost any student athlete in Michigan, whether through a school or a separate program. Oakland University offers a lacrosse camp for girls and Davenport University in Grand Rapids has a volleyball camp for girls. The Wilson Collegiate Tennis Camp in Kalamazoo takes boys and girls from ages 8-18. If your child is new to sports, community centers offer lessons for beginners, such as the East Lansing Hannah Community Center.

Oakland University Lacrosse Camp: www.laxcamps.com

Davenport University Volleyball Camp: www.ussportscamps.com/volleyball/nike/davenport-university-nike-volleyball-camps

Wilson Collegiate Tennis Camp: www.wilsonsportscamps.com/kalamazoo-college/

East Lansing Hannah Community Center:

www.cityofeastlansing.com/Home/Departments/ParksRecreationArts/ClassesPrograms/AboutCamps/

Education

Not every kid wants the typical camp experience, but that doesn't mean they don't want to go to camp at all. Several educational camps are available for specific areas of interest. An iD Tech Computer Camp is available for children ages 7-17 at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor every summer. Also in Ann Arbor is a Young Filmmakers Camp at the Michigan Theatre.

iD Tech Computer Camp:

www.internaldrive.com/locations/mi-summer-camps-michigan-computer-camps/university-of-michigan-ann-arbor-camp

Young Filmmakers Camp:

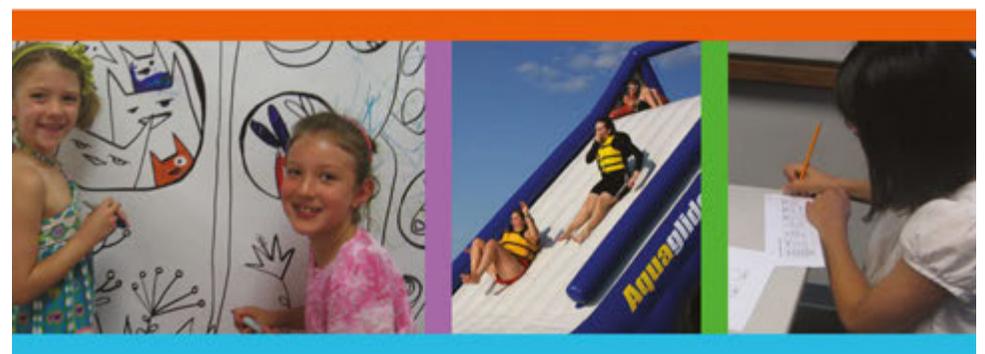
www.michtheater.org/camp/?gclid=COXjmuW2qa8CFYURNAod6l6BYg

Camps with a Cause

For children who can't run and play like everyone else due to an illness, a few camps are now available. Camp Casey is a horseback riding camp for children with cancer in Michigan. Several events are programs are available throughout the state and a chapter was recently started at MSU. Camp Catch-A-Rainbow is a free camp for young cancer patients and survivors in the Great Lakes area, with the camp being held in Jackson. The camp is also looking for volunteers as well.

Camp Casey: camp-casey.org

Camp Catch-A-Rainbow: www.cancer.org/campainbow



LEGALLY BLONDE

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

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

Pasant Theatre

whartoncenter.com or 1-800-wharton

APRIL 20 - 29

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



Legally Blonde the Musical is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019 Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

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Double header

Two authors of baseball books come to town on the same night

By BILL CASTANIER

In 2010, President Obama threw out the first pitch of the baseball season in recognition of the 100th anniversary of President William Howard Taft's first toss.

Mark Twain once umpired a baseball game. Earvin Magic Johnson and a group of investors are willing to pony up \$2 billion for the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Detroit Tigers celebrated opening weekend of the 2012 season by pummeling the Boston Red Sox with two walk-off hits and a 3-0 record. Fans are already speculating about a World Series appearance.

That's why baseball is called America's pastime. It's hard to imagine an American

Peter Morris

Author of "Don't Kill the Umpire"
7 p.m. Thursday, April 19
Capital Area District Library
401 S. Capitol Ave.,
Lansing
Free
(517) 367-6308

Tim Wendel

Author of "Summer of '68: The Season That Changed Baseball — and America — Forever,"
7 p.m. Thursday, April 19
Sculer Books & Music
2820 Towne Center Blvd., Lansing
Free
(517) 316-7495

president kicking the first soccer ball.

Two noted baseball authors, Peter Morris and Tim Wendel, will be in Lansing next week to discuss why the game of baseball seems larger than life. Unfortunately, you will have to make a "fielder's choice" since they are scheduled to speak at the same time in different locations.

Morris talks about the sport's influence on American culture for the Historical Society of Greater Lansing at 7 p.m. April 19 at the Capital Area District Library in downtown Lansing.

In addition to making the case that baseball is the national pastime, he will provide an overview of early baseball in Lansing and its continuing presence. Morris has written "A Game of Inches," "Catcher," "Level Playing Fields" and "Baseball Fever: Early Baseball in Michigan." He recently published the electronic book "Don't Kill the Umpire" about the history of violence in the sport.

Wendel, author of "Summer of '68: The Season That Changed Baseball — and America — Forever," will talk about the impact the 1968 World Series champion Detroit Tigers had on the game and on the nation. He appears at 7 p.m. April 19 at the Eastwood Towne Center location of Schuler Books & Music. Wendel's book serves as a testament to a team that is credited with holding a city together and giving its residents something to cheer about after the devastating 1967 riots.

The book also gives a game-by-game analysis of the iconic 1968 World Series and in-depth profiles of its larger-than-

life players, such as the Vegas entertainer and 31-game-winner Denny McLain and St. Louis Cardinal pitcher Bob Gibson, who was deeply disturbed by the death of Martin Luther King but still managed to put together a season for the ages by "playing like a man on fire," according to Wendel.

Wendel said the Cardinals and the Tigers were very different teams: "The St. Louis Cardinals looked like they stepped right out of Gentleman's Quarterly, while the Tigers looked like they had just come from the bar. They came from very different backgrounds, but when the time came they both closed ranks."

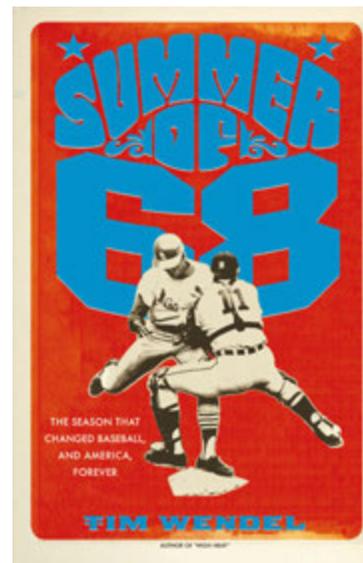
Wendell also makes the case that the 1968 series represented the last pure games of baseball in a time before league playoffs and wild-card spots.

"It was the best team from the American League and the best team from the National League — period," Wendel said.

The series also saw pitchers who still retain records that may never be broken, such as Gibson's single season earned run average of 1.12 and Denny McLain's 31-7 season record. After the '68 season, Wendel said baseball recognized that the "pitchers were too good" and lowered the mound and shrunk the strike zone to accommodate batters.

His book also reinforces the popular idea that the Tigers pulled the city of Detroit together. He recalls in the book how Tiger and Detroitier Willie Horton, following a game on the night the riots started, went into the city to help quell the disturbance, at great risk to his own safety.

Contrast that with teammate Mickey Lolich, whose National Guard unit was called in to patrol the streets.



Courtesy Photo

Tim Wendel remembers the Detroit Tigers' World Series triumph in "Summer of '68: The Season That Changed Baseball — and America — Forever."

Morris concurs that baseball has always been intertwined with the fabric of America.

"Baseball has taken on the mantle of the national pastime and the American character," he said. "That's why issues like the color barrier, steroids, the baseball strike and teams leaving hometowns were seen as a great betrayal by society."

"That's why baseball and teams like the '68 Tigers played such a hallowed role in living up to the billing of the national pastime."

Morris said sometimes we forget how much baseball shaped America. He cites baseball terms such as "level playing field," "fair and square" and "not coming out of left field" that

have crept into our language.

Wendel said he was inspired to write the book on the '68 Tigers while channel-surfing and watching the talking heads yell at each other.

"I wanted to go back in history and find as difficult of time to write about and I was captivated by the 1968 season."

Wendel also found an unlikely source for baseball love in Royal Oak native and counterculture activist Tom Hayden, who spent the summer of 1968 planning disruptive demonstrations.

Hayden provides a wonderful contrast to the typical baseball analyst or expert. Here's a 1960s activist who seemingly reviles everything traditional but, having grown up as a high school friend of Tiger catcher Bill Freehan, finds himself on the outside looking in as the Tigers enter a singular and remarkable time in baseball history.

Today, Hayden, 71, plays baseball nearly every day in a California league.

Wendel said baseball "has always cut against all neighborhoods."

Morris agrees, adding that "baseball's core values and its promise and betrayals have always shaped America at all levels."

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Sports Writer
TIM WENDEL
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—and America—Forever

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1968 was one of America's most tumultuous years—a year of political turbulence, civil unrest, and violence.

In *Summer of '68*, Tim Wendel looks at this unforgettable year through the lens of baseball. (Detroit Tigers fans will remember it as the year Detroit won its first championship since 1945!)

We'll be giving away a pair of tickets to see the Lugnuts, so don't miss out on this fantastic event!

7 p.m. Thursday
April 19

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AMY ALKON
adviceamy@aol.com

Q: My boyfriend and I are college juniors, happily together 10 months and living together for five. An article I read said it's healthy to argue with your partner, and I got a little worried. We sometimes bicker about what to watch on TV, but one of us quickly gives in, and that's it. It does bug me that he's chronically late and his car is filled with dirty cups, random CDs, empty wrappers, etc., but I basically just shrug this stuff off. He seems to do likewise with stuff I do that bugs him. Are we both just really easygoing? I worry that we may be missing some passionate connection.

—Drama-Free

A: Of course "Romeo and Juliet" is the great love story of all time. What were they, 14? Self-assertion doesn't cause much conflict when you don't have all that much self to assert — like when you're in the primordial personswamp of your early 20s. Just consider the sort of questions that you, as a couple sharing a life in the eduwomb, are forced to gnash over: Jell-O shots or beer pong? Cup Noodles or Top Ramen? Why was "Arrested Development" canceled? If the universe disappeared, would the rules of chess still exist?

Sure, even now, you may be faced with one of the big relationship-crushing issues like money problems, forcing one of you to call your dad and then go out in the pouring rain to the ATM. But, later in life, when the issue may be which of you stands in the rain with your stuff the sheriff put out on the lawn, the arguing itself isn't what breaks you up. In fact, it *is* important to engage and hash out your issues so they don't burrow in. What seems to matter is how you treat each other when you aren't disagreeing, in all the seemingly

unimportant little moments.

Psychologist Dr. John Gottman, who does some of the best research on why marriages succeed and fail, calls this the "emotional bank account model" of relationships. He writes in "The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work" that romance is kept alive "each time you let your spouse know he or she is valued during the grind of everyday life." He explains this as a consistent "turning toward" each other rather than turning away: remaining engaged in your partner's world by reuniting at dinner and asking about each other's day; consistently expressing fondness and admiration; showing love in the tiniest of ways. Essentially, Gottman explains, you need to treat your partner like they're important even when you're in the supermarket together and they ask something mundane, like "Are we out of bleach?" Instead of shrugging apathetically, you say, "I'll go get us some so we won't run out."

At the moment, your biggest problem is that you two don't really have any problems. This is what's called a First World problem — like "I don't have enough counter space for all of my appliances" or "I have to walk through the living room of this \$350 hotel suite to get to the bathroom." It could be that you're both easygoing, or that you're starter people in a starter relationship, or that you've yet to reach your poo-flinging, death-glaring annoyance threshold. Perhaps just try to enjoy yourselves instead of worrying that nothing's ripping you apart — tragic as it is that you're far too content together to have hate sex.

Q: My boyfriend's fastidiously clean. I'm not. Before we moved in together, this was a source of teasing. Now it causes fights. I constantly upset him by letting dirty dishes sit, forgetting to dump the recycling, and allowing projects, books, papers and stuff to pile up all over. He's tried to be more accepting, and I've tried to remember

to clean up, but it's not working. I suggested we each get our own place again, but he thinks that sounds like a step backward.

—Messy

A: Your boyfriend could be more open-minded: It's not just a kitchen; it's a probiotics wild-life refuge. You point to the grout: "See this furry green patch? I've decided to name it 'Pam.'" And sure, you could hire a weekly housecleaner with the money you're saving by cohabiting and make filing systems and lists and chore wheels, but the reality is, you probably need somebody to follow you around with a shovel. Since you two were happy when you lived separately, the problem seems to be buying into the idea that moving in together is a step forward. For your relationship, the step forward would be living apart so you can go back to being lovingly amused at your differences — the way he sees the countertop as half-full and you see that there's still space for several pots and a week's worth of dirty plates.

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To read more of Amy's advice and guidance, please visit our Web site at www.lansingcitypulse.com

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Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Turn! Turn! Turn!"—prepare to get dizzy.
by Matt Jones

Across

- 1 CD section?
- 5 Former Anaheim Stadium football player
- 10 "Leave it in," in proof-reading
- 14 Show opener
- 15 It may waft
- 16 No-no: var.
- 17 Withdraw (off)
- 18 Exorcist's target
- 19 Gave the go-ahead
- 20 Medical carriers
- 22 Metallic gray
- 24 Jumped (out)
- 25 Tommy Lee Jones, in "Men in Black"
- 26 Utah city near Arches National Park
- 28 Scrape reminder
- 29 Clown name

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
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54					55				56				57	
58				59		60		61				62		
63						64						65		
66						67						68		

- 32 "Never ___ Give You Up"
- 34 Stratford-___-Avon
- 38 Scary spot in "Hansel and Gretel"
- 39 Part of CAT
- 40 Pretty pink
- 41 "She Blinded Me With Science" singer Thomas
- 43 Poli ___
- 44 Ignores socially
- 45 Kenyan ethnic group that Barack Obama, Sr. was part of
- 46 Good buddy
- 47 Sinuous swimmer
- 48 What the four longest entries in this puzzle (except this one) are examples of
- 54 Get it and you're fired
- 55 ___ Lankan
- 56 That dude's
- 57 "Hi and Lois" cartoon-ist Browne
- 58 Russian war planes
- 60 Brave way to solve crosswords
- 62 Actress Ward
- 63 2007 #1 NBA draft pick Greg
- 64 Like contortionists
- 65 Attention from the cops
- 66 Infamous fiddler
- 67 Show with Stefon, the City Correspondent for New York City
- 68 Twice less than thrice
- 6 God who sounds like a zodiac sign
- 7 Preferred term instead of "Gypsy"
- 8 "Famous" cookie guy
- 9 Like a bat out of hell
- 10 Surface for a pot of boiling water
- 11 Occupied
- 12 Guest commenter Roger on the 70th Anniversary DVD edition of "Casablanca"
- 13 Alan of "Suburgatory"
- 21 Favorite Brian of crossword writers
- 23 JFK alternative
- 27 They support sleepers
- 28 Slowpoke's home
- 29 Muscleman's asset
- 30 Cirque du Soleil show with eggs
- 31 Pouty actress Renee
- 33 Rechargeable battery type
- 35 Savannah-based TV chef
- 36 Planetoid
- 37 "The Legend of Zelda" console, for short
- 42 Shrill cries
- 44 Dos times tres
- 48 Matt stuck to Greg Kinnear in a Farrelly Brothers movie
- 49 Word after zinc or iron
- 50 Song for a diva
- 51 Car deodorizer scent
- 52 Light purple shade
- 53 Glide on a pond
- 59 ___-cone
- 61 Code at an ATM
- 62 "___ Nuff" (Black Crowes set)

- Down
- 1 University of Georgia sports fans
- 2 Put on a winter coat?
- 3 The shortest Beatle
- 4 Sweet breakfast
- 5 Billboard's 2010 Artist of the Year

©2011 Jonesin' Crosswords • For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to your credit card, call: 1-800-655-6548. **Answers Page 33**

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OUT on the TOWN

Wednesday, April 11

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.

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.

The Baha'i Faith. Discussion of its basic beliefs in an ecumenical setting. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434. www.PilgrimUCC.com.

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

EVENTS

Overeaters Anonymous. 7 p.m. FREE. Grand Ledge Baptist Church, 1120 W. Willow Hwy., Grand

See Out on the Town, Page 27

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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 13

Squirring and wriggling with worms

Harris Nature Center offers a variety of programs to help students use their senses, investigate insects and balance an ecosystem. This Friday, children 5 to 14 years old are encouraged to further their science education during Weekday Science. Activities will focus on the theme "Amazing Annelids" — also known as worms. "The annelid family includes worms that are round in shape that vary in size from microscopic to nightcrawler size," said Kit Rich, Harris Nature Center Coordinator. "Since the spring rains usually bring our worms up out of the ground, it seemed the perfect time to study them." 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. \$4. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866.

Real food and real estate

This Saturday, the Old Town Commercial Association will host its fifth annual Taste and Tour of Old Town. Visitors and residents can experience Old Town's atmosphere at this progressive food sampling and exclusive loft tour. Participants will be able to try cuisine from 13 different restaurants, including Craving's Gourmet Popcorn, Golden Harvest, Sir Pizza Grand Café, Trailer Park'd, Pablo's Panaderia and The Purple Carrot food truck. In addition to sampling savory eats, visitors will get to know what kinds of living accommodations Old Town offers by exploring multiple lofts at open houses. Participants can end the tour with a drink at The Unicorn Tavern, which will have an extended "happy hour." Noon-5 p.m. \$13 advance, \$15 day of, \$5 to tour lofts only. Old Town Commercial Association, 1232 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 485-4283. www.iloveoldtown.org.



Courtesy Photo

APRIL 14

Party for the pooch

The Capital Area Humane Society is a nonprofit that cares for over 8,000 animals every year. Since the CAHS receives no financial support from the government, fundraisers are crucial to the success of the organization. On Saturday night, CAHS will host its largest fundraising event, the 9th Annual Fur Ball, which has the theme of "Mardi Paw." Guests are encouraged to wear beads, masks and other Mardi Gras accessories. The evening includes a cocktails and hors d'oeuvres hour, a formal dinner, silent and live auctions and much more. During dinner, local TV personalities, sports figures, politicians and other special guests will wait on and entertain tables to collect tips for CAHS. After the live auction, complimentary beer, wine and snacks will be available, along with music from Global Village. RSVPs are requested due to limited space. 6 p.m. \$100, \$1,250 per sponsored table of eight. Eagle Eye Golf Club, 15101 Chandler Road, East Lansing. (517) 626-6060. www.adoptlansing.org.

Story and tradition through dance

For over three decades the Lakota Sioux Indian Dance Theatre has educated and entertained audiences throughout the world. On Sunday, the Act One Family Series at the Wharton Center welcomes the company to the stage for a performance that immerses participants in a cultural experience that communicates the importance of dance and song in Plains Indian society. Narratives, creation stories, video imagery and more than 20 traditional and sacred songs and dances are included in the program, which has been hailed for its array of colors and movement. 1:30 p.m. \$12. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, East Lansing. (800) WHARTON. www.whartoncenter.com.



Courtesy Photo

APRIL 15

TURNIT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

FILM FEST HOSTS FOUR NIGHTS OF NATIONAL ACTS



Courtesy Photo

Greensky Bluegrass

Aside from premieres of Michigan-made films, screenings of international indies and TedX conferences, the 2nd Annual Capital City Film Festival also hosts live music each night at The Loft. Kicking things off on Thursday is the indie-bluegrass band Greensky Bluegrass, with openers Joshua Davis, Flashing Blue Lights and The Whiskey Pickers. This is an 18 and over show; doors open at 8 p.m. The following night, Murder By Death returns to Lansing to perform its storytelling brand of Americana at an all-ages show. Openers include Bars of Gold, The Fencemen and Flatfoot, with doors at 7 p.m. Saturday features an all-ages show by folk-soul songwriter William Elliot Whitmore, known for his distinctive voice and banjo style. The openers

are American Opera, Those Willows and Nathan Alan, with doors at 7 p.m.

Closing out the fest on Sunday night is the electro-pop sensation Lights. Ambassadors will open the all-ages show (doors at 7 p.m.).

Lights first hit the Canadian charts in May 2008 with her debut single, "Drive My Soul." Since then she's scored hits (and millions of YouTube views) with the songs "Ice" and "Second Go."

Lights, a.k.a. Valerie Poxleitner, is a 24-year-old Ontario native who has steadily built a name for herself with some help from MuchMusic, the Juno Awards and a spot on the Warped Tour. Her current album, "Siberia," dropped last October, and was called "sonically sophisticated" by All Music Guide, which gave the album a near-perfect rating.

April 12-15 @ Capital City Film Festival - The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, age requirements and ticket prices vary. Visit www.theloftlansing.com.

FREE CLETUS GOT SHOT SHOW AT MORIARTY'S



Courtesy Photo

Cletus Got Shot

Cletus Got Shot has been bridging the gap between folk-protest songs and punk rock since it formed in 2007. The Fayetteville, Ark.-based trio has performed hundreds of shows across the Midwest, playing songs blending edgy bluegrass, gospel, country, folk and even some classic union-organizing songs. On Thursday, the band plays a free gig at Moriarty's Pub. In keeping with the band's unconventional nature, the band's bassist uses a homemade bass made out of a gas tank. Opening the show is the Devils' Cut, a Lansing-based band that plays

a mixture of roots music, like folk and bluegrass, while also incorporating some punk ethos.

Thursday, April 12 @ Moriarty's Pub, 802 East Michigan Avenue, Lansing, 21 and over, FREE, 10 p.m.

CELTIC QUINTET TAKES THE OUTSIDE TRACK

Hailing from Scotland, Ireland, Cape Breton and Vancouver, the members of The Outside Track create a seamless blend of Canadian, Scottish and Irish music; it made the young group

the talk of the last International Folk Alliance Conference. The award-winning group has garnered fans across the globe, and on Friday it plays the Ten Pound Fiddle. The five members use fiddle, accordion, harp, guitar, flute, step-dance and vocals to create a new, vibrant sound while keeping traditional folk as the sound's backbone. For more information, visit www.tenpoundfiddle.org.

Friday, April 13 @ Ten Pound Fiddle - Unitarian Universalist Church, 855 Grove Street, East Lansing, all ages. Box office at 7 p.m., doors 7:30 p.m., 8 p.m. show. \$15 public, \$12 Fiddle members, \$5 students.

SHOW FEATURES MUSIC OF TOM T. HALL

Nashville songwriting duo Eric Brace and Peter Cooper will play the family-friendly songs of legendary country songwriter Tom T. Hall, who made the Billboard charts back in 1974 with tunes about baby ducks ("I Love"), root-beer-drinking snakes ("Sneaky Snake") and "The Song of the One-Legged Chicken." Last summer, Brace and Cooper, along with a number of country and Americana musicians, traveled to Hall's farm outside Nashville to record new versions, resulting in the Grammy-nominated album, "I Love: Tom T. Hall's Songs of Fox Hollow." The LP features contributions from Patty Griffin, Duane Eddy and others. Songwriters Brace and Peter Cooper produced and performed on the record, which was featured on NPR's "All Things Considered." The pair performs those songs at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Pump House. Later that same night (at 7 p.m.) Brace and Cooper play a set of their own material at the same location. Brace is the lead singer and



Courtesy Photo

Outside Track

songwriter for the renowned roots-rock band Last Train Home, while Cooper is a former journalist for The Washington Post and has released two critically praised solo records.

Sunday, April 15 @ Pump House, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing, all ages, 2 and 7 p.m.

MID-MICHIGAN BLUEGRASS HOSTS LAST SHOW OF SEASON

The Mid-Michigan Bluegrass Association hosts four area groups in the big barn at Woldumar Nature Center on Sunday. Taking the stage is the Grand River Band, For Heaven's Sake, Kari Anne and Lost Creek and Out Of the Blue. The Grand River Band features an assortment of local musicians, including Janette Burzan (vocals), Russ Morse (drums), LeRoy Harvey (guitar, banjo, vocals), Ed Love (guitar, mandolin, vocals), Ikes Taylor (bass, vocals), Jeff Wilmore (fiddle, guitar, mando, vocals), Alisa Dyer (viola). All proceeds of the show benefit Woldumar. For more information contact Henry Casillas at henrycasillas77@yahoo.com.

Sunday, April 15 @ Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing, all ages, suggested donation of \$4 for adults and \$2 for seniors, children are FREE, 2 - 6 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

Location	Event	Time	Event	Time	Event	Time
Connxtions Comedy Club 2900 N. East St.	Comedy Open Mic	8 p.m.	Ron Feingold	8 p.m.	Ron Feingold	8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.			DJ	9 p.m.	Cryn Wolf	9 p.m.
Brannigan Brothers, 210 S. Washington Square			Jammin' DJs	9 p.m.	Jammin' DJs	9 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Mighty Medicine	10 p.m.	Karaoke	9 p.m.	Karaoke	9 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.			Tryst Thursdays	8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy	9 p.m.
The Firm, 227 S. Washington Square			DnW Sound DJs	9 p.m.	Various DJs	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	7 p.m.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Dewaynes	9:30 p.m.	Hooties	9:30 p.m.	Starfarm	9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			Greensky Bluegrass	8 p.m.	Murder by Death	7 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	BEAK!	9 p.m.	The Soil & the Sun	9 p.m.	Smashing Blumkins	8 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Rob Kladjia Open Mic	9 p.m.	Cletus Got Shot	9:30 p.m.	Frog & the Beeftones	10 p.m.
Rick's American Cafe, 224 Abbott Road	DJ Dan	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.
Rum Runners, 601 East Michigan Ave.	Open Mic Night	9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ	9 p.m.	Dueling Pianos & DJ	7 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.			Frog & the Beeftones	9 p.m.	Dr. Gun	9 p.m.
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.	DJ	9 p.m.	DJ	9 p.m.	Alan Turner	9 p.m.

Sunday Open Jam with Bad Gravy, 9:30 p.m., Green Door; Karaoke, 9 p.m. Drag Queens Gone Wild, 11 p.m., Spiral Dance Bar; DJ Mike, 9:30 p.m., LeRoy's Bar & Grill; Open Mic, 5 p.m., Uli's Haus of Rock.
Monday Steppin' In It, 9:30 p.m., Green Door; Easy Babies funk trio, 10 p.m., The Exchange. Open-Mic Mondays, 6:30 p.m., Michigan Brewing Company-Lansing.
Tuesday Tommy Foster & Guitar Bob, 9 p.m., The Exchange; Neon Tuesday, 9 p.m., Mac's Bar. Jazz Tuesday Open Jam, 9 p.m., Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave.

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20% OFF any one item with this coupon

limit 1 per customer per day
Expires 4-30-12
cannot be combined with other discounts

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MICHIGAN PRIDE 2012



June 15-16, 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday
April 15, 2012



4th Annual Pride Brunch & Silent Auction
11:00 am
Capitol City Grille - Radisson Downtown
111 N. Grand Ave., Lansing, MI
Tickets \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door

Sunday
May 20, 2012



4th Annual Pride Golf Outing
10:00 am shotgun start
Wheatfield Valley Golf Course, Williamston
\$70 per golfer includes 18 holes & a cart, lunch & dinner,
4 hole-in-one contests & much more! Hurry only a few spots left!!!

Come down to Club X-Cel for the **Return to Paradise Fundraiser Event**
18+ \$10, 21+ \$5 and all door proceeds will be donated to Michigan Pride

Go to www.michiganpride.org to buy tickets or register

Out on the town

from page 24

Ledge. (517) 256-6954.

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

Youth Service Corps. East side youth grow food, 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.

"Hop." Movie about the Easter Bunny's son going to Hollywood. Call for showtimes, FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. Celebration Cinema, 200 E. Edgewood Blvd., Lansing. (517) 393-7469.

Relay for Life Meeting. Team captain meetings to prepare. 6 p.m. FREE. East Lansing High School, 509 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. (517) 319-9256. relayforlife.org/eastlansingmi.

MUSIC

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

azz 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.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Shakespeare's Birthday Party. The evening will be open-mic, limited to the first 14 to sign up. 7:30 p.m. Suggested donation \$5, \$3 students. Creole Gallery, 1218 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 267-0410.

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.

Thursday, April 12

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Eating Disorders 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.

Yoga Classes for Beginners. With Gaby Kende, yoga teacher and certified yoga therapist. 9:30-11

a.m. \$84 for 8 weeks. Center for Yoga, 1780 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-6640.

Library eBooks. Learn all about the collection of downloadable materials. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. www.dtdl.org.

Farm to Table: Beginning Canning. Learn to can safely and several canning methods. 6:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Aurelius Library, 1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason. (517) 628-3743. www.cadl.org/farm.

Our Daily Lives Series. A panel discussion on topics connected to the exhibit, "The 1930s and The New Deal." 7 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7474. www.museum.msu.edu.

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 east side youth grow food, develop leadership skills. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

MSU Film Collective Series. Showing "Alternative Soundtracks from the Underground." 8-11 p.m. FREE. Wells Hall, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.english.msu.edu/film.

Celiac Awareness Dinner. A gluten-free dinner, including appetizers with wine, salad, lasagna and more. 5:30 p.m. \$30. Kellogg Conference Center, 55 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. (517) 349-02294.

Open Studio Night. The MSU Department of Art, Art History and Design invite public to demonstrations in sculpture, printmaking & more. 5-8 p.m. FREE. Kresge Art Center, Physics and Auditorium roads, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-7610.

Capital City Film Festival. Red carpet premiere party, FREE at Troppo and more. Visit website for details. 4:30-8:30 p.m. \$5 film screening, music \$10-13, \$50 weekend pass. Downtown Lansing, Washington Square between Michigan and Washtenaw avenues, Lansing. www.capitalcityfilmfest.com.

"Hop." Call for showtimes. FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 11)

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)

See Out on the Town, Page 28

ERASER-FREE SUDOKU

MEDIUM

9	4		5		2			
8	5							1
		3	7	9				
					3	1	9	
			1		9			
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2							3	5
			3		4		8	9

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 33



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Out on the town

from page 27

351-2420. www.elpl.org.

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.

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

Avon Bomb. Live music. 10 p.m. FREE. Dublin Square Irish Pub, 327 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2222. www.dublinsquare.net.

Jazz Concert. Featuring Connor Mikula and the Aurum Saxophone Quartet. 7 p.m. \$3 students, \$5. (SCENE) Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832. www.scenemetrospace.com.

THEATER

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

Billy Bell's Lunge Dance Concert. "So You Think You Can Dance" star Billy Bell. 7:30 p.m. FREE. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 242-7431. www.rcah.msu.edu/events.

"The Wizard of Oz." Embark on the journey with Dorothy and Toto as they travel to the Emerald City. 7 p.m. \$10 door, \$8 online. Charlotte Performing Arts Center, 378 State St., Charlotte. (517) 541-5690. hpami.org.

Friday, April 13

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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.

Howl at the Moon. Bring your best friend, 2-footed or 4-footed, and walk through the moonlit woods. 8 p.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Our Daily Work/Lives. Lisa Fine on the Enrico Fermi Atomic Energy Plant and works of Downriver Detroit. 12:15-1:30 p.m., FREE. MSU Museum Auditorium, MSU Campus, East Lansing. www.museum.msu.edu.

Candlelight Yoga. With the acclaimed cellist Suren Petrosyan performing. 7-8:15 p.m. \$15. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 333-2580.

Tedx Lansing. Energizing environment to network, with music by the Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle and Kinetic Affect. 9 a.m. \$35. Lansing Public Media Center, 2500 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. www.tedx Lansing.eventbrite.com.

Weekday Science. Enhance your child's science education, program on worms. 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. \$4.

Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Swiss Steak Dinner. Swiss steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, hot vegetable and more. 4:30-7:30 p.m. Price varies. Christ United Methodist Church, 517 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 394-2727.

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.

Bites & Bids Library Fundraiser. Featuring a silent auction, appetizers, live music, family fun and more. 6-8 p.m. \$30, \$50 couple or family. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. www.elpl.org.

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

Capital City Film Festival. Screening several films, musical guest Murder by Death. Visit website for details. 2:30-9 p.m. \$5 film screening, music \$10-13, \$50 weekend pass. (Please See Details April 12)

"Spy Kids 4." Part of Flick's Family Film Fest. Call for showtimes, FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. Celebration Cinema, 200 E. Edgewood Blvd., Lansing. (517) 393-7469.

MUSIC

Greater Lansing Community Concert. Helix Saxophone Quartet. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Medical Care Facility, 3860 Dobie Road, Okemos. (517) 353-9958.

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

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

THEATER

"The Usual: A Musical Love Story." 8 p.m. \$25. (Please See Details April 12)

"The Wizard of Oz." 7 p.m. \$10 door, \$8 online. (Please See Details April 12)

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.

Jonathan Balcombe. Author on "The Inner Lives of Animals." 7 p.m. \$20. Kellogg Center, 55 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. www.animalsandsociety.org/static/events.

Saturday, April 14

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Relics of the Big Bang. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 student-seniors, \$2 kids. (Please See Details April 13)

Beginner Tai Chi. Can build strength and reduce stress. 8-9 a.m. \$8. Just B Yoga, 106 Island Ave., Lansing. (517) 488-5260.

Tai Chi in the Park. Meditation at 8:45 a.m. followed by Tai Chi. 9:30 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. Contact Bob Teachout (517) 272-9379.

Overeaters Anonymous. 9:30 a.m. FREE. Sparrow Professional Building, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-6003.

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

Farm to Table. On soil preparation, pruning, plant-

ing bulbs and adding low care native plants. 11 a.m. FREE. CADL Haslett Library, 5670 School St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324. www.cadl.org/farm.

Homebuyer Education. Learn about financing options & programs available to get your first home. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Center for Financial Health, 230 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 708-2550.

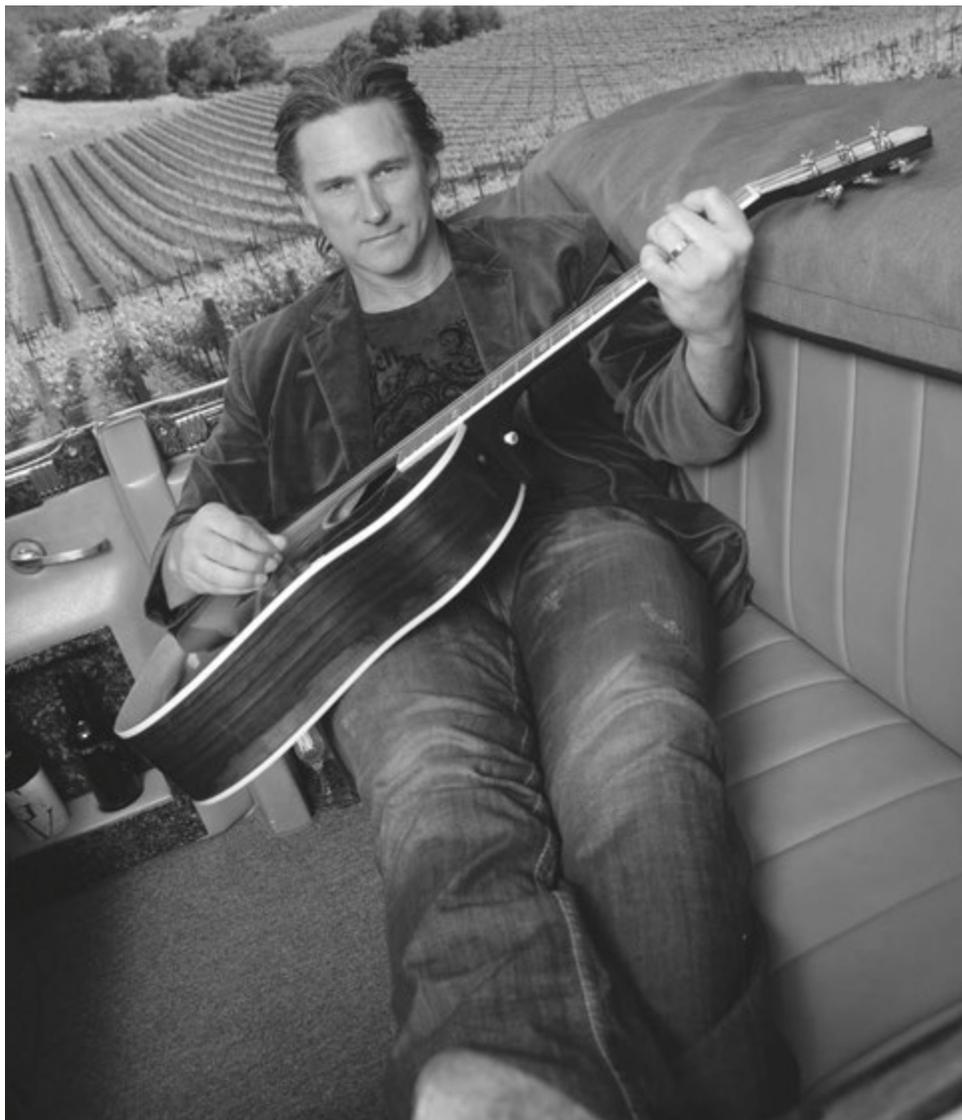
Bird Watching. Give bird watching a try with the help of an experienced birder. 9 a.m. FREE. Harris

Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Herb Container Garden. Bring own container, class size is limited. 11 a.m.-Noon, \$10. Smith Floral and Greenhouses, 124 E Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-5327. www.smithfloral.com.

Cooking with Herbs. Bring own container, class

See Out on the Town, Page 29



Courtesy Photo

Billy Dean is on the road now, but he may soon be doing many of his shows in his living room.

Dean of country Billy Dean plays solo acoustic set in Holt

By ALLISON M. BERRYMAN

Country music star Billy Dean performs a solo acoustic set at the Holt Performing Arts Complex Saturday. Dean is expected to perform songs from his most recent album, "Let Them Be Little," in addition to several of his Top 10 singles spanning over the last 18 years.

But the next time you see him might be when you drop by his place.

In a feature last month in Billboard Magazine, Dean announced he is launching a concert series that will spare him a lot of travel time. "Live From Our Living Room" will be set up for fans at the Dean family farm in Center Hill Lake, Tenn.

The singer refers to his rural home as "Dean Acres."

He plans a regularly scheduled series of concert dinners. "I'm going to continue to tour," he told Billboard. "I've got a new record I'm working on. But I wanted to record new music in front of people.

That's kind of how it got started. My whole life and musical life came together."

Dean, 50, has been topping the country charts since 1990, when "Only Here For A Little While" cracked the Top 5.

In the years since, the Florida native has been named American Country Music New Vocalist of the Year and won a Grammy for his contribution to the 1996 compilation album "Amazing Grace."

Billy Dean

8 p.m. Saturday, April 14
Margaret Livensparger
Theater

Holt Performing Arts
Complex
5885 West Holt Road, Holt
\$20 reserved seating;
\$25 premiere seating
(517) 699-6439

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Out on the town

from page 28

size is limited. 12:30-1:30 p.m. \$5. Smith Floral and Greenhouses, 124 E Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-5327. www.smithfloral.com.

Worm Composting. Turn food and yard scraps into gardeners gold. 12:30-2 p.m. Suggested donation of \$5. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

Lummi Sticks & Sit-Upons. Make a lummi stick, a percussion instrument used to keep time and more. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. \$6, \$4 seniors, \$2 kids. Michigan Historical Museum, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 373-1359.

EVENTS

Salsa Dancing. DJ Adrian "Ace" Lopez hosts Lansing's longest standing 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.

Habibi Dancers. With special guest artist Roula Said. 8 p.m. \$15, \$20 at door. Aladdin's Restaurant, 300 N. Clippert St., Lansing. www.habibidancers.org.

9th Annual Fur Ball. Fundraiser for the Capital Area Humane Society. With an auction, beer, wine and snacks. 6-11:30 p.m. \$100. Eagle Eye Golf Club, 15500 Chandler Road, East Lansing. (517) 626-6060.

Art Expo. Featuring local and neighboring artists. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 333-2580.

Taste & Tour Old Town. Attendees can sample a variety of Old Town's fare and tour real estate. Noon-5 p.m. \$13 advance, \$15 day. Old Town, Grand River Avenue & Turner Street, Lansing. (517) 485-4283. www.iloveoldtown.org.

Need Participants. Bring an umbrella for an umbrella mosaic, dance, and a parade. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Downtown Williamston, Grand River Ave., Williamston. (517) 410-9307. limner@limnerpress.com.

Capital City Film Festival. Screening several films, musical guest William Elliott Whitmore. Visit website for details. Noon-9 p.m. \$5 film screening, music \$10-13, \$50 weekend pass. (Please See Details April 12)

Pierogi Day. Order fresh frozen pierogis to be ready by May 5. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. \$1.25-\$15. Polish Federated Home, 1030 E. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 339-4604.

Discover the Park. A guided walk, to explore a new place to walk. 10 a.m. \$3. Ted Black Woods, 540 E. Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-3866.

Recycle Rama. Drop off electronics, books, fabrics, cooking oils, and more. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. www.lansingrecycles.com.

"Spy Kids 4." Call for showtimes, FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 13)

Breakfast with a Cause. A variety of breakfast casseroles, coffee, tea and more. To benefit the food banks. 8-10 a.m. Donations. Incu-Bake, 1967 Aurelius Road, Holt. www.incu-bake.com.

Pancake Breakfast. Homemade pancakes, egg casserole, fruit and more. Donations go to a new roof. 9 a.m.-Noon. Donations encouraged. Faith United Methodist Church, 4301 S. Waverly Road, Lansing. (517) 882-0661.

MUSIC

Benefit Concert, Chris Trapper. Front man of the Push Stars, money raised will go to three different organizations. 5:30 p.m. \$30. Lou & Harry's, 16800 Chandler Road, East Lansing. www.iielifeaszebra.com.

Live Music. Live music at dinnertime. 6:30-8:30

See Out on the Town, Page 30



Free Community Health Fair

In partnership with the MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine and Tri-County Office on Aging

Thursday, April 12, 2012
10:00AM until 1:00PM

CATA Transportation Center (CTC),
420 S. Grand Avenue, Downtown Lansing



FREE Screenings & Services:

- **Cholesterol & Glucose**
- **Blood Pressure**
- **Body Mass Index**
- **Height & Weight**
- **Nutrition Counseling**
MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine
- **Senior Services & Resources**
- **Medicare & Medicaid Assist Program**
Tri-County Office on Aging
- **Health Coverage Enrollments, Gardening Education & Youth Programs**
Bring proof of income and residency.
Allen Neighborhood Center
- **Alzheimer's Information**
Alzheimer's Association
- **Cancer Prevention**
- **Quit Smoking Resources**
- **Cancer Patient Information**
American Cancer Society
- **Osteoporosis Screenings**
Beals Institute
- **Medicare Advantage Information**
Blue Cross Blue Shield of MI
- **Organ Donor Registry**
Gift of Life Michigan
- **Nutrition Education**
Ingham County-MSU Extension
- **Family Outreach**
- **Lead Poisoning Prevention**
- **Children's Special Health Care**
Ingham County Health Department
- **EBT, WIC Acceptance Information**
- **Healthy Recipes with Local Products**
Lansing City Market
- **Emergency Preparedness Plan**
Lansing Emergency Management
- **Vision Screenings**
- **Eyewear Adjustments & Cleanings**
Lansing Ophthalmology
- **Stroke Risk Assessments**
McLaren Greater Lansing
- **Celiac Disease & Gluten Free Diet Information**
MI Capital Celiac Group
- **Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Screenings**
- **SUD Treatment Resources & Counseling Referrals**
Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission
- **Substance Abuse Services**
National Council on Alcoholism
- **Ingham Health Plan**
- **MiChild**
- **Bridge Card**
- **Medicare & Medicaid**
NorthWest Initiative
- **Sickle Cell Trait Testing Sign-Up**
Sickle Cell Disease Association
- **Senior Legal Services**
Sixty Plus Elderlaw Clinic
- **Spinal Screenings**
- **Postural Evaluations**
Waverly Chiropractic Center

To learn more about the Health Fair and how to use the bus to get there, call: (517) 394-1100, email: info@cata.org or visit: cata.org.

Out on the town

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p.m. FREE. Altu's Ethiopian Cuisine, 1312 Michigan Ave., East Lansing. (517) 333-6295.

"The Piano Man: Billy Joel." The Lansing Symphony performs the music of Billy Joel. 8 p.m. \$15-40. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 487-5001. www.lansingsymphony.org.

Singers on The Grand. Performing music of the silver screen, 1930s to present-day. 8 p.m. \$10 advance, \$12 at door. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700. www.riverwalktheatre.com.

MSU Professors of Jazz. CD release show. 8 p.m. \$25. Creole Gallery, 1218 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 487-9549. www.stpconcerts.com.

Billy Dean. The country music star. 8 p.m. \$20-25. Margaret Livensparger Theater, 5885 W. Holt Road, Holt. www.holt.tix.com

THEATER

"The Usual: A Musical Love Story." 3 & 8 p.m. \$22 matinee, \$25. (Please See Details April 12)
"The Wizard of Oz." 1 & 7 p.m. \$10 door, \$8 online. (Please See Details April 12)

LITERATURE AND POETRY

J. Gabriel Gates. Author of "The Sleepwalkers!" available for book signing. Noon-4 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 1982 Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-8840. www.schulerbooks.com.

Sunday, April 15

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 13)

History of Haslett. With light refreshments served by the Friends in the Barnes House. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Meridian Historical Village, 5113 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 347-7300.

Gardener's Roundtable. Discuss various garden topics, swap ideas, tips, and occasionally seeds and plants. 12:30-1:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

EVENTS

Pride Brunch & Silent Auction. With an array

of art available, omelet bar and drinks. Help raise funds Michigan Pride. 11 a.m. \$30. Capitol City Grille, Radisson, 111 N. Grand Ave., Lansing. www.michiganpride.org.
Salsa Dancing. DJ Mojito spins salsa, merengue, bachata. 7 p.m.-Midnight, \$5 21, \$7 under 21. Fahrenheit Ultra Lounge, 6810 S. Cedar St., Lansing.

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

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

Capital Area Singles Dance. Meet new friends with door prizes. 6:30-10:30 p.m. \$8. Ramada, 7501 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. (517) 819-0405.

Scandinavian Society of Greater Lansing Meeting. A video on Denmark and on Norway, followed by a potluck dinner. 2-4:30 p.m. FREE. Faith United Methodist Church, 4301 S. Waverly Road, Lansing. (517) 316-1394.

Capital City Film Festival. Screening several films and musical guest Lights. Visit website for details. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. \$5 film screening, music \$10-13, \$50 weekend pass. (Please See Details April 12)

Art Expo. Featuring local and neighboring artists. Noon-5 p.m. FREE. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 333-2580.

Coffee Tasting & Dessert Buffet. Tasting of Rwandan coffee and other African coffees. 1:30-3 p.m. Donations for Association Mwana Ukundwa. Haslett Community Church, 1427 Haslett Rd. Haslett. (517) 339-8383. www.haslettcommunitychurch.org.

Student Art Show. The Capital Area Career Center, New Media Students. 2-5 p.m. FREE. Coffee and Friends Cafe, 5100 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 347-0962.

"Spy Kids 4." Call for showtimes, FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 13)

MUSIC

Mid-Michigan Bluegrass Association Concert. The MMBA meets every third Sunday of the month to play a concert. 2-7 p.m. \$4, \$2 seniors. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. (517) 482-2382.

All-School Recital. Support students of the MSU Community Music School. 3 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841-B Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Stefan Koch. Recital by Lansing Symphony cellist. 4 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841-B Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

University Chorale/Choral Union. Featuring Fauré - Requiem, Britten - Cantata Misericordium and more. 7 p.m. \$10, \$8 seniors, FREE students. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand

River Ave., Lansing. www.music.msu.edu .
Singers on The Grand. 2 p.m. \$10 advance, \$12 at door. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700. www.riverwalktheatre.com.

THEATER

"The Usual: A Musical Love Story." 2 p.m. \$22. (Please See Details April 12)

Lakota Sioux Indian Dance Theatre. Communicating messages through dance and songs in Plains Indian society. 1:30 p.m. \$12. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (800) Wharton. www.whartoncenter.com.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Poetry Reading. Poets George Dila and Dennis Hinrichsen share poetry and conversation. 7 p.m. FREE. Gone Wired Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-0099. becauseeverybodyreads.com.

Monday, April 16

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.

Farm to Table. Screening of "The Vanishing of the Bees" film. 6:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi Library, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351. http://www.cadl.org/farm.

Greater Lansing Against War & Injustice Meeting. To plan local events & actions for peace and social justice. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 410-1243.

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.

Adding Years. Stephanie Howard, co-author of "Give Them Something Better" on longevity secrets. 6:15 p.m. FREE. Holt Seventh Day Adventist Fellowship, 5682 Holt Road, Holt. (517) 543-6978. www.adventist.org.

"Spy Kids 4." Call for showtimes, FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 13)

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

MUSIC

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

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Writers Discussion. Share work, get feedback,

talk about projects and try different prompts and activities. 4:30 p.m. FREE. Stockbridge Library, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810.

Tuesday, April 17

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.

Bicycle Safety. Learn proper sizing of your bicycle and more. 7 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

Coffee & Organization. A guided discussion on all clutter-related and organization topics. 10-11:30 a.m. FREE. Espresso Royale Café, 1500 W. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing. rita@cluttergone.com.

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. All ages welcome for 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 & life skills. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3910.

Community Music School

CELEBRATING Community

Now enrolling for summer camps!

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For more information: (517) 355-7661 or www.cms.msu.edu

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Come find the power within... mind, body, and spirit!!

April 21, 2012

9 am – 4 pm at
LCC's University Center
Lunch will be provided.
This one-day event is only \$59!

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When registering, reference Lansing Community College course number CRN 23606



Featuring
Keynote Speaker
and WLNS TV 6
Anchor, Jane Aldrich



lcc.edu/sokojikara

THE JOINT IS JUMPIN'

April 13-15

Friday & Saturday, 8 p.m.
Sunday, 3 p.m.

DART AUDITORIUM • \$10 Donation at the door

A Broadway musical revue about
the roots of rock 'n roll!

DIRECTOR Janine Novenske Smith
MUSICAL DIRECTOR John Dale Smith
CHOREOGRAPHER Karyn Perry



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Ingham County Animal Shelter

To adopt one of these pets from the Ingham County Animal Shelter,
call (517) 676-8370.
600 Curtis St., Mason, MI 48854.
www.ingham.org/ac/home.htm

Zephyr
Zephyr is cute and cuddly. She loves to curl up on a nice pillow.



In Memory of
Whitey

Diamond
Diamond is a beautiful long haired girl who is front declawed. She needs a home without dogs.



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Everybody Reads
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Kane
Kane is a young dog who had a rough start in life. He's looking for someone to love him and give him the stability he needs.



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Hazel
Hazel is a sweet girl who gets along with other pets but would prefer to be an only cat.



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Captain
Captain is a very sweet pit bull who will need a special family because he is blind.



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Lansing
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517.882.1611

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Schrader

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Now!! Adopt a pet on this page and Soldan's will thank you with a \$10 gift certificate. Contact (517) 999-5061 after you adopt.

Habibi Dancers
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Timeless Dance
The Evolution of Bellydance

April 14, 2012

Doors 7:30pm
Concert 8:00pm

\$15/\$20 at the door

EL Hannah Community Center
Albert A. White Theater
819 Abbott Road, East Lansing

Starring Roula Said



Tickets available at:
New Aladdins
Frantor Shopping Center
(517) 333-8710

And online at:
www.habibidancers.org

Weekend workshop info available online

Out on the town

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

"Spy Kids 4." Call for showtimes, FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 13)

Return to Paradise. Lansing's original all-male

show. Proceeds go to Michigan Pride. 18 & up \$10, 21 & up \$5. 9 p.m. Club X-Cel, 125 N. Clippert St., Lansing. (517) 333-3232.

MUSIC

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

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Adult Book Discussion. This month "Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet" by Jamie Ford. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Dansville Library, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511.

Book Discussion Group. "The Leisure Seeker" by Michael Zadoorian. 1 p.m. FREE. Williamston Library, 201 School St., Williamston. (517) 655-1191.

Wednesday, April 18

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Grande Paraders Square Dance Club. Round dancing and alternating and more. 7:30 p.m. \$4

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April 14 & 15
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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.

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

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

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

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

EVENTS

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

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

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

Knee High Naturalist. 1-2 p.m. \$5. Please See Details April 11)

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

"Spy Kids 4." Call for showtimes, FREE 12 and under, \$4 adults. (Please See Details April 13)

Toddler Storytime. Stories, songs and activities

See Out on the Town, Page 33

Music Made in Michigan!

Gary Nagy

Soulful blues from up-and-coming Michigan guitarist.

Thursday, April 12, at 10 p.m.

"BackStage Pass" is repeated Saturdays at 11 p.m. on WKAR-TV and Saturdays at 8 p.m. on WKAR World.

WKAR 
BackStage



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | College of Communication Arts and Sciences

Watch #BSPwkar online anytime at **WKAR.org!**

YouTube  

Out on the town

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for ages 1-3. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 672-4072. www.cadl.org.

Toddler Storytime. Stories, songs and activities for ages 2-3. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

Preschool Storytime. Children can enjoy fun tales, songs and craft. 10 a.m. FREE. Webberville Library, 115 South Main St., Webberville. (517) 521-3643. & at 10:30 a.m. FREE. Williamston Library, 201 School St., Williamston. (517) 655-1191. & at 1:30 p.m. Foster Library, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

Family Storytime. Interactive group with stories songs, and movement for children not in school yet. 10:30 a.m. FREE. South Lansing Library, 3500 S Cedar St., # 108, Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

Drop-In Lego Club. Create something unique with the library's Lego collection. 4 p.m. FREE. Foster Library, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

MUSIC

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

Jazz Wednesdays. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Gracies Place, 151 S. Putnam, Williamston. (Please See Details April 11)

Jazz Wednesdays. Live entertainment. 7-10 p.m. FREE. ENSO, 16800 Chandler Road, East Lansing. (Please See Details April 11)

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

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Baby Time. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Please See Details April 11)

Lansing Area Science Fiction Association Meeting. 7 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details April 11)

Fiction Book Discussion. This month's title, "Amaryllis in Blueberry" by Christina Meldrum. FREE. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Holt-Delhi Library, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351.



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SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 27

9	4	7	5	1	2	8	6	3
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CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 23

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Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsky

April 11-17

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You had to take the test before you got a chance to study more than a couple of the lessons. Does that seem fair? Hell, no. That's the bad news. The good news is that this test was merely a rehearsal for a more important and inclusive exam, which is still some weeks in the future. Here's even better news: The teachings that you will need to master before then are flowing your way, and will continue to do so in abundance. Apply yourself with diligence, Aries. You have a lot to learn, but luckily, you have enough time to get fully prepared.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Let's see if you know what these exquisitely individuated luminaries have in common: Salvador Dali, Martha Graham, Stephen Colbert, David Byrne, Maya Deren, Malcolm X, Willie Nelson, Bono, Dennis Hopper, Cate Blanchett, George Carlin, Tina Fey, Sigmund Freud. Give up? They are or were all Tauruses. Would you characterize any of them as sensible, materialistic slowpokes obsessed with comfort and security, as many traditional astrology texts describe Tauruses? Nope. They were or are distinctive innovators with unique style and creative flair. They are your role models as you cruise through the current phase of maximum self-expression.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): In December 1946, three Bedouin shepherds were tending their flock near the Dead Sea. They found a cave with a small entrance. Hoping it might contain treasure hidden there long ago, they wanted to explore it. The smallest of the three managed to climb through the narrow opening. He brought out a few dusty old scrolls in ceramic jars. The shepherds were disappointed. But eventually the scrolls were revealed to be one of the most important finds in archaeological history: the first batch of what has come to be known as the Dead Sea Scrolls. Keep this story in mind, Gemini. I suspect a metaphorically similar tale may unfold for you soon. A valuable discovery may initially appear to you in a form you're not that excited about.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The devil called together a committee meeting of his top assistants. He was displeased. Recruitments of people born under the sign of Cancer had fallen far below projected totals. "It's unacceptable," the dark lord fumed. "Those insufferable Crabs have been too mentally healthy lately to be tantalized by our lies. Frankly, I'm at wit's end. Any suggestions?" His marketing expert said, "Let's redouble our efforts to make them buy into the hoax about the world ending on December 21, 2012." The executive vice-president chimed in: "How about if we play on their fears about running out of what they need?" The chief of intelligence had an idea, too: "I say we offer them irrelevant goodies that tempt them away from their real goals."

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "If you don't run your own life, someone else will," said psychologist John Atkinson. Make that your motto in the coming weeks, Leo. Write it on a big piece of cardboard and hold it up in front of your eyes as you wake up each morning. Use it as a prod that motivates you to shed any laziness you might have about living the life you really want. Periodically ask yourself these three questions: Are you dependent on the approval, permission, or recognition of others? Have you set up a person, ideology, or image of success that's more authoritative than your own intuition? Is there any area of your life where you have ceded control to an external source?

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Here are the last words that computer pioneer Steve Jobs spoke before he died: "OH WOW. OH WOW. OH WOW." I'd propose that we bring that mantra into as wide a usage as Jobs' other creations, like the iPhone and iPad. I'd love to hear random strangers exclaiming it every time they realize how amazing their lives are. I'd enjoy it if TV newscasters spoke those words to begin each show,

acknowledging how mysterious our world really is. I'd be pleased if lovers everywhere uttered it at the height of making love. I nominate you to start the trend, Virgo. You're the best choice, since your tribe, of all the signs of the zodiac, will most likely have the wildest rides and most intriguing adventures in the coming weeks.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A starfish that loses an arm can grow back a new one. It's an expert regenerator. According to my understanding of the astrological omens, you are entering a starfish-like phase of your cycle. Far more than usual, you'll be able to recover parts of you that got lost and reanimate parts of you that fell dormant. For the foreseeable future, your words of power are "rejuvenate," "restore," "reawaken," and "revive." If you concentrate really hard and fight yourself with the light of the spiritual sun, you might even be able to perform a kind of resurrection.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Too much of a good thing isn't necessarily good. (Have you ever hyperventilated?) Too little of a good thing can be bad. (Have you ever gotten dehydrated?) Some things are good in measured doses but bad if done to excess. (Wine and chocolate.) A very little of a very bad thing may still be a bad thing. (It's hard to smoke crack in moderation.) The coming week is prime time to be thinking along these lines, Scorpio. You will generate a lot of the exact insights you need if you weigh and measure everything in your life and judge what is too much and what is too little.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Sculptor Constantin Brancusi had a clear strategy as he produced his art: "Create like God, command like a king, work like a slave." I suggest you adopt a similar approach for your own purposes in the coming weeks, Sagittarius. With that as your formula, you could make rapid progress on a project that's dear to you. So make sure you have an inspiring vision of the dream you want to bring into being. Map out a bold, definitive plan for how to accomplish it. And then summon enormous stamina, fierce concentration, and unflinching attention to detail as you translate your heart's desire into a concrete form.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "If there is one door in the castle you have been told not to go through," writes novelist Anne Lamott, "you must. Otherwise, you'll just be rearranging furniture in rooms you've already been in." I think the coming weeks will be your time to slip through that forbidden door, Capricorn. The experiences that await you on the other side may not be everything you have always needed, but I think they are at least everything you need next. Besides, it's not like the taboo against penetrating into the unknown place makes much sense any more. The biggest risk you take by breaking the spell is the possibility of losing a fear you've grown addicted to.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): When rain falls on dry land, it activates certain compounds in the soil that release a distinctive aroma. "Petrichor" is the word for that smell. If you ever catch a whiff of it when there's no rain, it's because a downpour has begun somewhere nearby, and the wind is bringing you news of it. I suspect that you will soon be awash in a metaphorical version of petrichor, Aquarius. A parched area of your life is about to receive much-needed moisture.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Forty percent of Americans do not know that the dinosaurs died out long before human beings ever existed. When these folks see an old cartoon of caveman Fred Flintstone riding on a Diplodocus, they think it's depicting a historical fact. In the coming weeks, Pisces, you need to steer clear of people who harbor gross delusions like that. It's more important than usual that you hang out with educated, cultured types who possess a modicum of well-informed ideas about the history of humanity and the nature of reality. Surround yourself with intelligent influences, please.

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How to define 'fine'

Upscale dining is the order of the day at Knight Cap

By **JOE TOROK**

Many restaurants in the area advertise fine dining, yet deliver a thoroughly middlebrow experience.

While that might make for a great way to bring in folks whose conception of "fine dining" begins and ends at a plate of lobster or a French-sounding cut of beef, it's not the best way to impress those actually looking for a true fine dining experience.

A higher grade experience does exist, though, and you'll find it at The Knight Cap, on East Michigan Avenue, across from the Lansing Center. Reservations are recommended, and not just for securing a table; when you arrive, your table is set, complete with recently poured glasses of water.



Review

electric candles.

When observing a space that insists on fancying itself as upscale, details matter — even the most trivial. At the Knight Cap, the ceiling fans are a good indicator of attention to detail: The blades were not only dustless, they shined so brightly they might serve as a mirror for adjusting a tie.

One expects the dress to be a tad formal at a place where meals with drinks for a party of four could run into the hundreds of dollars, but jeans are certainly not out of place. A small bar sits at one end of the restaurant, adding to the relaxed environment; thankfully, no television can be found. Fine dining is a hard sell with "Sports Center" flashing on a big screen.

Upon arriving, we were seated and greeted by an experienced server, tall with gray-speckled hair and an impish smile. There was friendliness and elegance in each deliberate gesture. He took our order for tea and, with a smile, promised it would arrive within the hour.

So it was disappointing when a new server arrived to discuss the menu. While our new, young server was perfectly friendly, the juxtaposition against her refined colleague, whose efforts at service were natural, fluid and personable — what one expects when dining fine — was stark.

She seemed nervous, awkwardly and halfheartedly placing napkins on our laps, opening the menu for us and placing it on our table setting, forgetting things here and there, like the size of my steak order or that we had already declined drinks.

In truth, I don't blame the server. Our guess was that she was new to serving at Knight Cap, and when a casually dressed couple walked in and didn't immediately order a bottle of wine, someone marked it as a good opportunity for a new hire to get some training. The problem, though, is that when I pay close to \$100 for an evening out, I don't want a server who's learning on the job.

The menu recently changed at The Knight Cap, so we asked (twice) about those changes and discovered that prices had been reduced in many cases, and salads, if desired, are now ordered separately.

We started with a traditional Caesar salad for two (\$15). The dressing had a strong punch of acidity, but the greens were nice, and when the vinegar wasn't overpowering, the anchovies and fresh

See Knight, Page 35



Joe Torok/City Pulse

While the Knight Cap serves elegant food and requests that customers make reservations, the atmosphere tends to be on the casual side.

Knight

from page 34

ground pepper made for a tasty beginning.

I went with the Knight Cap's self-proclaimed famous sizzler, a rustic cut of beef, prepared medium rare and rested before served. The steak comes with two enormous, crispy onion rings that could very well have been an appetizer in their own right. A fluffy rice pilaf made for a pleasant light side.

I garnished my steak with sautéed button mushrooms and looked forward to a soft, earthy accompaniment. Those poor mushrooms, however, as my companion noted, were drunk out of their minds. It's a good thing we didn't order drinks because the mushrooms soaked up enough of the alcohol they were cooked in to trigger a breathalyzer.

My companion went with the petite filet mignon, cooked medium rare and, like my own, served after it had rested. With a delicate béarnaise sauce, each bite is an experience to savor and remember;

compliments to the chef were in order.

My companion chose the mashed potatoes, which were heavy on the garlic and parsley. While I enjoyed the strong flavors, she was disappointed in the potatoes-as-garlic-vehicle approach, and I could understand how the combination might not have been ideal. Perhaps a well-seasoned server might have offered such insight.

While the after-dinner coffee was mediocre, it certainly didn't spoil the delightful cheesecake with strawberry sauce. The strawberries had a tart burst on first bite, followed quickly by a wave of gentle sweetness. The cake itself was dense and creamy with a mild flavor, deferring to the smile-inducing zest of the berries.

I'll go back to The Knight Cap for the food and the atmosphere, but when I do, I'll have a request that must not be refused: I'd like that tall, handsome server, the one who walks between tables as if he's skating on ice, the one with enough humor and charm to make an evening truly fine.

Knight Cap

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HUMMINGBIRDS — Entrees include charbroiled steaks and seafood dishes, as well as weekly specials. The menu also includes burgers, sandwiches, soups and salads, as well as a full breakfast menu, including omelets, skillet and cold breakfasts. Inside Causeway Bay Hotel, 6820 S. Cedar St., Lansing. 6 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-10 p.m. daily. (517) 694-8123. FB, TO, RES, P, \$\$\$

STILLWATER GRILL — The extensive menu features such favorites

such as Cajun tenderloin steak tips and salmon and lobster beurre blanc; half-off wine on Sundays, Monday and Tuesdays. 3544 Meridian Crossings Drive, Okemos. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Friday, 3-10 p.m. Saturday, 3-9 p.m. Sunday. (517) 349-1500. www.stillwatergrill.com, FB, WB, TO, RES, P, OM, WiFi, \$\$\$\$

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