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Andy Schor

CityPULSE

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION FOR THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2017 ELECTION

To the qualified electors of the City of Lansing

Please take notice that the City of Lansing will hold an election on November 7, 2017.

Monday, October 10, 2017 is the last day to register in order to be eligible to vote at the November 7, 2017 Election. Any qualified elector who is not already registered to vote may register for the November 7, 2017 Election. Persons registering after Monday, October 10, 2017, are not eligible to vote at this election.

For the purpose of electing candidates to the following offices:

City: Mayor, Clerk, Council Member At Large (2), Council Member Ward 2, Council Member Ward 4

For the purpose of voting on the following proposals:

City: Sale or Disposition of Cooley-Haze House with Historic Preservation Covenant

Ingham County: Establishing Separate Tax Limitations for Ingham County, the Townships, and the Intermediate School District

Eaton County: 911 Surcharge

Eligible persons may register to vote, change their voter registration address or change their name in any of the following ways:

- **In Person** - At your county clerk's office; the **Lansing City Clerk's Office (124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933, (517) 483-4133)**; any Secretary of State Branch office; designated agencies administered under the Department of Human Services, the Department of Community Health, and the Department of Labor and Economic Growth; or military recruitment offices.
- **By Mail** - By submitting a mail-in voter registration application to the Lansing City Clerk (124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933) or your county clerk.
- **Online** - Voter registration addresses may be changed with a driver's license or personal I.D. number at www.expressSOS.com.

Chris Swope, CMMC/CMC
Lansing City Clerk

#CP17-244

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, October 23, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

Renaming portions of East Grand River Avenue and West Grand River Avenue to César E. Chávez Ave. Specifically, the application requests that East Grand River Avenue commencing at Oakland Avenue and ending at Washington Avenue and West Grand River Avenue commencing at Washington Avenue and ending at Pine Street be renamed César E. Chávez Avenue.

For more information please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on Monday, October 23 at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
CP#17-247

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS East Lansing Historic District Commission

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Historic District Commission on **October 12, 2017** at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Marcella Fox-Brown, for the property at 627 Evergreen Avenue, to remove the existing covered porch and add in a new deck.
2. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Albert and Margaret Cafagna, for the property at 722 Sunset Lane, to replace existing second story bathroom and bedroom window.
3. A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a request from Marilyn Henige for the property at 519 Park Lane, to replace four windows facing the road.

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

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. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-248

**See page 6 for more
Public Notices**

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When is an esker not an esker?



THE
Arts
ISSUE

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by Jonathan Griffith

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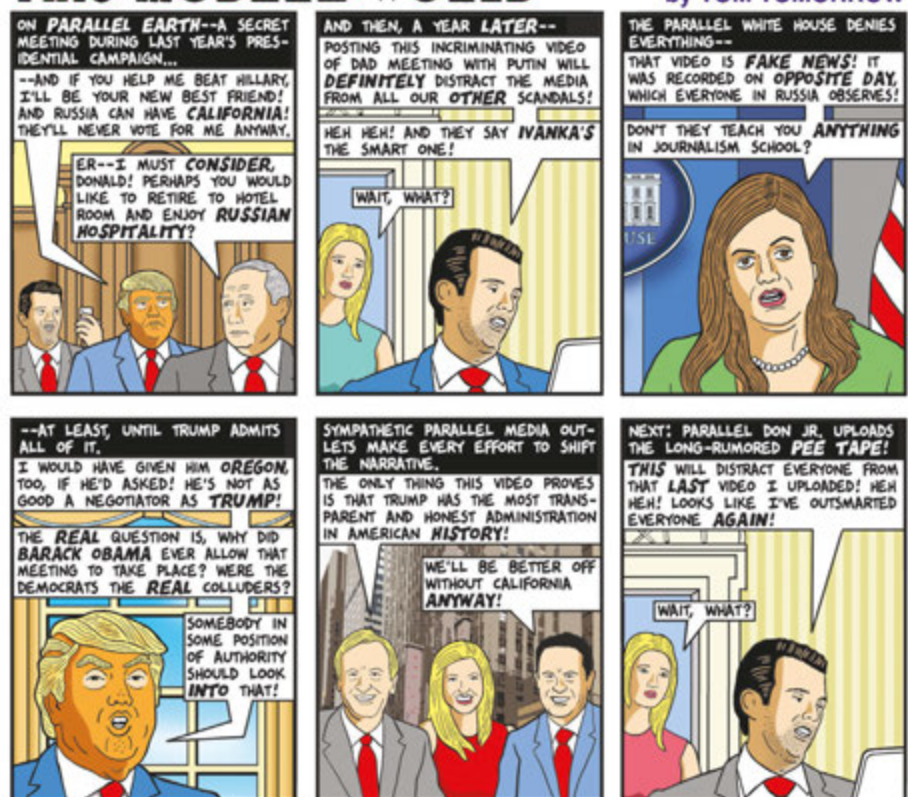
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Off by \$14 million Bernero estimate inflates City Hall renovation price tag

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero has told the public that renovating City Hall could cost as much as \$60 million.

But the study on which his number is based shows that as much as \$14 million of that amount is not for renovation at all but for furniture, technology and professional consulting fees — all expenses that presumably would be the same if City Hall operations were moved elsewhere, as is Bernero's goal.

That comes from a June 6, 2016, report from DLZ, a local engineering, architectural and construction firm, obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request. The report included a space use study on the facility as well as an analysis of the conditions of the building.

The final cost estimates to consolidate all city services into the current City Hall range from \$50,689,218 to \$65,922,054. Of those costs, \$41,208,230 to \$51,615,564 would be for construction. The remaining \$9,480,988 to \$14,306,490

would cover expenses like new furniture, technology and professional consulting fees.

The Mayor's Office did not dispute that as much as \$14 million of the cost Bernero has estimated is not to renovate the building.

But Bernero spokesman Randy Hannan said, "It is important to point out that the high cost of renovating City Hall is not the only driver of Mayor Bernero's decision to move in a different direction."

Hannan said the current location "is difficult to access" and that the "possibility of using the City Hall site for a transformational redevelopment project ... are equally important."

Hannan also said the mayor's numbers

were "consistent with the costs cited in the previous study" during the Hollister administration.

The DLZ report, which the Mayor's Office said cost \$49,800 under a contract signed in 2013, found the city could consolidate almost all city operations in the current facility and have an additional 100,000 square feet. The important caveat on that estimate, however, is the assumption that both the Lansing Police

"The next logical step in this process would be to perform a Master Plan/Feasibility study, which would utilize the data collected through this project, to develop concepts, alternatives, and potential solutions to achieve the city's operational goals," the consultants wrote. "The Master Plan/Feasibility Study phase would explore a number of options for future development of facilities based on goals and priorities established by the City."

But no master plan or feasibility study, as recommended in the DLZ report, was released by the city in response to the FOIA request.

Hannan said the master plan and feasibility study were only recommended "if we decided to remain in the existing City Hall"

Local developer Harry Hepler, who has won awards for his renovations and reuse of the former Motor Wheel factory site in Lansing, said the lack of a master plan and feasibility study raises serious concerns.

The Bernero administration is putting the cart before the horse," Hepler said. "Their latest facility study appears to grossly over-inflate the cost to renovate their current building, and doesn't give a comparable cost

estimate for a new building. The lack of information sets up a dangerous path that could easily cost the city much more than necessary."

Helper pointed out that a 1998 study placed the estimate to renovate City Hall at \$28 million, while a new building would cost the city \$32 million.

"I believe those numbers can still be achieved today," he said.

Randy dismissed Hepler's comments as sour grapes.

"We completely disagree with his assessment and can only surmise that his unrealistic numbers and critical comments are due to his inability to qualify to compete

See City Hall, Page 6



Courtesy Illustrations

A call for plans to renovate or replace City Hall drew four responses. Clockwise, from top left: Beitler Real Estate Services, a Chicago company, would reuse City Hall as a hotel; Lansing-based Karp and Associates would save City Hall for reuse but also build on the plaza; Lansing-based Boji Group would tear down City Hall; Okemos-based Urban Systems would reuse and build.

Department and 54-A District Court would relocate. Those two entities account for nearly 70,000 square feet.

City Clerk Chris Swope on Tuesday was unable to locate a contract with DLZ on the space utilization study. All contracts are supposed to be filed with his office. He said a FOIA request might reveal the contract through a more thorough search of city records, including the Mayor's Office.

The building itself is "intact," according to the report, which says the majority of electrical and mechanical systems "have either surpassed their useful life expectancy or need major repairs."

DLZ concluded its executive summary by stating the city should undergo a master planning process for the building.

FOR DESIGN



East Lansing

Nancy and Michael Dunn of East Lansing were the first correct response to the Aug. 9 Eye for Design. The studded column capitals may be found at the entrance to Playmakers' store (below) in Okemos, but the building's primary character-defining feature are its broad, laminated wood arches. The building, which once housed Schmidt's grocery, has served as Playmakers' home since 2002.

The carved stone relief above may be found in East Lansing. The first person to correctly identify the location of the detail will receive a City Pulse Eye for Design mug. Send your answer to daniel@eastarbor.com by Sept. 27.

—Daniel E. Bollman, AIA



"Eye candy of the Week" is our look at some of the nicer properties in Lansing. It rotates each week with Eyesore of the Week. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call Berl Schwartz at 999-5061.

'Shock and awe'

Hawk Island cutting alarms visitors, but county says it's needed

Lauren Cooper walks the asphalt path that rings Ingham County's Hawk Island Park nearly every day, often with two dogs and two babies in tow.

Earlier this month, she was shocked by a scene that looked like a small patch of Siberia after the 1908 Tunguska meteor hit.

On Sept. 8, crews brought out a brush hog — a heavy-duty mower used by road crews to clear the way for pipelines and road construction — and razed the vegetation on the east bank of the pond from four to six feet of prairie flowers and other plants to bare earth and sticks.

The fragrant acre is, or was, home to numerous birds, small mammals, butterflies and other critters.

In an email to the county, Cooper, a policy specialist in MSU's Forestry Department, wrote that she was "sickened" that about an acre of land was "sloppily and cruelly destroyed" in one day.

Cooper wasn't the only one who noticed.

Monday, Hawk Island staff put up explanatory signs "in light of the response we got from the general public," Ingham County's parks director, Tim Morgan, said.

The drastic cut was the first step in a plan to rescue the bank from woody invasive plants that have gradually taken it over in the past 10 years, Morgan said. In the spring, crews will plant oaks and red maples and sow a prairie mix of Shasta daisies, prairie coneflowers, blackeyed Susans and other native Michigan flowers.

Brian Collins, director of Hawk Island Park, said the area has gone without habitat management for about 10 years, and the lax management allowed shrubby

willows and other woody invasive species to stifle the natives. Special attention will be given to planting more milkweed, a host plant to monarch butterflies.

Collins, who holds a parks and recreation degree from MSU, is in charge of the prairie restoration project.

But the project's level of sophistication leaves Cooper unimpressed. She would prefer to see a natural resources professional involved.

"It's a heavyhanded approach," she said. "If you're concerned about any of the wildlife currently living there, you'd do it in phases, one section at a time, so you don't disrupt the entire habitat."

When Collins said the crews were careful not to harm a muskrat den in the area, it sounded absurd to Cooper.

"Muskrats need cover," Cooper said. "They just don't dig holes in bare earth. I'm sure there were many nesting birds in the area, too. I'll bet they were hurt. Cut it all down at once, and they have nowhere to go."

Cooper said many of her neighbors are upset that the county did not seek input from the public.

"It seems like they're making decisions and not asking any of us what we think is important," she said.

The meadow in question is a key transitional area of the park, between the more developed south end and the forest-like north end. It's also a natural buffer that filters runoff from a large turf area, where the picnic tables and pavilions are, to the pond.

The ring trail around the park, a key feature for the park's many users, is also the scene of a never-ending, slow-motion



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Hawk Island Park manager Brian Collins is telling visitors that the extreme mowing on the east bank of the pond is part of a plan to return it to native prairie habitat.

battle with roots from encroaching trees and the ubiquitous willows. Near the picnic pavilions, willow shoots are already poking through the fringes of the pavement, which is less than a year old.

Corkscrew willows grow 10 to 15 feet a year and quickly replace a habitat's native plant species diversity by forming monoculture groves.

This summer, the county cut down a graceful ring of about a dozen poplar trees between the prairie and the trail, adding to the bank's bare look and causing more concern among park users. Morgan said the quick-growing trees were nearing the end of their 20-year life span, starting to show signs of decay and causing root damage to the trail.

Collins said that in retrospect, he should have put out some signs a few weeks ahead of time.

"It's unlikely such a drastic mowing will happen again," Morgan said.

"We won't wait 10 years next time," Morgan said. "As we go, every year or two, we'll be doing management. If there's outcrops of woody invasives, we'll take them out."

One of Cooper's specialties at MSU's Forestry Department is stakeholder engagement. She hopes the county will learn from the outcry and reach out to the park's users before doing anything drastic in the future.

"We're a young couple with two young babies," she said. "We're pretty new to Lansing. We chose to buy our house right there because the area is so crazy fabulous. I don't just complain to complain. I love the place."

— LAWRENCE COSENTINO

City Hall

from page 5

in the City Hall RFQP process," Hannan said.

Despite having a recommendation that the city conduct the feasibility study, Bernero, who has championed selling the building and moving city operations, is in the process of selecting one of four proposed sale and redevelopment projects submitted by developers last month. He has set Sept. 24 as a deadline for choosing a developer.

Last week, with only 24 hours' notice to the public, those developers presented their plans at a four-hour event at the Lansing Center. Each development team had 45 minutes to present its vision, but no questions were allowed. An hour before the event was to begin, the city released all the plans on its website. City Pulse had sought those documents through FOIA, but the city delayed in releasing them until 30 minutes after they were published on the city's website.

Here's what the four developers had in mind for City Hall if they purchase the mid-century modern building.

— Chicago-based developer Beitler's proposal would redevelop City Hall and the police building into a hotel. The proposal claims once they are vacated, the developer could have the new hotel up and running in eight months.

— Local developer Richard Karp, who renovated the old Arbaugh's Department Store into apartments and has extensive experience in reuse project, proposed gutting the building down to its skeleton and reusing it as residential units. The plaza in front of City Hall would have a multi-story building built over a two-story high open area to maintain the plaza open space.

— Brett Forsberg and others have created a group called Urban Systems LLC. Their proposal would also strip City Hall to its skeleton and reuse it as residential and hotel space. In addition, a multi-story tower would be built in the current plaza space.

— A group with ties to the Bernero administration, including the Boji Group, Christman Construction, C2AE and Gillespie Group, was the only developer to propose razing the building and building a brand new building on the site that would include residential, hotel and commercial space.

"In my professional opinion, the city should absorb all the ideas generated by this RFP, and then go back out to the market to get competitive bids responsive to the city's exact needs," Hepler said. "That is the only way to make sure the city realized its highest and best value, regardless of if they stay in the building or move elsewhere."

— TODD HEYWOOD

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING East Lansing Planning Commission

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

A public hearing will be held for the purpose of considering a lot split application from Capital Area Housing Partnership for the property at 1202 Wolf Court. The applicant is requesting lot split approval to split the existing lot into two smaller lots.

Contact the Department of Planning and Community Development at (517) 319-6930 for additional information or in person at East Lansing City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing. 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. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-249



Esker or not?

Fate of Ormond Park project in hands of judge

The fate of Ormond Park is in the hands of Ingham County Circuit Judge James Jamo.

On Monday, after months of legal wrangling, the city concluded its defense in a lawsuit brought against it by neighbors of the 8-acre park who argue its destruction violates the Michigan Environmental Protection Act.

Neighbors argue an elevated section on the eastern edge of the park is part of the Mason Esker, a geological formation. They argue that a planned road through the neighborhood park would limit access to that formation and enjoyment of it.

Up to now, city officials have referred to the formation as an esker in documents and in court.

But Monday, city officials argued the elevated space was not an esker, but a hill made of “fill” material. To buttress their claims, Deputy City Attorney Joseph Aboud put Stephen Zayko on the stand. Zayko, who was paid as an expert witness,

testified that his review of geological survey maps from 1982 as well as holes that he dug allowed him to determine the formation was not an esker.

An esker would traditionally consist of gravel and sand. It is a geological feature created by rivers that used to run under glaciers tens of thousands of years ago. As the water ran under the glacier, it deposited the gravel, much of it created by the grinding of bedrock and other rocks by the glacier as it moved south. Eskers serve as an important groundwater filter. Because the formations are made of gravel, many of them have been excavated for that gravel.

Zayko testified that a 1982 map created by an MSU geology professor showed that the area of Ormond Park was made up of fill soil, like much of the county.

“So, there is not, in fact, anything unique about this, isn’t that correct?” Aboud asked Zayko.

“That is correct,” the consultant responded.

However, Grahame Larson, the professor who created the map, had already signed an affidavit on behalf of the Friends of Ormond Park stating not only that the formation was an esker, but that he often used it as a teaching tool.

John Yellich, director of the Michigan

Geological Survey at Western Michigan University, who had previously testified on behalf of the Friends of Ormond Park, was called to the stand to rebut Zayko’s testimony.

“That map is not able to show the detail of something as small as a 150-foot-wide esker as is located in Ormond Park,” Yellich testified.

City officials announced plans to put an entrance road to Groesbeck Golf Course through the park in an attempt to alleviate traffic through the surrounding neighborhood and, they said, bolster the municipal golf course’s public profile. The entrance would run off of Grand River Avenue just east of Old Town, and through the center of Ormond Park.

Friends of Ormond Park sued in July to stop the project, claiming it would irreparably harm the environment and the unique geographical features of the neighborhood park.

Jamo issued a temporary restraining order in July. City lawyers are trying to convince Jamo the proposed project does not harm the environment and is necessary. In late July, after two days of testimony from the Friends of Ormond Park, Aboud asked the judge to rule that a case had not been proven. Jamo denied a request by the city to issue a directed ver-

dict in the city’s favor last week.

With the arguments completed over the restraining order, which has halted construction in the park since July, Jamo will have to decide whether to change his temporary restraining order into an injunction preventing construction of the road until the lawsuit is settled, or to dissolve his order and allow the project to move forward even as the lawsuit moves forward. Jamo has not said when he will rule.

While most of the focus of the testimony Monday was on the esker, the city did call Dan Danke, the project engineer for the city on the Ormond road project. Danke had raised concerns about disturbing endangered bats in emails. He testified that while he raised that concern, it was a “slight” chance the endangered Indiana bat could be roosting in an untouched wooded area on the south side of the park.

He was unable to explain what, if any, actions the city took to determine if there would be any impact on endangered Michigan animals, including the Indiana bat, the Northern Longeared bat and the Massasauga rattlesnake.

“We had staff watching for bat activity as the trees were being cut down,” Danke testified. “If we had seen any activity, we would have stopped immediately.”

— TODD HEYWOOD

Opioid crisis

Reviving addicts doesn’t cure them, sheriffs say

BY JACK NISSEN
CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Drugs save the lives of some of Michigan’s opioid addicts, but they can’t solve the epidemic sweeping the state and nation.

Most Michigan police are equipped to revive people from an opioid overdose with the drug Narcan. But experts say it hasn’t done anything to help curb the addiction crisis. In fact, it may even falsely reassure addicts that they can continue their risky behavior.

“The dispensing of Narcan has nothing to do with getting anybody better,” said Ingham County Sheriff Scott Wriggelsworth. “It just saves their life. And we’ve had multiple instances where three or four hours later, we’re going back on the same person and administering Narcan again.”

Narcan, a nasal spray that restores breathing to patients overdosed on opioids or heroin, has been key to saving lives. For instance, the Washtenaw County Sheriff’s Office says it has saved more than 100 people this year. Ingham County sheriff officials say they’ve administered it more than 150 times this year.

Statewide figures show the number of deaths due to opioid and heroin has risen,

from 99 deaths in 1999 to 1,689 deaths in 2016.

Coupled with the increase in deaths is an increase in use and in questions about a limit on how many times Narcan should be used. Middletown, Ohio, spent \$2 million responding to overdoses, prompting a member of its city council to propose a cap on how often someone can be given Narcan.

It’s not a popular solution in Michigan. “We don’t get to say no, never mind, you’ve had 10 or eight chances and are

capped for the night, and we’re not coming,” Wriggelsworth said.

Some heroin and opioid addicts carry around their own Narcan in case they overdose by accident—or on purpose.

“They’re called Lazarus parties,” Wriggelsworth said, “where they take heroin to the tune of almost dying and then they have Narcan there to bring their buddies back.”


“Narcan may save lives, but it’s not a solution to addiction,” said Chad Brummett, director of Clinical Research

with the Department of Anesthesiology at the University of Michigan.

Some experts disagree that proposed legislation that would limit how often someone can be revived with Narcan is the best solution.

“I frankly don’t understand the rationale behind this,” Brummett said. “I think the people proposing that legislation would be better off to focus on things like increasing access to care, addiction treatment, because this is a disease; it’s not a choice.”

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ARTS & CULTURE

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THE Arts ISSUE

As all Lansingites know, the Greater Area is a vibrant, bubbling place, filled to the brim with a diverse variety of many art forms. This issue is City Pulse's tribute to each of them.

Instead of our regular Arts & Culture Section this week, we have divided our content into four categories that we felt embraced as large of a group as possible of creative folks: Music, theatre, dance and (physical)

art.

Within these four categories, we understood that we weren't able to include every art form, but we have done our best to spread as wide a stroke as possible.

To do so, we made sure to include stories that highlight the achievements of local people in Lansing's art community.

You will also notice that through-

out this portion of the paper, a schedule. This was our attempt to create a guide for Lansing's art scene, and to make City Pulse the go-to schedule for anybody looking to enrich their lives through local art program.

So please, feel free to tear it out, circle your favorite upcoming events or hang it on the fridge. May this guide do well to lead you through our local art scene.



MUSIC/POETRY

Lansing Symphony:

(517) 487-5001

LansingSymphony.org.

Sun., Sept. 17, 2017

Chamber 1: Timbres & Textures
Flute, viola, and harp., 3 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 24, 2017

Family Series at the Library
Richard Illman, Trumpet 3 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 6, 2017

MasterWorks 1: (Title)
Featuring Amanda Lynn Bottoms

Amanda Lynn Bottoms, Mezzo-Soprano 8 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 15, 2017

Chamber 2: Durant Street Winds
Selections for wind quintet and voice. 3 p.m.

Sun., Nov. 5, 2017

Lansing Symphony Jazz Band, 7 p.m.

Sat., Nov. 4, 2016

MasterWorks 2: Baroque Masters, 8 p.m.

Sun., Nov. 12, 2017

Family Series at the Library
ConTempus Quartet, String

Quartet 3 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 16, 2017

Reverse Raffle Event, 6 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 10, 2017

Pops 1: Holiday Pops, 3 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 6, 2018

MasterWorks 3: Beethoven
Symphony No. 2, 8 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 21, 2018

Chamber 3: Folk Infused Music,
3 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 28, 2018

Family Series at the Library
Durant Street Winds, Wind
Quintet, 3 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 10, 2018

MasterWorks 4: Mendelssohn
Violin Concerto, 8 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 23, 2018

Pops 2: Radiance, 8 p.m.

Sun., March 11, 2018

Lansing Symphony Jazz Band, 7 p.m.

Sun., March 18, 2018

Family Series at the Library, 3 p.m.

Sat., March 24, 2018

MasterWorks 5: Sibelius & Saint-Saëns, 8 p.m.

Sat., April 14, 2018

Pops 3: Pick Your Musical
Adventure!, 8 p.m.

Sun., April 22, 2018

Chamber 4: Piano Trio, 3 p.m.

Fri., May 11, 2018

MasterWorks 6: Pictures at an
Exhibition, 8 p.m.

Sat., May 19, 2018, 6 p.m.

Black & White Ball, 6 p.m.

The Robin Theatre

(989) 878-1810

therobintheatre.com

Tue., Sep. 26, 2017

The Poetry Room Open Mic.

Fri., Sep. 29, 2017

Gifts or Creatures

Sat., Sep. 30, 2017

The Crane Wives

Wed., Oct. 25, 2017

Lindsay Lou and the Flatbellies

See Arts guide, Page 9



Courtesy Photo

An image of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra at a performance.

Arts guide

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Tue., Oct. 31, 2017

The Poetry Room Open Mic.

Sat., Nov. 18, 2017

Monte Pride

Tue., Nov. 28, 2017

The Poetry Room Open Mic.

Sat., Dec. 2, 2017

Dom Flemons, co-founder of Carolina Chocolate Drops

Wed., Dec. 13, 2017

Appleseed Collective

Thu., Jan. 11, 2018

Olivia Mainville & The Aquatic Troupe

Thu., Jan. 25, 2018

Sweet Water Warblers

Tue., Jan. 30, 2018

The Poetry Room Open Mic.

Sat., Mar. 3, 2018

Tim O'Shea and Friends

Thu., Mar. 29, 2018

The Ten Pound Fiddle Presents Songwriters in the Round

MSU College of MUSIC

(517) 353-5340

music.msu.edu

Thurs., Sept. 21, 2017

Harmonious Blacksmith, 7:30 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 24, 2017

ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7 p.m.

Mon. Sept. 25, 2017

Musique 21, 7:30 p.m.

Tues. Sept. 26, 2017

Peter Schubert, McGill U, LECTURE, 6 p.m.

Tues. Sept. 26, 2017

Symphony Band, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Sept. 27, 2017

ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Sept. 28, 2017

Wind Symphony, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Sept. 29, 2017

Symphony Orchestra, 8:00 p.m.
Cobb Great, 8 p.m.

Sun., October 1, 2017

ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 3 p.m.
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7 p.m.

Tues. Oct. 3, 2017

GUEST RECITAL, Robert Simonds, violin, 7:30 p.m.

Fri. Oct. 6, 2017

MSU-China Exchange Concert,

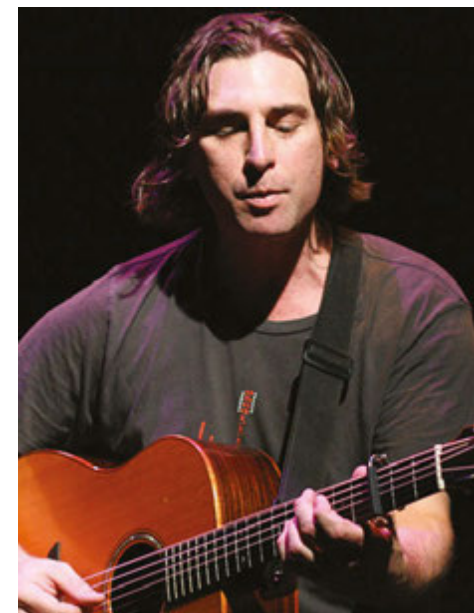
8 p.m.

10/8 Sunday

ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 3 p.m.

Mon. Oct. 6, 2017

See Arts guide, Page 11



Courtesy Photo

On Friday, Sept. 29, Joe Crookston will bring his folk music to the Ten Pound Fiddle.

STAR WARS

A NEW HOPE

IN CONCERT

MUSIC BY
JOHN WILLIAMS

Thursday, October 12, 2017 | 8pm

Friday, October 13, 2017 | 8pm

Miller Auditorium
Daniel Brier, Conductor



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Artful gift

Big-time 'Mad Men' put an art-centric stamp on MSU's Wharton Center

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

How do you rediscover your soul?

If you're MSU's Wharton Center for the Performing Arts, you look inside yourself — literally.

In the Wharton Center's new logo, the word "art" floats like a guiding spirit out of an airy matrix of letters spelling "Wharton."

The elegant logo is already in place on the building and is destined for ubiquity in ads, brochures, donor pitches and merchandise.

The logo's birth story is a world-class "Mad Men" drama, non-profit style, involving months of work, a giddy "ah-ha"

moment and a walk-on role for the Whartons themselves.

For years, Wharton Center director Michael Brand has longed for a logo that would look at home on a bus stop or billboard in New York, L.A. or any major cultural center, but couldn't afford the price tag for a full-on branding overhaul.

Brand found that audiences and potential donors had "wildly disparate" ideas of what the Wharton Center was all about.

Focus groups and interviews showed that many people, including MSU students, think of Wharton primarily as a purveyor of Broadway pizzazz and don't know

that it's a nonprofit arts hub that hosts world-class performers in music, drama and dance and educational programs with statewide reach.

Thanks to pro bono work by a global consultancy with Spartan connections, he got his wish, and much more.

Two years ago, MSU alumnus Eloy Trevino, then working at the global Prophet consultancy, visited East Lansing for a football game and met with Wharton staffers.

Prophet has a blue-chip portfolio, with clients like NBC Universal, Gatorade, Marriott, General Motors, Crate & Barrel, BP and Volkswagen.

"We couldn't afford them in a million years," Brand said.

But when Brand asked Trevino for advice on taking Wharton's branding to the next level, Trevino went one better. Prophet lets its employees do "passion projects" on their own time, mostly nights and weekends, using the firm's resources, in a program called "Prophet for Non-Profit." The Greater Chicago Food Depository is among several nonprofits that have benefited from the program.

Brand said a major project like the Wharton rebranding would have cost \$600,000 to \$1 million. When Trevino took the idea back to Prophet's Chicago office, creative director Andres Nicholls, a branding wizard with an international reputation, eagerly got on board and a team started to come together.

Between big accounts for the likes of Colgate, Green Mountain Coffee, Visa and Cartier, the team burned midnight oil for six months, firing emails back and forth, conducting market research, focus groups and interviews with donors and everyday folks.

"We wanted it to be a real project, not a pet project," Trevino said. Work started last summer and ended in March.

One day Trevino checked in at the New York office, where Nicholls and New York designers Joseph Maruca, Dani Kim and Baron Santiago were waiting with smiles on their faces.

"You've got to see this," Nicholls told Trevino, dragging him down the hall.

Among 40 proposed sketches was a colored pencil sketch of the word "Wharton" with the "art" in a different color.

Ding.

"We all just stared at it," he said. "You couldn't get it out of your mind. I thought, 'How did none of us see that before?'"

There were refinements later, including a flexible cube format and various fonts suggesting a diversity of performances and perspectives, the "art" theme popped and stayed there.

"It was my favorite from the beginning," Trevino said.

The Wharton team wanted to exude elegant sophistication and down-to-earth accessibility all at once — a tall order. But reconciling seeming opposites is the kind of challenge the big branding agencies live for.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

The Wharton Center's new branding has already been applied to the front of the building. The development of the new logo was a long-term project that was developed by the global Prophet consultancy and took roughly two years to fully develop and flesh out.

"We heard from focus groups that the Wharton Center is where the fancy people go," Trevino said. "I grew up in Lansing, and it's a blue-collar town, and the Wharton Center needs to be accessible to everyone."

The new logo's spare elegance is offset by a building-block playfulness, with letters in different typefaces that stack in various ways. Some versions use bright colors; others are cast in classy black and white.

"There's no reason why the Wharton Center can't be held in the same light as the Lincoln Center, the Met and other wonderful performing arts centers we have," Trevino said.

The team kept coming back to a quote from former MSU President Clifton Wharton, prominently featured in a new brochure: "Performance art is a beautiful window through which to view humanity."

"That is the role we're playing," Trevino said. "We're not selling 'Lion King' tickets."

Response so far has been unanimously favorable among Wharton staff, performing arts partners and big donors.

If it sells more tickets, so much the better. Even the Disney juggernaut, notoriously controlling and litigious over its properties, is letting Wharton float the letters into a promotional image from "The Lion King," artfully positioned so that the "H" hugs Lion King Mufasa's left bicep.

Brand said the result is "all we hoped for and more."

The topper came when the building's namesakes, Clifton Wharton and his wife, Dolores Wharton, enthusiastically endorsed the branding package.

"They didn't even realize 'art' was in their name," Trevino said.

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Arts guide

from page 9

Capitol Quartet
GUEST RECITAL, Capitol
Quartet, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Oct. 11, 2017
Crystal Mooncone, electro-
acoustic trio
GUEST RECITAL, Crystal
Mooncone, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 12, 2017
Concert Band and Campus
Band, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 12, 2017
Concert Orchestra, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 13, 2017
LECTURE, James Borders, U
Michigan, 4 p.m.
MSUFCU JAZZ ARTIST IN
RESIDENCE, 8 p.m.

Sun. Oct. 15, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 3 p.m.

Mon. Oct. 16, 2017
JOANNE AND BILL CHURCH
WEST CIRCLE SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 19, 2017
LECTURE, Michael Klein, Temple
U, 6 p.m.

Sun. Oct. 22, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 3 p.m.

Mon., Oct. 23, 2017
Musique 21, 7:30 p.m.

Tues., Oct. 24, 2017
Symphony Band, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Oct. 25, 2017
Miya Masoaka, composer, recital,
7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Oct. 26, 2017
Wind Symphony, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 27, 2017
Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 28, 2017

State Singers and University
Chorale, 8 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 29, 2017
Spartan Spectacular, 3 p.m.

Mon., Oct. 30, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30
p.m.

Tues., Oct. 31, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30
p.m.

Wed., Nov. 1, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30
p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 2, 2017
Percussion Ensemble, 7:30 p.m.

Fri. Nov. 3, 2017
Jazz Octets, 8 p.m.

Sun. Nov. 5, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 3 p.m.

Mon. Nov. 5, 2017
Carnival of the Animals, 7:30 p.m.

Fri. Nov. 10, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 8 p.m.

Mon. Nov. 13, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30
p.m.

Nov. 15 - 19, 2017
MSU OPERA THEATRE
7:00 p.m. Wednesday and
Thursday
8:00 p.m. Friday
3:00 p.m. Sunday

Fri., Nov. 17, 2017
LECTURE, Rene Rusch, U
Michigan, 4:15 p.m.

Mon. Nov., 20, 2017
Trombone Choir, 7:30 p.m.

Tues. Nov. 21, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30
p.m.

Tues. Nov. 28, 2017

See Arts guide, Page13



You might think... 'She Loves Me' delightfully excites

BY TOM HELMA

"She Loves Me" is a third adaptation of the Hungarian playwright Miklós László's 1936 stage play "Parfumerie." Its age suggests that it might be a ho-hum experience, but there is a quaint charm in this older "Miss Lonelyhearts" tale.

Add to that charm the immense team-building skills of a new director in town, Meghan Eldred-Woolsey. Riverwalk theatre's production of "She Loves Me" crackles and sizzles with crisp musical elocutions, and clever choreographies, to say nothing (yet) of set design or costuming.

Eldred-Woolsey is in her 11th year of teaching choir in DeWitt schools and is also the artistic director of Sistrum — a Lansing women's chorus. She has used her skills to take the elderly storyline of "She Loves Me" and whipped it up into a light and frothy confection; a cascading kaleidoscope of stellar performances by the multiple members of the cast.

Chief among them, in a featured role as a mere waiter, is Edric Haleen. He certainly steals his portion of the show both frantically and frenetically, as he flits and flies across a stage full of cabaret tables. At one point, on-stage patrons of the café his character works at leap up, and join him to perform a whirling dervish.

Not to be outdone, supporting actress Sarah Hayner, as Ilona Ritter, belts out several exotic numbers. She acts, she sings, she

dances, she shimmers, she does the splits.

Could a director ask for more? How about Kyle Harwood's song and dance in the role of perfume-box clerk Ladislav Sipos, or maybe Isaac Orr, as the bicycle messenger Arpad Laszlo — who also demonstrates that, hey, he too can do the splits.

The return to the Riverwalk stage of forever young Bill Henson as Mr. Maracek, owner of the "Parfumerie," is a special moment. He's still got a lyrical tenor voice and shows it off in this role. Adam Woolsey's signature solo of "She Loves Me" in which he channels his inner Gene Kelly doesn't hurt the production one bit.

Costume designer Laura Croff has assembled a team of co-designers and assistants that reflects exceedingly well the 1930s era of the play. Kris Maier, Ashley Hampton, Chanae Houska and Anna Maier round out that team. Well done.

Bob Nees is back with a clever inside-out box of a set design that begins outside the parfumerie. Most notably a massive entrance door that opens to reveal some of the complexities of such a store. The quick and seemingly effortless efforts of the running crew and ensemble players intersect well with each scene change.

But by far, the glue that holds this production together is the musical score, performed by an eight-person group of talented musicians, orchestrated by John Dale Smith, who doubles as the master of the keyboard.

In the end, love prevails against all. Kelly Lofton in the love-interest role of Amalia Balash is sufficiently convinced that Adam Woolsey's George Nowack is the one.

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Allan I. Ross/City Pulse

The Greater Lansing Ballet Co. recently moved into the former location of Guerrazzi's on Lansing's north side. The location serves as a dance school and performance space.

From bar to barre

North Lansing restaurant becomes new home for ballet company

BY ALLAN I. ROSS

Ballet may be thought of as a French art, what with all the pliés and jetés and pirouettes, but the classical dance style was actually born in Italy. So it's oddly fitting for the Greater Lansing Ballet Co. to take over

Greater Lansing Ballet Co. and Greater Lansing Academy of Dance
5643 Old U.S. 27, Lansing
(517) 575-6854,
greaterlansingballet.com

the former digs of Guerrazzi's, a north Lansing Italian restaurant that closed earlier this year. At least the transformation doesn't seem to have been that

difficult.

"A dance studio is basically just a big open floor, so it wasn't that hard to design," said Jim McEwan, artistic director for the Greater Lansing Ballet Co. "We've been able to do some of it ourselves, including tearing out the three bars that were inside. I had to do that part myself. I never thought I'd end up doing that."

McEwan, a Lansing native, studied dance at Lansing Community College and the Academy of Dance Arts outside Chicago. Over the years he's trained under dancers from the Dance Theatre of Harlem and the Vaganova Ballet Academy in St. Petersburg, Russia. He took over the artistic director role four years ago from the company's founder, Barbara Banasikowski Smith.

"I took my studies seriously and spent time and energy to become a dance teacher," McEwan said. "I love all styles of dance, but to me ballet really is the pinnacle of the art form."

The Greater Lansing Ballet Co. uses the building for rehearsals and performances, but the space is primarily the home to the Greater Lansing Academy of Dance, a dance school that also teaches modern styles such as jazz and tap, starting from age 3. Under McEwan's guidance, the school has made a few moves progressively north, from its original location on Michigan Avenue on

Lansing's east side to a strip mall on Grand River Avenue near the Groesbeck neighborhood to its current home.

In February, just weeks after Guerrazzi's quietly closed for good, the former watering hole began its transformation into "Swan Lake." So far, two of the planned four dance studios inside have been completed, as well as the company's office space and costume production shop.

"We build all our own sets and design and produce all our own costumes," McEwan said. "There aren't exactly a lot of tutus around for rent."

The studios all feature wooden "sprung" floors that greatly reduce the impact on joints and legs for the company's ballerinas and ballerinos. McEwan is also working with Old Town architecture firm Swanson Design Studios to help with the redesign. Much like the restaurant it's replacing, the Greater Lansing Ballet Co. intends to renovate in stages.

"You can see inside where the different phases started," McEwan said. "The original bar area, the restaurant expansion, the banquet hall addition. We were initially focused on the inside, but we did have an incident where a car went into the front of the building early on in the process, so that part got accelerated."

McEwan also inherited the high-profile triangular sign out front, which will eventually be used to promote performances. In June, the first show at the new location was "La Bayadère" ("The Temple Maiden"), which featured most of the company's 40 dancers. McEwan admits attendance was light, but one of the features of his new location may assuage at least some of the difficulty of connecting with audiences.

"In the past, we'd had a challenge with parking, but as a former restaurant, this location has no problem with that," McEwan said. "And it was a popular place, so a lot of people already know we're here. Now it's just a matter of convincing them to come for the ballet rather than the pizza."

Arts guide

from page 11

ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Nov. 29, 2017
Concert Band and Campus Band, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 30, 2017
Symphony Band, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 1, 2017
Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 2, 2017
Women's Glee Club and Men's Glee Club, 8 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 3, 2017
Wind Symphony and Spartan Youth Wind Symphony, 3 p.m.
Campus Choir, Chamber Choir, Women's Chamber Ensemble, 7 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 6, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs. Dec. 7, 2017
Concert Orchestra, 7:30 p.m.

Fri. Dec. 8, 2017
MSUFCU JAZZ ARTIST IN RESIDENCE, 8 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 9, 2017
Handel's Messiah, 8 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 16, 2017
A Jazzy Little Christmas 8 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 11, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 12, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 8 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 14, 2018
Jazz: Spirituals, Prayer and Protest Concert, 3 & 7 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 17, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30

p.m.

Mon., Jan. 22, 2018
Happy Birthday Mozart!, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 24, 2018
Tuba-Euphonium Ensemble, 7:30 p.m.

Mon., Jan. 29, 2018
Musique 21, 7:30 p.m.

Tues., Jan. 30, 2018
Wind Symphony, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Jan. 31, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Feb. 1, 2018
Symphony Band and Concert Band, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 3, 2018
A Night in Vienna, 8 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 7, 2017
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 9, 2018
Jazz Octets and Jazz Pianist Helen Sung, 8 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 11, 2018
Symphony Orchestra, 7 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 13, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., Feb. 15, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 17, 2018
Walter Verdehr Alumni Concert I, 3 p.m.
Walter Verdehr Alumni Concert II, 8 p.m.

Sun., Feb. 18, 2018
Walter Verdehr Alumni Concert III, 3 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 20, 2018

Campus Bands, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 21, 2018
Concert Band and Concert Orchestra, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 23, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 8 p.m.

Tues., Feb. 27, 2018
Flanders Recorder Quartet , 7:30 p.m.

Wed., Feb. 28, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Tues., March 13, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Tues., March 20, 2018
Symphony Band, 7:30 p.m.

March 21 - 25, 2018
MSU OPERA THEATRE
7:30 p.m. Wednesday
8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday
3:00 p.m. Sunday

Thurs., March 22, 2018
Jazz Orchestras and Jazz Saxophonist Steve Wilson, 7:30 p.m.
Wind Symphony, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., March 23, 2018
Symphony Orchestra, 8 p.m.

Sun., March 25, 2018
Latin IS America, 3 p.m.

Wed., March 28, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., March 29, 2018
Judith Lochhead, Stony Brook U, 6 p.m.
Percussion Collective Robert van Sice, 7:30 p.m.

Tues., April 3, 2018
ARTIST-FACULTY SERIES, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., April 5, 2018
Percussion Ensemble, 7:30 p.m.

Fri. April 6, 2018
H O L L A N D E R
DISTINGUISHED LECTURE
IN MUSICOLOGY, Ingrid Monson, Harvard 4 p.m. Music, 8 p.m.

Sat., April 7, 2018
State Singers and Women's Chamber Ensemble, 8 p.m.

Mon., April 9, 2018
Mack the Knife, Music of Kurt Weill, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., April 11, 2018
DSO at MSU , 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., April 12, 2018
Latin IS America, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., April 13, 2018
Strings and Choir, 8 p.m.

Sun., April 15, 2018

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Book, Music and Lyrics by Ryan Scott Oliver
Friday, September 22, 7:30PM
& Sunday, September 24, 2:00PM

Circa 1945, this Southern musical thriller tells the story of a tough, unmannered orphan adopted by the Sheriff's wife, and the battle that ensues when she uncovers secrets under the floorboards. Complete with phenomenal new music and featuring Broadway professionals teamed up with high school and MSU theatre students. Contains strong themes and language. For ages 13+

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Courtesy Photo

Marissa Tawney Thaler is not only a veteran ArtPrize contestant, but a Lansing artist.

For the love of art Local teacher creates unique pieces for ArtPrize

By DYLAN TARR

Marissa Tawney Thaler is a veteran ArtPrize-er; she knows where to find the best of the best, and she should, seeing as this is her third year as an exhibitor. This year, the Lansing native shows her interactive sculpture, "Value Scale," at the City Water Building.

"At ArtPrize, a lot of people stick to the same five locations," Thaler said, citing the DeVos Center and the GRAM as popular venues. "That's great, but I think there's a lot to be said about some of the smaller venues."

Most of those bigger venues are filled with not only crowd-pleaser pieces, but also some of the more accessible art. Some of which value popularity over content.

"Some artists like the low hanging fruit; the obvious answer," Thaler said. "It's not pushing people to think creatively or deeply which is very much what I think art is meant to do."

So Thaler made a piece to oppose that sentiment.

"I'm going for part interactive sculpture and part social experiment," Thaler said. "Value Scale" consists of a shelving with each shelf labeled with a different aspect of one's life, like material possessions, aspirations, life goals. The categories descend downwards all the way down to the last shelf labeled "Vices." Each shelf contains seven blocks labeled with different things pertaining to each category.

"I'm hoping the viewer goes through and orders the blocks from most important to least important," Thaler said, revealing each individual's values. Thaler intends to anonymously document and post the results of "Value Scale" on her website.

"I've participated in my own piece," Thaler said. On the back of each block,

Thaler has attributed her own value to each object.

"If you flip them over, you can line them up and figure out what I value the most," Thaler said. "To ask the public to be vulnerable with me, I wanted to turn around and be transparent back."

While Thaler is premiering "Value Scale" in Grand Rapids, she hasn't turned her back on her hometown of Lansing.

"I worked with Keys to Creativity and I've done some volunteering and some teaching with REACH," Thaler said. "Both of those are really great institutions."

Thaler is also a full-time elementary art teacher with Waverly School District. And like most teachers she's concerned about defunding and what it will do to her community's school district. But seeing the community come together for ArtPrize brings Thaler some hope for the future.

"To see children and adults making a point of going out and finding art and being so excited about it as a community is a huge positive," Thaler said.

Even though Thaler has a few conflicts with ArtPrize, that's exactly why she keeps coming back.

"What I think is still really attractive about ArtPrize is the controversy that goes with it," Thaler said. "There are a lot of differing opinions about what ArtPrize can be. It's an interesting conversation."

One of those conversations, maybe the biggest one of all, is who will be voted as the ArtPrize winner. Back at school, Thaler's students often hear the same question, if she's won ArtPrize yet, to which she shares a lesson every ArtPrize attendee could take to heart.

"I say, it's not really a winning thing. If you enter a marathon you don't do it because you hope to win," Thaler said. "You do it to get the experience."

ArtPrize runs through Oct. 8.

ABOOD

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LIFE LESSONS
DO NOT HAVE TO BE
LIFE SENTENCES

Music for the environment and the community Local folk musician starts sustainability festival

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Come for the food, stay for the music — and the message. Old Town's First Annual Songs for Sustainability Festival hits the Old Town General Store's courtyard on Sunday.

"Songs for Sustainability"

Sunday, Sept. 24
Noon-4 p.m.
FREE/Donations accepted
408 E. Grand River Ave.,
Lansing
(517) 487-6847,
oldtown-generalstore.com

The brain-child of local folk musician Monte Aaron Pride, 21, this event proves that music can make a difference. In fact,

that's why Pride chose to set up a festival.

"I mainly decided to do it because one of the few things that can really bring people together for a common cause is

music," Pride said.

And Songs for Sustainability's message is clear: to inform locals about the importance of conservation.

"My goal is to continue building Lansing's awareness of the importance of living sustainably by creating a unique atmosphere for like-minded folks to engage with each other, vendors, booths and the music," wrote Pride in the event's press release.

The festival itself is only a day long, but it is packed full of local food vendors and local businesses. All donations to the event also benefit local area 501(c)(3) non-profit Music is the Foundation.

"They basically fund and create local music programs in schools in the greater Lansing area and they bring ukuleles

and guitars to people who might not have had the opportunity to play them otherwise," Pride said. "It was founded by Ben Hassenger, a friend of mine, and he created programs in Lansing after programs got cut. It's a cool way for people to give back to add something to it."

And with Pride's environmentally conscious mindset, it's certainly no accident that he is a student at MSU's Department of Community Sustainability and is double majoring in environmental studies and sustainability and sustainable parks, recreation and tourism. After a busy summer of putting together the weekend's lineup, Pride is confident in the performers chosen for the information-driven event.

"The schedule is Sea Bridson who is a local folk singer, then the Stump Brothers, who are really cool. They are a couple local guys with a ukulele and a trumpet and they play old-timey stuff," Pride said. "After that, the Ruppel Brothers will be playing and then the Dangling Particples and then Jim Jersey, he's an older artist and a really talented guy too."

And even though not every musician carries sustainability-oriented music in their repertoire, Pride took care to pick out Michigan folk musicians.

"I think the issue of sustainability and shifting people's focus to living without impacting the environment has become a really big thing, that people have started to adjust their lifestyles for and are just interested in learning more about," Pride said. "I think the festival provided a cool way for people to engage with those ideas and engage with each other in an afternoon focused on it. The acoustic folk genre fits well with the vibe and focus of the festival."

Pride himself is a prolific artist, having released two EPs during his time in college, as well as his first full-length album,



Courtesy Photo

The courtyard of the Old Town General Store will host the first annual Songs for Sustainability festival. Its founder Monte Aaron Pride said that he hopes it can make a difference in people's mindset about conservation. Music is "one of the few things" that can bring people together.

"Hawthorne Morning Sound." However, he won't be performing this time.

"I decided this time to focus on the other musicians and focus on the goal of the festival as a whole, rather than as just a gig for myself," Pride said. "I wanted to involve other people."

Pride is saving that for a Nov. 18 performance at the Robin Theatre, exactly one year after the debut of his first full-length album. He said that part of the reason he felt comfortable using his hometown as the place for his album debut, the festival and release of more music is the strong bonds in the artistic community.

"I think it's really cool, the support from everyone's different genres," Pride said. "I have musical friends and the connections that are well outside of my genre. Everyone's willing to support each other and go out to shows. It feels like a safe place, without different bands or genres being cliquey."



Courtesy Photo

Monte Aaron Pride, 21, is a Lansing folk singer who has released two EPs and a full-length album during his time at MSU. Now, he sets his sights on an education festival.

"New Beginnings" New Sunday Worship Time



9:30 AM

All
Are Welcome

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United Church of Christ
Lansing, MI



125 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
Sunday - 9:30 AM
(517) 484-7434
PilgrimUCC.com



September 21 - October 22, 2017



BY LAUREN GUNDERSON

Directed by Lynn Lammers

Featuring: Angela Dawe,
Alysia Kolasz, Melissa Mercieca

This hilarious, raucous, all-female, "power-play" takes on America's overheated political rhetoric on the eve of the Miss America Pageant when Miss Georgia decides it's time to revolutionize the government. (Contains adult content)

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Thursday, Sept. 21 @ 8PM

\$19 Previews

Sept. 22 @ 8PM

Sept. 23 @ 8PM

Sept. 24 @ 2PM

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



Behind the scenes wizards

A look backstage with Melody Teodoro-Kurtis and Ray Kurtis

BY DAVID WINKELSTERN

It's a rarity to get to do what you love, but even rarer to work with someone you love. Perhaps that's why both Ray Kurtis and Melody Teodoro-Kurtis are so effective.

"Because we do good work, our phones don't stop ringing," Ray Kurtis said.

Melody Teodoro-Kurtis concurred: "If I work on a set for you and it runs smoothly, you'll hire me again."

The husband and wife team have helped decorate sets and make props for Riverwalk plays for 17 years. They have also worked with Peppermint Creek Theatre Co., Over the Ledge Theatre Co., the former Spotlight Theatre, Starlight Dinner Theatre "and a lot of LCC," Ray Kurtis added.

His first taste of working behind the scenes was at Lansing Community College himself. "I was running lines with friends who were theatre students," Ray said. "The next thing I knew, I was in a light booth."

Melody Teodoro-Kurtis first got involved with local theater by appearing on the stage, not behind it. "I was doing more acting."

However, her priorities changed after meeting Ray Kurtis at Michigan State University. "I met him at my dorm room door." The pair — both born in '71 — collaborated on set dressings and props for 17 years as cohabitants — and 10 years as a married couple. "We've done it so much that we don't have to talk," Ray Kurtis said.

"A lot of people don't understand the intricacies of the things we do. Set Dec is about turning a space into a believable place."

And making a set into a believable space is much harder than it looks. There was a time early on in his career, when Ray Kurtis told a director how much he was annoyed with the set because "It looked like a stage and not like a room."

But of course, Ray's natural abilities took hold and he rearranged it. Soon after, more jobs followed.

"There's a reason why our phone keeps ringing," he said.

Melody Teodoro-Kurtis said that although it might not look like it at first, much of the story is told through the properties on set; it's more than "what an actor holds in their hand," they are there to "provide for the director's vision."

Ray Kurtis agrees.

"If you're going to be a prop designer, you need to be able to tell a story," said Ray Kurtis.

One of their earliest tasks was for Spotlight Theatre's "Crossing Delancy."

"We had to make a really fancy chocolate cake," Ray Kurtis said.

The director asked for something simple, like a Styrofoam replica. Instead, the duo decided to go for quality. They made a plaster of Paris cake with a realistic heaviness.

"I used all of my fishing weights," said Ray.

And when they searched for a paint to



Courtesy Photo

Ray Kurtis and Melody Teodoro-Kurtis are something of a local power couple when it comes to designing sets and props for Lansing theatre.

accurately portray the icing, they found the perfect brown.

"Ironically," Melody said, "It was called 'Chocolate Cake.'"

Their effort made difference. The realistic look and feel of that prop changed the actors' stage deliveries. They held it differently, and looked at it like it was a real cake. Ray Kurtis said that bit of extra work taught him a lesson.

"I stopped making props for the audience and started making props for the actors."

But the Kurtises can't get attached to their work, even if they put hundreds of hours into their creations.

Most of the time, the props become

property of the theatre," he said, "Except for the brain transfer machine I made."

He specified that the prop for Riverwalk's "Young Frankenstein" was to remain his property. That "machine," and other kept props are "scattered all over" their house, he said.

The couple like to have a bit of fun too. For any play they are involved in, they'll make sure to plant some form of prank on the stage.

"There's always an 'Easter egg,'" Melody Teodoro-Kurtis confessed. "It's only for the actors."

And since the couple knows so many local actors, it has been easy for them to plant messages and references in their props that only the actors in a particular play will understand. In Riverwalk's "Wait Until Dark," an actor searching through letters saw a return address that referenced another play he was in. In "The Hemmingway Play" — also at Riverwalk — it was a fake news article about an actor's past work.

"Usually," Ray Kurtis said, "we do something more subtle."

What might be more of a concern is how their craft might raise some flags legally.

"I find it hard to believe there's not a prop maker who's not on the FBI Watch List," Ray Kurtis said.

And it makes sense. He recently shipped a fake gun and special timers were purchased to start a small stage fire.

"For 'Anne Frank,' Ray Kurtis said, "we had to research Nazis."

And after his wife posted a shot of her mock ransom note for Riverwalk's "Best of Friends" on Facebook, she had second thoughts. But their work does allow them to be creative.

Alas, their work for local theatre hasn't been lucrative. "Some of it pays and some of it doesn't," he said.

"Our parents always say," She said, "Please get a real job."

But for the couple, it's a labor of love. Ray Kurtis said his favorite prop creation was the four diaries he made for Riverwalk Theatre's production of "The Diary of Anne Frank." Each one required a different look as they "aged" in the play — this included the covers and the paper inside the books. And since Frank's handwriting changed over years, that had to change, too.

"I put 300 hours into that show," Ray Kurtis said.

But picking a favorite for Melody Teodoro-Kurtis did not come as easily. "No!" she exclaimed. "There's a certain aspect of every show that I love. For me, it's like choosing your favorite baby."

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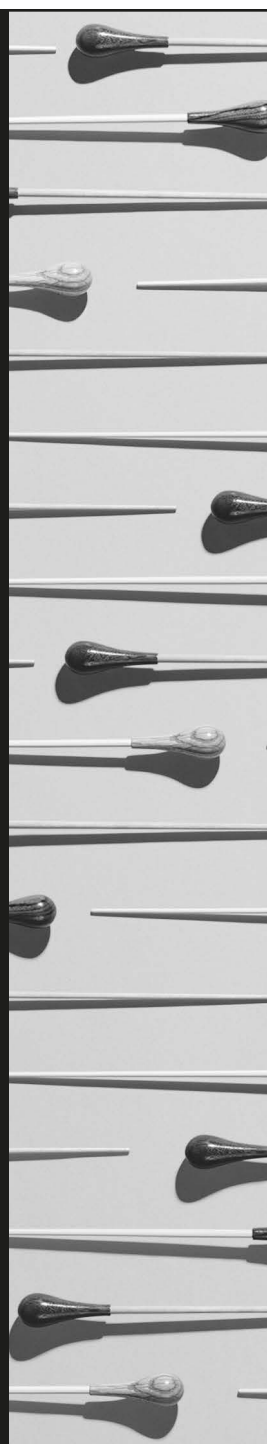
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Arts guide

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Chamber Music Gems, 3 p.m.
Tallis Scholars, 7 p.m.

Tues., April 17, 2018

Women's Glee Club and Men's Glee Club, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., April 18, 2018

Concert Band and Concert Orchestra, 7:30 p.m.

Sun., April 22, 2018

Symphony Band and Spartan Youth Wind Symphony, 3:00 p.m.
Campus Choir and Chamber Choir, 7 p.m.

Mon., April 23, 2018

Musique 21, Latin IS America, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., April 25, 2018

Campus Bands, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., April 26, 2018

Wind Symphony, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., April 28, 2018

Symphony Orchestra with Choral Union, State Singers, and University Chorale, 8 p.m.

Sun., April 29, 2018

Alumni Concert Band, 3 p.m.

Ten Pound Fiddle

Tenpoundfiddle.org

Fri., Sept. 22, 2017

Scott Ainslie, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Sept. 29, 2017

Joe Crookston, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 6, 2017

Emma' Revolution Feat. Pat Humphries and Sandy O., 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 13, 2017

From Scotland, Archie Fisher, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 14, 2017

Tunes and Tales by Tricia, 10:00 a.m.

Fri., Oct. 20, 2017

May Erlewine, CD Release, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 27, 2017

The Fitzgeralds, From Toronto, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Nov. 3, 2017

Joel Mabus, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Nov. 4, 2017

Organic vaudeville Folk with Jack and Kitty
10:00 a.m.

Fri., Nov. 10, 2017

We're Not Dead Yet Feat. Jamie Anderson, Dianne Davidson, and Deidre McCalla, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Nov. 17, 2017

Windborne, An A Cappella Quartet, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 1, 2017

The Bills, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 8, 2017

The Steel Wheels, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 9, 2017

Holiday Singing with Carrie Quisenberry, 10 a.m.

Fri., Dec. 15, 2017

Holiday Sing, Hosted by Sally Potter with special guests, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Jan. 6, 2018

The Blues Just Makes Me Feel Good with John Latini, 10 a.m.

Fri., Jan. 12, 2018

Joshua Davis – In Concert, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 19, 2018

Michigan Fiddler: Ruby John, Judy Raber, Molly McBride, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Jan. 26, 2018

Michigan Songwriters: Siusan O'Rourke, Jamie-Sue Seal, Jen Sygit, Taylor Taylor, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 2, 2018

Molsky's Mountain Drifters 5:30 p.m.; 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 3, 2018

MWSFF Children's Concert With Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer, 11 a.m.

Fri., Feb. 9, 2018

Ukes & Steel with the Wilsons & Co., 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 16, 2018

Twin Bill: Irish Mythen & Amythyst Kiah, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Feb. 23, 2018

Liz Carroll, with Jake Charron and Nic Gareiss, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., March 2, 2018

Sounds an Echo: Sara Pajunen & Rachael Kilgore, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., March 9, 2018

Calan, The Next Generation from Wales, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., March 16, 2018

St. Pat's Day Party & Pub Sing, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., March 23, 2018

Tim Eriksen, 7:30 p.m.

Thurs., March 29, 2018

Michigan Songwriters 2: Roger Brown, Monte Pride, Sam Corbin, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., April 6, 2018

"Precious Memories" performed by Sue Massek, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., April 13, 2018

Uncle Bonsai from Seattle, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., April 20, 2018

The Alt, With Eamon O'Leary, Nuala Kennedy, John Doyle, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., April 27, 2018

Diana Jones, 7:30 p.m.

Wed., May 2, 2018

Le Vent du Nord, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., May 4, 2018

Ken Whiteley & Reggie Harris: In Celebration of Pete Seeger, 7:30 p.m.

Fri., Oct. 5, 2018

Saxophone Potpourri
The Capitol Quartet

Fri., Nov. 16, 2018

Vivo Violin Virtuoso!
Ilya Kaler, Violin
Genadi Zagor, piano

Thurs., Jan. 25, 2018

Ralph votapek, piano

Thurs., Mar., 22, 2018

Music, Myth, and Mystery
Richard Sherman, flute and friends
Pump House Concerts

Sun., Sept. 24, 2018

Nathan Bell at Pump House Concerts, 7 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 14, 2018

Chris Buhalis and Dave Boutette, 7 p.m.

Thurs. Oct. 26, 2018

Mary Gauthier, 7 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 9, 2018

Buzz & Buster, 7 p.m.

THEATER

Audio Air Force Live

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audioairforce.com
Dave Downing
(517) 881-9746

OCT., 29

War of the Worlds
2 p.m.; 7 p.m.

Jan., 29

Audio Theater Production
TBA at The Robin Theatre

All-of-us Express Children's Theatre

cityofeastlansing.com/allofus
(517) 319-6957
ecooke@cityofeastlansing.com

Nov. 3-5; 10-12

The Neverending Story
Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.;
Sun., 3 p.m.

Feb. 9-11; 16-18

Bridge to Terabithia
Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.;
Sun., 2 p.m.

Apr. 27-29; May 4-6

Beauty and the Beast
Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.;
Sun. at 3 p.m.

Jul. 27-29; Aug. 3-5

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Kids Clay Wheel Throwing
Teen Studio
Adult Clay
Open Clay Studio
Mud and Mug (adult social)

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Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Jr
Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.;
Sun., at 3 p.m.

The Downeaster Theatre

thedowneastertheatre.com

Oct. 4; 6-8; 10

The Laramie Project
Wed., 7 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2
p.m.; Sun., 8 p.m.; Tues., 7 p.m.

Dates & location TBA

Charlie and the Chocolate
Factory

Dec. 7-10; 15-17

The Nutcracker
Thurs., 7 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8
p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Feb. 15-18; 22-25

The Magic Flute
Thurs., 7 p.m.; Fri., 2 p.m.; Sat.,
4:30 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Mar. 22-25; 30; Apr., 1

Betrayal
Thurs., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 8
p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.; Sun

Apr., 19-22; 26-29

The Princess and the Goblin
Thurs., 7 p.m.; Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2

p.m. and 4:30 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

May 17-20; 25-27

Rabbit Hole

Thurs., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 8
p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

June 21-24; 29; July 1

Ring Around Rosalie

Thurs., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 8
p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

July-end dates/location

TBA

A Midsummer Night's Dream

East Lansing Community Theatre

mktip119@comcast.net

Sept. 14-16; 21-23

The Tempest
7 p.m.

Mar., 15-17; 22-24

Twelfth Night
7 p.m.

Generations Community Theater

generationstheater@gmail.com
(517) 410 - 4356

Oct. 27-29

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow –
the musical

Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., 7 p.m.; Sun., 2

p.m.

May 2018 dates TBA

Belles on Their Toes

Ixion

ixiontheatre.com

ixionensemble@gmail.com
(517) 775-4246

Oct. 14-15; 21-22

Gidion's Knot

Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Mar., 17-18; 24-25

Art of the Deal with the Devil in
the Pale Moonlight

Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

May 12-13; 19-20

Fears and Phobias

Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Lansing Community College Communication, Media & the Arts; LCC Summer Stage Under the Stars

lcc.edu/showinfo

(517) 483-1488

Sept. 29-30; Oct. 6-7

Coyote on a Fence
8 p.m.

Nov. 3-4; 10-12

The Government Inspector

Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., Nov.
12, 2 p.m. only

Dec. 8-10

3rd Semester Shakespeare
Studio Play

8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Feb. 16-17; 23-25

Let the Right One In.

Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2
p.m.

Mar. 16-18; 23-25

The Flick

Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Sat., 7:30 p.m.;
Sun., 2 p.m.

Apr. 6-8

Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2
p.m.

Michigan State University Department of Theatre

theatre.msu.edu - (517) 432-
2000

MSU Summer Circle Theatre –

(517) 355-6690

Sept. 22; 24

We Foxes

Fri., 7:30 pm; Sun., 2 p.m.

Oct. 13-15; 17-22

The Great Gatsby

Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.;
Sun., 2 p.m.; Tues., 7:30 p.m.; Wed.,
7:30 p.m.; Thurs., 7:30 p.m.; Fri., 8

p.m.; Sat., TBD

Oct. 27-29

Haunted Auditorium: Camp Red
Cedar

8 p.m.

Nov. 10-12; 14-19

The Misanthrope

Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.;
Sun., 2 p.m.; Tue., 7:30 p.m.; Wed.,
5 p.m.; Thu., 7:30 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.;

Sat., TBD; Sun., 2 p.m.

Nov. 30; Dec. 1-3

Freshman Showcase: Giants
Have Us in Their Books & Other
Workds

Thurs., 7:30 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat.,
2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Jan. 26-28

Orchesis Student Dance
Concert

Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.;
Sun., 2 p.m.

Feb. 16-18; 20-25

Thus With a Kiss I Die

Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.; Tue., 7:30
p.m.; Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Thurs. 7:30
p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 8
p.m.; Sun. 2 p.m.

Mar. 18; 20-25

Dog Act

Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2
p.m.; Tue., 7:30 p.m.; Wed. 7:30
p.m.; Thu., 7:30 p.m.; Fri. p.m.; Sat.
2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sun. 2 p.m.

Apr. 13-15; 17-22

Green Day's American Idiot

Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun. 2
p.m.; Tue. 7:30 p.m.; Wed., 7:30

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p.m.; Thu. 7:30 p.m. Fri. 8 p.m.;
Sat. 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sun 2 p.m.

O w o s s o
Community Players
owossoplayers.com
(989) 723-4003

Nov. 3-5; 10-12

Rabbit Hole
Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m.

Feb. 23-25; Mar. 2-4

Beauty and the Beast
Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m.

Apr. 20-22; 27-29

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike
Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m.

Jun. 15-17; 24-26

The Full Monty
Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m.

Peppermint Creek Theatre Company

peppermintcreek.org
(517) 927-3016

Sep. 21-24; 28; Oct. 1

I Now Pronounce
Thu. 8 p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat. 8 p.m.;

Sun., 2 p.m.

Nov. 2-5; 9-12

Falsettos
Thu. 8 p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Feb. 1-4; 8-11

The Christians
Thu., 8 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 8 p.m.

Apr. 26-29; May 3-6

I Love You Because
Thu. 8 p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.

May 19-20
The Drama Ladies present 'Oh, Behave!'
2 p.m.

Community Circle Players at Riverwalk Theatre

RiverwalkTheatre.com,
(517) 482-5700

Sep. 14-17; 21-24

She Loves Me
Thu. 7 p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Sep. 28; Oct. 1; 5-8

Master Harold and the Boys
Thu., 7 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.

Oct. 19-22; 26-29

The Home Team
Thu., 7 p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Nov. 24-26; Dec. 1-3

The Emperor's New Clothes
Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Jan. 18-21; 25-28

Buried Child
Thu., 7 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Feb. 22-25; Mar. 1-4 p.m.

White Buffalo
Thu. 7 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Mar. 15-18; 22-25

Lily the Felon's Daughter
Thu. 7 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Apr. 19-22; 26-29

Bud, Not Buddy
Thu., 7 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

May 10-13; 17-20

Scotland Road
Thu., 7 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Jun. 7-10; 14-17

Monty Python's Spamalot
Thu., 7 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

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dancesingact.com
(517) 336-4088

Jan. 12-13

Hannah and Gretchen
Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m.

Mar. 2-3

An evening of plays (TBD)
Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m.

Jun. 9

The Studio Annual Collage
Concert
7 p.m.

Starlight Dinner Theatre
starlightdinnertheatre.com
(517) 243-6040

Oct. 27-28; Nov. 3-5

Farce of Habit
6:30 Dinner; 7:30 Show; Sun., 1:30 Dessert, Show 2 p.m.

Feb. 9-11

Swingin' on a Star
Ice cream sundaes 7 p.m.; Show 7:30; Sun., Ice cream at 1:30 pm, Show at 2 p.m.

May 4-6; 11-12

One Slight Hitch
6:30 p.m. dinner 7:30 show; Sun., Dessert 1:30 p.m. Show 2 p.m.

Williamston Theatre
517-655-SHOW (7469)
williamstontheatre.org

Sep. 21-Oct. 22

The Taming
Thu., 8 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 3 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Nov. 16-23

Beau Jest
Thu. 8 p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat. 3 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Jan. 25-Feb. 25

Our Lady of Poison
Thu. 8 p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat., 3

See Arts guide, Page 20

On stage this fall....

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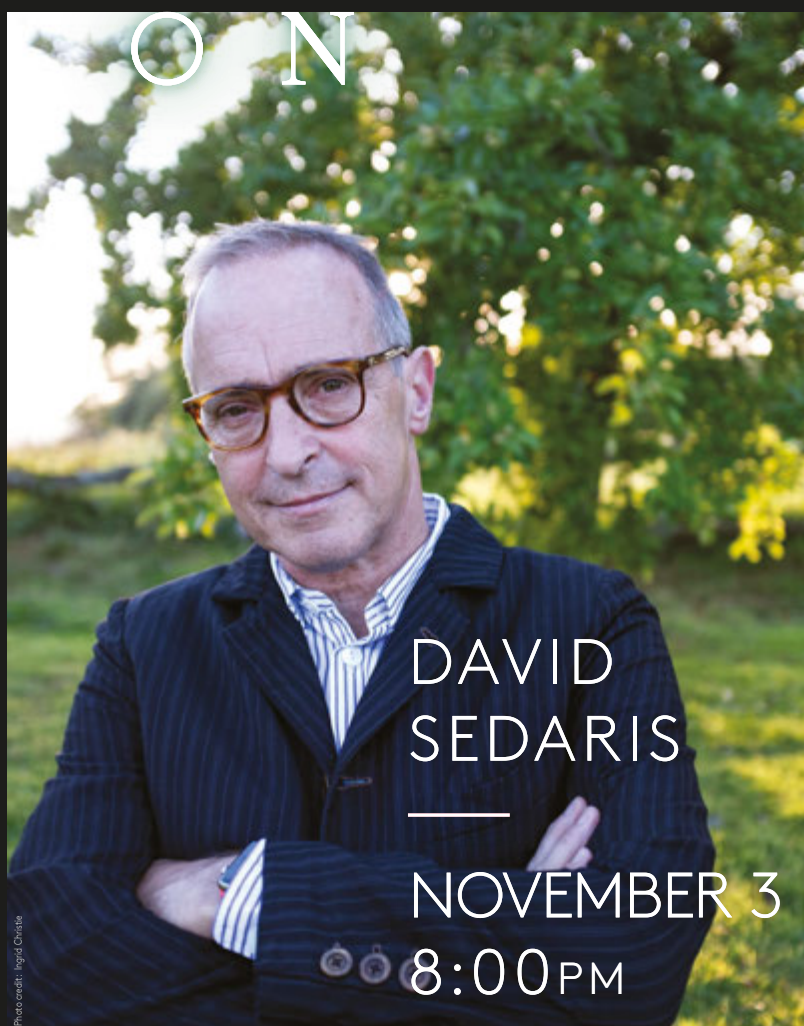
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November

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Arts guide

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p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Mar. 22-Apr. 22

Doublewide

Thu. 8 p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat., 3 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

May 17-Jun. 17

Out of Orbit

Thu., 8 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 3 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Jul. 12-Aug. 19

Memoir

Thu. 8 p.m.; Fri. 8 p.m.; Sat., 3 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m.

Wharton Center for Performing Arts

(517) 432-2000 or
1-800-Wharton
whartoncenter.com

Oct 17-22

The Bodyguard

Tue., 7:30; Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Thu., 8 p.m.; Fri., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sat., 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Nov. 14-19

An American In Paris

Tue., 7:30; Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Thu., 8 p.m.; Fri., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sat., 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Dec. 12-17

Finding Neverland

Tue., 7:30; Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Thu., 8 p.m.; Fri., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sat., 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 23-28

Waitress

Tue., 7:30; Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Thu., 8 p.m.; Fri., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sat., 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 13-18

On Your Feet

Tue., 7:30; Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Thu., 8 p.m.; Fri., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sat., 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 15-18

Lungs

Thu., 7:30 p.m.; Fri., 8 p.m.; Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 1 p.m.

Mar. 13-18

Something Rotten

Tue., 7:30; Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Thu., 8 p.m.; Fri., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sat., 1

p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Jul. 11-29

The Lion King

Tue., 7:30; Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Thu., 8 p.m.; Fri., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sat., 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Art

Lansing Art Gallery and Education Center

(517) 374-6400
lansingartgallery.org

Now-Oct. 28

Recount

Cindi Ford

Nov. 7-Dec. 23

The Lion King

Now-Oct. 28

2017 Holiday Exhibition

Jan. 6-Feb. 23, 2018

Echo

Deb Cholewicki and Barb Hranilovich

Mar. 1-28

Michigan Collegiate

Art Exhibition

Apr. 1-Apr. 26, 2018

Art Scholarship Alert

May 2-Jun. 29

Dorothy Anderson Grow

Jul. 5-Aug. 30

The Uncommon Place of What is Left Behind

Leah Gose

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Now-TBA

Shona Stone Sculpture

From Zimbabwe;

Vistas of Michigan

Lou Heiser;

Floral images

David Herzig

Fall 2017 Exhibit

Multicolored Linocuts

William H. Hays

Coming soon!

Art of Kathleen Chaney Fritz

Arts Night Out 2018

(517) 372-4636

1208 Turner St., Lansing

Arts guide

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Fri., Jan. 12
Fri., March 2
Fri., May 4
Fri., July 13
Fri., Sept. 7
Fri., Nov. 2

REACH Studio Art Center
 Reachstudioart.org.
 (517) 999-3643

Dec. 9
 A Not So Silent Night
 Silent Auction and Benefit
Mar. 24
 REACH Spring Open House
 Art demos and youth art exhibit
May 12
 Alice's Mad Hatter Tea Party
 Ticketed Event
Jun. 2
 REACH stop for Be a Tourist in
 Your Own Town
 Art demos and activities plus
 youth exhibit
Aug. 17
 End of Summer Art Show
 Exhibition and youth art sale
Aug. 2018 – DATE TBA
 REO Town Art Attack

Grove Gallery & Studios
 (517) 333-7180
 grovegalleryandstudios.com

Sep. 15-Oct. 28
 Here and There by
 Laurén Brady and
 Out of the Woods
Nov. 10
 Holiday Gala
Nov. 10-Dec. 24
 Holiday Show of
 all gallery artists
Nov. 17-19
 Deb Fehrenback Jewelry
 Trunk Show
Dec. 3
 Holiday Open House

Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum
 Broadmuseum.msu.edu
 (517) 884-4800

Now-Oct. 22
 The Transported man
 Group Show
Now-Oct. 22
 Toiletpaper
 Passage Gallery
Now-Oct. 1
 City Cigarette Butts
 Jesús “Bubu” Negrón
Now-Oct. 1
 Field Station
 Daniel G. Baird
Now-Jan. 7
 The World of Superman
 Vintage Comic Covers
Now-Jan. 7
 Another Country
Now-Oct. 1
 The Vault
 Ralf Christian Henricksen
Now-Oct. 5
 Digital Bodies
 Banz & Bowinkel with
 Toulouse Low Trax

DANCE

Greater Lansing Ballet Co.
 (517) 575-6854
 greaterlansingballet.com

Dec. 2017
 An American Nutcracker
 Pattengill Auditorium

Rising Star Studio of Dance Arts
 (517) 372-2394
 risingstarhome.com

Feb. 9
 Celebrity Dance Competition
Mar. 2-4
 On Stage New York Competition

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Mar. 2-3
 An evening of plays (TBD)
 Fri., 7 p.m.; Sat., 2 p.m.
Jun. 9
 The Studio Annual Collage
 Concert, 7 p.m.



A tumultuous ‘Tempest’ The East Lansing Community Theatre brings variety to Shakespeare classic

BY PAUL WOZNIAK

If you're tempted to see “The Tempest,” be warned: although this is a free production, it may not be worth your time. As the

“The Tempest”

East Lansing Community Theatre Company
 Sept. 21-23
 7 p.m. Thurs., Fri., Sat.
 FREE
 East Lansing Hannah Community Center
 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing
 (517) 333-2580,
 ow.ly/Oo8n30fflf6

debut production from the brand new company East Lansing Community Theatre, William Shakespeare's “The Tempest” is a safe bet with a fantastical plot and some juicy, timeless lines. But apart from some above average performances from a very dedicated and energetic cast and crew, the production feels more like playtime for the cast, audience be damned.

In case you missed the MSU Department of Theatre's production last season or have not read the Cliffs Notes since high school, “The Tempest” is the supernatural revenge story of a wronged man turned magical-island-wizard Prospero (Steve Ledyard) reclaiming his rightful throne. It's more a comedy in that everyone lives but a dark and weird one filled with lots of interweaving characters, motives and magic. And although the characters are Italian royalty suggesting a period long ago, the script — like many Shakespeare plays — could arguably be set anywhere or anytime.

One of the biggest problems with this production is director and company founder Mike Stewart turns “anywhere or anytime” into a mantra by seemingly picking simultaneous times and places. Costumes and props jump from modern — Glocks instead of swords — to vintage — boxy sport coats and fedoras. And scene changes accompanied by the sounds of Benny Goodman lend a distinctly '30s vibe — until the smooth jazz starts. When in the same show, spirit “deities” wear matching tie-dyed t-shirts and another character makes

an out-of-nowhere dig at the University of Michigan, it's clear that Stewart has no interest in maintaining visual consistency.

To its credit, the cast seem unfazed by Stewart's schizophrenic — and understandably low-budget — aesthetic. A few standouts include Chanae Houska and Sarah Hauck. As Prospero's magical fairy assistant/slave Ariel, Houska prances around the stage with pink hair and a sparkly skirt. Houska not only has good diction, but she also seems to understand her character and her complex relationship with Prospero. And Hauck really commits to her movement and performance as the supposedly, deformed, ogre-ish Caliban. Her costume — overalls with yellow, pocked face paint and spiky hair — reads more “hillbilly” than hideous, but Hauck lumbers across the stage — sometimes on all fours — like a human/animal hybrid, making her one of the few characters with a unique walk.

Sadly the biggest disappointment may be Ledyard as the scheming anti-hero Prospero. Having played many complex roles, Ledyard is capable of more than he showed on Saturday night. Prospero is a righteous, brilliant, passionate character who threatens and manipulates his own allies to achieve his goals through carefully timed tricks. Yet Ledyard projected very little sense of urgency or excitement — even to the second row.

On the technical side, Stewart's light and sound cues including lighting and thunder are perfectly timed throughout. And the papier-mâché logs and rocks are adequate for a tight budgeted production like this.

Arguably, this cast and crew could perform this show without a stage or audience, and many of the cast members have, with defunct Shakespeare-centric companies like Sunsets with Shakespeare and Shakespeare on the Grand. But for the most part, their passion cannot magically transform this production beyond a bare-minimum offering.

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CityPULSE

Timeless trailblazer

Former Lansingite Bethany Beardslee's memoir demonstrates how she took the music world by storm

BY BILL CASTANIER

A love-filled, creative childhood, helpful mentors and carefree teen years; that was the mix that helped inspire Bethany Beardslee's successful, 46-year career. Her new memoir, "I Sang the Unsingable: My Life in Twentieth-Century Music" looks back on the world-famous soprano and former Lansingite's life, revealing her rise to fame.

In a phone conversation with Beardslee, 91, from her home in upstate New York, the experimental soprano

songstress spoke extensively about her time in Lansing, East Lansing and at the then Michigan State College before her departure to New York.

Glamorous as her future career would be, the singer grew up just east of Lansing's downtown on St. Joseph Street. Her large, white Greek revival home still stands, though now no longer a residence. Today, it's an office for Smalley Investment Co.

Even as a young girl, she recalled being free to explore on her own extensively.

"Where I grew up, everybody walked to school — it was different than it was today," she said. Beardslee said the car was only used for Sunday rides to Okemos and Mason in the family's Hupmobile.

She credited that freedom with breeding a strong sense of independence. Her childhood is also peppered with strong, sensory memories of the Lansing department store Arbaugh's, just a few blocks from the family home. This was also her father's place of work.

"It was the Rolls-Royce of department stores. Shopping at Arbaugh's was fantastic," she said. "It was understood our dog, Laddie, could go over to Arbaugh's and take the elevator to my father's office

where he would sit under his desk."

Yet the idyllic childhood was interrupted by the onset of the Great Depression. Her father, like many others at the time, was riding high on stocks when the great fall came. He was forced to sell the family home and uproot the family to East Lansing.

But in that time of struggle, there was a bright spot. When Beardslee began high school — in what is now the East Lansing Hannah Community Center — music and voice became her life's focus. She recalls being just one of the crowd until she performed the lead in the high school production of "The Count and the Co-ed."

"It was a momentous discovery that I could sing," she said.

Minna Zallman Proctor, both goddaughter to Beardslee and co-author of her memoir, said that her first starring role was one of the defining moments for her singing career.

Beardslee would take that love of singing across the street to MSC's College of Music where she would hone her skills with voice lessons.

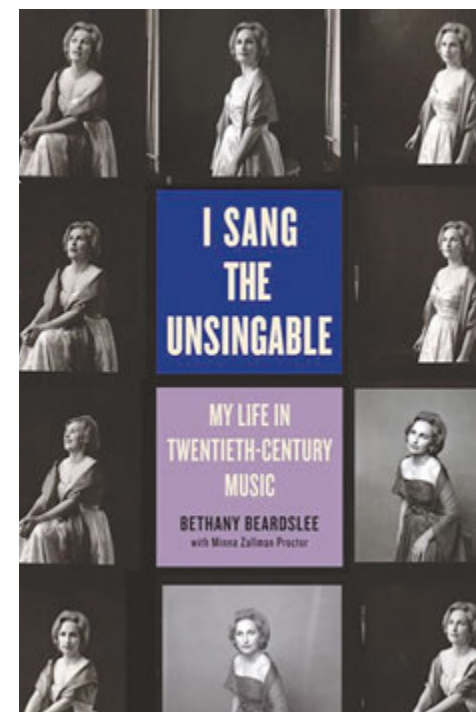
In a 1962 interview in The New York Times, Beardslee was quoted as saying "All I knew about music when I walked into the Music Department of Michigan State College was 'Every Good Boy Does Fine' and 'F-A-C-E.'"

Still, Beardslee flourished. While in college, she performed in numerous productions and won many voice competitions. Her popularity progressed to the radio waves early on, too; she had her own weekly radio program on WKAR.

"The simplicity of things in those days was what I remember," Beardslee said. "I just brought in sheet music and the announcer was very clever and I would sing love songs or songs of tragedy or whatever I wanted."

Following graduation from MSC, Beardslee would complete a year of graduate studies before being accepted to the prestigious Julliard School.

Reading about Beardslee, her early career seemed traditional enough. She started singing and then mastered the classics; later developing her experience



Courtesy Photo

Bethany Beardslee's life is decorated in her new memoir. The work was co-written with her granddaughter.

along the way with schooling — wrong. Though she did do those things, Beardslee also had an experimental streak. It began when she met composers such as Pierre Boulez and Milton Babbitt who were exploring the discordant — often cacophonous — sounds of 12-tone music.

Beardslee's performances were even experimental sometimes. Once, she sang in front of stereo speakers that blasted electronic music — almost unheard of at the time. But Beardslee was never one to please others because it suited mainstream tastes.

Proctor said that in her own way, her godmother was a trailblazer. The memoir was an effort to demonstrate this and particularly to bring light to a woman's perspective on music of the 20th century.

"I sang what I wanted to sing," she said.

Schuler Books & Music

Girls Night Out presents
KRISTINA RIGGLE, author of
Vivian in Red

Thu., September 21 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center location

Kristina Riggle is the author of numerous novels, most recently *Vivian in Red*, now released in paperback! A sweeping love story, family mystery and historical drama set eighty years apart, *Vivian in Red* will swell your heart like a favorite song while illuminating Broadway like you've never seen before.

Okemos Native KATIE
SLIVENSKY presents
The Countdown Conspiracy

Thu., September 28 @ 7pm
Meridian Mall location

Meet Okemos High School grad Katie Slivensky — now an educator at the Museum of Science in Boston — as she presents her debut middle grade science novel *The Countdown Conspiracy*!

Talk and Signing with NYT-
Bestselling Fantasy Author
PETER V. BRETT

Wednesday, October 4 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center location

Fantasy fans will be geeked for this event celebrating the release of *The Core*, the fifth and final book in the NYT-bestselling *Demon Cycle* series! Tickets available now via BrownPaperTickets.com.

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March 2017: Published Monthly

Transgender Troop Ban Defies Military Policy, Equality

by LAHR Contributor

Imagine being in the military for years, perhaps decades, faithfully serving your country but also being forced to hide your true gender identity. Next, imagine that you are finally allowed to serve openly — only to have that right abruptly taken away after a new president is elected. Now, your health care benefits are being cancelled and you face separation from the military, from your career, simply for being who you are.

That scenario may become an unfortunate reality. On July 26, 2017, President Trump announced, via a series of tweets, that transgender people would no longer be permitted to serve in the military. This announcement ended the Department of Defense (DoD) policy changes that began under President Obama in 2015.

In July 2015, the DoD announced a RAND corporation review of DoD policy toward transgender service members. Policy at the time treated the physical and psychological aspects of transgender identity as a means to disqualify individuals from joining the military (accession) and a means to discharge those already serving.

This review concluded that openly serving transgender service members would have "relatively small" impacts on cost, readiness, and unit cohesion. RAND recommended that the DoD allow transgender people to serve openly and recommended policy changes in the areas of accession, retention, separation, and deployment. DoD accepted these recommendations and began implementation on June 30, 2016.

The final piece of this implementation, accession of transgender recruits, was scheduled to begin on July 1, 2017, nearly six months into the Trump administration. In a little reported change, Secretary James Mattis put a hold on transgender recruit accession beginning June 30, 2017 — almost a full month before President Trump's Twitter announcement and just one day prior to the date scheduled during the Obama administration.

Because we don't collect sexual orientation or gender identity information

in the U.S. Census, it's challenging to estimate the true number of transgender active duty service members and veterans. A 2016 RAND corporation study estimates 2,450 active duty and 1,510 reserve service members — nearly 4,000 currently serving. However, the National Center for Transgender Equality puts the figure at 15,000 active transgender service members and more than 134,000 transgender veterans.

There are many reasons why people choose to join the military, but the vast array of benefits offered can be lifesaving for transgender service members and other groups who have historically been marginalized, faced barriers to accessing health care, or experienced high rates of homelessness. As with other marginalized groups, transgender people may have limited options if they would like to attend college or receive advanced job skills training. Military service presents all service members with benefits such as:

- Education and Training Benefits
- Post 9/11 GI Bill — including tuition, fees, housing, books, and supplies at colleges and universities.
- Department of Labor apprenticeship programs for discharged veterans
- Veteran's preference in federal hiring
- Healthcare Benefits
- Primary and specialty care through the Veterans Administration (VA)
- Mental health care
- Dental and vision benefits
- Emergency Assistance
- Homelessness assistance and prevention
- Emergency financial assistance in a crisis

The importance of these benefits cannot be overstated.

But pro-equality organizations are fighting back against the president's discriminatory directive. Lambda Legal and OutServe-SLDN have filed for an immediate halt to the ban, and the ACLU filed for a preliminary injunction, citing, "Without a preliminary injunction to preserve the status quo, plaintiffs' health and careers — and the health and careers of thousands of other transgender service members and qualified individuals who wish to serve — will be irreparably harmed."

Military service shouldn't feel like the only reliable way to obtain employment and benefits for transgender people. But those who choose to serve should be able to — without fear of losing their livelihoods.

LAHR Legislative Update

by Lansing Association for Human Rights Board

On Tuesday, September 5, 2017, President Trump announced an end to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. He also announced a six-month delay in the phasing out of DACA to allow time for Congress to pass a legislative solution.

President Obama created the DACA program via executive order in 2012, granting protection from deportation and work authorization for nearly 800,000 undocumented people brought to the United States as children. DACA was available to undocumented individuals who arrived before age 16, had no criminal record, and were attending school or serving in the military. Although DACA granted no legal immigration status, it enabled those eligible to live and work without fear for the first time in their lives.

The end of DACA is a major concern for a large segment of the LGBTQIA community. The Williams Institute at UCLA estimates that there are approximately 267,000 undocumented adults who identify as LGBTQ in the United States and approximately 36,000 of them have received DACA status. There are no estimates specific to the Michigan LGBTQ community,

but U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) approved more than 10,000 DACA applications for Michigan residents.

Rescinding DACA will have immediate negative consequences for those currently covered by the program. Attorney General Sessions announced that DACA status will no longer grant protection from deportation. Many undocumented LGBTQIA people could face persecution or physical harm if they are deported.

Additionally, DACA recipients will lose the work authorizations previously granted under the program. The Center for American Progress estimates that approximately 30,000 people will lose their jobs each month as their DACA status expires. Losing the ability to work legally places all DACA recipients in financial peril including LGBTQIA people who suffer higher rates of discrimination in the workplace.

President Trump's decision to end DACA has placed the ball squarely in Congress' court to act to protect DACA recipients. Legislative efforts underway prior to President Trump's announcement are now urgent. Right now, there are three legislative pathways to protect DACA eligible individuals: the DREAM Act, the Bridge Act, and the Recognizing America's Children

See LAHR update, Page 24

Safe Work Spaces Create Real Value

By Kiana Elkins

As a college student with graduation and a minor "future career crisis" looming, I have been reflecting on the way work has been explained to me. The overworked and overstressed 20-something who lives off coffee comes to mind. Work is something that seemingly consumes your life. Your workplace doesn't have to address your personal needs, mental and emotional health, or comfort. Lastly, your workplace will rarely reflect your identities. All of these things concern me and make the idea of a professional career undesirable.

I thought that hating my job or, at best, feeling unfulfilled was my inevitable future. But this summer, I flew out to Washington, D.C., and began working at a nonprofit that was filled with people who reflected my identities and were primarily queer women of col-

or. I had people around me who were sympathetic to my experiences and who were equally passionate about the work we were doing. We didn't have to explain our identities; we just existed and felt safe and valued.

We often talked about how in past work spaces, we always felt like the "other." Fear of always being seen as THAT Black, Latinx or Asian girl, THAT queer girl, had stifled all of us from living in our truth. We hid parts of ourselves and tip-toed around conversations that would make us THAT girl again. Feeling like everyone is watching your every move and word is stressful and even gets in the way of taking chances that could greatly benefit your career.

As I entered my internship this summer, I was worried that I was going to experience a typical cutthroat internship where everyone fights for recognition. Instead, we came to work feeling safe enough to be ourselves. As a result, we were more productive and creative in how we accomplished goals. We saw ourselves reflected in one another and made

See Safe work, Page 24



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Bare: A Pop Opera Review

by Ben Schroff

The queer community and the religious community have historically had many conflicts. While neither is inherently worse than the other, many sects of the religious community have targeted the queer community for existing. As a result, the queer community has largely developed an enmity for the religious community. The historical and contemporary attacks on queer communities by some religious leaders and entire religious communities has caused a deep divide between these populations. Queer folks have also often been faced with internal, moral, and emotional conflicts between their queer identities and their spiritual beliefs. In the United States, this conflict has primarily been focused on the tensions between the queer community and the Christian/Catholic faiths.

Bare: A Pop Opera closely examines the relationship between Catholicism and the queer community, focusing on the effect it has had on queer youth during their formative years. The story revolves around Peter and Jason, two senior high school students at a Catholic boarding school. At the begin-

ning, we learn that they have been dating for a few years and that Peter has a growing desire to come out to his family.

The story unfolds as Peter explores his desire to be open about their relationship. However, Jason's resistance and fear towards being out pushes Jason to try to be straight, despite his relationship with Peter. Jason and Peter symbolically represent the two parts of a queer individual's mind when they're contemplating their queerness and coming out. Peter is the part that wants to out in the open, being their true self. Jason is the part that fears being out and open, the part of self-preservation.

Music is central to the story, but the emotional aspect of how it's written perfectly encapsulates the fear of coming out. For those who did not grow up in a religious household, some parts of the plot development and the fear of God may be lost. But these viewers will still likely be able to appreciate and relate with the experience. For those who grew up with religion, there may be a bone chilling twitch of recognition.

In the end, *Bare* is a great coming-of-age queer coming-out story, and it ends without a note of finality. The open-endedness of the final scenes leave us without many answers, but it does show us a world where religion can be used as a tool to oppress rather than enlighten.

Safe work

from page 23

a point of making sure that no one felt stifled in their work. When someone wanted to do a presentation on an issue they cared about, we didn't see it as competition for attention, but rather an opportunity for collaboration. We all shined because the success of one was a success for us all.

This experience was transformative for me. Showing up to work every day knowing I can be myself without fear of backlash improved the way I worked ten-fold. I was confident enough to seek out opportunities and comfortable enough to admit when I failed. Having this experience has forced me to reconsider how workplaces operate and how we can ensure that people who are often othered can reach their full potential.

LAHR update

from page 23

Act.

DREAM Act

Introduced by Senators Durbin and Graham in July 2017 This Act would grant a pathway to legal permanent residency and citizenship for DACA eligible individuals.

Bridge Act

Introduced by Senators Durbin and Graham in January 2017. An identical version was introduced in the House. If passed, this bill would extend the DACA program for three years following its passage with the intention of finding a permanent solution during that time period.

Recognizing America's Children (RAC) Act

Introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Carlos Curbelo (R-FL). This bill would grant non-immigrant status to DACA eligible individuals. After five years in non-immigrant status, they could then file for legal permanent residency (green card) and later become naturalized US citizens. A companion bill is expected to be introduced in the Senate soon.

But right now, if your DACA status will expire in the next six months, you can renew your status for a two-year period if you send your application to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services before October 5, 2017. For more information or to find a DACA workshop in your area, visit the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center's website at www.michiganimmigrant.org.

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- www.suitsandthecity.org •

OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Eve at (517) 999-5066.

Wednesday, September 20

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Alcoholics Anonymous. At 6 p.m. Donations welcome. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing.

Bach Stress Relief Q&A. Stress relief with Bach Vibrational Essences. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE/Donations accepted. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave., Suite D Lansing. (517) 402-6727.

Homework Help. Drop-in homework help from MSU's College of Education Kappa Delta Pi. Grades K-12. 5-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.

LGBTQ Youth Program Info Meeting for MSU Students. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Communications Arts and Sciences, Room 155, 404 Wilson Road, East Lansing. (914) 315-9030. marc@wdfh.org.

Mindfulness. Meditation for beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Lansing. ow.ly/3aWl30crrcLc. (517) 420-5820.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

MSU Creative Writing Center Group. From 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

Tavern House Jazz Band. From 7:30 p.m.-10:30 a.m. Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Square Lansing.

The Dangling Participles at Allen Farmers Market. From 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

EVENTS

Allen Farmers Market. From 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E Kalamazoo St Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Cooking with Kids. Supplies and tips to make a treat to take home and bake. Registration required at elpl.org. 5-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Family Storytime (Ages up-6). Engaging stories, songs and activities to help build early literacy skills. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Williamston Branch, 201 School St., Williamston.

Gilden Woods Early Care & Preschool of Grand Ledge Grand Opening Open House. 5-7 p.m. FREE. Gilden Woods Early Care and Preschool of Grand Ledge, 11920 Nixon Road. Grand Ledge.

Long-Term Care Planning Workshop. For retirees and those planning retirement. 6-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.

PeaceQuest 2017. Celebration of the UN International Day of Peace. 2 p.m. FREE. Cherry Lane Park, Cherry Lane Park, East Lansing. peacequestgreaterlansing.org.

Practice Your English. Practice in a safe

See Out on the Town Page 25

Comedic rebound



Courtesy Photo

Frank Wippel is one of three artists who will be performing at Front 43's Comedy Night on Sept. 21.

Sept. 21

Hear the phrase “up-and-coming comic” and you’re likely to picture someone in their mid-to-late 20s. Tell that to Frank Wippel, who at 68 has been bringing fresh comedic talent to the Greater Lansing Area since May.

“I’m kind of new to it, but I’ve done a lot of acting in the past,” Wippel said.

Even though he wasn’t a professional comic earlier in life, Wippel said his former career as an educator included comedy at every turn.

“I taught dramatics in middle school, and then I became an elementary principal and then a superintendent, then a professor at Western,” Wippel said. “My background is in education, but I’ve always used humor in all of those positions. In giving speeches and services and all of that.” Since Wippel’s jump into the local comedy scene, he has headlined at a variety of local venues and even toured across Michigan.

“I told jokes for a long time, and I just now am beginning to write my own material. I’ve had a lot of fun doing

that,” Wippel said. “I opened on Memorial Day Weekend in Coral Gables in Saugatuck. And I did Grand Rapids and vibrant birthday parties and barbecue parties; so, I’m just getting my name around.”

And Wippel’s name is sticking. But it wasn’t until a year and a half ago that he even considered giving stand up a go.

“My Parkinson’s was so bad that I couldn’t go out to eat because my hands had tremors, I’d drop stuff and I wouldn’t go to a bar,” Wippel said. “I had to have people help me out of a chair. I made a rebound back from that.”

Wippel attributes his success to a rigorous therapy regimen at Sparrow Hospital that gave him the strength to perform.

“At that time, my vocal chords were being affected,” Wippel said. “I regained my voice, I regained my strength and I thought, ‘Wow, I might as well have fun, I’m not going to die next year.’”

Now, Wippel has a monthly gig at local Lansing pub Front 43. Thursday, Wippel will perform with two other comedians, Bigg Dooley and Mike Ball.

Wippel describes his comedic style as “a good mixture” of one-liners and stories. He said he tries to avoid excessively crude jokes, however.

“A lot of comedians — and I’ve been to the standup shows —

they all use the f-bomb all the time in every story or joke they tell, and I don’t think that’s necessary. It’s possible to tell a dirty joke without using the f-bomb,” Wippel said. “You know what an Amish woman’s fantasy is? Two Mennonites.”

He includes props and stories about his own life, too.

“This is true. My son and my daughter-in-law, they lived in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, they both graduated from Michigan State,” Wippel said. “She’s a veterinarian and a taxidermist, so either way you get your dog back. I have a dog that I carry in this case and at the same time I tell the joke, I pull it out.”

“Front 43 Comedy Night”

Thursday, Sept. 21
FREE
8 p.m.
3415 E. Saginaw St.,
Lansing
[facebook.com/
Front43Pub/](https://facebook.com/Front43Pub/)

— Eve Kucharski

Out on the town

from page 24

environment. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Preschool Storytime (Ages 3–6). Stories, songs, activities to help children build early literacy skills. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Aurelius Branch, 1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason.

Thursday, September 21
CLASSES AND SEMINARS
(TOPS) Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 5:15 p.m. In room 207. 6 p.m. First meeting FREE. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 927-4307.
A Course in Miracles. Group on peace through forgiveness. 7-9 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes, Lansing. (517)371-3010. unitylansing.org.
Auricular Acupuncture. Ear Acupunture - Registration required. 6-7:30 p.m. \$5. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave., Suite D Lansing. willowstickceremonies.com.
Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. From 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale Lansing. crisisrhc.com.
Celebrate Recovery. For all types of hurts and hang-ups. 6 p.m. Donations welcome. Trinity Church, 3355 Dunckel Road Lansing. ow.ly/p9iv30cQGgi
Free Yoga for Kids and Youth. All ages/Kids bring quiet activities. 5:30-7:15 p.m. FREE for Youth ages 6-13. Parents pay usual rates. Bikram Yoga Capital Area, 1355 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing.
Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. Call/text ahead. At 5:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 515-5559. coda.org.

Make Your Business Legal. Workshop on tax/liability issues and more. Call to register. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing.
TaiChi in the Park. From 6-7 p.m. FREE. Veterans Clubhouse, 2949 S. Waverly, Lansing. (517) 420-2279.

EVENTS
Make a Card Basket (Adults). Repurpose greeting cards into handmade baskets. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Mason Branch, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517)676-9088.
Minecraft Game Night (Ages 8–15). Get your game on with fellow Minecrafters. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster, Lansing. (517) 485-5185.
12-Step Meeting. AA/NA/CA all welcome. Every Tuesday and Thursday in room 209. 12-1 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing.
Chipmunk Story Time: Gotta Go! Enjoy nature. 10-11 a.m. \$3/child. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.
Eastbrook Homes Taste & Tour Events. At 4 p.m. Pointe West Location, 10599 Saddlebrook Dr Grand Ledge.
Junior Achievement—More Than Money (Grades 3–5). Teaches kids about money. 4-5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Haslett Branch, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett.(517)339-2324.
Lunch at the Meridian Senior Center. From 12-1 p.m. \$5.75/\$3 suggested for ages 60+. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.
Mystery Can Party (Age 6 & up). Open the can and award prizes. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries, Mason Branch, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517)676-9088.
Party Bridge. Weekly activity at Meridian Senior Center. 1-4 p.m. \$1 Members/\$2 Public. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.

See Out on the Town Page 27



SEPTEMBER 24TH >> WOLDUMAR PRESENTS THE AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL
Walk through history with the Woldumar Nature Center as they invite you to the 2017 American Heritage Festival. The event, taking place on Sunday, will feature several different local vendors that celebrate history and traditions of Lansing. Attendees will be able to take a tour of the Moon Log Cabin, ride a horse drawn wagon, take a cruise on the Grand River, or enjoy music by The Pretty Shaky String Band who will be performing from 2-4 p.m. Current vendors include the Lansing Model Railroad Club, Basket-weaving by Vela, Greater Lansing Wood Carvers, Woodcraft Bird feeders and Birdhouses, Cheese making demonstrations and many more.
10 a.m. FREE. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. (517) 322-0030 <http://woldumar.org>

SEPTEMBER 21-24 & 28-OCT1, >> “I NOW PRONOUNCE” AT PEPPERMINT CREEK THEATRE CO.
Wedding celebrations gone amuck, failing relationships, untimely losses and partying into the morning — Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.’s newest play takes on it all. Written by Tasha Godon-Solmon and directed by Jordan Climie, "I Now Pronounce" dives into the reception of Adam and Nicole after a fatality becomes the climax of their wedding ceremony. However, the party doesn't stop for the bridal party and guests whose own lives seem to overshadow the celebration of the couple. Opening on Thursday, the show will run until Sunday, and then again from September 28 through Oct. 1.
\$15 General Admission, \$10 Students/Seniors. Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. (517) 927-3016. Peppermintcreek.org.

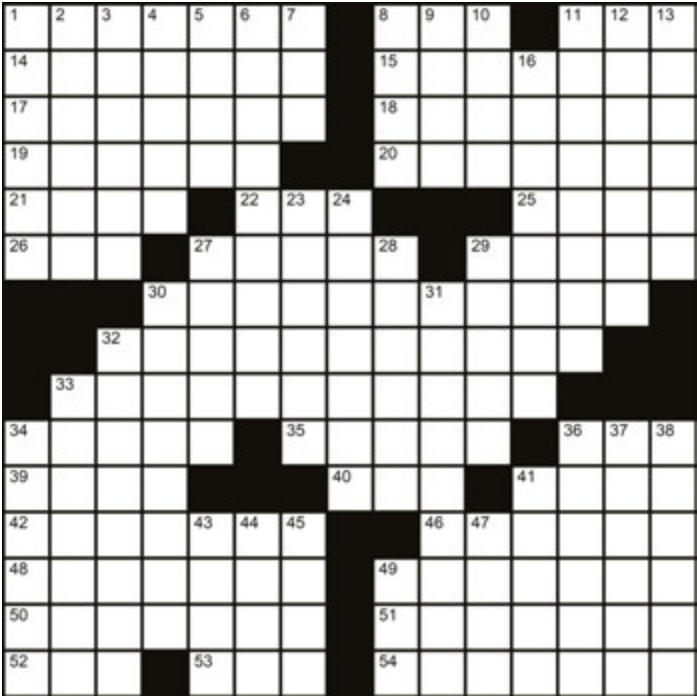
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Grid Expectations"-freestyle for now.
Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Attribute (to)
- 8 Hebrew letter before nun
- 11 Mil. VIP
- 14 Like most candy canes
- 15 The slightest amount
- 17 Fisher-Price toy that teaches animal noises
- 18 Fixes up the lawn
- 19 Momentarily
- 20 Scratches like a cat
- 21 Meh
- 22 "Good" cholesterol
- 25 Move, as merchandise
- 26 "The Waste Land" author's initials
- 27 Gather wool from sheep
- 29 "It is ___ told by an idiot": Macbeth
- 30 Quality of a spare tire holder?
- 32 Eight days out from the beginning of the work week, often
- 33 "Ultimately, we have the upper hand"
- 34 Bygone brand of "flavor bits"
- 35 Hoopster Archibald and statistician Silver, for two
- 36 "Honest" presidential nickname
- 39 Dull soreness
- 40 Azerbaijani, once (abbr.)
- 41 Old Dead Sea kingdom
- 42 Capacity of a liner, perhaps
- 46 Bikini or Brazilian, e.g.
- 48 Up to date with, with "of"



- 9 Knievel of motorcycle stunts
- 10 Miniature plateau
- 11 Lets up
- 12 Ultimate goals
- 13 Swiss company that owns Butterfinger and Buitoni
- 16 Group that breaks stories
- 23 Dr. of old pajamas
- 24 Series gaps
- 27 Marching band section
- 28 "Gone With the Wind" character Butler and "Good Mythical Morning" cohost McLaughlin, e.g.
- 29 Chile's mountain range
- 30 Drink from India or Sri Lanka
- 31 Author Christopher whose writing inspired "Cabaret"

- 32 Free
- 33 French Revolution radical
- 34 Ricky Ricardo's theme song
- 36 "Possession" actress Isabelle
- 37 ___ Farm (cheap wine brand)
- 38 Prepare for mummification
- 41 Glorify
- 43 Predetermined outcome
- 44 Person at the computer
- 45 1960s-'80s Ford models that go by initials
- 47 Woody Guthrie's son
- 49 Half of CDII

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SUDOKU

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

INTERMEDIATE

TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 28

TURN IT DOWN

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

SUN., Sept., 24TH DAYTON FAMILY



Bootleg of Dayton Family at hurricane benefit

Sunday, Sept. 24 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. \$10 Donation. 4 p.m.-9 p.m.

Beats Bangin Entertainment, a Lansing-based promotion company, hosts Lansing 4 Houston, a Hurricane Harvey benefit concert stacked with rap artists from across the state. Helping to raise funds are raffles for gift cards, dinners and more. All proceeds benefit two funds, We Are One and the Houston Relief Fund. Headlining the early show (start time is 4 p.m.) is Bootleg of the Dayton Family. Bootleg, real name Ira Dorsey, joined up with fellow Flint-based rappers Shoestring and Matt Hinkle in 1993, and two years later the trio had released its gritty, Flint-inspired debut LP, "What's on My Mind?" One year later came the gold-selling "F.B.I." Both records became stone-cold underground classics. Also performing the benefit are: Skwynts, Tugga the Rapper, J Chase, Ichiban Cy, Myke Aikens, Flint Po, J-Mo, Struk Eze, Trax A Trillion, Twodifrn, Nutso E. Money, Mo Vatalii and the Real Prophecy.

Thurs., Sept. 22nd THE ROUGH & TUMBLE



The Rough & Tumble at Old Town General Store

Thursday, Sept. 21 @ Old Town General Store, 408 E. Grand River, Lansing. All ages, \$15, \$9 student. 7:30 p.m.

The Old Town General Store's outdoor live-music series, Concerts in the Courtyard, held in the flower-lined area behind the store, hosts the Rough & Tumble. While Nashville is their roots, in 2015 the Americana group's co-founders Mallory Graham and Scott Tyler quit their day jobs, hawked their belongings and hit the road on a never-ending national tour. Now the pair lives out of a 16-foot camper, modestly shared with Butter – their 97-pound dog. With its close harmonies and versatile instrumentation, the Rough & Tumble's eclectic setlist ranges from haunting and solemn to and quirky and spritely. Those sounds can be heard on "Pieces and Pieces," a seven-song EP issued in early 2016.

Fri., Sept. 22nd SCOTT AINSLIE



Scott Ainslie at the Ten Pound Fiddle

Friday, Sept. 22 @ MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. All ages, \$20, \$18 members, \$5 students, 7:30 p.m.

The Ten Pound Fiddle hosts acoustic-bluesman and historian Scott Ainslie Friday at the MSU Community Music School – fans of classic Delta blues icons like Robert Johnson might want to check out this show. Ainslie, who will be celebrating his 65th birthday, is a multi-instrumentalist who comes equipped with vintage guitars, a fretless-gourd banjo, and a one-string and homemade diddley bow – AKA a cigar-box guitar. Aside from expert playing, Ainslie also supplies carefully chosen banter, including historical anecdotes of his encounters with elder roots musicians from across the South. From old-time Southern Appalachian fiddle and banjo tunes, to black-gospel and blues traditions, his setlist is diverse and powerful. Coming up, Ainslie graduated with honors from Washington & Lee University during the Civil Rights era, and has since studied history and intriguing facts to pair with his rustic live performances and songwriting workshops.

UPCOMING SHOW?

CONTACT EVE@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Open Mic. FREE	Punk Nacho Night FREE	Club Kid Party
Buddies - Holt, 2040 N Aurelius Road			Daryn Lerner, 6:30 p.m.	
Buddies - Okemos, 1937 W Grand River Ave.			Chris Laskos, 8 p.m.	
Claddagh Irish Pub, 2900 Towne Centre Blvd.			Mike Skory - Blues Open Mic. 8 p.m.	
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Jackalope, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Road	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.	Pool Tourny, 7:30 a.m.	Alskn "walleye" AYCE	DJ, 9 p.m.
Darb's Tavern, 117 S. Cedar St., Mason.				Greg Smith, 9 p.m.
Eaton Rapids Craft Co., 204 N Main St.		Bryan Schaffer, 6 p.m.	Steve Cowles, 6 p.m.	Alistair Beerens, 6 p.m.
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 8 p.m.	Mike Skory & Friends, 8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze!!	Star Farm	Kathleen & The Groove Council
Harpers, 131 Albert Ave.	Bobby Standal, 6 p.m.	Alistair Beerens, 6 p.m.		Chris Laskos, 3:30 p.m.
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 E. Michigan Ave.			Mike Cooley, 5:30 p.m.	
Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee			Aimcriers, 7:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 7 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.	The Werks Passafire, 7 p.m.	Habitat for Humanity Door Jam, 6 p.m.	Raelynn, 7 p.m.	Past Tense, 8 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Kid Quill, 8 p.m.		Deceased, 8 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road	Rush Clement, 6:00 p.m		The Tenants, 6 p.m.	New Rule - tailgate party, 3:30 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27			Bobby Standal, 6 p.m.	
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.			New Rule, 6 p.m.	
Ryan's Roadhouse, 902 E State St.		Joe Burt, 6 p.m.		
The Unicorn Lounge, 327 E. Lansing Ave.		Frog, 9 p.m.	Lady Luck, 9 p.m.	Lady Luck, 9 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.	Alistair Beerens, 7 p.m.	Mark Sala, 7 p.m.		
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr	Open Mic. Night	Bad Tattoo	Joe Wright	

Out on the town

from page 25

Spanish Conversation Group. Speak Spanish in a friendly environment. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Teen Guitar Hero Tournament. Compete in Guitar Hero on Wii. Registration required online. 3:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Friday, September 22

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Compass Navigation. From 3-4 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Mendeley Workshop. From 9-11 a.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Literature and PoetryHow-Engage Your Audience with Visual Storytelling with Karl Gude. From 12:11-1:11 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

StoryTime. From 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

Live Music w/ Nothing-Lose. At 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. (517)371.2600.

EVENTS

Little & Bigs Geek Out! (Ages up-5). From 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Williamston Branch, 201 School St., Williamston. (517) 655-1191.

Saturday, September 23

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Introduction-Nordic Walking. From 1:30-3 p.m. \$20. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

TaiChi in the Park. From 9 a.m.-10 p.m. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Books and Bagels Meet and Greet: Banned Books Week (Grades 4-6). Welcome back meet and greet! Bring a read book to share with the group. 2-3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

Live Music w/ Karley Davidson. At 7 p.m. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. (517) 371-2600.

EVENTS

Drop-in LEGO Club (Age 4 & up). From 12-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 South Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517)367-6363.

Fireman Field Days—Meet Author Kat Tedsen (Adults). From 1-2 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Webberville Branch, 115 S. Main St., Webberville. (517)521.3643.

Haunted Travels of Michigan (Adults). From 3-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing.(517) 272-9840.

Magician Cameron Zvara (All ages). From 11 a.m.-noon FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351.

Red Cross Pillowcase Project (Ages 6-12). Design pillowcase emergency kit. 11-Noon FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517)272-9840.

Writing Pitches That Win (Adults). Drawn from their 30 years of publishing experience. 2-3 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351.

ARTS

The Cracked Pot Clay Studio Tour. The Cracked Pot Studio Tour features 12 private ceramic studios and over 42 clay artists. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. FREE. The Cracked Pot Studio, 4411 Rodeo Trail, Williamston.

Sunday, September 24

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Charlotte Yoga Club. Beginner to intermediate. 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$5 annually. ALIVE, 800 W. Lawrence, Charlotte.

Juggling. Learn how to juggle. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. (517) 371-5119.

Solar Open House and Forum. Establish solar energy program at home. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Haslett Community Church, 1427 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 339-8383. haslettcommunitychurch.org.

MUSIC

East By East Lansing Charity Festival. From 12-11 p.m. FREE/Donations accepted. Michigan State University Summer Circle Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, #113 East Lansing.

MSU Guest Recital: Ava Ordman, trombone, and Natalie Mannix, trombone. 7-8:30 p.m. \$10 adults/\$8 seniors/FREE for students and those under 18 with valid ID. Cook Recital Hall, MSU Music Building, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing.

EVENTS

Atheists and Humanists Dinner Meeting. Dr. Mark Reimers will lecture on Trump. 5-8:30 p.m. Buffet is \$10.99 plus tax. Asian Buffet, 4920 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 381-8388.

Family Symphony Series (All ages). Concert for kids/crafts too. 3-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District

See Out on the Town, Page 28

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Brezsný

Sept. 21-28

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Psychologists say most people need a scapegoat — a personification of wickedness and ignorance onto which they can project the unacknowledged darkness in their own hearts. That's the bad news. Here's the good news: The coming weeks will be an excellent time for you to neutralize that reflex and at least partially divest yourself of the need for scapegoats. How? The first thing to do is identify your own darkness with courageous clarity. Get to know it better. Converse with it. Negotiate with it. The more conscientiously you deal with that shadowy stuff within you, the less likely you'll be to demonize other people.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): If the weather turns bad or your allies get sad or the news of the world grows even crazier, you will thrive. I'm not exaggerating or flatter you. It's exactly when events threaten to demoralize you that you'll have maximum power to redouble your fortitude and effectiveness. Developments that other people regard as daunting will trigger breakthroughs for you. Your allies' confusion will mobilize you to manifest your unique visions of what it takes to live a good life.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried," declared comedian Steven Wright. My great uncle Ned had a different perspective. "If at first you don't succeed," he told me, "redefine the meaning of success." I'm not a fan of Wright's advice, but Ned's counsel has served me well. I recommend you try it out, Gemini. Here's another bit of folk wisdom that might be helpful. Psychotherapist Dick Olney said that what a good therapist does is help her clients wake up from the delusion that they are the image they have of themselves.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): What is home? The poet Elizabeth Corn pondered that question. She then told her lover that home was "the stars on the tip of your tongue, the flowers sprouting from your mouth, the roots entwined in the gaps between your fingers, the ocean echoing inside of your ribcage." I offer this as inspiration, Cancerian, since now is a perfect time to dream up your own poetic testimonial about home. What experiences make you love yourself best? What situations bring out your most natural exuberance? What influences feel like gifts and blessings? Those are all clues to the beloved riddle, "What is home?"

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You're most likely to thrive if you weave together a variety of styles and methods. The coming weeks will be a highly miscellaneous time, and you can't afford to get stuck in any single persona or approach. As an example of how to proceed, I invite you to borrow from both the thoughtful wisdom of the ancient Greek poet Homer and the silly wisdom of the cartoon character Homer Simpson. First, the poet: 'As we learn, we must daily unlearn something which it has cost us no small labor and anxiety to acquire.' Now here's Homer Simpson: "Every time I learn something new, it pushes out something old."

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Filmmakers often have test audiences evaluate their products before releasing them to the masses. If a lot of viewers express a particular critique, the filmmaker may make changes, even cutting out certain scenes or altering the ending. You might want to try a similar tack in the coming weeks, Virgo. Solicit feedback on the new projects and trends you've been working on -- not just from anyone, of course, but rather from smart people who respect you. And be sure they're not inclined to tell you only what you want to hear. Get yourself in the mood to treasure honesty and objectivity.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The poet E. E. Cummings said, "To be nobody-but-yourself -- in a world which is doing its best, night and day, to make you everybody else -- means to fight the hardest battle which any human being can fight; and never stop fighting." On the other hand, naturalist and writer Henry David Thoreau

declared that "We are constantly invited to be who we are," to become "something worthy and noble." So which of these two views is correct? Is fate aligned against us, working hard to prevent us from knowing and showing our authentic self? Or is fate forever conspiring in our behalf, seducing us to master our fullest expression? I'm not sure if there's a final, definitive answer, but I can tell you this, Libra: In the coming months, Thoreau's view will be your predominant truth.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "When you do your best, you're depending to a large extent on your unconscious, because you're waiting for the thing you can't think of." So said scorpio director Mike Nichols in describing his process of making films. Now I'm conveying this idea to you just in time for the beginning of a phase I call "Eruptions from Your Unconscious." In the coming weeks, you will be ripe to receive and make good use of messages from the depths of your psyche. At any other time, these simmering bits of brilliance might remain below the threshold of your awareness, but for the foreseeable future they'll be bursting through and making themselves available to be plucked.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Author Barbara Ehrenreich has done extensive research on the annals of partying. She says modern historians are astounded by the prodigious amount of time that medieval Europeans spent having fun together. "People feasted, drank, and danced for days on end," she writes. Seventeenth-century Spaniards celebrated festivals five months of each year. In 16th-century France, peasants devoted an average of one day out of every four to "carnival revelry." In accordance with current astrological omens, you Sagittarians are authorized to match those levels of conviviality in the coming weeks.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Kittens made French Emperor Napoleon III lose his composure. He shook and screamed around them. Butterflies scare actress Nicole Kidman. My friend Allie is frightened by photos of Donald Trump. As for me, I have an unnatural fear of watching reality TV. What about you, Capricorn? Are you susceptible to any odd anxieties or nervous fantasies that provoke agitation? If so, the coming weeks will be a perfect time to overcome them. Why? Because you'll be host to an unprecedented slow-motion outbreak of courage that you can use to free yourself from long-standing worries.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "The brain is wider than the sky," wrote Emily Dickinson. "The brain is deeper than the sea." I hope you cultivate a vivid awareness of these truths in the coming days, Aquarius. In order to accomplish the improbable tasks you have ahead of you, you've got to unleash your imagination, allowing it to bloom to its full power so it can encompass vast expanses and delve down into hidden abysses. Try this visualization exercise: Picture yourself bigger than the planet Earth, holding it tenderly in your hands.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): I got an email from a fan of Piscean singer Rihanna. He complained that my horoscopes rarely mention celebrities. "People love astrological predictions about big stars," he wrote. "So what's your problem? Are you too 'cultured' to give us what we the people really want? Get off your high horse and 'lower' yourself to writing about our heroes. You could start with the lovely, talented, and very rich Rihanna." I told Rihanna's fan that my advice for mega-stars is sometimes different from what it is for average folks. For Piscean mega-stars like Rihanna, Justin Bieber, Ellen Page, and Bryan Cranston, for example, the coming weeks will be a time to lay low, chill out, and recharge. But non-famous Pisceans will have prime opportunities to boost their reputation, expand their reach, and wield a stronger-than-usual influence in the domains they frequent.

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

Out on the town

from page 27

Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 South Capitol Avenue Lansing. (517)367-6363.
Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance. At 6 p.m. \$8 dance, \$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 490-7838.
Mobile Adoption Events with Ingham County Animal Shelter. From 1-3:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 South Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517)367-6363.
Songs for Sustainability Festival. Afternoon of music, community and more. 12-4 p.m. FREE/ Donations accepted. Old Town General Store, 408 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

ARTS
Meridian Artisan Marketplace. 30 artisans/ crafters from Mid-Michigan show jewelry, woodwork and more. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Meridian Township Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos.

Monday, September 25
CLASSES AND SEMINARS
Endnote X7 and Endnote Online. A basic introduction to Endnote and Endnote Online. 1-3 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.
A Course in Love. Weekly group dedicated to the study of the spiritual psychology. 1-2 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes, Lansing. (517)371-3010. unitylansing.org.
Support Group. For the recently divorced and separated. 7:30 p.m. St., Davids Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272.
Water Wars: Our H2O Futures. From 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Union Ballroom, 49 Abbott Road, East Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY
BabyTime. Rhymes and finger plays. Ages 0-2 years with adult. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-

2420.
MUSIC
I Don't Do This for Love, I Do This for Love: New Songs of Working and Not Working. From 12-1 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.
New Horizons Community Band. Pick up a new instrument, or dust off an old one. 6-8 p.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

EVENTS
Ask the Lawyer at the Meridian Senior Center. From 9:30 a.m.-noon FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.
Book Discussion Group (Adults). This month: "X" — A Novel by Ilyasah Shabazz and Kekla Magoon. 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Aurelius Branch, 1939 S., Aurelius Road, Mason.
Celebrate 20 Years of Harry Potter. Create mini Monster Book of Monsters. Register at elpl.org. Under age 8 with adult. 6-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing.
Chess, Cribbage, Hand & Foot. Weekly activities at the senior center. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.
French Club. Practice French in a friendly setting. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Maker Monday (All ages). Use crafting supplies, computers, the Raspberry Pi, and the Makey Makey. 3:30-5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Williamston Branch, 201 School St., Williamston.
Meet Author/Memoirist Drew Philp (Adults). Discussion about Detroit. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 S., Capitol Ave., Lansing.
Monday Movie Matinee. A Dog's Purpose; PG, 100 mins. For adult audience. Popcorn while supplies last. 1 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Personalized Tech Help (Adults). From 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster Lansing. (517) 485-5185.
Social Bridge. Weekly events at senior center. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing.
Teen Self-Care Club. Relaxing environment with crafts, activities and hot tea. 3:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

ARTS
Monday Night Life Drawing. From 7-9 p.m. \$10 per session (\$5 for students)-cover the model and studio. O'Day Studios, Suite 115, 1650 Kendale Blvd., East Lansing.

Tuesday, September 26
CLASSES AND SEMINARS
Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn leadership and speaking skills. 7 p.m. FREE for visitors. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300.
Duplicate Bridge. Weekly events at the senior center. 1-4 p.m. \$2 members, \$3 non members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.
Take off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 5:15 p.m. In room 207. 6 p.m. FREE first visit. St. Therese Parish, 102 W. Randolph St., Lansing. (517) 487-3749.

LITERATURE AND POETRY
Special Collections Open House: Latin American Heritage Publishing. From 6-8 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.
ToddlerTime. Active storytime designed to build prereading skills. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.

MUSIC
Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. From 7-10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5287.
MSU Guest Lecture. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Cook Recital Hall, MSU Music Building, 333 West Circle Drive, East Lansing. ow.ly/NxJG30fa8Ch.
MSU Symphony Band. From 7:30-9 p.m. \$10/\$8 Seniors/FREE for students and those under 18 with valid ID. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road,

East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

EVENTS
Bingo, Bridge, and Euchre. Weekly activities at the center. 1-4:30 p.m. Cost Varies. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.
Game Night at UrbanBeat. Play provided games, or bring your own. 7-11 p.m. FREE. UrbanBeat Events Center, 1213 Turner St., Lansing.
LCC West Toastmasters. Learn leadership and speaking skills. 5-6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-1314.
Overeaters Anonymous. Need to lose weight? Find hope here. 7 p.m. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 349-9536.
The Poetry Room presents: #LoveLansing. Show us your love. Dennis Hinrichsen is featured. 7:30-9:30 p.m. FREE/Donations accepted. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington, Lansing.
Trending Topics. Learn about recent news. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Wednesday, September 27
CLASSES AND SEMINARS
Capital Area Recycling and Trash — Senior Discovery Group. Lori Welch from the Capital shows recycling methods. 10 a.m.-noon FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.
Reiki Refresh Class. Update for attuned Reiki

practitioners pre-register. 5-9 p.m. \$95. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave., Suite D Lansing. (517) 402-6727.

LITERATURE AND POETRY
Writing Workshop Participant Reading. At 6 p.m. FREE. Scene Metrospace, 110 Charles St., East Lansing. (517) 319-6832.

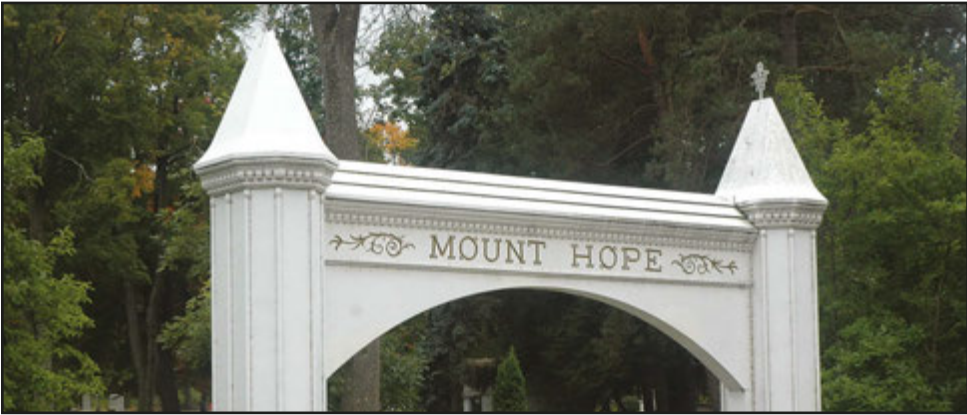
MUSIC
Monte Pride at Allen Farmers Market. Come and enjoy a performance. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing.
MSU Faculty Recital: Corbin Wagner. From 7:30-9 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/ FREE for students and those under 18 with valid ID. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

EVENTS
CADL Business Librarian: Beginning Facebook for Small Business. From 12-1 p.m. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing.
Raising Little Ones Together. Discuss topics w/ parents/guardians. Kids welcome. 6-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Teen Banned Books Week. Learn the history of literary censorship, play games, create a display. 4-5 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420. elpl.org.



SEPTEMBER 23-24>> MICHIGAN APPLE FESTIVAL

One of the biggest indicators that fall has arrived is apple cider and donuts. The Michigan Apple Festival makes its way to The Country Mill in Charlotte on Saturday and Sunday. Enjoy everything from picking apples to horse-drawn wagon rides to apple wine tasting. The festival will also feature Free Shrugs Improv, which is an Improv Clean Comedy Group, and the CIDER RUSH 5K & DONUT DASH 1. Proceeds will benefit the Greater Lansing Area Food Bank. The festivities will continue on Sunday with a visit from the Michigan Apple Queen and performances by the Dance Studio. 9 a.m. FREE. Country Mill Farms, 4648 Otto Road. Charlotte. (517) 543-1019. countrymillfarms.com/calendar.html



SEPTEMBER 24>>11TH ANNUAL FALL WALKING TOUR AT MT. HOPE CEMETERY

The leaves are changing, the weather's getting colder and fall has all but arrived. Join The Friends of Lansing's Historic Cemeteries on its 11th Annual Fall Walking Tour on Sunday at Mt. Hope Cemetery. The tour will take a stroll through the historic and natural terrain of the cemetery. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended. 3 p.m. 1709 E Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing. (517)-483-4303. ow.ly/pto930fg2In

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HE ATE

SHE ATE



Today's Beggar's Banquet still brings its '70s charm

44 years young

By MARK NIXON

Women in East Lansing went braless, MSU students marched to the state Capitol in protest of the Vietnam War and a little joint known as Beggar's Banquet introduced the world to the Richard Milhouse Nixon Baloney Sandwich.

Ah, the '70s. Those were the days, my friend.

Things sure have changed. Bras are back, the war is long since over, we don't have Nixon to kick around any longer.

Yet, Beggar's endures.

Word on the street was that Beggar's had lost its mojo. A message written in chalk at Beggar's rear entrance begs to differ. "Beggar's Can," it says, as in "Beggars can be choosers."

I am so happy City Pulse chose Beggar's for a restaurant review; happier still that its persona remains true to its origins and its sprawling menu provides simple, tasty food in ample portions.

"Gimme Eat" is its credo, a play on the Rolling Stones' "Gimme Shelter."

Beggar's is not just a paean to the Stones but to an era they helped define. There are vestiges of the original menu: chili, London broil and beef stroganoff. And there are add-ons I'm pretty sure never made the 1970s-era Beggar's menu: Ahi tuna and smoked whitefish pate.

Beggar's has long been known for its Bloody Mary's and breakfasts. On one visit, I indulged in both. The Bloody Mary (\$6) was rimmed with celery salt, the way I like it, and included a spear of pickled asparagus, olives and a dill pickle spear. Perfect. For breakfast, I chose the Eggs Benedict flight (\$12): A traditional Bennie with Canadian bacon, another with richly smoked American bacon and a third with avocado and tomato, each topped with the traditional poached egg and hollandaise sauce.

The only thing I would change next time is to ask for lemon wedges, because I like my hollandaise to be pucker-worthy with lemon.

On the first of three visits, Judy and I dined on smoked whitefish pate (\$10), Ahi tuna and a small order of Mac & Cheese (\$15 each). This was the best dining experience of our three trips to Beggars. The pate had the requisite smokiness and just a touch of spiced heat at the finish. The tuna came with pickled ginger, marinated cucumber and a robust wasabi paste. Judy, who has a refined palate for all things Japanese, dove in and rarely came up for air.

Meanwhile, I did my own deep dive on Bob's Way Mac & Cheese (named after Beggar's co-founder, Bob Adler.) In addition to three kinds of cheese, this dish comes with bacon and blackened chicken. The latter was tender and juicy, unlike the dry, tasteless blackened chicken I find in many restaurants. This dish compares favorably with the famed Mac & Cheese at Zingerman's Roadhouse in Ann Arbor.

To top things off, this was Wine Wednesday, a staple from the beginning, I am told. All wines are 50 percent off.

On our final trip to Beggar's, we shared a baked brie (\$15) that was wrapped in a puff

Beggar's Banquet

9 a.m.-Midnight, Sun.-Mon.
218 E. Abbot Road, East Lansing
(517) 351-4540
beggarsbanquet.com

Beggar's brie delights

By GABRIELLE LAWRENCE

There are a few things that I know for certain about the City of East Lansing. One, the ice cream at the dairy store is the best ice cream in a 100-mile radius. Two, if you drive past Rick's American Café after 10 p.m. on a weekend, you'll see lots of scantily-clad coeds, because coats are evidently for nerds. Three, if you sit on the rooftop at El Azteco, the service up there will make you wonder if you have personally, mortally offended your server.

On par with these certainties is a certain familiar menu at Beggar's Banquet. With a few exceptions like the "Sticky Fingers" section, which is new-ish — more on this later. The menu at Beggar's has remained steadfast for as long as I can remember going there, which is upward of 15 years. Sure, if it ain't broke, why fix it? But on the other hand, the sucking sound you hear is the void of interesting, reliable restaurants in East Lansing.

For a recent brunch visit, my first in at least five years, Mr. She Ate ordered the breakfast burrito (\$8). The burrito was large and over-stuffed with scrambled eggs and seasoned onion, which were a tad on the tepid. His side of bacon (\$3.50) was oven-roasted — just how we like it, as it avoids a shriveled piece of meat. His side of tri-color — quad-color, if you count the sweet potatoes — breakfast potatoes (\$3.50) needed salt. Although they have needed salt for 15 years.

I've noticed about myself lately that if the word "chorizo" is included in an item description on a menu, chances are high that I'm going to order that item. I was true to this trend when I ordered the Santa Fe omelet (\$10.50), which includes three eggs and the usual suspects: onion, green pepper and my beloved, spicy Mexican sausage. This variation is topped with thick slices of avocado and chipotle mayo, and accompanied by — you guessed it — breakfast potatoes.

To test my theory of Beggar's having some of the most timeworn food in the area, during our brunch, I posted a photo of my plate to Instagram and asked my followers to guess where I was. Within 10 minutes I had two correct guesses. Just saying, Beggar's, a fresh herb garnish goes a long way to brighten a dish.

For a lunch visit, we debated ordering the baked brie as an appetizer. You know the one — it's nestled in puff pastry and served with crackers and a sliced green apple. I'm sure it's exactly the same one that you had during the Wine Wednesdays you spent at Beggar's when you were an undergrad. For the sake of variety, we ordered the poutine (\$13) from the Sticky

Fingers section of the menu instead, which is essentially French fries topped with your choice of cheese, chopped tomato, chili, pork or poutine. The poutine was lacking in description, and, had we known that Beggar's riff on the Canadian classic is a thick, brown gravy absolutely heaving with mushrooms recently released from their can, we would have chosen something else. That said, any time a French fry is topped with melted cheese, you're going to find at least one or two good bites.

We picked up steam with my Hipster sandwich (\$11). The prosciutto and brie grilled cheese sandwich includes Beggar's-made strawberry and Bell's Soft Parade jam, which,



Gabrielle Lawrence/City Pulse

A "Sticky Fingers" selection, the poutine (\$13) was loaded to the top with a five-cheese blend, tomato, scallions and Beggar's Poutine.



Gabrielle Lawrence/City Pulse

The Beggar's Burrito (\$8) is a jam-packed classic, filled with scrambled eggs, chorizo, onion and more.

He ate

from page 29

pastry and baked. It came with a wedge of green apple carved into the shape of a swan. Beggar's is not a froufrou kind of place, so the swan is about as froufrou as you'll find here. In any event, the locally produced brie was baked to perfection.

Next up, we went the traditional route. Judy ordered the London broil (\$18), a staple since the 1970s. This flank steak, a tougher cut of beef, arrived rare as ordered. I chose another Beggar's staple, Beef Stroganoff (\$18). Here, a spirited debate ensued. My beef chunks ranged from chewy to tough. Judy said it's because it was made

with flank steak, just like her London broil. I said I wanted my stroganoff with chunks of beef that have more give and less chew.

We agreed to disagree. I will say that the silken mushroom gravy brought the whole stroganoff together brilliantly, beef notwithstanding.

Between courses, we admired the many posters from Broadway musicals that have appeared over the years at the Wharton Center. It turns out that cast members are regularly drawn to Beggar's after performances.

I'm of an age when, as Paul Simon sang, "I seem to lean on old, familiar ways." Beggar's fits the bill. It proves that people and things can age with ageless grace. Beggar's Banquet turned 44 this year, but there's still a young hippie abiding within.

She ate

from page 29

brought the perfect savory dimension to this already delicious sandwich. The prosciutto was thicker than some varieties I've had, which was welcome here as it stood up to the gooey melted cheese. That sandwich was possibly the best thing I have ever eaten at Beggar's.

His chicken nachos (\$11) appeared to be beautifully presented. I say "appeared," because can we talk about the lighting

in the dining room for a minute? I'm all for dimming the lights and creating some ambience, but it is straight-up too dark in that restaurant. Have you heard the expression that first we eat with our eyes?

The dimness of the room might also explain the service, in that our server might simply have been unable to see that we were sitting in her section. I understand, the week when students return to East Lansing can be stressful and busy, but as a professional adult who treats her servers with dignity, I expect the same from them.

Zoup! — 'Rustic Vegetable Soup' and side Greek Salad

One might go there for its view of the former Strand building across the street or for its free Wi-Fi. Me? I went to "Zoup!" for its soup and salad combo. From their 12 rotating selections, I chose the "Rustic Vegetable Soup."



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Sat. 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
214 S. Washington Sq.
Lansing
(517) 367-7400
www.zoup.com

It was served hot and seemed like a tomato soup gone wild. Its thick, red broth was infused with zucchini, green peppers, celery, onions, corn, soy, kidney beans and sliced baby carrots. It was chunky enough to keep a plastic spoon upright and tasty enough to get me to sit upright in my chair.

None of the veggies were mushy, and each offered individual flavors. I noticed the zucchini first — firm and sweet-tasting. The ample corn and beans helped it satisfy, and the broth blend was peppery yet not overly spicy. Brown sugar and garlic gave the vegan, gluten and dairy-free soup a character that was more gourmet than rustic.

Adding a side of a loaded Greek half salad reduced the cost of my bowl of soup. With a delectable multi-grain roll that was fresh, soft and chewy, my meal total was \$9.68. A Zoup! meal bargain that was "zo" good.

—DAVID WINKELSTERN



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THE PULSIFIEDS

BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

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B/18/022—ACM AND HAZMAT BUILDING SURVEY SERVICES as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the City of Lansing, Purchasing Office, (c/o LBWL) 1232 Haco Dr, Lansing MI 48912 until 2:00 PM local time in effect on Oct. 5, 2017, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197, email Stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com or go to www.mtln.info** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

Green Door Bar & Grill is now hiring for FOH & BOH positions. Experience preferred. Late afternoon, evening & weekend availability is necessary. Please apply in person at 2005 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. NO PHONE CALLS.

Ingham County seeks bids for:

- Title Search Services, Packet 178-17
- Real Estate Appraisal Services, Packet 179-17
- Surveyor Services, Packet 180-17
- Baseline Reports, Packet 181-17

Information is online: <http://pu.ingham.org>, under Current Bids link.

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