

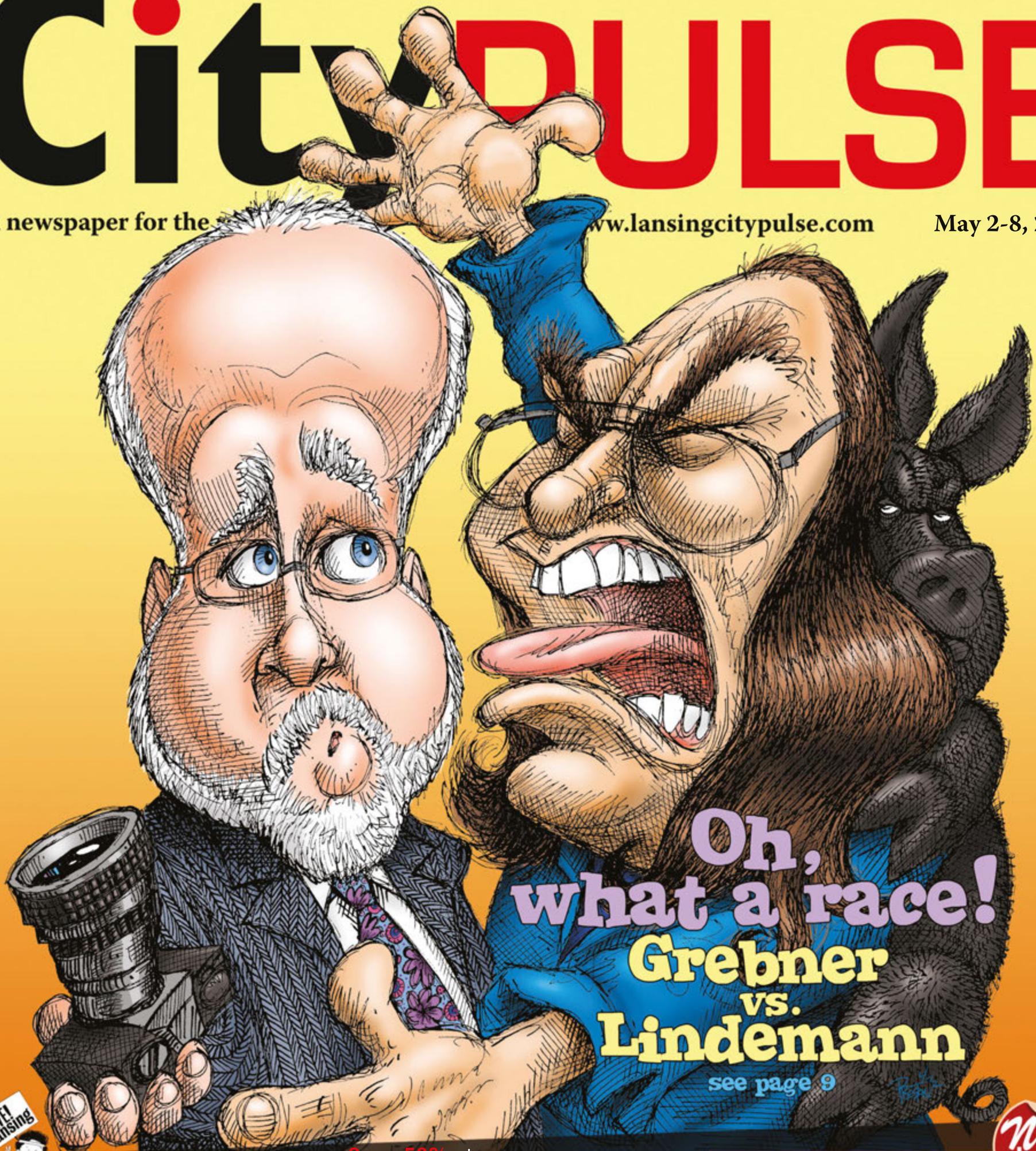
FREE

City PULSE

a newspaper for the

www.lansingcitypulse.com

May 2-8, 2012



Oh,
 what a race!
Grebner
 vs.
Lindemann

see page 9



ONLINE THIS WEEK ONLY! >>

Save 50% at Trowbridge Pizza & Pasta, page 13

Aggie Mae's Bakery & Sweet Shoppe, page 23





WHAT'S FRESH AT THE OLD TOWN FARMERS MARKET



FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Hillcrest Farms
MSU Student Organic Farm

BAKED GOODS

Wooden Shoe Herb Farm
Sweet Polly's Pure Breads and Desserts, LLC

ARTISANS

Wooden Shoe Herb Farm
River's Edge Fiber Arts



It's finally here; the Old Town Farmers Market kicks off on May 6 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. and will include a wide variety of fresh produce and homemade goods.

In addition to the variety of fruits and vegetables, this year the market will include two artisan vendors. The artisans will provide hand dyed fibers and yarns for weavers and knitters, soap, candles, jellies and jams, as well as recycled accessories, such as market bags and totes.

The Farmers Market begins Sunday, May 6 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the corner of Grand River and Turner St. Market days are every first Sunday of the month, May through October.

For more information, contact the Old Town Commercial Association office at 517.485.4283 or visit our website at iloveoldtown.org.



MAY EVENTS

- | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 3 | Festival of the Sun and Festival of the Moon Meeting
at 5:30pm at OTCA office | 19 | Old Town Community Clean-Up
from 10am-3pm in Turner Mini Park
Old Town Block Party
from 1pm-5pm in Burchard Park |
| 6 | Old Town Farmers Market
from 10am-3pm at the corner of Grand River Ave & Turner St | 28 | Organization Committee Meeting
at 5pm at OTCA office |
| 8 | Economic Restructuring Committee Meeting
at 11:45am at OTCA office | | Pickin' In the Park...Every Tuesday night at Sir Pizza |
| 10 | Old Town Board of Directors Meeting
at 6pm at Perspective2 | | |
| 17 | Festival of the Sun and Festival of the Moon Meeting
at 5:30pm at OTCA office
ROOT Group Meeting
at 7pm at OTCA office | | |

For a complete list of events, visit iloveoldtown.org



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West Lansing - 3928 W. Saginaw Hwy. 517.327.1900
Livonia - 29220 Seven Mile Rd..... 248.957.8421
Howell - 2731 E. Grand River Ave..... 517.376.6843

New Hours! Howell and West Lansing stores now open Noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays.

How to Become a Superior Grower

- 1 Sign up for an **Indoor Gardening Class** at our South Lansing SGS store
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- 3 Master everything you need to know to become a **SUPERIOR GROWER!**



Professor Harley Smith

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- Pro Mix – Biofungicide

*In-store only. Not to be combined with any other discount.



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

1.) Write a letter to the editor:

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

2.) Write a guest column:

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Ingham County Land Bank is seeking a Temporary, **Full-Time Administrative Assistant**. Applicants should send their cover letter, resume and references to: Ingham County Land Bank, PO Box 27609, Lansing, MI 48909. Deadline: May 11, 2012. Full job description available at www.inghamlandbank.org. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women and minorities encouraged to apply.

The Ingham County Housing Commission, on behalf of the Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for the **Removal and Disposal of Hazardous Materials**, including but not limited to asbestos, mercury and various containerized material, at sites listed in the Bid Packet# NSP2 11-008-01, which can be obtained online at www.inghamlandbank.org or at the Ingham County Land Bank NSP2 office, located at 600 W. Maple Street, Lansing, Michigan 48906 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Bid Packets will be available May 2, 2012. Proposals are due at the NSP2 offices before 11:00 am on May 16, 2012. The Bid Opening will be May 16, 2012 at 11:01 am. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply.

B/12/082 CITY OF LANSING, UNIFORM RENTAL / LEASE / PURCHASE as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing.

The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the FINANCE DEPARTMENT, PURCHASING OFFICE, 8TH FLOOR CITY HALL, 124 W. MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN 48933 until 3:00 PM local time in effect on **MAY 22, 2012** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Darleen Burnham, CPPB at (517) 483-4129, email: dburnham@lansingmi.gov or go to www.mitn.info

The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CITY OF LANSING HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lansing Historic District Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 14, 2012, at 5:30 p.m., in the Planning & Neighborhood Development Department Conference Room, 316 N. Capitol Avenue, Lansing, Michigan. This hearing will be to consider HDC-2-12, a request by Quinn Evans Architects, representing the Eyde Company, for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the renovation of the building at Knapp Building at 300 S. Washington Ave., within the Knapp Building Historic District.

The Historic District Commission's review of this building permit is in accordance with Section 1220.07 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lansing.

For more information about this case, please contact Bill Rieske, Asst. Planning Manager, at (517) 483-4066 during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. M-Th. (closed Fridays).

Bill Rieske, Secretary
 Lansing Historic District Commission

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from St. Anne, LLC for Modified Site Plan and Special Use Permit approval for the property at 213-217 Ann Street. The application would permit a fifth floor penthouse to be added to the already approved four story, mixed-use building being built at 213-217 Ann Street. The property is zoned B-3, City Center Commercial District.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Spencer Soka for Special Use Permit approval for the property at 313 East Grand River Avenue. The proposed application would allow for alcohol sales under a Class C liquor license at the existing State Side Deli restaurant. The property is zoned B-3, City Center Commercial District.

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

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

Marie E. McKenna
 City Clerk

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Editor & Publisher
 Berl Schwartz



7 p.m. Wednesdays

This week

Mark Grebner, candidate for Ingham County Drain Commissioner

MSU Journalism Professor Joe Grimm and journalism major Nick Rodde on "the new bullying"

Mike Kolhoff, of the Lansing Workers' Center on Peckham



COVER ART



LINDEMANN vs. GREBNER by DENNIS PRESTON

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

THE ADVENTURES OF CONSERVATIVE JONES
 CITIZEN JOURNALIST

MOONBAT! COME IN! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME!

HEY DUDE, I--OH DEAR GOD, DO I EVEN WANT TO ASK WHAT YOU'RE DOING THIS TIME?

I'M PREPARING FOR AN UNDERCOVER CITIZEN JOURNALIST INVESTIGATION--OF THE LOCAL PLANNED PARENTHOOD OFFICE!

I'VE GOT A VIDEO CAMERA HIDDEN IN MY BRASSIERE!

OF COURSE YOU DO.

I PLAN TO RECORD THEM ADMITTING THEY'LL PERFORM SEX-SELECTIVE ABORTIONS FOR PEOPLE WHO JUST DON'T WANT BABY GIRLS! THAT SHOULD STIR UP SOME TROUBLE!

BUT--YOU DON'T SERIOUSLY BELIEVE--

OF COURSE NOT. DO I LOOK LIKE A MORON?

BUT THERE ARE PLENTY OF PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO WILL BELIEVE IT--ESPECIALLY AFTER MY VIDEO GOES VIRAL!

SEE, ALL I REALLY NEED IS TO RECORD THEM SAYING "YES" OR "NO"--I CAN DUB THE QUESTIONS IN LATER!

WELL, I DON'T SEE ANYTHING THAT COULD POSSIBLY GO WRONG WITH THIS PLAN.

DO YOU THINK MY BOOBS ARE BIG ENOUGH?

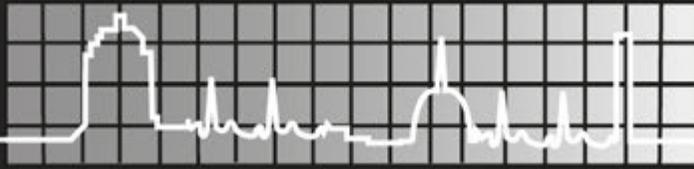
I'M GOING TO LEAVE NOW.

NEXT TIME I WANT TO SEE THE DISGUISE FOR MY UPCOMING MINORITY VOTE FRAUD INVESTIGATION?

NO, NO, I GENUINELY DO NOT.

www.thismodernworld.com...twitter.com/tomtomborrow

PULSE



news & opinion

Peckham United

A unionization effort is underway at Peckham, a private nonprofit

When you first walk into the 190,000-square-foot Peckham facility near the Capital City Airport, you'd think you walked into a state-of-the-art liberal arts college. A giveaway to the fact that the building is a major producer of various military apparel is the 1,200 sewing machines on the production floor.

Since March there has been a small, but growing, indirect war of words over who has the best interest at heart of the people working around those machines.

The United Peckham Employees Association is a group of Peckham workers with help from labor activists — including the Lansing Workers' Center and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers — that are trying to gain support for an independent union for the close to 1,100 disabled manufacturing workers.

The group has been distributing union authorization cards, which nearly 200 have signed so far. When signed, the cards indicate support for United Peckham as the exclusive collective bargaining agent for the workers.

While there has been no dialog between Peckham administrators or the union, that has not stopped either one from making claims against the other.

Outlined in several fliers titled, "The TRUTH About the UNION," which were distributed by the Peckham administration, the message is clear — "The Union makes promises they can't keep." The handouts downplay the power of a potential union, stating, "The union will enforce strict work rules and demand higher productivity standards," and "the union may take away your flexibility."

"I think there has been an effort on our part to make sure that we inform workers of what their rights are and ensure that they're making informed decisions," said Mitchell Tomlinson, president and CEO of Peckham.

Peckham United has also distributed literature — in English, Vietnamese and Spanish — to accommodate the diverse population of Peckham workers. Their documents state that the union will help

gain better pay, better working conditions and more respect for employees.

Peckham United is working to highlight and combat the "consistent mistreatment" of workers and the "starvation wages" that they receive which are well below the "industry standard," said Mike Kolhoff, an organizer with the Lansing Workers' Center. Its website describes it as a membership-based, self-managed community organization "for working people."

Kolhoff said that 75 to 100 Peckham workers are paid less than minimum wage.

In fact, he was low. Jo Sinha, corporate vice president at Peckham, said 200 workers make less than minimum wage and they are the most significantly disabled workers at Peckham. This is because these workers' productivity rate ranges from 20 percent to 40 percent and pay is calculated based on piece-per-hour productivity. While learning

ily values learning than productivity," Sinha said. "A person moves up the pay scale by learning new job steps, and the top base pay is \$9."

There are bonuses for productivity and working well with a team, Sinha said. However, Peckham's productivity level is under 80 percent, mainly because of who works at the facility.

Clients, not employees

Respecting workers is of the utmost importance at Peckham, Tomlinson said. He added that they consistently receive positive feedback from workers during annual surveys.

Workers at Peckham are not called employees. They are considered "clients" — a key distinction that would make unionization a problem, according to Peckham officials.

Peckham is a nonprofit, vocational rehabilitation and paid job-training program, Sinha explained. The goal of



Sam Ingot/City Pulse

The newly formed United Peckham Employees Association, with help from labor activists, has launched a unionization effort seeking better pay and working conditions for the nearly 1,100 disabled workers at Peckham. Peckham administration is fighting the effort.

the job, they are paid at least minimum wage and then the piece rate is applied after they've learned the job, Sinha said. The process follows rules set by the U.S. Department of Labor, and Sinha said the department has never had a problem with Peckham on this front. She added that these jobs are usually in the automotive area of production, like seat belts, and those working in them tend to receive Social Security benefits because of the severity of their disability.

As for paying industry standard wages, "We're close to, if not above that wage," Sinha said. Peckham has a "defined pay policy that more heav-

ily values learning than productivity," Sinha said. "A person moves up the pay scale by learning new job steps, and the top base pay is \$9."

Each of Peckham's nearly 1,100 clients who work in the manufacturing sector has a Vocational Services Specialist who is trained to understand their barriers to employment and work out goals to work around or minimize those barriers.

Collective bargaining treats every-

Eyesore of the week



Property: 1609 Turner St., Lansing

Owner: Turner St. Properties LLC

Assessed value: \$21,700

Owner says: In the process of renovating, looking for a buyer

Architecture critic Amanda Harrell-Seyburn says: This diminutive commercial building on the north fringe of Old Town is easy to dismiss as insignificant. But small commercial buildings, like this one, are one of the most endangered building types in our communities today. It is hard to find retail today that has such a customer-centric design. Entrances between display windows usher in customers while protecting them from the elements, which is particularly important in Michigan. It is a rare building owner who is willing to give up the interior square footage that such an entry requires. Small commercial buildings like this are perfect for a small shop, design studio or some other innovative recovery plan.

The pleasant northbound avenue out of Old Town via Turner Street goes sour, fast. Just past a dilapidated service station at Turner and North streets sits another crumbling commercial property. The torn, waterlogged doormat is an expected welcome as you approach the broken front window (patched with a piece of insulation). On the inside, the Flintstone-esque floor is basically dirt and rubble. But Ryan Lowe, of Turner St. Properties, said the building is under renovation and the floor looks as such so he can tailor it to a potential renter or buyer. "It's been fully gutted and will be finished over the fall," Lowe said.

— Andy Balaskovitz

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

See Peckham, Page 6

Peckham

from page 5

body the same, Sinha said, which may not be right for Peckham's clientele base. That base is made up mostly of people with some sort of mental illness, she said.

"We think people have different needs, and you need some flexibility to be able to meet those needs," she said. "If you have a union contract that spells out all the rules of employment, not everyone is going to fit that mold."

Peckham has been involved in a "defensive" anti-union campaign, according to officials of the Lansing Workers' Center and Peckham United. They claim that Peckham has forced workers to sit through anti-union presentations before giving them their paychecks, warned workers that they may be forced to sign a union authori-

zation card by organizers and harassed clients who are union organizers with threats of termination.

"We're not an anti-union company. As I've stood up and said to everyone, that's not our position," Tomlinson said. "But we do think it's a complex work environment. We're taking a group of workers that had a difficult time competing in industry and we're giving them opportunities to learn and be competitive."

As for the anti-union accusations, Tomlinson said: "All those things are kind of untrue as far as I'm concerned. We haven't done those things."

Claims of misdeeds are not only being shot at Peckham. Tomlinson and Sinha said they've had workers approach them saying the union told them if they didn't sign the union authorization card that they would lose their Social Security benefits. They also said that the promises made by the union, like doubling a worker's pay, are unsustain-

able for running a business, even a non-profit.

"I think that promises that were being made to our workers, that if they unionize, that they would never get laid off and that our company would never close," Tomlinson said. "In reality, places that have unionized have closed, and they haven't always fared well on getting better wages for workers."

There have been 76 recent layoffs at Peckham, an issue the union wants to remedy. Moreover, organizers allege several of those laid off were key parts to the unionization effort. But Tomlinson said the layoffs were expected due to a decrease in government contracts and denied it was for retribution against organizers. He and Sinha said they've been trying to get more commercial contracts but they can't compete with overseas or even domestic textile production because of Peckham's low productivity rate.

Kolhoff said constant layoffs, with little notice, are also a problem.

Sinha countered that most companies do not give notice for layoffs. She added that, most of the time, they give a two-week notice. Only recently did they have to inform clients just a week in advance.

It's obvious that the union doesn't plan on slowing its organizing efforts anytime soon, and Peckham administrators say the company will take it all in stride.

"We're really busy trying to run our company everyday, trying to figure out how to create more jobs for people with disabilities," Tomlinson said. "If our workers organize and unionize on us then we'll deal with that as it comes. We don't necessarily think that's the best thing for Peckham to be successful but we're not in full, 100 percent control of that."

— Sam Ingot

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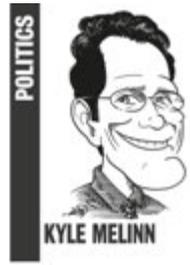
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No shortage of interest in Manderfield, Jordon seats



Judges in our political system serve until they a) die or b) retire. That's because if a judge isn't in the news, voters assume he or she is doing at least an adequate job. Re-election is an automatic. So when a judgeship opens up, the mad scramble is on to fill it.

This year is no exception. Ingham County Circuit Judge Paula Manderfield and East Lansing District Judge David Jordon are hanging up their robes for good, and a combined eight attorneys filed by the Tuesday deadline to seek their seats. The top two finishers for each race in the nonpartisan August primary will face off in the November primary.

Here's a quick rundown on who we'll get to choose among for the Ingham County Circuit Court:

- Lansing School Board member **Charles Ford** changed course and filed for this seat after the 68th state representative race got a little too crowded. He finished third (1,474 votes, 15 percent of the vote) for mayor three years ago and third in a 1993 mayoral run. He served on the Lansing City Council back in the '90s. A former prep sports star at Sexton, Ford worked for the state Department of Transportation and as an adjunct Cooley law professor.

- Lansing attorney **Jim Jamo** finished third (9,781 votes, 25 percent) in the four-way 2010 primary for circuit judge. An attorney of 27 years, Jamo has practiced before the state and federal courts in Michigan and the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. He serves as a hearing panel member for the Attorney Discipline Board and is a trained mediator, charged with settling pending cases. He also volunteers with Resolution Services.

- Ingham County Assistant Prosecutor **Ayanna Jones** has worked with the county for the last eight years. She did civil work before she was hired there. Jones graduated from Cooley Law School in 2001. Her bachelor's in political science came from the University of Michigan. The lifetime Lansing resident and Sexton graduate served with Ingham County's Equal Opportunity Committee.

- **Ken Ross** was the state Insurance commissioner during the last half of Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm's tenure. He's now the assistant general counsel and director of government relations at Citizens Republic Bancorp. Before going to the state Office

of Financial and Insurance Regulation, the first-time political candidate was a vice president for regulatory and legal affairs at the Michigan Credit Union League.

- **Wanda Stokes** of Okemos is a division chief within the Attorney General's Office. She served as chief of staff for former Attorney General Mike Cox, a promotion she received after leading a Child Support Division that collected \$25 million in overdue child support payments over a three-year period. Before starting with the AG's office in 1999, she was an attorney and director of personnel at Auto-Owners Insurance. She worked in General Motors' general counsel office for 10 years before that.

Only East Lansing voters will pick Jordon's successor on the 54B District Court. Your choices are ...

- **Thomas Clement** is a partner at Mertens and Clement and an adjunct faculty member at Cooley. He's also an appointed member of the Federal Criminal Justice Act Panel, which provides defense for the poor accused of federal crimes. A former assistant Eaton County prosecutor, he has the backing of five Ingham County Circuit Court judges and Eaton County Judge Harvey Hoffman.

- Attorney **Andrea Larkin** is looking to become the first female judge on the East Lansing District Court. Most recently a partner at Dickinson Wright, she has practiced civil and commercial cases in the state Supreme Court, among every other level court in the state. The Notre Dame graduate practiced law at the Varnum Firm in Grand Rapids, where she was the acting assistant city attorney for Grandville.

- State Rep. **Mark Meadows** is finishing his third and final term in the House, where he chaired the Judiciary Committee. The former East Lansing mayor and city councilman was an assistant attorney general for 27 years. He also was a shareholder in the East Lansing law firm of Willingham & Cote.

- **Frank McAlpine**, 61, is best known for his unsuccessful challenge of U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers in 2002, but he also ran for Congress as an independent against then U.S. Rep. Bob Carr in 1992. The Fairgrove native practiced law in San Diego before moving back to Michigan in 1987. He's been in general practice since. He has experience as a hearing officer for special education students at the Department of Education.

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

Emil's building for sale — or is it?

The oldest restaurant in Lansing may be on the bubble. According to a local real estate website, the building that is home to Emil's Restaurant, 2012 E. Michigan Ave., is for sale. For a scant \$450,000, you could be the new landlord of a landmark location, wood paneling and all.

The website identified Musselman Realty Co. as the company representing the sale. A spokesman for Musselman, who asked that his name be withheld, says that the real estate firm is conducting a "discreet marketing program."

He said that his firm is "targeting specific buyers" and was concerned that this story could "negatively impact business," adding that "this is a very sensitive matter."

Presumably, selling the building would mean the end of Emil's. But when contacted for comment, Paul Grescoble, the grandson of the original owners who runs the day-to-day operations at Emil's, wouldn't confirm anything. He said it is the building next door which is for sale, and that is owned by his mother, who also owns Emil's itself. He also asked that we refrain from running this story, implying that it would stir up much ado about nothing. Can't do that, but I will remind everyone about the awesome all-you-can-eat spaghetti-and-meatballs on Tuesdays.

Fabiano's building may be changing owners

Down the street, an owner of another

old-line Lansing business, Fabiano's Candies, 1427 E. Michigan Ave., was surprised to learn the building it rents is for sale.

"That's the first I've heard of it," said Steve Blair, when contacted for comment. "We have the first right of refusal on a new owner. We're going to be the building owners if the building is indeed up for sale."

David Barone, an agent for Coldwell Banker Hubbell Briarwood, confirmed the building is up for sale, and says that he is "working for the trustee" of former building owner Ralph Spagnuolo, who passed away.

Fabiano's has been a Lansing sweets staple since 1935. It had several locations around town until Blair said everything was "condensed" into the Michigan Avenue location in 2007-'08.

Great Lakes Chocolate & Coffee closes in downtown Lansing

The following message appeared on the website of Great Lakes Chocolate & Coffee, 500 E. Michigan Ave.:

"We are sad to inform our Lansing customers that we are closing the Lansing location on Saturday, April 28. When we moved into Lansing we were expecting to be located with additional retailers. When the economy crashed the additional spaces filled up with offices. Although we have appreciated all our customers from the Stadium District building and Lansing we have never been able to attract the amount of traffic that we had projected for the location. It has become too expensive for us to remain, we must now move on with great sadness. We will miss you

See Retail, Page 8

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for the **Post Construction Cleaning** of sale properties by the Ingham County Land Bank. The Bid Packet is available after April 30, 2012 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 422 Adams, Lansing, Michigan 48906, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org. Proposals will be due at the Land Bank offices before 4 pm on May 11, 2012. The Bid Opening will be May 11, 2012 at 4:00 pm. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply.

Notice of Requests for Proposals from the Ingham County Purchasing Dept.

Ingham County seeks pricing from qualified and experienced contractors for furnishing all labor, materials, permits, bonds, insurance, and equipment to properly install a concrete sidewalk at Soldan Dog Park. Work is expected to be completed in late summer/early fall of 2012 and prices must remain firm until this time period. To receive a copy of the RFP, please contact Mr. James C. Hudgins, Jr. at jhudgins@ingham.org. Proposals will be received no later than 11:00 A.M., local time prevailing, on May 14, 2012.

Ingham County solicits proposals from qualified and experienced firms for the purpose of providing window and glass cleaning services at various County facilities on a semiannual basis for a period of three-years with an option for a two-year renewal. To receive a copy of the RFP, please contact Mr. James C. Hudgins, Jr. at jhudgins@ingham.org. Proposals will be received no later than 11:00 A.M., local time prevailing, on May 15, 2012.

Ingham County seeks proposals from qualified and experienced firms for the purpose of providing carpet cleaning services at various County facilities on a semiannual basis for a period of three-years with an option for a two-year renewal. To receive a copy of the RFP, please contact Mr. James C. Hudgins, Jr. at jhudgins@ingham.org. Proposals will be received no later than 11:00 A.M., local time prevailing, on May 16, 2012.

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Ingham County Housing Commission, on behalf of the Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for the **demolition and disposal** of various properties listed in Bid **Packet# NSP2 11-008-02** available May 2, 2012 online at www.inghamlandbank.org or at the Ingham County Land Bank NSP2 Office, 600 W. Maple Street, Lansing, Michigan 48906, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. Proposals will be due at the NSP2 office before 11:30 am on May 16, 2012. The Bid Opening will be May 16, 2012 at 11:31 a.m. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply.



CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, May 21, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, 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.

For more information about this case, phone City Council Offices on City business days, Monday through Friday, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Monday, May 21, 2012, at the City Council Offices, Tenth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933 1696.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk

City of Lansing Notice of Public Hearing

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on May 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, MI, for the purpose stated below:

To afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, other interested persons and ad valorem taxing units to appear and be heard on the approval of Brownfield Plan #56 – Emergent BioSolutions pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, Public Act 381 of 1996, as amended, for property commonly referred to as 3500 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. located in the City of Lansing, but more particularly described as:

COM 124.94 FT W & 33 FT S OF NE COR SEC 5, TH S 33DEG 12MIN 59SCD W 315.33 FT, N 53DEG 08MIN 14SCD W 101.37 FT, W 47.55 FT, S 63.21 FT, W 73.91 FT, S 106.92 FT, SW'LY 132.16 FT ALONG 223.46 FT RAD CURVE TO RT CHORD BEARING S22DEG 22MIN 16SCD W 130.25 FT, S 59DEG 26MIN 51SCD W 14.65 FT, S 77DEG 08MIN 54SCD W 92.93 FT, S 88DEG 34MIN 58SCD W 131.49 FT, S 01DEG 57MIN 43SCD E 41.46 FT, S 88DEG 02MIN 17SCD W 153.47 FT, S 01DEG 57MIN 43SCD E 132 FT, S 88DEG 02MIN 17SCD W 351.61 FT TO E R/W LINE M-174, N 716.63 FT, E 1155.21 FT TO BEG; SEC 5 T4N R2W.

Approval of this Brownfield Plan will enable the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to capture incremental tax increases which result from the redevelopment of the property to pay for costs associated therewith. Further information regarding this issue, including maps, plats, and a description of the brownfield plan will be available for public inspection and may be obtained from Karl Dorshimer – President and CEO, Economic Development Corporation of the City of Lansing, 401 N. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing, MI 48933, (517) 483-4140.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANSING RELATING TO A PROJECT PLAN FOR THE LANSING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (Lowertown Lofts Limited Dividend Housing Association/ Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art Project)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Lansing will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, Michigan, on May 21, 2012, on a Project Plan prepared by the Lansing Economic Development Corporation for the Project (the "Project"). The Project is to be initially undertaken by Lowertown Lofts Limited Dividend Housing Association/Michigan Institute for Contemporary Art. The proposed new development will encompass in the City of Lansing, Michigan.

The Project will continue to be used as mixed-use.

A description of the proposed Project Plan is available for public inspection at the office of the Lansing Economic Development Corporation, 401 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing, Michigan. All aspects of the proposed Project Plan will be open for discussion at the public hearing, including the proposed loan of a maximum principal amount of \$82,500 by the Lansing Economic Development Corporation to assist in the financing of the Project. The Project Plan contains further information about the loan.

The City Council will consider the approval of the Project Plan only after the public hearing has been completed.

The City Council shall provide an opportunity for all interested persons to be heard and shall receive and consider communications in writing with reference to the hearing. The public hearing shall provide the fullest opportunity for expression of opinion, for argument on the merits, and for introduction of documentary evidence pertinent to the proposed Project Plan.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk

Retail

from page 7

all and thank you for being a part of our lives these last few years."

Great Lakes Chocolate & Coffee opened in summer 2008 in the Stadium District. The company still maintains other Michigan locations in Ann Arbor and Sturgis, as well as Kimberly, Wis., and Angola, Ind. The owners did not return calls for further comment.

Downtown MBC not part of Webberville closing

Just to be clear: MBC Downtown Lansing is open for business — as well as I know, since I work there.

"My lips are chapped from repeating myself," says Marc Wolbert, general manager of MBC Downtown Lansing, which has been open since August 2009. "I've had people showing up looking for [Michigan Brewing Co. owner] Bobby Mason and I just tell them this is a separate business and that he never comes down here. He's out there."

He pauses, then adds: "Well, there is no 'out there' anymore."

Last week the Michigan Brewing Co. in Webberville was evicted by the building's owner. Immediately, attention turned to the downtown Lansing bar

under the mistaken notion that its operators might be able to answer some questions. Who's calling?

"Media, concerned individuals, people who have parties booked out there," says Wolbert. "Nobody's bothered to tell them what's going on."

Michigan Brewing Co., Wolbert says, is an umbrella company that includes Celis Brewing Co., American Badass Brewing Co. (which produces Kid Rock's signature beer, Badass American Lager), and several Detroit-area breweries and liquor distilleries. He says that MBC Downtown Lansing is not one of those spokes ("It's more like the crook of the handle."), nor is it even a traditional brewpub, but what he calls an "annexed tasting room." It operates under the similarly named MBC Lansing management company, which is owned by Ernie St. Pierre, who also owns the building (including the apartments above MBC, where Wolbert has his office). However, he is adamant that the Michigan Brewing Co. has no sway in what happens at MBC Downtown Lansing.

"This is a symbiotic relationship the way we're set up," he says. "If we succeed, they succeed, because we're constantly advertising. They don't need us to survive, but it makes them better if we do."

(Allan I. Ross is a contributing writer for City Pulse. His column will appear occasionally. He's at allan@lansingcitypulse.com.)

Capital Area District Library

Homesteading Thursday, May 3 • 6:30 pm

How did our ancestors manage to keep wholesome, homegrown food on the table? Staff from the Greater Lansing Food Bank will talk about seed saving and preservation techniques, using rain barrels and more.

CADL WEBBERVILLE

115 S. Main Street, Webberville • (517) 521-3643

Homebrewing Beer Saturday, May 5 • 2 pm

Learn the basics of homebrewing from local brewer Matt Jason, including preparation, bottling, and the basic steps to brewing. (No alcohol provided.)

CADL OKEMOS

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



cadl.org/farm

'I'M A NON-FANATIC'

MARK GREBNER DIGS THE DETAILS

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Mark Grebner saw the best minds of his generation — but Grebner knows his Allen Ginsberg. He can pick it up from there.

“Consumed by madness, naked, starving, hysterical,” he chanted in a nasal, wonky drone that made Ginsberg’s “Howl” sound like a profile of likely Ingham County voters.

Last Friday, Grebner was neither naked nor starving. He munched a muffin and sipped an iced skim latte at the MSU Union, sporting a denim shirt and gray beret.

Nor was he hysterical. On the contrary, he was ready to patiently explain, ad infinitum, why Ingham County Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann should be turned out of office, and why Grebner should replace him.

OK, there’s still the madness part. But if Grebner is mad, he’s taking his time being consumed. For 32 years, he has tinkered happily under the political floorboards as county commissioner, letting others get into a lather about big issues.

“Of course I’m a lefty type. I love civil liberties. I’m pro-environment, but I’m a non-fanatic. I’ll grant to Pat that he’s a fanatic.”

While Lindemann has yoked his power as drain commissioner to a passionate crusade for low-impact development and cleaner water, Grebner wants to pull the plug and drain the drama from the office.

“The life of the organization is the mundane, technical decisions about permits, petitions, complaints, applications, routine maintenance, extensions and improvements,” he said.

Platitudes are as foreign to Grebner as planetoids. His case centers almost wholly on Lindemann’s alleged mishandling of money, both his own and the county’s. Grebner freely allows that “if all you care about is the environment, Pat’s your man.”

It’s not Grebner’s style to obsess over the turmoil of the 1970s — the decade he famously milked from end to end as an undergraduate at MSU — or the subsequent culture wars.

“While everybody else was trashing some place, I was trying to register voters,” he said. “I can see the steps necessary to win an election, but I don’t know how to end the war in Vietnam. And I especially don’t understand how you’d end it by chanting at the ROTC building.”

His beloved dog, Babs, and his pet pig, Ruby, no longer walk the Earth, but Grebner abides, unchanged but for age (he is 59). His shoulder-length hair and round glasses have eased gradually from “John Lennon wants them back” to “Ben Franklin said you could keep them.”

What is the secret of his survival?

“One word: Asperger’s.”

He is not joking.

“It takes me a long time to get a new idea, and I work it deeply,” he said. “Asperger’s is like a predilection for becoming an expert at something. If you don’t know more than everybody else does about it, why think about it?”

Long ago, Grebner nestled in the minutiae of political polls and local government. He seldom moves more than 300 feet from his office.

“I don’t have a personal life,” he said. “My spare time is spent in politics. I’m at work 12 hours a day, seven days a week, but get very little done.”

The 300-foot rule pretty much limits his culinary universe to Noodles ‘R’ Us, Charlie Kang’s and Mumbai. The refried delights of El Azteco, across the street from his office, are now reserved for “splendid occasions,” as his aging stomach can no longer tolerate daily doses of spice and grease.



See Grebner, Page 10

'I'M AN ARTIST'

PAT LINDEMANN PAINTS THE BIG PICTURE

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

It’s a chilly Sunday in late April, about 2 in the afternoon, and Pat Lindemann is hungry. Ingham County’s larger-than-life drain commissioner of 20 years has just done his laundry and mowed his two acres on Lansing’s west side. He’s tucking into a big brunch of bacon, ham, eggs, hash browns and toast at the east side’s no-frills, 24-hour breakfast joint, Theio’s Restaurant.

“I’m in awe of what I’ve accomplished — me, a dyslexic meat cutter,” he said. “I never in my wildest dreams thought I would be a politician. Mars was closer to me.”

When Hollywood turns the 2012 Democratic primary race for Ingham County drain commissioner into a movie — and God knows they should — it won’t be hard to cast the incumbent. The piercing eyes, the salt-and-pepper beard, the childlike enthusiasms, the sudden flare-ups of righteous indignation, the brisk table thumps — Richard Dreyfuss has the part for the asking.

“The Great Lakes basin has 20 percent of the available water in the whole world,” Lindemann said. “This is a major responsibility.” He blinked, as if distracted from a telescope trained on the Andromeda galaxy by a rat scurrying across the observatory. “You can’t get here and try to manage that through name-calling, innuendoes, threats and all the other crap that a lot of politicians like to pull, including Grebner.”

That would be Mark Grebner, the 32-year Ingham County commissioner with the effrontery to oppose Lindemann, 64, who is seeking a sixth consecutive four-year term as drain commissioner.

“Yes, I get bogged down in political battles every four years, but I’ve learned to take it in stride,” Lindemann said.

“I’ll use this election as a bully pulpit to preach about water.”

Lindemann travels all over the world, but his roots are on Lansing’s east side. He was born at Sparrow Hospital, went to school on the east side and worked in the family butcher shop on Michigan Avenue for 23 years.

“I don’t think people really know me that well,” he mused.

“I do photography, oil painting, sculpting, print making. I write poetry. I hand carve Native American flutes and I write music for them. I’m pretty good at the flute, too.” He’s just designed a 7-foot-tall abstract concrete sculpture he’ll mix and pour himself.

“It will take 15 people to lift it,” he said. “It’s pretty sharp.”

If you think the office of drain commissioner doesn’t jibe with all that, you don’t know Pat.

“Do you know who the first drain commissioner was?” he asked. “Geoffrey Chaucer, author of ‘The Canterbury Tales.’ Appointed by the King of England to be Commissioner of Ditches and Dikes.”

Chaucer, Lindemann explained, helped frame the English common law for water use, much of which was kept by the colonies and trickled over to Michigan.

As the coffee kept on coming, Lindemann found a kindred spirit in our server, an idealistic young woman who not only aspired to become a teacher, but to “change the way people think about schools.”

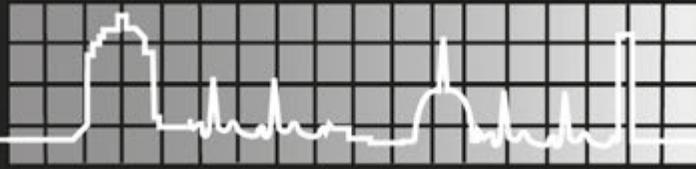
As drain commissioner, Lindemann champions low-impact water management projects that win national, state and local environmental awards, drawing relentless fire for alleged cost overruns, delays and sheer vainglory. He insists that the projects save money.

“What other drain commissioner, or anyone else, would take the trouble to take care of Blanding’s turtles?” he said.

When the threatened species of turtle was

See Lindemann, Page 10

PULSE



news & opinion

Peckham United

A unionization effort is underway at Peckham, a private nonprofit

When you first walk into the 190,000-square-foot Peckham facility near the Capital City Airport, you'd think you walked into a state-of-the-art liberal arts college. A giveaway to the fact that the building is a major producer of various military apparel is the 1,200 sewing machines on the production floor.

Since March there has been a small, but growing, indirect war of words over who has the best interest at heart of the people working around those machines.

The United Peckham Employees Association is a group of Peckham workers with help from labor activists — including the Lansing Workers' Center and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers — that are trying to gain support for an independent union for the close to 1,100 disabled manufacturing workers.

The group has been distributing union authorization cards, which nearly 200 have signed so far. When signed, the cards indicate support for United Peckham as the exclusive collective bargaining agent for the workers.

While there has been no dialog between Peckham administrators or the union, that has not stopped either one from making claims against the other.

Outlined in several fliers titled, "The TRUTH About the UNION," which were distributed by the Peckham administration, the message is clear — "The Union makes promises they can't keep." The handouts downplay the power of a potential union, stating, "The union will enforce strict work rules and demand higher productivity standards," and "the union may take away your flexibility."

"I think there has been an effort on our part to make sure that we inform workers of what their rights are and ensure that they're making informed decisions," said Mitchell Tomlinson, president and CEO of Peckham.

Peckham United has also distributed literature — in English, Vietnamese and Spanish — to accommodate the diverse population of Peckham workers. Their documents state that the union will help

gain better pay, better working conditions and more respect for employees.

Peckham United is working to highlight and combat the "consistent mistreatment" of workers and the "starvation wages" that they receive which are well below the "industry standard," said Mike Kolhoff, an organizer with the Lansing Workers' Center. Its website describes it as a membership-based, self-managed community organization "for working people."

Kolhoff said that 75 to 100 Peckham workers are paid less than minimum wage.

In fact, he was low. Jo Sinha, corporate vice president at Peckham, said 200 workers make less than minimum wage and they are the most significantly disabled workers at Peckham. This is because these workers' productivity rate ranges from 20 percent to 40 percent and pay is calculated based on piece-per-hour productivity. While learning

ily values learning than productivity," Sinha said. "A person moves up the pay scale by learning new job steps, and the top base pay is \$9."

There are bonuses for productivity and working well with a team, Sinha said. However, Peckham's productivity level is under 80 percent, mainly because of who works at the facility.

Clients, not employees

Respecting workers is of the utmost importance at Peckham, Tomlinson said. He added that they consistently receive positive feedback from workers during annual surveys.

Workers at Peckham are not called employees. They are considered "clients" — a key distinction that would make unionization a problem, according to Peckham officials.

Peckham is a nonprofit, vocational rehabilitation and paid job-training program, Sinha explained. The goal of



Sam Ingot/City Pulse

The newly formed United Peckham Employees Association, with help from labor activists, has launched a unionization effort seeking better pay and working conditions for the nearly 1,100 disabled workers at Peckham. Peckham administration is fighting the effort.

the job, they are paid at least minimum wage and then the piece rate is applied after they've learned the job, Sinha said. The process follows rules set by the U.S. Department of Labor, and Sinha said the department has never had a problem with Peckham on this front. She added that these jobs are usually in the automotive area of production, like seat belts, and those working in them tend to receive Social Security benefits because of the severity of their disability.

As for paying industry standard wages, "We're close to, if not above that wage," Sinha said. Peckham has a "defined pay policy that more heav-

ily values learning than productivity," Sinha said. "A person moves up the pay scale by learning new job steps, and the top base pay is \$9."

Each of Peckham's nearly 1,100 clients who work in the manufacturing sector has a Vocational Services Specialist who is trained to understand their barriers to employment and work out goals to work around or minimize those barriers.

Collective bargaining treats every-

Eyesore of the week



Property: 1609 Turner St., Lansing

Owner: Turner St. Properties LLC

Assessed value: \$21,700

Owner says: In the process of renovating, looking for a buyer

Architecture critic Amanda Harrell-Seyburn says: This diminutive commercial building on the north fringe of Old Town is easy to dismiss as insignificant. But small commercial buildings, like this one, are one of the most endangered building types in our communities today. It is hard to find retail today that has such a customer-centric design. Entrances between display windows usher in customers while protecting them from the elements, which is particularly important in Michigan. It is a rare building owner who is willing to give up the interior square footage that such an entry requires. Small commercial buildings like this are perfect for a small shop, design studio or some other innovative recovery plan.

The pleasant northbound avenue out of Old Town via Turner Street goes sour, fast. Just past a dilapidated service station at Turner and North streets sits another crumbling commercial property. The torn, waterlogged doormat is an expected welcome as you approach the broken front window (patched with a piece of insulation). On the inside, the Flintstone-esque floor is basically dirt and rubble. But Ryan Lowe, of Turner St. Properties, said the building is under renovation and the floor looks as such so he can tailor it to a potential renter or buyer. "It's been fully gutted and will be finished over the fall," Lowe said.

— Andy Balaskovitz

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

See Peckham, Page 6

Lindemann

from page 10

concept of 'We the People.' Freedom's not free. We have to give of ourselves, take care of the people who are struggling."

It was hard to see where Lindemann was going, but as he fired on, a dark, Mark-Grebner-shaped outline seemed to form in the artillery smoke.

"As long as we treat people with kindness, that shows us who we are. This isn't about fighting over this or that, this is about making the world a better place to live."

Some people think it's strange that the public votes for so arcane an office as drain commissioner. Lindemann thinks it's a rare chance for the public to weigh in directly on water use.

"Only this year's debate isn't going to be about water," he lamented. "It's going to be about me. That's not what we should be debating. It's sad, and I feel so sorry for Grebner."

"He's mean. He's getting desperate."

Keep Lindemann away from the subject of Grebner and his defensiveness dissipates. He is earnest when he describes his battles with dyslexia and struggles to educate himself. Straight out of high school, he started a family and toiled daily at the meat market. In the 1980s, he decided to fight off his reading disability and took night classes at Lansing Community College, beginning with basic English and math classes.

He balked at first when some east siders suggested he run for City Council. But as a scoutmaster at Troop 227 at Resurrection Church, Lindemann preached public service. He served on City Council from 1980 to 1991.

He has a favorite parable about his moral education.

In third grade, he fired a spitball at a classmate and hit a nun (Sister Scholastica, no less).

"I think I hit her right in the cheek, which wasn't good."

The nun took Lindemann to see the pastor, Monsignor Gabriel.

"There were rumors of dungeons down there," he said.

The monsignor took pity. He taught young Patrick how to make a better spitball and they practiced in his office for a half hour, using his office wall as a target.

"Just don't do it in school," the pastor told him.

"He didn't judge or condemn me," Lindemann said. "He made a correction that changed a lot for me."

Lindemann tells these stories as object lessons in kindness and fairness, but a subtext always hovers.

"When we played war as kids with neighboring groups, when you got shot, you laid down and pretended you were dead. You didn't get up and say 'You missed.'"

"IT'S INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY FOR ME TO PAINT THE EARTH BY SCULPTING THE LANDSCAPE AND CREATING A BETTER ENVIRONMENT."

PAT LINDEMANN

The echo is left to bounce in your head. Small-minded people judge instead of constructively engaging. Small-minded people won't lay down and stay dead.

Suddenly, the subtext surfaced like a nuclear submarine. "Yes, we're going to disagree from time to time, but shouldn't we sit down and talk about it?" To date, Grebner hasn't agreed to a face-to-face debate with Lindemann because Grebner says he would get "too angry," and Grebner's anger angers Lindemann.

"What is all this anger? Man, I just don't understand the anger. It just drives me crazy."

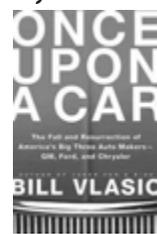
228 Museum Drive, across from Lansing Center
 Black Box Theatre
Riverwalk Theatre
 Rick & LeAnn Dethlefsen & Jeff Magnuson in the Tony-Award-Winning Drama by Michael Frayn
COPENHAGEN
 Directed by Mary Job
 An ingenious exploration into the mysteries of atomic physics and the human heart.
 "A brain-teasing pleasure," JOHN LAHR, THE NEW YORKER
 May 4-6 & 11-13
 8 pm Fri/Sat • 2 pm Sun \$12 (\$10 sr/st)
 RESERVATIONS 482-5700
 RiverwalkTheatre.com

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 PEACE & LOVE

Capital Area District Library
 2012 **SPRING AUTHOR SERIES**
 The Capital Area District Library is pleased to host three Michigan authors with unique styles and viewpoints. Books will be available for sale and signing; seating is on a first-come basis.
Michigan Notable Authors

Once Upon a Car: The Fall and Resurrection of America's Big Three Auto Makers—GM, Ford, and Chrysler
 by Bill Vlasic

Monday, May 7
7 pm
 CADL Okemos
 4321 Okemos Road,
 Okemos



Jacobson's—I Miss It So!
 The Story of a Michigan Fashion Institution

by Bruce Allen Kopytek
Thursday, May 10
7 pm
 CADL Downtown
 Lansing
 401 S. Capitol, Lansing



Humorist Wade Rouse
 The Library Journal describes bestselling author Rouse's work as "David Sedaris meets Dave Barry." Four of his five books are critically-acclaimed memoirs, including *America's Boy* (2006) and *It's All Relative: A Memoir of Two Families, Three Dogs, 34 Holidays and 50 Boxes of Wine* (2011). He is a regular contributor to Michigan Public radio, a humor columnist for LGBT-focused *Metrosource* magazine, and a popular presenter at writing seminars.
Monday, May 14 • 6 pm
 Williamston Theater
 122 S. Putnam Street, Williamston
Tuesday, May 22 • 6 pm
 Art Alley
 1133 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
 Located in Historic REO Town

For more information, visit cadl.org/news/Authors

Arts & Culture

art • books • film • music • theater

Street life

'The Broad Without Walls' project installs art around East Lansing

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Late Saturday afternoon, a van heaved itself over the curb of Grand River Avenue in front of Espresso Royale Café, on the busy commercial strip across from Michigan State University. A small crew rushed onto the sidewalk to unload crates labeled "CHILE" and "PERU."

Passersby curious enough to look into the crates saw hundreds of bundled black-and-white photographs, all portraits of people who met violent death under repressive Latin American regimes. Within 15 minutes, the van was gone. A woman wearing a blood-red scarf sat quietly among the crates, sewing squares of fabric over the faces in the photographs.

Grand Rapids artist Mandy Cano Villalobos is one of seven Michigan artists commissioned by MSU's Broad Art Museum to bring art to the streets of East Lansing, months in advance of the building's tentatively scheduled September opening.

Her sorrowful work was part performance and part physical product (a growing pile of faceless photographs). She calls it "Ningún Nombre" ("No Name"), a phrase used in South America to mark the graves of unknown bodies.

Villalobos stayed only for an afternoon, but most of the "Broad Without Walls" exhibit will be visible through May 12.

Less than a block away from Villalobos, Ann Arbor artist Margaret Parker erected a monumental yet cheery row of pillars out of T-shirts in the alley behind the Michigan State Federal Credit Union.

Two young shoppers from East Lansing, Alena Hartsuff and her friend, Sydney Sodeman, stopped to look at the columns and take pictures of each other inside of it.

"It's abstract, it's different," Hartsuff said. "I would definitely want this in my room."

Just around the corner, at (SCENE) Metrospace, MSU fine arts grad Kate Lewis invited the public to help create a mural out of handmade bits of ceramics. By late afternoon, the first patches of mosaic already spoke volumes about the people who had worked on the wall. A neat matrix of dots seven feet above the floor screamed "tall control freak." The word "art" was the trace of a literal mind; wobbly knee-high circles were clearly children's work. One nonconformist glued several pieces on top of one another until they stuck a few inches out of the wall.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

On Saturday afternoon, Grand Rapids artist Mandy Cano Villalobos sat in front of Espresso Royale Café, across from the Broad Art Museum, sewing patches over the faces of people who died or disappeared under repressive Latin American regimes.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Ann Arbor artist Margaret Parker built pillars out of found T-shirts in the plaza behind the MSU Federal Credit Union.

"I'm constantly surprised at how people come up with new things to do with the pieces," Lewis said.

Lewis has done the experiment seven times in various Midwest galleries. She is neither tall nor a control freak.

"Usually we think of art as being done by one person," she said, "but I think two minds are better than one and

10 minds are better than two."

Broad Museum curator Alison Gass lives for this kind of blurry community intervention. Back in February, the Broad Museum sent out a call to Michigan-based artists. "We just got amazing submissions," she said.

The art will generate a lot of double-takes, but isn't a second look at life what art is about? "You don't expect to walk down the street and encounter art," Gass said.

It's too bad a hidden camera won't be around to catch public reaction to Ypsilanti's Seth Ellis, who will be busy this week putting up phony historical markers on the MSU campus. Gass seems to relish this intervention most of all. "Maybe we can start some urban legends," she said.

A jury of four, including Gass and Broad Museum director Michael Rush, picked the participating artists. If you hate to be surprised, the works are mapped out on the Broad Museum website: Maureen Nollette, a specialist in colorful ribbon art, will draw intricate patterns on the windows of the East Lansing Marriott Hotel with an oil stick; MSU art student Peter Lusch will build an abstract sculpture out of drywall at Fountain Square; Philip Brun Del Re, based in Kalamazoo, will decorate the white wall at the back of Ned's Bookstore with colorful stencils; and MSU student Deborah Wheeler will create a gay-rights-themed variation on segregated drinking fountains of the pre-Civil-Rights era, using a real drinking fountain in the Kresge Art Gallery.

'The Broad Without Walls'

Through May 12
Artworks by Seth Ellis, Mandy Cano Villalobos, Kate Lewis, Deborah Wheeler, Maureen Nollette, Margaret Parker, Peter Lusch and Philip Brun Del Re at locations throughout East Lansing
broadmuseum.msu.edu

Strum away on Saturday

Find your inner Hawaiian during Mighty Uke Day

By RICH TUPICA

Back in 1938, musician Andy Cummings was nearing the end of a long tour with the Paradise Islands Revue when he arrived in Lansing on an icy winter day. After his performance, the temperature had dropped to 5 degrees. Cummings walked back to his hotel and began to reminisce about the crashing waves and sandy white beaches of Hawaii. In that Lansing hotel room, he picked up his ukulele and composed "Waikiki," one of the most legendary songs in the history of Hawaiian music.

Perhaps Ben Hassenger, a veteran local musician, was in a similarly tropical state of mind last year when he founded Mighty Uke Day, a one-day ukulele festival held in four spots across Old Town: Elderly Instruments, Sir Pizza Grand Café, the Mustang and Gallery 1212. The second annual fest on Saturday features concerts, group strums and two screenings of the "Mighty Uke" documentary (filmmakers Tony Coleman and Margaret Meagher will be on hand for the 12:45 and 4:30 p.m. shows at the Mustang).

Mighty Uke Day

10 a.m.-midnight, Saturday, May 5

Elderly Instruments, 1100 N. Washington Ave.; Sir Pizza Grand Café, 201 E. Grand River Ave.; The Mustang, 1215 Turner St.; Gallery 1212, 1212 Turner St.

Some events are free. \$12 for documentary showings; \$18 for the concert, or \$25 for movie/concert combo. For the complete schedule, visit www.mightyukeday.com

what their differences, to connect and make music."

Hassenger is hoping the event will attract at least 300 people. "There has been quite a proliferation of ukulele groups in Michigan in the last few years; we'll have representatives from the Ann Arbor and Detroit Areas, the Tri-Cities, western Michigan and other areas. If it's anything like last year, we'll also



Courtesy photo

Ben Hassenger's interest in the ukulele sprang from his 2009 trip to Waikiki.

have attendees from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Canada. Many of the people that come aren't even players — they just enjoy the music and vibe of the day."

The 7:30 p.m. concert at the Mustang features Lil' Rev (from Milwaukee), Gerald Ross, The Fabulous Heftones, Magdalen Fossum (an 11-year-old uke player and singer) and Hassenger's own trio, The Ukulele Kings. Also on the schedule: open-mics at Sir Pizza throughout the day, workshops, an art exhibit, a ukulele museum and a children's concert and workshop.

Hassenger, a former member of the defunct band Mystic Shake, said his passion for the uke was born in Waikiki in 2009, when he stumbled upon a ukulele festival. Along with Dave Pasant, Hassenger co-founded the Lansing Area Ukulele Group.

"We have something like 175 members and regularly get 35 to 40 people at our monthly 'strum and sing' at Sir Pizza," Hassenger said of the group, which performs at 1:45 p.m. Saturday at Sir Pizza. "We meet once a month to sing and play 12 to 14 songs together. We also have an open-mic during our get-togethers for members that have a song to share."

"You rarely see a person playing a uke by themselves. It lends itself to a shared musical experience and is truly the people's instrument."

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A famously fractured friendship

Celebrated scientists square off in Riverwalk Theatre's 'Copenhagen'

By ALYSSA FIRTH

Imagine Niels Bohr, the famous Danish physicist who was a part of the Manhattan Project, and Werner Heisenberg, famous for the uncertainty theory, coming back from the dead, in someplace between "heaven and an atom," to discuss what happened on that fateful day in 1941 when the two met in Copenhagen and had a falling

out that ultimately destroyed their friendship.

If that sounds like the beginning of a drawn-out conversation about physics, Mary Job, director of Riverwalk Theatre's "Copenhagen," insists it's not.

"I certainly think it would appeal to any one science-oriented, but it's much broader than that," Job said. Job saw Michael Frayn's play when it premiered

on Broadway in 2000 and has wanted to direct it ever since.

"Copenhagen" revolves around Heisenberg (Jeff Magnuson), Bohr (Rick Dethlefsen) and Bohr's wife, Margrethe (Leann Dethlefsen), having a conversation to figure out what went wrong that day. Bohr and Heisenberg



Photo by LukeAnthony Photography

Michael Frayn's drama "Copenhagen" speculates on what led to the conflict between physicists Niels Bohr (Rick Dethlefsen) and Werner Heisenberg (Jeff Magnuson).

once had a very strong relationship: Bohr mentored Heisenberg and both admired each other's work. What actually happened in Copenhagen has been debated by historians ever since, but their friendship was never the same.

Historians have noted that Bohr, as a Jewish man, strongly objected to the work that Heisenberg did for the Nazis' nuclear program, known as the Uranverein ("Uranium Club").

"The message was not only what was Heisenberg doing for the Nazis, but the irony of it is Niels Bohr, who was one of the 8,000 Jews that escaped (from Germany), went on to Los Alamos and designed the trigger for the Hiroshima bomb," Job said. "Heisenberg, while he was condemned for his activities, whatever they may have been, actually never killed anyone."

The uncertainty principle, which is the principle that the momentum and position of a particle cannot both be precisely determined at the same time, is something that Bohr and Heisenberg use in the play to discover what went wrong.

"What these men discovered is the subatomic world is weird," Job said. "It doesn't do things we thought it was going to do. In many ways, what Michael Frayn is doing is saying that is also true of the human heart."

Job said the play definitely has some humorous moments as well. Margrethe's role is essentially to break up the conversation at points and bring up things that the two physicists hadn't thought of.

"The movement of electrons in the atom, when you disturb them or observe them, they flip because they're so tiny. (Margrethe) tends to be the person who suddenly says something or does something and it flips the way you do the scene."

The set is only three people on a stage with three chairs, but Job said it's a very psychologically and physiologically driven play. "It's been a real pleasure digging into it and challenging myself and making it clear to the audience what happened. You don't have to be an atomic physicist to understand this play."

'Copenhagen'

May 4-13
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive, Lansing
8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 2 p.m. Sundays
\$12; \$10 for seniors, students or military
(517) 482-5700
www.riverwalktheatre.com

Tickets available at Williamstown Township Hall & from participating artists

\$5



Friday, May 4th, 2012
4:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Saturday, May 5th, 2012
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM



517-655-3193
4990 N. Zimmer Rd., Williamston
www.williamstowntownship.com

22

artists exhibiting at Williamstown Township Hall, St. Katherine's Episcopal Church and Seven Artist Studios

Taking comics seriously

Capital City Collectibles hosts Free Comic Book Day

By RICH TUPICA

Often sporting a top hat and tailcoat, the late Stephen Jahner was a unique character, much like the ones in the thousands of comic books he sold at his East Michigan Avenue shop.

Jahner owned Capital City Collectibles for three decades until he passed away on Sept. 22, 2010, at the age of 55. Jahner's love for rarities kept the store packed with thousands of comics, action figures, books, memorabilia, films and more.

The shop has been kept alive by owners

Peter Ryan and Monica Jahner (Stephen Jahner's sister). Capital City Collectibles, now sharing a space with Everybody Reads Books and Stuff on Michigan Avenue, is still very much open and is gearing up for Free Comic Book Day on Saturday, a national one-day event.

(Clem's Comics & Games, located at 216 South Washington Square in Lansing, also has events planned from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; visit www.clemslansing.com for details.)

See Comics, Page 15

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this event is only open to persons 21 years and over

A special thanks to the City Pulse & ImABeerHound.com for their contribution!



Rich Topica/City Pulse

Capital City Collectibles co-owner Peter Ryan said the store is finding new fans at its shared location with Everybody Reads Books and Stuff on East Michigan Avenue.

Comics

from page 14

Ryan worked alongside Stephen Jahner for years, finally becoming his business partner about six years ago.

“Stephen was doing exactly what he loved to do right up until the very end,” said Ryan, who recalls finding his friend and co-worker unconscious at the store’s previous location at 1723 East Michigan Avenue.

“He was working on the comic order form for that month,” Ryan said. “He’d been put on some medication and it was too much for him. He literally fell asleep on the comic order form. My mother Jean and I came in the morning to open the store and found him there.”

Since then, Ryan said it’s been somewhat of an uphill battle for the shop, but things are gradually picking up.

“There’s a whole bunch of people that are just rediscovering us because they thought when Stephen passed away that the store closed — we just moved locations,” Ryan said. “It’s been a rebuilding process. We’re trying to not be the best-kept secret in Lansing.”

Monica Jahner said her brother always loved getting geared up for Free Comic Book Day.

“I always remember my brother preparing for Free Comic Book Day — he would put on his top hat, tails and look like a comic character himself,” Jahner recalled. “It was the one day out of the year he so looked forward to. He loved the kids and I’ve found out that he raised so many of them through his comic store.

“My brother was a kid at heart and that is why Free Comic Book Day was so important to him,” she added. “He hoped that more kids would walk in the door so he could get them to read comics and use the comic as a reading tool.”

As for Free Comic Book Day, the national event has been going strong for 10 years, and all participating comic shops give away a free comic or two. It’s commonly accompanied by other events to celebrate the holiday, which always happens the first Saturday of May.

“We also will have a HeroClix game tournament and we’re going to be giving away some free HeroClix that day,” Ryan said. “We’re doing a dress up as your favorite comic book character to celebrate the release of ‘The Avengers’ movie from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be a raffle for free movie tickets to NCG (Eastwood Cinema). There are also some other giveaways.”

Lansing area comic book and comic art collector Dan Frazier will display 10 of his original drawings at the store. Frazier — who has amassed a library of over 30,000 books — has collected comic art for 30 years and has many one-of-a-kind pieces from major comic book artists.

As for the new location, Ryan said it’s been a great collaboration with Everybody Reads.

“They’ve really went out of their way to work with us and give us the kind of space we need for the people who come in and play games or read comics,” he said. “There’s plenty of room to do what we need to do.”

The new location has also brought in some fresh faces.

“Our hardcore customers have always stuck around,” Ryan said. “But being here at the bookstore next to the Gone Wired Café, we’ve got a whole new group of customers as well.”

Free Comic Book Day

Saturday, May 5

Capital City Collectibles
2019 E. Michigan Ave.,
Lansing

(517) 487-0717

www.freecomicbookday.com

Clem’s Comics & Games
216 S. Washington Square,
Lansing

www.clemslansing.com

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Alyssa Firth/City Pulse

From left, Jessica Jimenez, Emily Wilson, Maddie Brogan and Liam Shaffer rehearse the Children's Ballet Theatre production of "Cinderella."

A new spin on 'Cinderella'

Children's Ballet Theatre revises a classic fairy tale

By ALYSSA FIRTH

Although an auditorium full of children may not sound like everyone's dream come true, it's exactly what Children's Ballet Theatre board chairwoman Caryn Rhodes likes to see.

"They're a very appreciative audience," Rhodes said, and that's exactly what she wants for her production of "Cinderella."

The company of 51 dancers performs three shows this weekend at Holt High School.

Rhodes said the Ballet Theatre interpretation of the familiar fairy tale is somewhat different than the Disney version most audiences are used to.

Choreographed by artistic director Greg George, the tale begins with Cinderella as a girl and moves through the typical story, but gives the main character a stronger attitude.

"The stepsisters really have that comedic role, which we have kept in the story, but we just really wanted to focus Cinderella not as the oppressed stepsister, but as the eternal optimist," Rhodes said.

The "Cinderella" dancers range in age from 8 to 18 and come from as far as Ann Arbor to rehearse in Lansing. Since 2009, the company has partnered with the Children's Miracle Network through Sparrow Hospital. This performance features three dancers from the non-profit organization; they will make cameos for roughly 15 to 20 minutes of the performance.

'Cinderella'

Children's Ballet Theatre
7 p.m. Friday, May 4, and
Saturday, May 5; 2 p.m.
Sunday, May 6
Holt High School
5885 Holt Road, Holt
\$12; \$10 students
www.cbtdance.org
(517) 482-2553

Power, not preachiness

Beauty and brutality collide in fine 'Ruined'

By PAUL WOZNAK

Conveying the brutal honesty of war without head-splitting heavy-handedness is not easy, but Peppermint Creek Theatre's season closer, "Ruined," could be one of the best examples of a play that's powerful without excessive preaching. Deborah Keller directs Lynn Nottage's Pulitzer-winning drama almost as an arc of increasingly intense confrontations. Based on real atrocities of sexual violence in present-day central Africa (with fictional characters), "Ruined" will make you shudder and think without sermonizing about its points.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mama Nadi's brothel bustles with soldiers from both sides of the omnipresent, unnamed conflict. Patrons respect Mama's

authority under her roof, leaving their bullets at the door, despite the brutal anarchy outside. But Mama can only remain neutral for so long until she joins the tide or risks being swept away.

Chelsea Lucas makes Mama Nadi intimidating without being physically imposing. Lucas may be shorter than virtually all of her male co-stars and most of her female co-stars, but her powerful voice and aggressive stance give Mama the grisly toughness she needs.

Sineh Wurie plays traveling supply — and prostitute — salesman Christian, whose bantering chemistry with Mama anchors the entire production. Wurie's deft transformation from sober comic in Act I to dark and drunk in Act II pushes Lucas toward an explosive exchange filled with dramatic energy.



Courtesy Photo

Danielle Mitchell and Troy Bullock star in "Ruined."

In addition to Mama Nadi, the primary exposition comes from war survivors and Mama's newest "employees," Sophie (Ja'Nay McClaster) and Salima (Danielle Nicole Mitchell). Sophie, who was raped with a soldier's bayonet and left for dead, literally embodies one of the "ruined." McClaster handles this delicate role quite beautifully, slowly blossoming from guarded and petrified to quietly confident. She shines most brightly while singing.

The role of Salima is equally challenging: She is a young married woman who fears her husband will never love her again once he discovers that she was repeatedly raped by a gang of rogue soldiers. Mitchell seems less comfortable with her character than McClaster, particularly during an important revelatory scene that she speeds through with little emotional connection.

Two of the strongest supporting performances come from Teri Brown as Josephine, the veteran prostitute with a toxic personality, and Jeremiah S. Hawkins as Commander Osembenga of the government army. Brown spits her barbs at Sophie and Salima with a fiery hiss. But Hawkins' sharp voice and menacing physicality make Osembenga absolutely frightening.

Like Bertolt Brecht's "Mother Courage," "Ruined" details the effects of war on civilians. Apart from the somewhat sluggish first act, "Ruined" moves quite swiftly, with several incredibly polished scenes.

Like Mother Courage, Mama Nadi justifies her operation with the belief that she is protecting her women from a worse fate outside. Of course, the question for the audience becomes, "What would you do if it was you?"

'Ruined'

Peppermint Creek
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Curry Street Theatre
6025 Curry Lane, Lansing
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Absolute Gallery

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By the Riverside

Featuring nationally known watercolorist and multi-media artist Betsy Garza. Reception: 1-4 p.m. Sunday, May 6. Hours: 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; 1-6 p.m. Wednesday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday. Special showings by appointment. 1209 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 484-6534.

Creole Gallery

Lansing Community College photography students host the annual portfolio show from 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, May 6. Hours: 1-5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 1218 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-2736.

East Lansing Public Art Gallery

"There and Back Again," by local photographer Nellie Daft. Reception: 1-2 p.m. Sunday, May 6. Hours: 6 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Saturday; noon-8 p.m. Sunday. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 894-2166.

Great Lakes Artworks

JK Create's "Crayon Art" and Jenny Storrer's "By The Lake Product." Reception: Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, May 6. Hours: 10 a.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday; 1-4 p.m. Sunday. 306 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-4293. www.greatlakesartworks.com.

Hotwater Works

Showcasing abstracts by James McFarland. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Sunday. 2116 East Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 364-8827.

Lansing Art Gallery

The 65th annual "Water Color Society Exhibition" displays original artworks by current or former residents of Michigan. Reception: 7-9 p.m. Friday, May 4. Hours: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 1-4 p.m. Saturday. 119 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 374-6400. www.lansingartgallery.com.

Ledge Craft Lane

Donna Southwick showcases original watercolors and prints, along with notecards and writing pads. Hours: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. 120 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-9843. www.ledgecraftlane.com

MICA Gallery

A showcase of Lansing Cubist/early modern master Grant Guimond. Reception: Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, May 6. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. 1210 Turner St., Lansing (517) 371-4600. www.oldtownarts.org.

Michigan Women's Historical Center & Hall of Fame: Belen Gallery

"Connectivity," featuring the work of Rochester Hills artist Judy Munro. Reception: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, May 6. Hours: Noon-4 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday; 2-4 p.m. Sunday. 213 W. Main St., Lansing. (517) 484-1880



Absolute Gallery showcases the work of young artists in "What Adoption Means to Me." Receptions will be held Thursday and Sunday.

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Okemos Library

Neil Leighton presents his digital photography show "Right Around Here." Reception: 2-4 p.m. Sunday, May 6. Hours: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 1-7 p.m. Sunday. 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 349-0250.

(SCENE) Metrospace

"Words and Afterwards: Moving from Violence to Healing," featuring Kate Darnell, Melissa Dey Hasbrook, Jen Loforese and Gail Trapp-Bohner. Hours: 2-5 p.m. Thursday; 2-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday; noon-4 p.m. Sunday. 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832. www.scenemetrospace.com.

Shiawassee Arts Center

Photography of Juanita Baldwin, Jack Downer and Rich Wood. Hours: 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. 206 Curwood Castle Dr., Owosso. (989) 723-8354. www.shiawasseearts.org

Ongoing

MSU Museum, Heritage Gallery

An installation exhibit by Susan Eisenberg exploring the evolution of the place of women in the construction industry. Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday. (517) 355-2370. www.museum.msu.edu.

Riverwalk Theatre

Patricia Bursch's works focus on marine life and the insect world. Hours: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 6-11 p.m. Saturdays; Noon-5 p.m. Sundays. 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700.

Gallery 1212 FINE ART STUDIOS

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First Sunday Opening Reception

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Back L to R: Chris Stoffel Overvoorde, Larry Blovits, Jack Brouwer, Jon McDonald. Front L to R: Collin Fry, Carl Forslund, Armand Merizon, Jim Markle

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Home run

Jim Abbott writes about his baseball career and his parents' love story

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Erica Jong, author of "Fear of Flying," has one piece of advice for a memoir writer: "Tell the truth." That's exactly what former professional baseball player and Flint native Jim Abbott has done in "Imperfect: An Improbable Life," about his career in baseball as a one-handed pitcher, who played eight years in the majors with four different teams, compiling an 87-108 win-loss record.

Abbott's emergence from Flint was a storybook tale, especially considering that he was born without a right hand. On a scholarship to the University of Michigan, he collected two Big 10 championships, a solid 26-8 record and won the Sullivan

Award for the best college athlete in 1987, the first baseball player to win the award. He then became a member of the triumphant U.S. Olympic Baseball Team, which won an unofficial Gold Medal in the 1988 Olympics (baseball was classified as a demonstration sport that year).

Drafted by the California Angels in 1988, Abbott began what appeared to be a stellar career, even logging a no-hitter against the Cleveland Indians in 1993. Then he lost his fast ball and bounced around several baseball teams. His fall from stardom matched his meteoric rise to fame.

Abbott, who is 44, has gone on to become a professional inspirational speaker — a term he says he abhors — admits the book was a catharsis for him in many ways.

"Parts of it were very hard; especially the professional disappointment," he said in a phone interview from his home in Newport Beach, Calif. "Writing about playing baseball and then not playing, after the role it played in my life — (that) was the hard part."

The first time Abbott watched a DVD of the 1993 no-hitter game happened when he and co-writer Tim Brown, a sportswriter for Yahoo! Sports, sat down to go over it play by play. The game is reviewed in detail in the book and it becomes a central focus for moving the story forward. But the real story is about the one played off-field.

Abbott writes that his success in baseball was of such importance that it "brought upon me a distorted view of winning and losing. It wasn't until I struggled that I came to understand its destructiveness."

The book is not just about a one-handed player making it to the big leagues and defying all odds. Abbott, in sometimes very emotional details, discusses his childhood and makes sure everyone knows who helped get him to the big leagues. "I benefitted greatly by the people who pulled me into the game," he said.



Courtesy Photo

Flint native Jim Abbott (seen here on a baseball card) was drafted by the California Angels in 1988.

That list includes his coaches, especially his Little League and high school coaches at Flint Central High School. The book is a refreshing look at the role his parents played in his maturation as a baseball player and as a person.

"I wasn't a kid who wanted to stick out," Abbott said. But stick out he did, even though he developed the habit of hiding his hand in a front pocket (something he couldn't do in a baseball uniform). He writes about some painful times, such as his first day in kindergarten when a classmate was repulsed by a hook prosthesis that Abbott quickly gave up.

He admits that even today strangers ask about the hand. Last year, while vacationing in northern Michigan and wading in Lake Michigan he recalls a woman yelling out to him, "What happened to your hand? War?"

"It doesn't bother me, but sometimes you can't articulate the way you feel," he said, "and (the feeling) never goes away."

He also writes tenderly about another

feeling that never goes away: his admiration for his parents. While writing the book he discovers a back story involving his parents, Mike and Kathy, who were high school sweethearts. His father was looking forward to a possible college football scholarship when Kathy, a college freshman, became pregnant.

Kathy was asked to leave her family home. She and Mike decided to get married, but had difficulty finding a Catholic priest to perform the ceremony. Finally, they were married two weeks after Jim was born.

The book then becomes their story.

"I didn't know a lot about their story until the book was written," Abbott said. "There was a lot of family history I wouldn't have known about and it only enhanced my admiration for them."

Abbott's parents' uncertain start didn't hold them back. Both Mike and Kathy finished college and went on to successful careers.

The book doesn't preach, but it is easy to pull from it some life lessons, including how to deal with bullying, being different and facing reality.

"The thing about a disability is, it's forever," Abbott writes. "And forever might not end but it has to begin somewhere."

"It's important to know about the things that make you feel bad," he said. "It doesn't make it easier, but it takes some of the power away from what can make you feel bad. I want people to read the book and to know they can write their own story, not bound by the circumstances you are born into or find yourself in."

Abbott has written one of the more engaging sports memoirs in a genre that is overrun by whining "me-me" books. It's not often that an athlete looks to Cormac McCarthy's "All the Pretty Horses" for inspiration: "Those that have endured some misfortune will always be set apart but that it is just that misfortune which is their gift and which is their strength."

Jim Abbott

Author of "Imperfect: An Improbable Life"
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AMY ALKON
adviceamy@aol.com

Q: When I married five years ago, I was on the fence about having kids. I thought some parental gene might kick in, but it never did. Now, at 40, I've accepted that a childless marriage is best for us, given my wife's fertility issues and my ambivalence about parenthood. My wife, however, sees no purpose to life without children. It upsets her to see me happy without kids while she pines for them. She is also upset that I won't try all possible alternatives, such as adoption and fertility treatments, and is generally angry and outright hostile toward me.

—Nobody's Dad

A: There are things it's okay to procrastinate on, like cleaning behind the toilet. If you're like me, as soon as you look back there and see new plant life cropping up (and, okay, maybe a woodpecker and a couple of deer), you break out the bleach and it's all good. But, procrastinate on figuring out whether to have a family? There you were: "Let's see, should we create another human being, spend 20-plus years and hundreds of thousands of dollars raising it? I dunno...let's just sign this contract to spend the rest of our lives together and figure it out later."

Chances are, you both had baby-related plots brewing in your heads. You maybe thought you'd ignore the issue and it might go away. Your wife maybe figured she'd get pregnant, you'd just have to go along, and the moment you saw the baby you'd melt into a loving father. But, whoops, fertility issues crept in. You can get accidentally pregnant, but you can't accidentally adopt a child, as in, you're driving along one day, glance into the back seat and notice a 6-year-old Romanian orphan coloring on the headrest.

Although you can't offer any solutions that work for your wife, you do see a number of alternatives that work for you: not having kids, having no kids, remaining childless. There is one other alternative: getting divorced so your

wife can try to find a man who's interested in being a dad...as dim a prospect as that may be for a fertility-challenged 40-year-old woman competing with pert-breasted, fertility-iconish 20-somethings. Obviously, this option is not exactly the fast track to happily ever after. Then again, that's probably not in the cards here unless you two can somehow find some wiggle room in how she "sees no purpose to life without children" and how you aren't up for adopting anything you can't pat on the head and leave tied to a chain-link fence.

Q: I recently married and should be bathed in newlywed bliss, but a rock star in a famous alternative band wants me to have an affair with him. I'm shocked and thrilled, to say the least. My conscience says, "Are you insane? You love your husband and chose him for a reason. Don't jeopardize that!" But I'm also hearing "You only live once, and thousands of women wish they had this guy's attention."

—Chosen

A: You said "I do," not "I'd do a rock star first chance I get." (If only you'd known you'd meet this guy, you could've asked your husband for the indie rock star exception to lifelong fidelity.) Yes, thrillingly, of all the hipster girls in black-rimmed glasses and earnest T-shirts worn ironically, he wants you. This says something about you — probably that you are conveniently located, reasonably attractive, and don't seem the type to poke holes in the condom. Wow. The romance.

You're buying into groupthink — the idea that you're somebody if you have sex with somebody famous. But, he's just a guy. He stinks up the bathroom same as any other guy. Okay, the fame fairy touched him with her magic wand. Maybe not because he's so much more talented than the next guy with a guitar but because he was in the right place at the right time with the right chin. If his gig were at the coffee shop instead of Coachella and his panting fans were his two dogs tied up outside,

would your panties still be flying off?

Remember that guy you stood next to in the big white dress? Weren't you two eventually supposed to be holding hands in twin rockers on the porch of the old folks home? If you're going to jeopardize everything you have with him, just be clear on what you could end up having and holding instead — a 50-year-old memory of some musician whispering those romantic words every woman longs to hear: "How 'bout we have sex for a couple hours and then I see if there are any other cute girls outside the tour bus?"

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



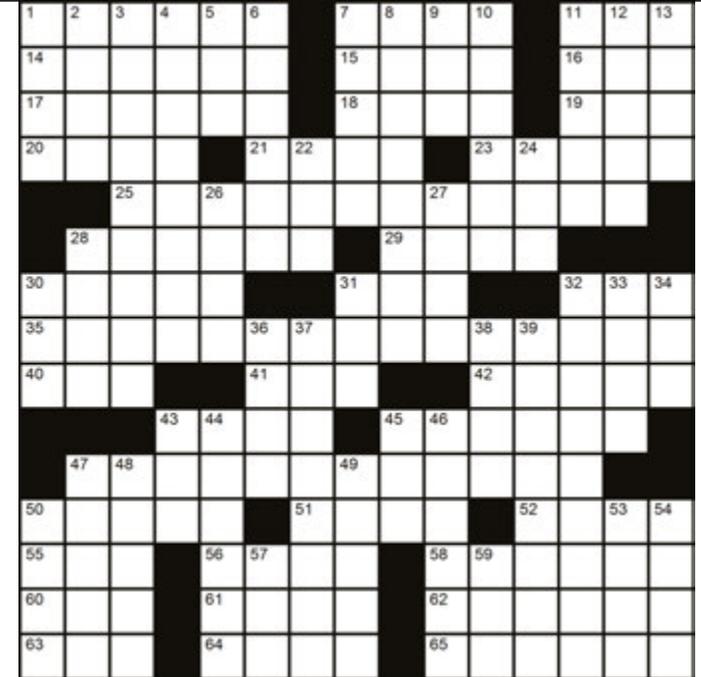
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Count On Us"—no matter where you are.
by Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Ukrainian port
- 7 They patrol Fisherman's Wharf, for short
- 11 Reason for an "R" rating
- 14 They're pairs of pairs of pairs
- 15 Nobelist Wiesel
- 16 It's hailed on the street
- 17 Japanese count of baseball hats?
- 18 Lady of a thousand looks?
- 19 Prefix meaning "egg"
- 20 Sans opposite
- 21 Express lane unit
- 23 Kitchen glove material
- 25 Spanish count for a chemist?
- 28 Give the appearance of
- 29 Salicylic acid target
- 30 Latissimus ___ (back muscle)
- 31 "___ Iron Man..."
- 32 Sony's ___-101 (first commercial compact disc player)
- 35 French count of superficial wounds?
- 40 They're in their last yr.
- 41 Loaf in a "Seinfeld" episode
- 42 "The King," in Cordoba
- 43 One side in an eternal battle
- 45 Hold in
- 47 German count of bottles under the kitchen sink?
- 50 Christina's panel-mate on "The Voice"
- 51 "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap" band
- 52 Places to check your balance
- 55 Broadway actress Salonga
- 56 "B.J. and the Bear" sheriff
- 58 Chinese count of a library item?
- 60 Pitcher's asset
- 61 Make ___ for it
- 62 Careless
- 63 Toady's response
- 64 Just meh
- 65 Finch relative named for its call



- 8 Vitriolic postings
- 9 Bacon source
- 10 Seller of cars
- 11 Stone Temple Pilots frontman Weiland
- 12 Places for Christmas lights
- 13 What the Kinect hooks up to
- 22 Formula One driver Fabi
- 24 Grasshopper's fable mate
- 26 Qatari ruler
- 27 "Whoa ___!"
- 28 Like grumpy expressions
- 30 Chain restaurants with soft-serve, for short
- 31 Winter walking hazard
- 32 Waltz on the big screen
- 33 Butter-loving TV chef Paula
- 34 ___-ops

- 36 McCormack of "Will & Grace"
- 37 Class outline
- 38 Head of the Seine?
- 39 Old-school actress known as the "It Girl"
- 43 Electrophorus electricus, for one
- 44 String section members
- 45 Totally awesome
- 46 Surround in a sac, in anatomy
- 47 Tractor man John
- 48 Stack by the copier
- 49 ___ Lodge
- 50 Art school material
- 53 Show gloominess
- 54 Cusack's "Say Anything" costar
- 57 Gold, in Mexico
- 59 UN body dealing with worker's rights

Down

- 1 Charlie Chaplin's wife
- 2 CCCII doubled
- 3 List-ending summarizers
- 4 "American Idol" guy
- 5 NASCAR-sponsoring additive
- 6 Help out
- 7 Jason of 2011's "The Muppets"

City Pulse Classifieds

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

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

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

OUT on the TOWN

Wednesday, May 2

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.

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

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

Beginner Genealogy Course. Kris Rzepczynski will explore key genealogy resources, including census records and more. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840. www.cadl.org.

EVENTS

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.

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

See Out on the Town, Page 22

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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.

MAY 3-5

Fresh from the kiln

Beginning Thursday, The Greater Lansing Potters' Guild, a nonprofit operating and dedicated to the art of ceramics since 1969, holds its spring sale. All Saints Episcopal Church will display hundreds of pots to choose from. Customers can select from a variety of stoneware and porcelain pottery, as well as functional, sculptural and decorative pieces. The semi-annual sale showcases the work of more than 30 potters, featuring pottery pieces created with firing techniques including raku, soda firing, low-fire salt firing and high-firing. 5:30-9 p.m. Thursday, May 3; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday, May 4; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, May 5. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. www.glp.org.



Courtesy Photo

MAY 3

Habitat Homes go green

Habitat for Humanity Lansing celebrates green development to create sustainable Habitat homes in Lansing. The event hopes to create awareness and educate community members on neighborhood revitalization, as well as the issues of affordable and sustainable housing. The land was purchased from the Ingham County Land Bank to be used for a four-house development. The homes will utilize green building techniques and materials and alternative energy options. "We are excited that several new sources of funding are coming together with long-time local supporters and volunteers to help us with this bring this project to life," said Denise Paquette, Habitat Lansing's executive director. 11 a.m. FREE. The event will be held at the vacant property at the end of Wayne Street, which is east off of Aurelius Road in Lansing. www.habitatlansing.org.

MAY 3

The doctor's in

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

MAY 5

Grand Ledge or the 19th Century?

Beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday, downtown Grand Ledge will take on the trappings of a quaint and bustling Victorian-inspired setting. The day starts with a bang — thanks to a Civil War firing demonstration — and continues with a variety of activities for all ages. Children can enjoy outdoor games such as a maypole dance, kite flying and a Teddy Bear Tea, which invite kids to dress their best and bring a favorite stuffed animal along. Other festivities available include a parade, a high tea, a Gilbert & Sullivan sing-a-long, a Dressing for the Day demonstration, a parlor game symposium and the 4th Annual Moustache Contest. Visitors can also take carriage rides and riverboat rides on the Grand Princess. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Downtown Grand Ledge, between South Bridge Street and Jefferson Street, Grand Ledge. To learn more about each event, visit www.victoriandays.org.



Courtesy Photo

TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA

ALTERNATIVE TENTACLES' BAND THRALL PLAYS MAC'S

Jello Biafra's Alternative Tentacles record label has released stacks of great albums from the likes of the Dead Kennedys (Biafra's band), The Butthole Surfers, The Dicks, The Melvins, even Noam Chomsky.

Another band on that impressive roster, Thrall, takes the stage Thursday at Mac's Bar, along with local openers Racket Ghost, Chaz Brackx & The Big Bucks and The Hunky Newcomers. Thrall, a Detroit-area band, is led by vocalist Mike Hard, a wild and eccentric frontman who's also known for his previous work in God Bullies and Hand Over Head. God Bullies formed in the mid-1980s and released material with Alternative Tentacles, Sympathy for the Record Industry, and Amphetamine Reptile Records. Since the mid-1990s Hard has primarily focused on Thrall, releasing albums on Reptilian Records and Alternative Tentacles. This Mac's Bar show also marks the debut of Racket Ghost, a Lansing-based lo-fi rock trio featuring vocalist/guitarist Benjamin Assaff, a former member of defunct area bands Dead Stream Corners and Space Brains Have Landed. Completing the Racket Ghost line-up are drummer Sarah Koliboski and bassist Corey Kellicut.

Thursday, May 3 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, 18 and over. \$10, 9 p.m.

NEVER SHOUT NEVER AT THE LOFT

Never Shout Never is an American rock band that initially started in 2007 as a one-man project from songwriter Christofer Drew (vocals/



Courtesy Photo

Thrall

guitar), a native of Joplin, Miss. Drew rose to fame by posting songs on MySpace (back when people still used it). Drew's original sound for the project had an emo/acoustic vibe, but the band's most recent Sire Records album, "Time Travel," went in a more experimental/psychedelic direction, complete with swirling synthesizers and some reverb. It was also the first album Drew recorded with a full band. Never Shout Never, which includes Taylor MacFee (bass), and Hayden Kaiser (drums, guitar), has released three albums and six EPs to date. The band's fourth album, "Good Times," is set to be released this fall. The band plays The Loft Tuesday, along with openers Koji (indie/punk from Harrisburg, Pa.), and Kurt Travis, the current singer of A Lot Like Birds and the ex-singer of Dance Gavin Dance. Rounding out the line-up is Bearcat, a Grand Rapids-based electro-rock band.

Tuesday May, 8 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, \$20 advance, \$25 at door, doors 6 p.m.

KINGS OF LEON-APPROVED INDIE-POP

Whether The Features are opening shows for their pals in Kings of Leon, taking the stage at Bonnaroo or going on an indie DIY tour, the Nashville-based band hasn't slowed down since it formed in 1994. Fans of the Manchester



Courtesy Photo

The Features

Orchestra may dig the band's indie-pop-rock sound. On May 9, the band stops at Mac's Bar. Opening the gig is local rockers The Hat Madder. The Features' latest LP, "Wilderness," includes tunes like "Another One" and "Fats Domino," showcasing the band's ability to mix pop ingenuity with vivid lyrics, catchy hooks, and experimental soul. "I feel like we walk this fine line," said singer/guitarist Matt Pelham. "We're not weird enough for a certain crowd and we're a little bit too out there for the other crowd." Nevertheless, the band caught the attention of the members of Kings of Leon; they signed The Features to its own label, Serpents & Snakes, back in 2009.

Wednesday, May 9 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, all ages. \$10 advance, \$12 at door, 7 p.m.

UPCOMING SHOW?

POST IT AT

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ULI'S HAUS OF ROCK

THURSDAY, MAY 3
HAL SPARKS W/ ZERO1 AND GUESTS

FRIDAY, MAY 4
ULI'S BIRTHDAY PARTY
BOBAFLEX DEVERAUX AND GUESTS

SATURDAY, OCT. 22
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LIVE AND LOCAL

621, 621 E. Michigan Ave.
Connxtions Comedy Club 2900 N. East St.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Jr. Blvd.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.
The Firm, 227 S. Washington Square
Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.
Rick's American Cafe, 224 Abbott Road
Rookies, 16460 S. US 27
Rum Runners, 601 East Michigan Ave.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.
Uli's Haus of Rock, 4519 S Martin Luther King Jr.

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

WEDNESDAY

Phil Denny, 8 p.m.
Comedy Open Mic, 8 p.m.
Cloud Magic, 10 p.m.
Driver & Rider Show, 7 p.m.
The Burnsides, 9:30 p.m.
Glitter Magik & DJ Sammy, 9 p.m.
Rob Kladja Open Mic, 9 p.m.
DJ Dan, 10:30 p.m.
Sea Cruisers, 7-10 p.m.
Open Mic Night, 9 p.m.
DJ, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

Ray Potter, 8 p.m.
Mark Poolos, 8 p.m.
DJ, 9 p.m.
Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Tryst Thursdays, 8:30 p.m.
DnW Sound DJs, 9 p.m.
Kathy Ford Band, 7:30 p.m.
Life Support, 9:30 p.m.
Here Come the Mummies, 8 p.m.
Thrall, 9 p.m.
ICE DJs, 10:30 p.m.
Water Pong DJ with Ryan, 9 p.m.
Dueling Pianos & DJ, 9 p.m.
Frog & the Beeftones, 9 p.m.
DJ, 9 p.m.
Hal Sparks, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY

DJ Moe, 9 p.m.
Mark Poolos, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.
Homespun, 9 p.m.
Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Various DJs, 9 p.m.
Karaoke with Joanie Daniels, 7 p.m.
Starfarm, 9:30 p.m.
Frontier Ruckus, 7 p.m.
Thick as Thieves, 9 p.m.
JY.D. Band, 10:30 p.m.
Karaoke with Bob, 9 p.m.
Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.
Capital City Band, 9 p.m.
Still Rain, 9 p.m.
Bobaflex & Burning Angel, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

DJ Leeky, 9 p.m.
Mark Poolos, 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.
Homespun, 9 p.m.
Karaoke, 9 p.m.
DJ Donnie D, 9 p.m.
Gold Rush, 8 p.m.
Starfarm, 9:30 p.m.
Corpus Christi, 5 p.m.
Lincoln County Process, 10 p.m.
JY.D. Band, 10:30 p.m.
Karaoke with Bob, 9 p.m.
Dueling Pianos & DJ, 7 p.m.
Capital City Band, 9 p.m.
Still Rain, 9 p.m.
Eye Empire, 10 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.

Out on the town

from page 20

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.

"Happy Feet Two." Celebration Cinema Lansing, 200 E. Edgewood Blvd., Lansing. Call for showtimes, \$4 adults, FREE for kids.

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

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

Lansing Walkability. Join Mid-MEAC for an orientation session for new and returning volunteers. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. www.midmeac.org.

MUSIC

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

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

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

THEATER

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

LITERATURE AND POETRY

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

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

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

Thursday, May 3

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

DIY Home Maintenance. On faucet repair and replacement. 6 p.m. FREE. Lowe's, S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980.

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

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

Farm to Table. On time-tested seed saving and preservation techniques, using rain barrels and more. 6:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Webberville Library, 115 S. Main St., Webberville. (517) 521-3643.

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

Teen Gaming. 5th grade and up can play Wii games, board games and more. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

Estate Planning. Avoiding the possible expense and delay of probate. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Lexington Lansing Hotel, 925 S. Creyts Road, Lansing. (517) 323-7100. jcn@thegallagherlawfirm.com.

Identity Theft. Learn what you should do if you become a victim of identity theft. 7 p.m. FREE. Dewitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156. www.dewittlibrary.org.

EVENTS

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

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

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

Mid-day Movies. Watch recent releases on the big screen. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363. www.cadl.org.

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

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

Bananagrams Night. Play the hot new timed word game. 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 2820

Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495. www.schulerbooks.com.

"Happy Feet Two." Celebration Cinema Lansing, \$4 adults, FREE for kids. (Please See Details May 2)

Greater Lansing Potters' Guild Show. Semi-annual sale showcases the work of more than 30 artists. 5:30-9 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 337-1222.

Creating Sustainable Habitat Homes. This development will utilize green building techniques and materials and alternative energy options. 11 a.m. FREE. Vacant property at end of Wayne Street, east off of Aurelius Road, Lansing. (517) 290-0258.

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.

Here Come The Mummies. Funk, R&B. 8 p.m. \$28. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. www.theloftlansing.com.

CMS Suzuki Concert. Live music. 5:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841 Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. www.cms.msu.edu.

Swingin' with the Be-Bop Spartans. With Grammy winner and renowned jazz saxophonist Branford Marsalis. 7:30 p.m. \$20, \$18 seniors, \$10 students. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON. www.whartoncenter.com.

Ray Townsend. 8 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. (517) 321-0616.

Jerry Sprague. Live music. 8 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-7366.

Cheap Dates. Live music. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. FREE. Dublin Square Patio, 327 Abbott Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2222. www.dublinsquare.net.

Gabe James. 7-11 p.m. FREE. Ryan's Roadhouse, 902 E. State St., St. Johns. (989) 224-2550.

Rush Clement. 7-11 p.m. FREE. Mark's Watershed, 5965 Marsh Road, Haslett. (517) 999-7433.

THEATER

"Anything Goes." A farce set below decks on an ocean liner, the S.S. American, bound for London. 5:30 p.m. \$10, \$5 students and seniors. Okemos High School, 2500 Jolly Road, Okemos.

"Ruined." Congo brothel owner Mama Nadi tries to avoid the conflicts and horror outside of her door. 8 p.m. \$15, \$10 students & seniors. Curry Street Theatre, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. www.peppermintcreek.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Anthony Youn, M.D. Author of the memoir, 'In Stitches.' 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Beth Neff. Author of "Getting Somewhere.", 6 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495.

Friday, May 4

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.

Cork and Canvas. An instructional art class. We provide the canvas, paint and instruction. You are welcome to bring a beverage. 6-8:30 p.m. \$25. 1210 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 999-1212.

Ageless Grace. Learn different anti-aging techniques: joint mobility, cognitive function, balance, and more. Noon-12:30 p.m. 3 sessions for \$21. Creative Wellness, 2025 Abbot Road, # 200, East Lansing. (517) 351-9240. www.creativewellness.net.

Mighty Uke Day. "Mighty Uke" movie, concerts, workshops and more. (See Page 13.) 10 a.m.-midnight.

\$12 movie, \$18 concert, \$25 for both. Old Town, Grand River Ave. and Turner St., Lansing. (517) 485-4283. Visit www.mightyukeday.com for schedule.

Michigan Water Color Exhibition. A Lecture by juror George James with original artworks by residents of Michigan. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Lansing Art Gallery, 119 N. Washington Square Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 374-6400. lansingartgallery.org.

EVENTS

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.

Alcoholics Anonymous. Open meeting for family and friends with American Sign Language interpretation. 8 p.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 S. Howard St., Lansing. (517) 482-8957.

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

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

Greater Lansing Potters' Guild Show. 9 a.m.-9 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details May 3)

Fiber Artists Show. Artists will demonstrate, display and sell their work. 4-9 p.m. FREE. Downtown Williamston, Grand River Ave., Williamston. (517) 655-1549. info@williamston.org.

Musical Extravaganza. Featuring MSU students John Rieson and Schyler Sheltroun. 7 p.m. FREE. Grace United Methodist, 1900 Boston Blvd., Lansing. (517) 482-5750. www.lansinggrace.com.

Lansing First Fridays. Find restaurants and bars with unique specials, shops and galleries with extended hours. Noon. Downtown Lansing, Washington Square between Michigan and Washtenaw Avenues, Lansing. www.lansingfirstfridays.com.

MUSIC

Frontier Ruckus. Bluegrass, indie, folk music. 7 p.m. \$10 advance, \$12 door. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. www.theloftlansing.com.

Uptown. 8 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing. (517) 321-0616.

Bobby Jimenez. 8 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett. (517) 339-4900.

Ashley Batton. Live music. Noon-2 p.m. FREE. Potbelly's Sandwich Shop, 233 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 203-4278.

Chip Christy. 5-7 p.m. FREE. Potbelly's Sandwich Shop, 233 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 203-4278.

Mark Andrasko. Live music. 8 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-7366.

Big Willie. Live music. 8 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-7366.

Rory Miller. 9:30 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Courthouse Pub, 160 W. Maple St., Mason. (517) 676-6941.

Scott Seth. 8 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett. (517) 339-4900.

THEATER

"Copenhagen." The memories of Heisenberg, Bohr and Bohr's wife, Margrethe, collide and change. 8 p.m. \$13, \$11 student or senior. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700.

"Ruined." 8 p.m. \$15, \$10 students and seniors. (Please See Details May 3)

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.

ERASER-FREE SUDOKU

HARD

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TO PLAY

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

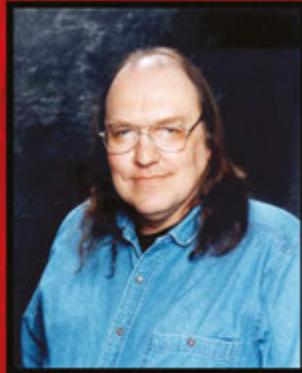
To avoid erasing, pencil in your possible answers in the scratchpad space beneath the short line in each vacant square. For solving tips, visit www.SundayCrosswords.com

Answers on page 25

City Pulse Newsmakers



Hosted by
Berl Schwartz



Comcast Channel 16
Lansing

11 & 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, May 6
(Part II)

Comcast Channel 30
Meridian Township

11:30 a.m. & 11:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 6
(Part I)

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

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

Watch past episodes at vimeo.com/channels/citypulse

LANSING'S PREMIER PLANT SUPPLIER!

Cottage Gardens, a Lansing Landmark

Since 1923, Cottage Gardens is a company still standing strong and proud located in South Lansing at 2611 South Waverly Highway. Stroll through colorful and fragrant shrubs and perennials or browse through numerous varieties of large ornamental trees. With the addition of bulk mulch, horticulture reference books, & unique decorative gardens accessories, Cottage Gardens embarks on helping the professional landscaper or homeowner embrace the beauty & joy that surrounds gardening

Stop in and see us!

Monday–Friday 7:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sat. 7:30 a.m.–Noon



At Cottage Gardens you'll find

- wholesale & retail ornamental trees, shrubs & perennials
- decorative benches
- unique garden statuary & ornaments
- horticulture reference books
- bulk hardwood, brown & red mulch



Cottage Gardens, A Tradition of Quality Since 1923
2611 S. Waverly Hwy., just south of I-96
517.882.5728 | lsenkowicz@cottagegardeninc.com
visit cottagegardenslansing.com or getdrttygardening.com today!

NEW IN TOWN » Aggie Mae's Bakery



Joe Torok/City Pulse

Sweets are always on display at Aggie Mae's Bakery in Old Town.

By Joe Torok

Old Town just keeps getting sweeter. In March, Neva Austin, proprietor of breads, pastries, cakes and all things irresistible, opened a new, stand-alone location of her Aggie Mae's Bakery on Grand River Avenue.

"This community has been really encouraging," Austin said. "We think we bring something unique to Old Town."

The Old Town location, just a few miles away from Aggie Mae's spot in the Lansing City Market, affords the bakery an opportunity to run a second kitchen. Although the kinks are still being ironed out after the recent move, Austin says she plans to take advantage of the extra space.

"By moving our bakery production to Old Town, we can dedicate this market space to gluten-free products and avoid

any chance of cross contamination," Austin said.

The new location is intimate, with seating for just over a half-dozen. It has maple floors, pretty display cases, jars of cookies and platters of scones, and it fits right



into the neighborhood's art-without-pretension ethos.

"It's classic Old Town," Austin said, adding that the new location feels just like home. "It's a good blend for us."

In its new digs, Aggie Mae's is dishing up made-to-order sandwiches with Boar's Head brand meats and cheeses, hand-formed breads and colorful pastries. The Old Town spot also has a full espresso and coffee bar.

The catering orders have picked up, too. "That's one thing that's been really great: catering business lunches," Austin said.

The not-so-secret key to Aggie Mae's growth is a resolute attention to quality. Austin says her ingredients are as natural as possible and that's where it all starts — but she stakes Aggie Mae's reputation on high-quality service and presentation as well, noting that we eat with our eyes before we taste a thing. Customers can expect more of the same in Old Town.

"It's absolutely beautiful here," Austin said of her new location.

Aggie Mae's Bakery

317 E. Grand River Ave.,
Lansing
7 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday
7 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday
Closed Sunday
(517) 214-2765

CAPITOL Macintosh
Authorized Warranty Service
1915 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing, MI 48912
(517) 351-9339 www.capmac.net
info@capmac.net

Out on the town

from page 22

Saturday, May 5

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Relics of the Big Bang. 8 p.m. \$3, \$2.50 student-sandseniors, \$2 kids. (Please See Details May 4)

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 basics of homebrewing from local brewer Matt Jason. 2 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

Children's Music Workshop. 10:30 a.m. \$10. Our Dance Studio, 3543 Jefferson Hwy., Grand Ledge. (517) 505-0742. www.youngmindsmusic.com.

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

EVENTS

Salsa Dancing. DJ Adrian "Ace" Lopez hosts weekly salsa event. Singles welcome. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$5. Gregory's Bar & Grille, 2510 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 323-7122.

Victorian Day. Kids can enjoy kite flying and other outdoor games. With high tea, a Gilbert & Sullivan sing-a-long; a Victorian mass and more. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. Downtown Grand Ledge, Bridge Street, Grand Ledge. (517) 676-1589. www.victoriandays.org.

Ring Kings: Mayweather vs. Cotto Fight Live. Boxing superstar Floyd "Money" Mayweather vs. World Champion Miguel Cotto. 9 p.m. Price varies. Celebration Cinema, 200 E. Edgewood Blvd., Lansing. www.fathomevents.com.

Greater Lansing Potters' Guild Show. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. (Please See Details May 3)

Native Plants. Discover the value and versatility of our native Michigan plants, available for purchase. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Price varies. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

29th Annual Spring Fling Weekend. Come out and meet your neighbors and participate in activities. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. FREE. Downtown Mason,

Mason. (517) 676-1046.

Spring Fling. Salad Bar Luncheon and Program. Noreen Midgley, presenter. Noon, \$10. Lansing Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-9477.

Meridian Historical Village. The village buildings will open for the 2012 season. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Meridian Historical Village, 5113 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 347-7300.

Adopt-a-River Clean Up. Help clean up the Lansing River Trail and do a special beautification project. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 485-8116.

Meridian Township Farmers Market. Accepting the MI Bridge Card, and credit cards. 8 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Meridian Township Farmers Market, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 712-2395.

Fiber Artists Show. Artists will demonstrate, display and sell their work. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Downtown Williamston, Grand River Ave., Williamston. (517) 655-1549. info@williamston.org.

MUSIC

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

CMS Suzuki Piano Recital. Come watch live music. Noon-3 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841 Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

Avon Bomb. Live music. 9 p.m. FREE. The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 319-4500. www.lansingexchange.com.

Contra and Square Dance. All dances taught; no partner needed. 8 p.m. \$9, \$8 members, \$4 students. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. www.tenpoundfiddle.org.

THEATER

"Copenhagen." 8 p.m. \$13, \$11 student or senior. (Please See Details May 4)

"Anything Goes." 7:30 p.m. \$10, \$5 students and seniors. (Please See Details May 3)

"Ruined." 8 p.m. \$15, \$10 students and seniors. (Please See Details May 3)

Sunday, May 6

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 May 4)

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

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

Genesee Gardens Cohousing Tour. Check out cohousing community and the efforts to create a sustainable lifestyle. 3 p.m. FREE. 804 Bancroft Ct., Lansing. (517) 203-8937. www.ggcohousing@gmail.com.

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.

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

Relay For Life. Help raise money to fight back against cancer. 9 a.m. \$10 before, \$20 day of. Hawk Island County Park, E. Cavanaugh Road, Lansing. (517) 676-2233. www.relayforlife.org/LansingMI.

5k Walk/Run. To benefit this year's American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Lansing. 8 a.m. \$20. Hawk Hollow Golf Course, 15101 Chandler Road, Bath. (517) 641-4295. www.relayforlife.org/LansingMI.

MUSIC

CMS Suzuki Graduation Recital. Live music. 3 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 841 Timberlane St., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661. cms.msu.edu.

The Shiawassee Chamber Orchestra. Program includes: Outdoor Overture, Copeland; Symphony NO. 5, Beethoven and more. 4 p.m. \$6, \$5 seniors, FREE students. Owosso Middle School, 219 Water St., Owosso.

The Renaissance Singers & the MSU Russian Chorus. Present a joint concert, featuring 500 years of choral music. 7 p.m. FREE. Emanuel Lutheran Church, 1001 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 646-9626.

THEATER

"Copenhagen." 2 p.m. \$13, \$11 student or senior. (Please See Details May 4)

Monday, May 7

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.

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.

Artist Talk & Performance. Austin Kleon

presents his creativity manifesto, "Steal Like an Artist." 7 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495. www.schulerbooks.com.

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

MUSIC

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

Tuesday, May 8

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.

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

Seeking Safety: Learn Skills to Cope. A class series practice skills and learn about new resources. 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. Justice in Mental Health, 520 Cherry St., Lansing. (517) 887-4586.

Speakeasies Toastmasters. Become a better speaker. 12:05-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Bldg., 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. 1926. toastmastersclubs.org.

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

Estate Planning. Gain control of affairs-avoiding the possible expense and delay of probate. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Comfort Inn, 2187 University Park Drive, Okemos. (517) 347-6690.

Solving the Hormone Puzzle. With Dr. David Pawsat on PMS, menopause, male hormone insufficiency and the effects of hormone imbalance. 6 p.m. FREE. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. www.cfohealth.com.

EVENTS

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.

MAY 13
MOTHER'S DAY
SPAGHETTI LUNCH



AT:
Central United Methodist Church
215 N. Capitol Ave. in downtown Lansing

LUNCH INCLUDES:
Spaghetti (secret family recipe)
Homemade bread sticks
Dessert & beverage

ALL FOR:
\$7 adults; \$5 children under 12; \$20 family

TWO SETTINGS:
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Out on the town

from page 24

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

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.

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.

Never Shout Never. Pop. 6 p.m. \$25. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. www.theloftlansing.com.

Wednesday, May 9

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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.

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.

Farm to Table: Beginning Canning. Learn to can safely and several canning methods. 6 p.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

"The Writings of Paul." Interpolations that express more anti-feminist views than Paul actually held. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-7434.

EVENTS

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.

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

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

Youth Service Corps. East side youth grow food, 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.

Summer Circle Theatre Benefit. Hors d'oeuvres, wine, silent auction, music and preview student performances. 6-9 p.m. \$40. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 355-6690.

MUSIC

Trevor Compton. 7-11 p.m. FREE. Mark's Watershed, 5965 Marsh Road, Haslett. (517) 999-7433.

Nick Chase. Karaoke. 8 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Leo's Spirits & Grub, 2085 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. (517) 349-1100.

Karaoke by Ryan. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. Leo's Outpost, 600 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-7755.

Mike Vial. 8 p.m.-Midnight. FREE. Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Road, Haslett. (517) 339-4900.

Don Middlebrook. Live music. 6-10 p.m. FREE. Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-7366.

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

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

The Features. Rock, alternative, indie music. 7 p.m. \$10. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795. www.macsbars.com.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Found Poetry Open Mike. Share a scrap of song, a sign, a paragraph from a letter, read aloud. 7:30 p.m. \$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.

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsny

May 2-8

ARIES (March 21-April 19): On the one hand, you're facing a sticky dilemma that you may never be able to change no matter how hard you try. On the other hand, you are engaged with an interesting challenge that may very well be possible to resolve. Do you know which is which? Now would be an excellent time to make sure you do. It would be foolish to keep working on untying a hopelessly twisted knot when there is another puzzle that will respond to your love and intelligence. Go where you're wanted.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): From an astrological perspective, it's the New Year season; you're beginning a fresh cycle. How would you like to celebrate? You could make a few resolutions — maybe pledge to wean yourself from a wasteful habit or self-sabotaging vice. You could also invite the universe to show you what you don't even realize you need to know. What might also be interesting would be to compose a list of the good habits you will promise to cultivate, and the ingenious breakthroughs you will work toward, and the shiny yet gritty dreams you will court and woo.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "My father-in-law was convinced that his sheepdogs picked up his thoughts telepathically," writes Richard Webster in his article "Psychic Animals." "He needed only to think what he wanted his dogs to do, and they would immediately do it. He had to be careful not to think too far ahead, as his dogs would act on the thought he was thinking at the time." To this I'd add that there is a wealth of other anecdotal evidence, as well as some scientific research, suggesting that dogs respond to unspoken commands. I happen to believe that the human animal is also capable of picking up thoughts that aren't said aloud. And I suspect that you're in a phase when it will be especially important to take that into account. Be discerning about what you imagine, because it could end up in the mind of someone you know!

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your right brain and left brain have rarely been on such close speaking terms as they are right now. Your genitals and your heart seem to be in a good collaborative groove as well. Even your past and your future are mostly in agreement about how you should proceed in the present. To what do we owe the pleasure of this rather dramatic movement toward integration? Here's one theory: You're being rewarded for the hard work you have done to take good care of yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A South African biologist was intrigued to discover an interesting fact about the rodent known as the elephant shrew: It much prefers to slurp the nectar of pagoda lilies than to nibble on peanut butter mixed with apples and rolled oats. The biologist didn't investigate whether mountain goats would rather eat grasses and rushes than ice cream sundaes or whether lions like fresh-killed antelopes better than Caesar salad, but I'm pretty sure they do. In a related subject, Leo, I hope that in the coming weeks you will seek to feed yourself exclusively with the images, sounds, stories, and food that truly satisfy your primal hunger rather than the stuff that other people like or think you should like.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): There are only a very few people whose ancestors were not immigrants. They live in Africa, where homo sapiens got its start. As for the rest of us, our forbears wandered away from their original home and spread out over the rest of the planet. We all came from somewhere else! This is true on many other levels, as well. In accordance with the astrological omens, I invite you Virgos to get in touch with your inner immigrant this week. It's an excellent time to acknowledge and celebrate the fact that you are nowhere near where you started from, whether you gauge that psychologically, spiritually, or literally.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "When I'm good, I'm very good," said Hollywood's original siren, Mae West, "but when I'm bad I'm better." I think that assertion might at times make sense coming out of your lips in the next two weeks. But I'd like to offer a variation that could also serve you well. It's articulated by my reader Sarah Edelman, who says, "When I'm good, I'm very good, but when I'm batty, I'm better." Consider trying out both of these attitudes, Libra, as you navigate your way through the mysterious and sometimes unruly fun that's headed your way.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The *Weekly World News*, my favorite source of fake news, reported on a major development in the art world: An archaeologist found the lost arms of the famous Venus de Milo statue. They were languishing in a cellar in Southern Croatia. Hallelujah! Since her discovery in 1820, the goddess of love and beauty has been incomplete. Will the Louvre Museum in Paris, where she is displayed, allow her to be joined by her original appendages and made whole again? Let's not concern ourselves now with that question. Instead, please turn your attention to a more immediate concern: the strong possibility that you will soon experience a comparable development, the rediscovery of and reunification with a missing part of you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Seventeenth-century physicians sometimes advised their patients to consume tobacco as a way to alleviate a number of different maladies, from toothaches to arthritis. A few doctors continued recommending cigarettes as health aids into the 1950s. This bit of history may be useful to keep in mind, Sagittarius. You're in a phase when you're likely to have success in hunting down remedies for complaints of both a physical and psychological nature. But you should be cautious about relying on conventional wisdom, just in case some of it resembles the idea that cigarettes are good for you. And always double check to make sure that the cures aren't worse than what they are supposed to fix.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Outer space isn't really that far away. As astronomer Fred Hoyle used to say, you'd get there in an hour if you could drive a car straight up. I think there's a comparable situation in your own life, Capricorn. You've got an inflated notion of how distant a certain goal is, and that's inhibiting you from getting totally serious about achieving it. I'm not saying that the destination would be a breeze to get to. My point is that it's closer than it seems.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): When most Westerners hear the word "milk," they surmise it has something to do with cows. But the fact is that humans drink milk collected from sheep, goats, camels, yaks, mares, llamas, and reindeer. And many grocery stores now stock milk made from soybeans, rice, almonds, coconut, hemp, and oats. I'm wondering if maybe it's a good time for you to initiate a comparable diversification, Aquarius. You shouldn't necessarily give up the primal sources of nourishment you have been depending on. Just consider the possibility that it might be fun and healthy for you to seek sustenance from some unconventional or unexpected sources.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You wouldn't want to play a game of darts with an inflatable dartboard, right? If you were a smoker, you'd have little interest in a fireproof cigarette. And while a mesh umbrella might look stylish, you wouldn't be foolish enough to expect it to keep the rain out. In the spirit of these truisms, Pisces, I suggest you closely examine any strategy you're considering to see if it has a built-in contradiction. Certain ideas being presented to you — perhaps even arising from your own subconscious mind — may be inherently impractical to use in the real world.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 22

5	9	4	2	1	7	3	6	8
1	8	3	6	9	5	2	7	4
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4	1	8	7	3	2	5	9	6
3	7	6	4	5	9	8	1	2
9	2	5	1	8	6	7	4	3

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 19

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Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsny's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 1-877-873-4888 or 1-900-950-7700.

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The road less traveled



You won't regret getting caught in the new Northern Leelanau County Wine Loop

By MICHAEL BRENTON

The familiar “M-22” diamond-shaped sign appearing in hundreds of car windows seems to be as ubiquitous as “My child is an honor student at ...” bumper stickers. Highway M-22 is a wonderfully scenic road that wraps around the perimeter of the Leelanau Peninsula, showcasing picturesque vistas of Grand Traverse Bay, neighboring Old Mission Peninsula, islands and verdant vineyards as it darts through historic villages, such as Suttons Bay and Leland.

Apparently, many Leelanau wine country visitors who start their tasting day with lofty goals of touring most of the wineries on the peninsula never make it to the northern reaches. Enter the newly formed alliance of wineries north of M-204 and encircled on the other three sides by M-22. Dubbed the Northern Leelanau County Wine Loop, member producers include (in order on the “loop”) Tandem Ciders, Raftshol Vineyards, Silver Leaf Vineyard, Leelanau Cellars, Good Neighbor Organic Winery, Gill's Pier Vineyard and Winery, Verterra Winery, Boathouse Vineyards, Forty-Five North Vineyard and Winery and Circa Estate Winery.

The organization recently decided to host its first formal competitive judging of wines made by its members. When asked to participate, I couldn't resist.

A consortium of 12 wine writers, sommeliers, restaurateurs, wine retailers and wine wholesalers descended upon the Bluebird Restaurant in Leland, across the street from the Verterra tasting room. We were presented with an eclectic assort-

ment of 29 wines and ciders from the 10 member producers. The purpose was not only to recognize excellence, but to provide valuable feedback to winemakers and cider producers regarding what worked. The winery business is, after all, a never-ending process of creative experimentation while learning the intricacies of the land's bounty. The hits outweighed the misses.

My table of four judges easily reached agreement as to our top 10, which closely aligned with the top 10 selected by the collective votes of all 12 judges. Tasting notes with judges' comments were all turned in for evaluation by the producers (hence no detailed tasting notes for this column), but the collective votes may be instructive for wine country touring, sampling and purchasing decisions.

The winners? Leelanau Cellars 2011 Pinot Grigio (barely off dry), Verterra 2011 Gewurztraminer (a kiss of sweetness rounding out the mouth feel), Forty Five North 2010 Chardonnay (I'm not usually a fan of Chard with a bit of residual sweetness, but this one worked), Verterra 2011 Pinot Noir Rosé (a strawberry fiesta), Forty Five North Cab Franc Rosé (for those who like just a bit more sweetness in their rosé), Gill's Pier 2010 Cabernet Franc/Merlot (doubters of Michigan red wines must try this wine), Boathouse 2010 Boathouse Red proprietary blend (see previous comment), Gill's Pier 2011 Riesling (just off dry and wonderful mouth feel), Verterra 2011 Chaos (a chaotic and eclectic blend with just enough sweetness to be a crowd-pleaser) and Tandem Cellars Smackintosh

See Uncorked, Page 27



Michael Brenton/City Pulse

Good Neighbor Organic Winery of Leelanau has been selling organic wines since 2007; its drinks include Good Neighbor Organic Icy Apple Blend, Good Neighbor Apple Crisp Hard Cider and Good Neighbor Chocolate Cherry Hard Cider.

foodfinder

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

CASUAL DINING

DIMITRI'S — The former stalwart of downtown Lansing now serves Delta Township with a full dinner menu along with familiar Coney dogs, burgers and fries. 6334 W. Saginaw, Lansing. 7 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday. (517) 323-6867; TO

EL BURRITO — A cozy, authentic taqueria offering homemade Mexican cooking and baked goods. Try a lunch special entrée that comes with rice and beans, or fill a taco with marinated pork, beef tongue, chicken or a number of other meats. 5920 S. Cedar St., Lansing. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday.

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FISH & CHIPS — Serving fish, fries and more for almost 40 years. 2418 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Sunday. (517) 487-5774. TO, P, \$

GRACIE'S PLACE — Outstanding dishes

abound at this classy, cozy restaurant in downtown Williamston. See full review at tinyurl.com/CPGracies. 151 S. Putnam St., Williamston. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday-Wednesday; 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; Closed Sunday. (517) 655-1100. www.gracies-placebistro.com BW, TO, RES, P, WiFi, \$\$

Average price per person, not including drinks:

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

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

Uncorked

from page 26

hard cider (5 percent residual sugar nicely balanced with tart apple acidity).

Additional favorites from my judging table included Raftshol 2011 Gewurztraminer (dry), Boathouse 2010 Dry Riesling (a little flavor explosion across the palate), Leelanau Cellars 2009 Chardonnay, Good Neighbor Organic Icy Apple Blend, Tandem Ciders Pomona and Good Neighbor Chocolate Cherry Hard Cider.

The following day, an assortment of judges traveled via shuttle to visit all the wineries to find more noteworthy juice. Some voted with their pocketbooks. Judge Lance Climie, proprietor of Reds on the River in Rockford, picked up Leelanau Cellars 2009 Reserve Chardonnay, Boathouse 2010 Riesling, Boathouse 2010 Pinot Grigio, 2010 Boathouse Red and Silver Leaf Winery 2010 Chardonnay. My pocketbook opened for Verterra 2010 Unwooded Chardonnay and 2011 Pinot Blanc (if you haven't yet sampled Pinot Blanc this is a must-try). Hard cider fans shouldn't miss the opportunity to stop at Good Neighbor and Tandem: Both feature an array of distinctly unique ciders varying in flavor profiles and sweetness.

Other notable wines from the Saturday tour included a 2011 Circa Mosaic (a concentrated blend made with partially dried grapes) and a tank sample of 2011 Circa Pinot Grigio (crisp and concentrated fruit), 45 North Peach Cremant (a quaffable sparkler juiced up with 25 percent Peach juice), Silver Leaf Chafia Cherry (a tasty blend of 65 percent Balaton and 35 percent

Montmorency cherries), Gill's Pier 2008 Merlot and 2010 Cabernet Franc/Merlot, and an array of wines from the brand-new tasting room of Boathouse Vineyards in downtown Lake Leelanau. As Michigan's newest tasting room, the Boathouse has come roaring out of the gates with a nice assortment of wines and a picturesque setting on the edge of Lake Leelanau.

For more details about the Northern Wine Loop, check out its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/NorthernWineLoop. Also, fellow Judges Shannon and Cortney Casey of www.michiganbythebottle.com prepared a great video featuring the winery visits that can be seen on YouTube by searching "Northern Wine Loop Recap."

Find more information about all the Leelanau Peninsula wineries at www.LPWines.com. Happy touring.

In Vino Veritas

(Michael Brenton is president of the Greater Lansing Vintners Club. His column appears monthly.)

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