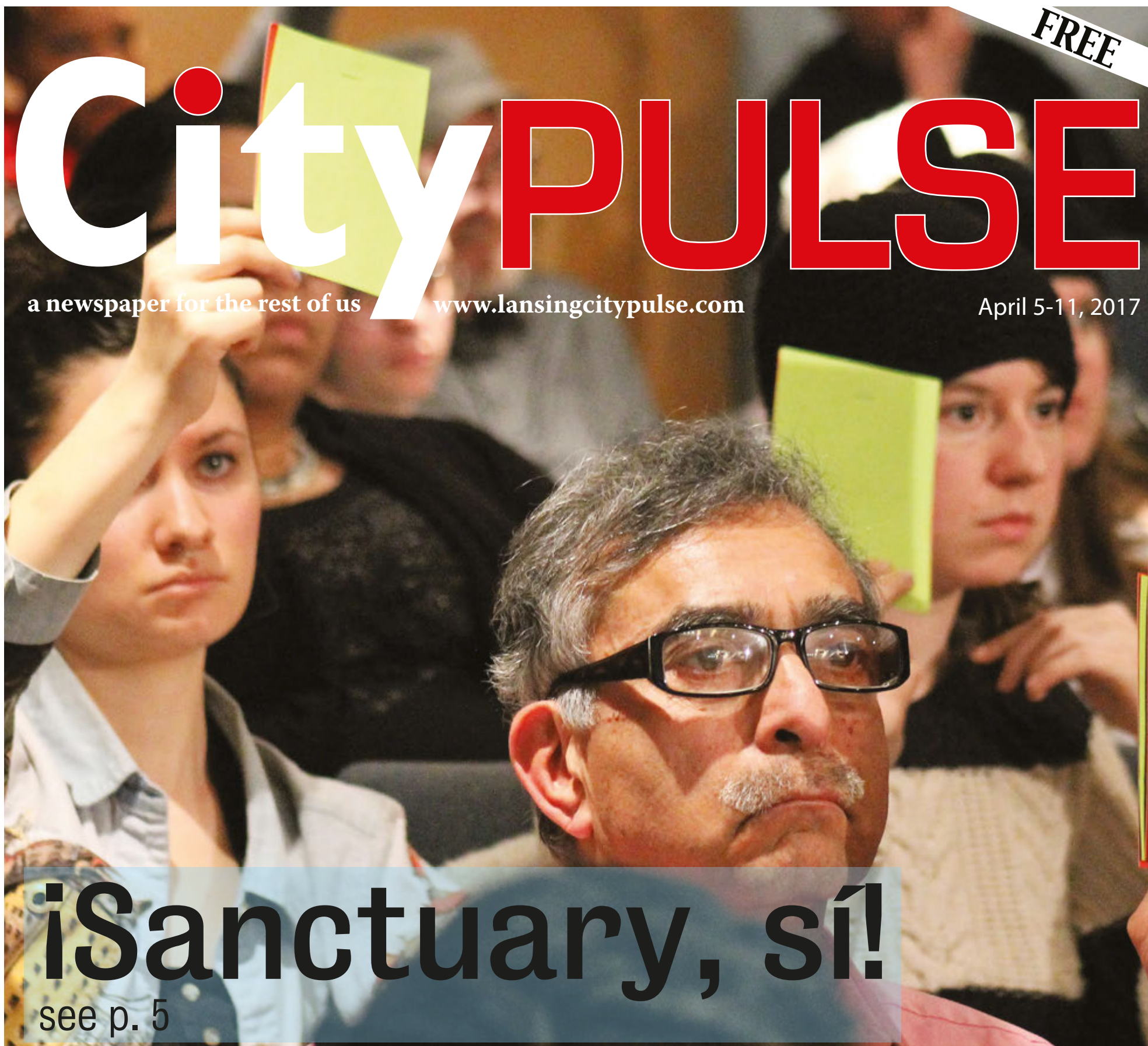


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April 5-11, 2017



iSanctuary, sí!

see p. 5

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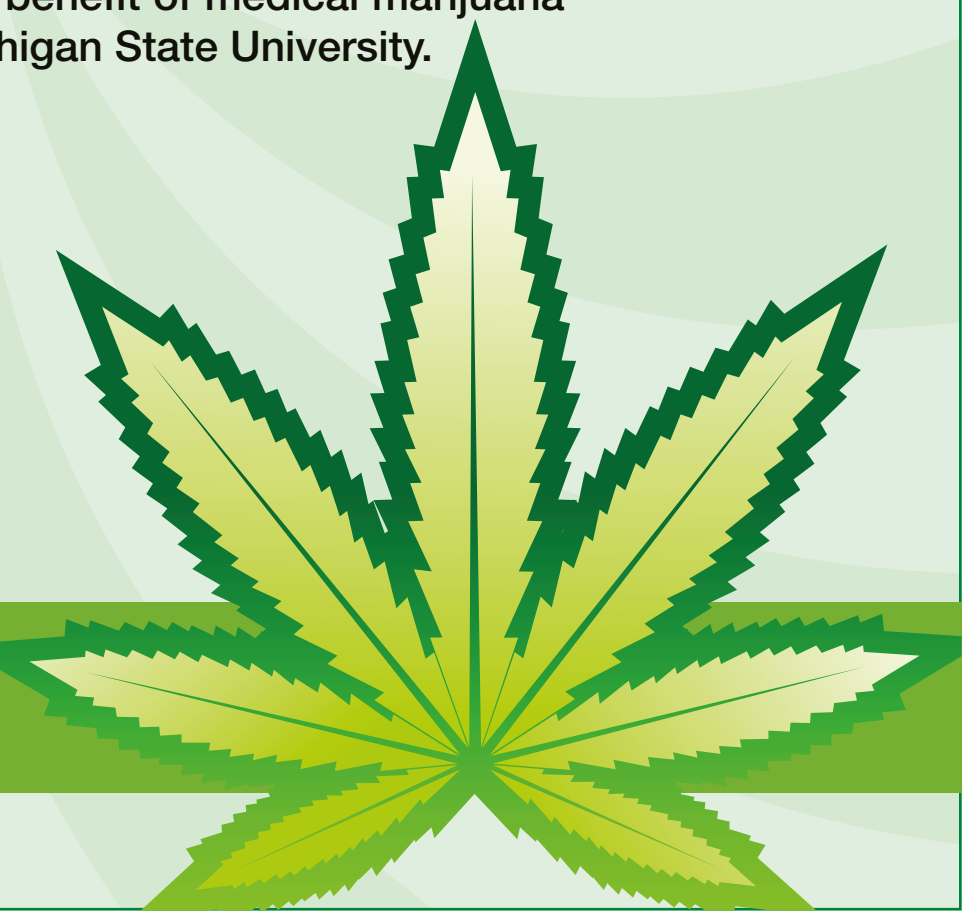
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City Pulse is calling on you to contribute whatever you can afford to assist us in producing a special issue on April 19 to show the Lansing City Council why a heavy-handed proposed ordinance it is considering is misguided and will virtually kill the medical marijuana business in the city, to the detriment of patients, entrepreneurs and the Lansing economy. Our coverage will include a thorough — and expensive — study on the economic benefit of medical marijuana to our community, conducted by Michigan State University.

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PAGE 7

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PAGE 8

Your guide to summer festivals



PAGE 11

Capital City Film Festival kicks off seventh year



COVER ART

Photo by Todd Heywood

Jazz Composer Gregg Hill Celebrates The Release of His 2nd Book "Spontaneity" with 2 Live Shows!

"Tone Colors"

Sunday, April 9th at 2 p.m.

Featured Band Leaders:

Elden Kelly, Ron Newman and Rodney Whitaker

"The Door is Open"

Sunday, April 23rd at 2 p.m.

Featured Band Leaders:

Arlene McDaniel, Mike Eyla, Carl Cafagna and Jim Alfredson



Event is FREE and open to the Public!

Where? Both Shows will be at the MSU Community Music School,
4930 Hagadorn Rd., East Lansing, MI 48823

For more information, visit: www.GreggHillPublishing.com

Link to the Show on Gregg's Website: GreggHillPublishing.com/two-shows-in-april

On Facebook: www.facebook.com/events/1430327407029432

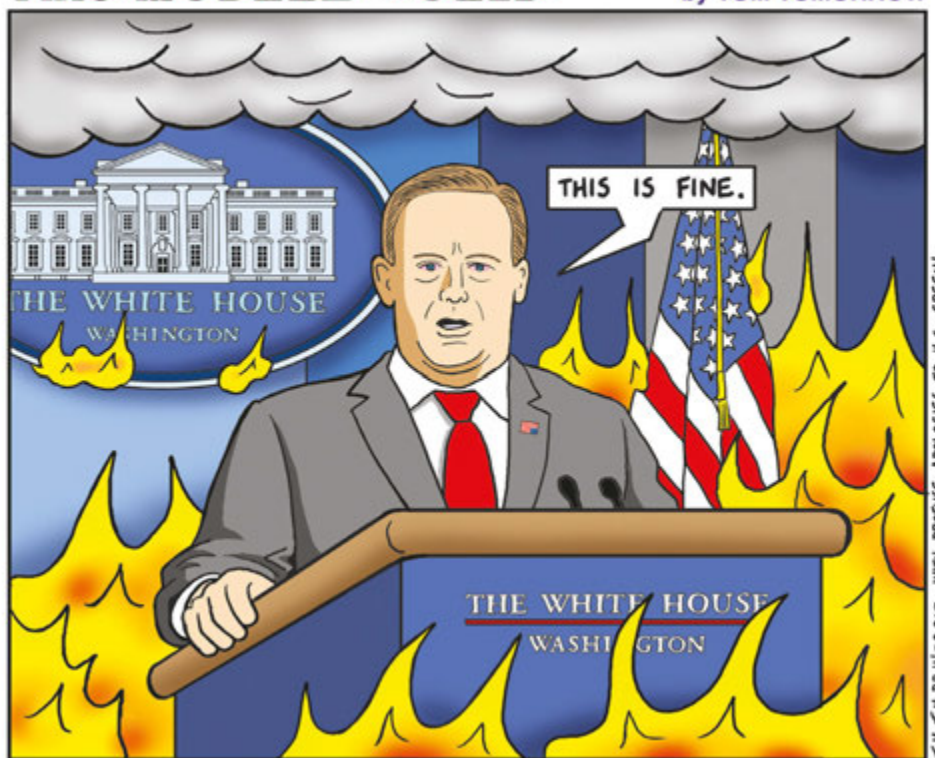
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THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW



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Story behind the story

How we became Michigan's first sanctuary city

On March 20, a 36-year-old undocumented woman from Mexico was pulled over by Lansing Police Officer Matthew Meaton for improper lane use. He asked for her driver's license. She produced an expired one. Her asked her if it was a fake, which is a crime. Misunderstanding the question because of the language barrier, she said yes.

She was arrested and taken to the Lansing City Jail. As part of standard booking procedures, officers there checked "law enforcement resources." When those failed to return any information on the woman, they called the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement — ICE.

"He told me they didn't know what else to do, so they called ICE," said Oscar Castaneda, operations manager and organizer for Action of Greater Lansing, a nonprofit coalition of 16 faith communities in the Lansing area. He was contacted by the woman's family to assist in bailing her out and was present at the Lansing jail, meeting with officers on behalf of the family.

"They thought that was a good resource," Lansing Police Chief Michael Yankowski said in confirming the call.

That phone call to immigration officials by the Lansing officer set off a chain of events that led to a new mayoral policy on how city authorities are to deal with undocumented immigrants and ultimately, on Monday night, to the City Council's historic and surprising decision to declare Lansing a sanctuary city — the first clear-cut sanctuary city in Michigan: The Council did so in unequivocal terms:

"The Lansing City Council declares itself a Sanctuary City according to the Mayor's April 3, 2017 Executive Order and this Resolution."

City Pulse asked all candidates for the Lansing City Council to comment on the Council's decision to declare Lansing a sanctuary city. See their responses after 5 p.m. today at www.lansingcitypulse.com/sanctuary

The resolution also commits the city, "when possible," to "developing policies protecting vulnerable populations whose rights may be abrogated and interests harmed by those hostile to maintaining or expanding protections to these communities and who would unconstitutionally and illegally misuse the power of the federal government to do so."

After wrangling over the issue since Donald Trump was elected president, the Council voted 6-0 to take the step, setting aside concerns about the threat of losing



Left: Todd Heywood/City Pulse; Right: Photo by Theresa Rosado

Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar, who led the successful campaign to name Lansing a sanctuary city, listens as Mayor Virg Bernero makes a point at Monday historic City Council meeting.

an estimated \$6.5 million annually in federal funds.

Castaneda said the woman's story was "absolutely" behind the mayor's executive order.

City Pulse promised its sources not to identify the woman. She declined to be interviewed because she feared doing so would anger ICE officials. Her story has been pieced together with interviews with those who came to her aide when she was arrested, city officials and court records.

"I know it's definitely a factor," said Kathie Dunbar, Councilmember at-large and the leading voice for the declaration. She confirmed she raised the woman's story with Mayor Virg Bernero. "He committed himself to making sure there were policies and procedures in place."

Shortly after that meeting with Bernero, the executive order came.

"We are the first city in Michigan to do this," Dunbar said of the sanctuary city declaration.

While those opposed to sanctuary city policies have claimed Detroit and Ann Arbor are sanctuary cities, leaders in both cities disagree. Detroit made the list of anti-sanctuary city activists because it passed a 2007 ordinance to prohibit law enforcement from inquiring about immigration status during investigations. Both Mayor Mike Duggan and Police Chief James Craig have said that ordinance does not violate a Trump administration executive order.

Ann Arbor got the label after it passed an "anti-profiling resolution" in 2003. That resolution was adopted in protest of the Patriot Act, a law passed in the wake of the 9-11 terror attacks.

By declaring itself a sanctuary city, and through Bernero's executive order, Lansing's new policy is that it will not detain people based on administrative immigration warrants — so-called retainers or detainer orders — and will not work to enforce immigration laws alone. The executive order, which was affirmed by the City Council resolution, also prohibits Lansing officials from contacting ICE, except when a person is allegedly involved in "a serious crime."

A similar move by Baltimore landed that city on the Trump "sanctuary city" list last week. Inclusion on the list could lead to the loss of federal funding under a Jan. 25 executive order signed by President Donald Trump.

The Trump administration released a list of 150 jurisdictions nationwide late last week. That list includes states and cities that have announced they will not work with federal immigration officials to enforce immigration laws, although they would cooperate in other areas. Detroit, Ann Arbor and Lansing were not on the list.

But Lansing could be on the administration's next list because of Bernero's executive order, which prohibits Lansing Police from cooperating with or acting in their law enforcement role to "stop, pursue, interrogate, investigate, arrest or oth-

See Sanctuary, Page 6



Property: Student Services Building at MSU East Lansing

This International Style building was designed by Detroit architect Ralph R. Calder in 1956, incorporating such style-defining features as flat roofs and smooth wall planes. Although the main entrance recalls the image of an airfoil, very little additional ornamentation is employed, as materials and colors compose the straightforward design. Limestone, fields of staggered Roman brick and ashlar planters provide a solid masonry foundation along the main elevation. Large expanses of plate glass, held in thin steel frames, are mounted above smaller windows that operate to allow for natural ventilation. Pastel yellow and green porcelain covered metal panels complete the composition.

Naturally, the building loads are not carried by the glass wall or its thin frames. Structural columns are set slightly back from the curtain wall at regular intervals along its length. The location of the columns is expressed on the building's exterior, marked by limestone pilasters. Careful observers might note the actual columns, just within the building envelope.

This and two other campus buildings will be featured during a presentation at the upcoming MSU Science Festival. A span of 50 years divides one building from the next. The structural systems of each building reflect contemporary technologies and changing attitudes regarding architectural design.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

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Sealed proposals will be received by the City of East Lansing at the Office of the Director of Public Works, up to 11:00 A. M., Monday May 1, 2017, at which time and place proposals will be publicly opened and read for the furnishing of materials, labor and equipment for the Cleaning & Televisioning of Sewers Associated with the Glencarin Neighborhood Local Street Project in the City of East Lansing. Proposals may either be mailed to the Director of Public Works at 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 or hand delivered to the Office of the Director of Public Works located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

The Contract Documents may be obtained at the Director of Public Works' Office, located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

Proposals must be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond payable to the City of East Lansing, in the amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the bid amount, which shall be forfeited to the City of East Lansing if the bidder to whom the Contract is awarded fails to enter into a Contract within ten (10) days after the Contract is awarded. The unsuccessful bidders' checks or bid bonds will be returned upon final award of Contract, approved and executed.

The City will apply its Local Purchasing Preference Policy, Policy Resolution 2009-3, in making the award of this contract.

The City of East Lansing reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive defects in proposals, and to make the award in its own best interest.

CITY OF EAST LANSING
Marie Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-092

Sanctuary

from page 5

erwise detain a person based solely on their immigration status or suspected violations of immigration law.”

While Councilmembers Dunbar, Tina Houghton and Jessica Yorke fought for sanctuary city status, others opposed it out of concern about the loss of federal funds, much of which aid lower-income and impoverished residents through a variety of programs. Led by Bernero, other Councilmembers sought to recommit Lansing to be a “welcoming city” under an earlier resolution and, they hoped, avoid punishment by the Trump administration for having “in effect a statute, policy, or practice that prevents or hinders the enforcement of Federal law.”

“I still have a concern regarding what that means to be a sanctuary city,” said Council President Patricia Spitzley, who cast the lone dissenting vote against amending the resolution to include a sanctuary city declaration Monday night. “My responsibility is not only to the residents, but it is also a fiscal responsibility. So, if there is any chance that by having the word sanctuary in our resolution it puts a spotlight on us, for me, I can’t in good conscience support that.”

However, she ultimately cast a vote in favor of the final resolution because it “was the right thing to do.”

3rd Ward Councilman Adam Hussain, who is on vacation, did not attend. 1st Ward Councilwoman Jody Washington left the meeting because of illness before the vote.

That didn’t stop her from condemning the passage.

“I don’t need this soapbox to stand on,” she said via Facebook messenger. “I am not up for reelection.”

Of the resolution’s supporters, Houghton and Dunbar are candidates this year and Judi Brown Clarke is giving up her seat to run for mayor, Yorke is not seeking reelection and Carol Wood is not up.

Andy Schor, a Democratic state lawmaker representing Lansing and a candidate for mayor, said he supported the executive order.

“While I have concerns about losing millions of federal dollars due to recent disappointing policies by the president, I support Lansing’s policies specifying that our police will not act as immigration officials,” he said in a written statement. He said if elected mayor in November, he will review the “repercussions” resulting from the executive order and resolution before determining whether to continue Bernero’s order.

Brown Clarke, the only other declared candidate for mayor, issued a press release that sidestepped her vote to declare Lansing a sanctuary city. In it, she said she “reaffirms Lansing’s status as a ‘Welcoming City.’”

“As a city councilwoman, I am responsible for protecting our community and all who live in our great city,” she said. “It’s imperative our police officers serve in a position of trust, where public safety is the priority.

“As an elected official, I also serve as a steward of the city’s resources. If Lansing should face any financial sanctions from the federal government as a result of our renewed Welcoming City status, I am committed to doing my due diligence to fully protect the city, its residents and its resources.”

Bernero and Yankowski have regularly assured the Council and public that Lansing Police do not want to become immigration officers. That’s why the woman’s experience raised alarms among immigration activists.

“There was supposed to be a policy about that anyway,” said Spitzley when told of the case. She said the unnamed woman’s story was “unfortunate” and that she was “disgusted by it.” She hoped the new executive order would lead to more specific training on Lansing Police policy for officers.

The mayor reiterated that commitment Monday night in a press statement accompanying his executive order release.

“We do not want our local police to become de facto immigration agents,” Bernero said, “especially under the divisive and draconian direction of the Trump administration.”

He said he was “confident” the new policies “do not violate federal law.” He tempered that by noting he was prepared “to take legal action to protect the prerogatives and powers of local government and local law enforcement.”

With a clear set of directives from the mayor and supported by the Council, the focus is now on implementing them.

Yankowski said Tuesday morning that he had issued a memo to all LPD employees informing them that the executive was “effective immediately.” But he said there is still “research” to be done to codify those directives into clear policies and protocols.

“We have started a complete review of our policies,” he said in a phone interview. “We will have to determine what specific policies need to be created, and what protocols go with that. Once those are adopted it will also require additional training for officers so they know what those policies are.”

He conceded that the woman’s story has also resulted in a lesson learned. “If you don’t have the policy on paper, or clear, it leaves it up for interpretation.”

He said his focus, and that of his team, will be on “creating policy that is really focused on public safety.”

That review and policy process could result in additional language to Bernero’s executive order to “clarify” the directives.

Councilmembers and advocates said that while the declaration is an important move, there is more work to be done in finalizing internal policies and procedures. But right now they are taking a breather.

“I don’t know if I can sigh hard enough to tell you how relieved I am that there was a tangible, concrete policy action laid out at the end of this road,” said Dunbar. “It has been an exhausting 10-plus weeks.”

— Todd Heywood



CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS



HOSTED BY BERL SCHWARTZ



SEN. CURTIS HERTEL
State Senator (D)



SEN. RICK JONES
State Senator (R)

THIS WEEK
**THE
LEGISLATURE**



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COMCAST CHANNEL 16 LANSING
7:30 P.M. EVERY FRIDAY

Lansing poll results

Schor far ahead for mayor, Dunbar hurting for Council

A poll shows Andy Schor is way ahead for mayor, but it also indicates that Lansing City Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar, a three-term incumbent, could be in serious trouble.

Schor, a four-term state representative, leads Judi Brown Clarke, a first-term Lansing City Councilwoman, 47 percent to 20 percent, with 33 percent undecided.

The same poll also found that Dunbar, an at-large Councilwoman, received only 13 percent support, while 28 percent said they would not vote for her, leaving 59 percent up in the air.

Morgan Communications, a local consulting firm, commissioned the poll. Practical Political Consulting, a Lansing company, conducted it.

The poll was automated, which is generally considered less accurate than live interviews. The poll has an accuracy rate of plus or minus 6 percent. It was conducted March 28 to 30. It sampled 243 likely voters in the mayor's race and 258 on Dunbar.

"Always better to be ahead than behind," said Schor. "It kind of confirms a

lot of support I am hearing."

Brown Clarke said in a written statement: "There have been several polls to date, each with varying results. And, we are still a couple of weeks away from the filing deadline and a final slate of candidates. My focus remains on the most important and accurate poll, which will be from the voters on Election Day."

She and Schor are the only announced candidates. City Clerk Chris Swope considered running but decided against it because of the strong support he found for Schor. The unwillingness of the three-time clerk, who ran unopposed the last two times, suggested that Brown Clarke, who has only run for office once, has a significant challenge ahead of her. She has also lost much of the endorsement competition, with scores of elected officials, neighborhood leaders and unions already lined up behind Schor.

But two big endorsements remain: the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce and the UAW. The chamber has conducted a political poll but has declined to release the results.

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero announced in late February that he would not seek a fourth term, citing personal reasons. Insiders close to the mayor said he did not want to put his family through what was shaping up as a tough race against Schor.

With the April 25 filing deadline approaching, it is looking like just a two-person race. Schor and Brown Clarke will face each other in the nonpartisan Aug. 8 primary election. If no one else enters the race, they will face each other again in the November general election.

"It's clear that the Lansing mayor's race is Andy Schor's to lose," said Thomas Morgan, president of Morgan Communications. "The campaign has barely started and he's already near the magic 50-percent level. There's a long way to

go, and Judi Brown Clarke could still turn it around, but at this stage Schor is in excellent shape."

As for poll results on Dunbar, Morgan said it shows she is "in a very weak position for a 12-year incumbent." But he added, "She has plenty of time to recover."

Said Dunbar in a text message, "I don't run with my finger in the air to see which way the wind is blowing. I do what I think is right, and I stand on my record. I trust voters will appreciate that."

Dunbar has drawn competition from two candidates with elective track records of their own: Peter Spadafore and Guillermo Z. Lopez, who both serve on the Lansing School Board. Also run-

ning are three lesser known candidates, Christopher Jackson, Justin DeBoer and Michael Ruddock.

The poll did not pit Dunbar against anyone or ask questions about other candidates.

The August primary will winnow the list of at-large candidates down to four, who will compete in November for two at-large seats. Brown Clarke fills the other seat, but she cannot seek reelection because she is running for mayor.

— Berl Schwartz



Schor



Dunbar



Brown Clarke



PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on **April 25, 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 to consider an application from 100 Grand River, LLC, and 341 Evergreen, LLC, for Site Plan and Special Use Permit approval for the properties at 100-140 W. Grand River Avenue and 341-345 Evergreen Avenue, to demolish all existing structures and construct two buildings:

- The 100-140 W. Grand River Avenue properties are proposed to redevelop with a 12-story, 140 feet tall mixed-use building with first floor retail and a hotel lobby; with two levels of parking above to include 220 parking spaces. The remaining floors include 198 mixed-market rental units, 150 hotel guest rooms and hotel amenities such as meeting rooms and a ballroom.

The property is zoned B3, City Center Commercial District.

- The 341-345 Evergreen Avenue properties are proposed to redevelop with a 7-story, 72 feet tall building with 66 condominiums and 68 parking spaces.

The properties are zoned Conditional B3, City Center Commercial District based on a previously approved plan.

The overall project will also include the improvement of existing surface parking and the addition of 142 new surface City-owned and managed parking spaces.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable accommodations, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting, upon notice to the City of East Lansing, prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations or services should write or call the City Manager's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-377.

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-091

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES LOCATED AT 3209 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Aten, Treasurer Rodgers
Trustees: Broughton, Harris, McKenzie, DeLay

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.

Minutes of the meeting held on March 7, 2017 approved.

Agenda approved as amended.

Referred to Planning Commission R-17-2, rezoning request.

Resolution 17-7: Authorizing required Escrow Account for TZone Trucking LLC, Conditional Rezoning adopted.

Approved Conditional Rezoning Agreement for R-16-21.

Approved offer to purchase Township properties in Urbandale.

Resolution 17-6: Amending Ambulance Service Fees in Conjunction with Ordinance 63.

Claims approved.

Executive session held to discuss pending litigation.

Board returned to regular session.

Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor
Susan L. Aten, Clerk

CP#17-089

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City Pulse's 2017 Summer Festival Guide

Your guide to summer festivals

Photos by Scott VanGilder

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

It's already April, and that means it's almost summer, and that means Greater Lansing's festival season is just around the corner. From big-ticket music festivals to free community celebrations, there's plenty to take in this summer.

Wait — but what if you've never been to a festival before? Or what if the last time you went, it was a disaster? Not to worry. We caught up with a few seasoned festival-goers and compiled the definitive survival guide to keep you both stress-free and prepared. Whether you're checking out jazz bands in Old Town or hitting the road for Lollapalooza, our list of festival tips will help you get turnt responsibly.

Step 1: Bring your tickets

Now if it has happened to you in the past, we're not judging you (well, maybe a little bit), but make absolutely sure you have your tickets. And if it's one of several wristbands that you've purchased for a multi-day event like Common Ground, make sure you've put on the correct one. The last thing you want to happen is to waste a good pass or to arrive and realize you left the tickets on the counter next to your Cheerios.

Step 2: Know the lineup

When you get to the festival, there will probably be several stages. It's a rookie move to not know when your favorite bands are going on, so make sure to carry the schedule with you, and a paper copy isn't a bad idea. Phones die, but paper never does, because it's already dead.

Step 3: Hydrate

Just like a doting mother, City Pulse urges you to drink enough water! Summer is usually hot, and packing places with tons of people makes it seem even hotter. Combine those factors with the Jägermeister you were pre-gaming before stepping out, and that's a heat stroke waiting to happen.

The DanceSafe website advises festival-goers to drink a bottle of water an hour, but never more than 2-4 cups. And it offers a warning to certain festival attendees: "Water is not an antidote to any psychoactive drug."

"I know at (Vans) Warped Tour you can't bring a full water bottle in, but you can bring in an empty one, and they've got water stations to fill up on," said local festival fan Megan MacGregor. "The only water bottles I use have a clip on them so I can clip them to my pants or backpack."

Step 4: Dress for the weather

Do stilettos look great on you? Yes. Should you bring them to a summer event? Maybe. Should you wear them to a music festival?



Not if you don't like bleeding. It's best to hook yourself up with some walking shoes you aren't afraid of getting a little muddy, or even trampled (sad reality).

It's also wise to forego anything that might inhibit your ability to breathe or use the bathroom. Yeah, that romper you bought on Etsy is super cute, but when you're wrestling with it in a cramped porta potty that's already been used by several hundred people, you'll hate yourself. This also goes for people who like to go full spandex. (I'm talking to you, weird body suit people.)

Rain gear is also smart. Compact rain ponchos usually sell for less than \$5 and are well worth the money.

Step 5: Bring cash

Though many festivals have card readers, you'll likely encounter a hot dog stand or T-shirt vendor that only accepts bills. It'll also cut down time in line. Card readers take 6-7 seconds to work, which doesn't seem like a lot, but multiply that by a few hundred people and you've got hours wasted.

Step 6: Have storage

There is a childlike freedom in walking the world with nothing but the clothes on your back, but it makes you the annoying friend at a festival. If you're always putting your wallet and keys in your friend's bag, you're not only inconveniencing them, but you're also dependent on them and can't do anything by yourself. Childlike indeed.

Drawstring backpacks are the way to go. They're lightweight, spacious and difficult to snatch by would-be thieves.

Step 7: Protect yourself

Whether it's from the sun, too loud mu-

sic or even just from shady festival guests, it's wise to come prepared. The holy trinity of festival protection is as follows: sunscreen, ear plugs and a drug testing kit for late nights out. The drug kit might seem like overkill, but it's easy to lose track of drinks in a festival atmosphere.

"Even though I know I'll get burned every time, I keep telling myself, 'Oh, you don't need sunscreen,'" said festival lover Daniel Rayzel. "A few hours later, and my beef jerky of a neck is saying otherwise."

Step 8: Entertain yourself

Festivals are built to entertain, but if you're there all day, you might just need some time to sit and chill with your friends. A deck of cards is a good way to eat up time if you have a long gap between shows you want to see. It's also a good icebreaker if you meet new friends.

"My personal favorite festival experience was Summer Camp in Chillicothe, Ill.," said festival veteran Anna Gustafson. "I spent the weekend with so many people I cared about, and seeing all of those people get along so well with each other was magical."

Step 9: Bring your charger

Let's face it, if your phone dies in the middle of a festival, it's going to suck. You'll not only have no way of contacting your friends (who totally might be meeting your favorite artist and have no way of contacting you), but you'll also probably get lost without GPS. Wall chargers are good if you can find an outlet, but rechargeable battery chargers are a lifesaver when you can't get to a plug.

MAY

MAY 6-7 >> VICTORIAN DAYS

Grand Ledge's blast from the past offers Civil War reenactments, Victorian-era-themed activities and historic demonstrations. 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. both days. FREE. Downtown Grand Ledge. (517) 316-6694, victoriandays.org.

MAY 12-14 >> MIGHTY UKE DAY

The seventh annual celebration of all things ukulele invades Old Town for a three-day festival of performances, workshops, group strums and more. The theme for this year's Mighty Uke Day is "The Women of the Great Uke State," and headliners include Michigan native Rachael Davis and Heidi Swedberg, a musician and actress many people know from her role as Susan, George Costanza's fiancée on "Seinfeld." See the website for schedule, locations and prices. (517) 896-4025, mightyukeday.com.

MAY 20-21 >> EAST LANSING ART FESTIVAL

Hundreds of artists flood the streets of downtown East Lansing next month for the 54th annual East Lansing Art Festival. In addition to art vendors from the Midwest and beyond, the festival offers a packed slate of musical acts, children's activities and a food court. 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Sunday. FREE. (517) 319-6804, elartfest.com.

MAY 20-21 >> MSU SPRING ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW

Across the street from the East Lansing Art Festival, MSU's Spring Arts and Crafts Show takes over the lawns and streets around the MSU Union. The show features over 300 crafters and artisans, and application fees go toward free event programming for MSU students. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. FREE. MSU Union, 49 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-3354, uabevents.com.

JUNE

JUNE 3 >> BE A TOURIST IN YOUR OWN TOWN

The Greater Lansing Convention & Visitors Bureau offers locals a chance to discover hidden gems or check out that museum they've always meant to go to. A \$1 passport gives participants access to over 80 local attractions, including Potter Park Zoo and Impression 5 Center. Participating locations

will stamp passports, and participants who collect enough stamps are eligible for prizes. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$1. Participating locations throughout Greater Lansing. (517) 487-2800, lansing.org/batyot.

JUNE 3-4 >> RIVERBANK TRADITIONAL POW WOW

Lansing's celebration of Native American culture, the Riverbank Traditional Pow Wow, returns this summer for its 15th annual event. The three-day event features traditional drumming, singing, dancing and art, as well as food vendors. Educational activities offer visitors a chance to learn more about Native American medicines or listen to a traditional storyteller. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own lawn chair. See the website for schedule. FREE. Adado Riverfront Park, 201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. (517) 721-1502 nativeamericanacc.org.

JUNE 15-17 >> LANSING JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

While Juneteenth has been an official Michigan holiday for 12 years, its roots in the Lansing community date back to 1993. The annual festival, which celebrates the end of slavery in the U.S., started as a small church gathering but has grown into a weeklong celebration of African American culture, including live music and dance, childrens' activities and a baseball game commemorating the Negro League. See the website for schedule and locations. FREE. (517) 394-6900,



lansingjuneteenthcelebration.org.

JUNE 16-17 >> MICHIGAN PRIDE MARCH, RALLY AND FESTIVAL

While details have yet to be announced, the statewide festival supporting the LG-BTQ community usually includes a rally at the Capitol, a festival with live music and more. See website for prices and schedule. michiganpride.org.

JUNE 17 >> LANSING BEER FEST

Many of Michigan's best loved breweries,

wineries and cideries take over the streets of REO Town again this summer for the Lansing Beer Fest. In addition to the over 100 beers, wines and ciders available to sample, the festival offers food vendors and live music. See website for prices and schedule. REO Town. (517) 331-0528, lansingbeerfest.com.

JUNE 17 >> OLDSMOBILE HOMECOMING CAR SHOW & SWAP MEET

The local chapter of the Oldsmobile Club of America celebrates Lansing's automotive history with the world's largest all-Oldsmo-

bile car show. This year's gathering will celebrate the 50th anniversary of all 1967 Oldsmobiles and will give attendees a chance to check out a Curved Dash Oldsmobile, the first mass-produced American automobile. The event is free to attend; registration fees required to show or sell cars. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Auto Owners Insurance, 6101 Anacapi Blvd., Lansing. (517) 645-7438, reolds.org.

JUNE 22-24 >> CHARLOTTE BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

Bluegrass pickers and fans from all over descend on Charlotte for the city's annual Appalachian extravaganza. The three-day event features national and local musical acts, as well as plenty of old fashioned parking lot picking sessions. See the website for schedule and prices. Eaton County Fairgrounds, 1025 S. Cochran Ave., Charlotte. (269) 832-5519, charlottebluegrassfestival.com.

JUNE 23-24 >> SUMMER SOLSTICE JAZZ FESTIVAL

East Lansing's Summer Solstice Jazz Festival will raise its already considerable game with a headline combo featuring two of jazz's living legends, alto saxophonist Lou Donaldson and organist Dr. Lonnie Smith, and the powerhouse duo of avant-garde saxophonist David Murray and percussionist Kahil El'Zabar.

Donaldson, who recently turned 90, and



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APRIL 8 | 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

East Lansing: *Biomedical and Physical Sciences Bldg., Chemistry Bldg., and Molecular Plant Sciences Bldg. Atrium*

APRIL 9 | 11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Detroit: *Belle Isle Park*



full schedule available at: sciencefestival.msu.edu

Smith are masters of the funky, greasy hard bop that took over jukeboxes in the 1950s and '60s and surged back into popularity in the 1990s.

The usual cornucopia of top mid-Michigan talent and MSU professors and students will also turn out in force, along with guest artists from around the country and as far as Spain. Under artistic director and MSU Jazz Studies director Rodney Whitaker, the festival has diversified its musical palette to non-traditional styles of jazz and attracted internationally known performers.

Other artists appearing at the main tent in downtown East Lansing are internationally acclaimed Latin-jazz violinist Maureen Choi, vocalists Twyla Birdsong and Ramona Collins, young Detroit R&B sensations Laura Rain and the Caesars, the Latin jazz ensemble Orquesta Ritmo and Whitaker's own straight-ahead quintet. 5 p.m.-1 a.m. Friday; noon-1 a.m. Saturday. FREE. Downtown East Lansing. (517) 319-6980, eljazzfest.com.

JUNE 23-24 >> FESTIVAL OF THE MOON & FESTIVAL OF THE SUN

Old Town celebrates the summer solstice with a two-day party featuring live music, food, wine and craft beer. Attendees must be 21 or older. Early VIP entry is available, see the website for details. 6-11 p.m. Friday; 3 p.m.-11 p.m. Saturday. See the website for prices. (517) 485-4283, iloveoldtown.org.



JULY

JULY 6-9 >> COMMON GROUND MUSIC FESTIVAL

This year's Common Ground Music Festival features headliners Big Sean (July 9), Toby Keith (July 7) and Alessia Cara (July 6). Lansing's largest music festival, Common Ground features a wide variety of national and local acts. Single day and full-festival passes are available; see website for prices and schedule. Adado Riverfront Park, 201 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing. (517) 267-1502, commongroundfest.com.

JULY 6-30 >> MICHIGAN SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

This year's repertoire features the Bard's "The Taming of the Shrew" and "Julius Caesar," as well as Anton Chekov's "The Seagull." Single show tickets and three-show flex passes are available; see website for prices and showtimes. Baughman Theatre, 2111 Emmons Road, Jackson. (517) 998-3673, michiganshakespearefestival.com.

JULY 14-15 OLD TOWN SCRAPFEST

Teams of artists compete to turn one man's trash into another man's treasure at Old Town's annual ScrapFest event. Up to 20 teams of artists have one hour to collect up to 500 pounds of scrap metal, then they have two weeks to fashion the metal into sculptures that will be unveiled at the festival. The two-day event also features live music, educational activities and a beer tent. See website for schedule. FREE. Old Town Lansing. (517) 485-4283, iloveoldtown.org.

JULY 29 >> CAR CAPITAL AUTO & BIKE SHOW

Hundreds of classic cars and motorcycles from multiple decades flood the streets of downtown Lansing for the Car Capital Auto Show. Vehicles compete for prizes in 68 categories, and all proceeds from the event benefit the R.E. Olds Transportation Museum. The event is free for spectators; registration fees are required for those wishing to show off their cars or bikes. Michigan State Capitol, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-0529, carcapitalautoshow.com

AUGUST

AUG. 4-5 >> LANSING JAZZFEST

Old Town streets will be filled with the sounds of jazz once again this August for the 23rd annual JazzFest. Unwind and enjoy music from both local musicians and national acts while enjoying food from different vendors. Lineup and schedule to be announced. FREE. 1210 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, jazzlansing.com

AUG. 5 >> ISLAND ART FAIR

For 43 years, the Island Art Fair has been selling and displaying art by the waterfront near downtown Grand Ledge. Attendees can purchase art by vendors from all over the state, check out some live music or snack on hot dogs and ice cream. 120 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. FREE. (517) 627-9843, ledgecraftlane.com

AUG. 11-13 >> GREAT LAKES FOLK FESTIVAL

The MSU Museum and the city of East Lansing celebrate tradition and community with the Great Lakes Folk Festival. Festival goers can learn about cultures from all over the world with storytelling, demonstrations of traditional arts, foods and dancing. Children's activities are also be available. Lineup and schedule to be announced. FREE, donations accepted. Downtown East Lansing. (517) 432-4533, greatlakesfolkfest.net.

AUG. 10-12, 17-19 >> RENEGADE THEATRE FESTIVAL

Lansing's multi-venue theater festival showcases live performances ranging from comedy to drama and improv. The first weekend is dedicated to the festival's N.O.W project, which features new original works, and the second features local theater groups. Schedule to be announced. FREE. renegade-theatrefestival.org.

AUG. 19 >> ARTFEAST

Art and food collide at ArtFeast, timed to complement the Renegade Theatre Festival, which combines an art fair, a sidewalk sale and a food truck rally. 1-4 p.m. Old Town, Lansing. (517) 485-4283, iloveoldtown.org.

AUG. 23 >> OLD US 27 MOTOR TOUR

Hundreds of classic cars stop in Dewitt on their tour from Coldwater to Cheboygan on the historic Old US 27 highway. Motorists interested in joining the tour can find details on the website. 6-9pm. FREE. Downtown DeWitt. See website for more details, old27tour.com.

AUG. 25-27 >> SUN DRIED MUSIC FEST

A weekend-long of festival featuring two stages of live entertainment, as well as beer and wine tents for the 21+ crowd to partake in. Children can participate in special activities, and teens can get their groove on at their own Friday night dance with a DJ. Schedule and prices to be announced. Downtown Mason. sundriedfestival.com

September

SEPT. 15-16 >> MICHIGAN BLUES-FEST

For over 20 years, the Michigan Blues-Fest, formerly known as the Old Town Blues-Fest has been entertaining the Lansing area with local and nationally known blues musicians. This year's lineup and schedule to be announced. FREE. Old Town, Lansing. (517) 371-4600, oldtownbluesfest.com.

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ARTS & CULTURE

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Capital City Film Festival offers more movies, music than ever

From a cardboard Minotaur and a winged whale to an exiled musician and a gorilla-suited Internet star, the Capital City Film Festival is once again packed with creative characters and diverse stories.

The film festival formally kicks off its

Capital City Film Festival

April 5-9

See four-page insert (pages 15-18) or website for schedule, locations and ticket prices

(517) 483-4058, capitalcityfilmfest.com

screening of "1984." And the festivities con-

seventh year Thursday night with a Red Carpet Premiere Party at Lansing Brewing Co., but the festival actually started earlier this week with a Tuesday night

continue tonight with a free screening of Disney's "Around the World," featuring clips from popular Disney movies accompanied live by the Lansing Symphony Orchestra.

There are plenty of films, of course, but the packed schedule — over 35 events over six days at eight different venues — also features live concerts (see Turn It Down, page 24, for more on that) and other film-inspired activities.

Saturday morning, the festival teams up

with Impression 5 to offer a family-friendly Science of Cinema program. That afternoon, Lansing's own Heartland Klezmerim performs the live score to short films by Georges Méliès. Then Saturday night, Comedy Coven joins the festival for a not-so-family-friendly skewering of "The Craft."

But the films are the star here. We've selected four interesting movies to review (and it was hard to pick just four) to help you navigate this year's options.

Selected films reviews



Dave Made a Maze (80 minutes, narrative feature)

**7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 6
Potter's Mill**

701 E. South St., Lansing

In the hierarchy of critique-able art forms, indie film is just above absurdist theater and several steps below conventional cinematic drama as a respected forum for expression. So is "Dave Made a Maze" a movie about itself, a zigzagging, darkly comedic trip that ultimately ends up exactly where it started? Or is it a commentary on the trials of filmmaking that's too clever for its own good? You have to enter the maze to find out.

Over an opening montage, we meet Dave (Nick Thune), a 30-something dude struggling to make ... something. Over the course of a long weekend, he tries origami and woodwork, ultimately settling on cardboard as his medium. It's not until his girlfriend comes home Sunday night that we find out what it is Dave has made out of a bunch of old refrigerator boxes: a labyrinth that fits into his living room yet is unimaginably large on the inside. And he's lost in the middle of it.

A team of rescuers is assembled, including Dave's girlfriend (Meera Rohit Kumbhani), his nebbish best friend (Adam Busch) and a stereotypical pretentious indie film director (James Urbaniak), who

provides the biggest clue as to what it is we're watching — a masturbatory exercise in creative release. Subtle this film is not, but it sure is fun.

The low-grade practical effects give the film a gleefully irreverent "Pee-wee's Playhouse"-type vibe. While characters meet any manner of gruesome ends, the deaths carry the emotional weight of cartoon coyote evisceration. Instead of buckets of blood spurting from decapitated heads and bisected torsos, we're treated to streams of red yarn.

The film's driving theme — that finishing something is more important than starting something — is a sentiment that wannabe artists and artisans alike can find meaning in, and "Dave Made a Maze" is whimsical enough to taper the seriousness of that message, making it well worth the journey.

— Allan I. Ross



Olancho (70 minutes, documentary)

**5 p.m. Saturday, April 8
UrbanBeat Event Center
1213 Turner St., Lansing**

Documenting the story of the band Los Plebes de Olancho, "Olancho" makes the most of its timely, unsettling and unexpectedly political story.

Olancho, the region of Honduras from which the band hails, is the most murderous area in the world, outside of war zones. Making a living, let alone making music, is difficult, especially when you're forced to write songs about the criminals and gang members who hold all the power in the

area. This difficulty and danger comes to a head when Los Plebes de Olancho's leader/songwriter, Manuel, runs afoul of cartel leaders and is forced to flee his home and start a new life in America. But life in the U.S. is not any easier, where he faces discrimination, unfulfilling work and an inability to pursue his passion and make music. The irony is tragic and infuriating.

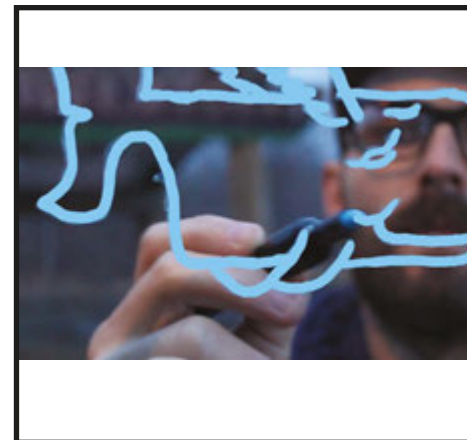
What starts as a seemingly conventional, if compelling, human-interest documentary becomes a searing critique of U.S. immigration policy and cultural prejudice and a moving tribute to the artist's struggle.

Few artists face the certainty of violence the way Manuel and Los Plebes do. The film is bold enough to honestly depict that violence but tactful enough not to cheapen or glorify it. It's shocking, but it isn't exploitative — graphic but not gratuitous. And it's entirely necessary to establish the world Los Plebes live in and what Manuel is running away from.

I only wish more attention had been paid to Manuel's experiences here in the U.S. The time spent in America is like a footnote at the end of the film, a tacked-on epilogue that feels like a last-minute attempt at topicality. It doesn't confuse or nullify the film's message, but it does dull it some.

— Eric Bayley

"Ed's Whale" (75 minutes, documentary)



**5:30 p.m. Friday, April 7
Lansing Public Media Center
2500 S. Washington Ave., Lansing**

It's hard to tell exactly what to make of "Ed's Whale," a documentary focused on the late Lansing-based aspiring artist Edward Lahti. It nobly attempts to be a testament to the manifold redeeming powers of art, including its ability to create a lasting personal legacy for an ambitious artist. But the film's sentimentality keeps it from revealing anything truly meaningful about redemption, art or even ambition. Yet it's so doggone earnest, it all feels like a wash.

Lahti, the movie tells us, didn't create any lasting art in his 35 years. No books, no albums, no nothing. His creative output amounted to hours of unedited video recordings and numerous unpublished poems and works of prose. Several of these works are turned into spoken word performances within the movie by his friends, giving life to work that otherwise may have stayed in a drawer somewhere. But while "Ed's Whale" works as an effective memorial, it doesn't necessarily make for compelling cinema.

We're given no background about Lahti — where he was born, what he did before he got his first video camera in 1997 when he was 20 or what motivated him. We do get to see him go through about 15 years of hairstyles and multiple iterations of facial hair, but that only keeps us from getting closer to Lahti as a character. He's all but unrecognizable in some scenes, and the film's non-chronological editing only makes it harder to feel any real kinship with him.

Director Quincy Gow splices Lahti's footage together with new video shot in the months leading up to and immediately following Lahti's death in early 2013 after a yearlong battle with cancer. In that last year, Lahti attempted to finish a children's book about Walter, a cartoon sperm whale with wings that he had dreamed up several years before. Gow loosely follows some of that publication process, but fails to instill any urgency in this, the final — only — finished work of a lifelong struggling artist.

But that doesn't really take away from Lahti, who comes off as an amiable, sweet guy. He really seems to have wanted to create something, and failing to do so seems

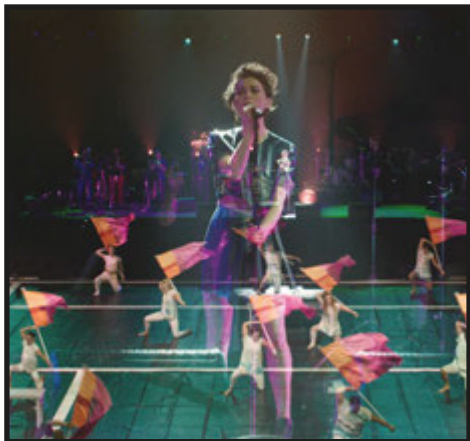
See Story, Page 12

to have haunted him. “Ed’s Whale” is, essentially, a well-produced funeral memorial video, capturing most of the stages of grief experienced by Lahti in the final months of his life, as well as that of the friends and family as they come to grips with his death.

If you knew Lahti, this is must-see material. If not, at least you’ll know the meaning of the mural behind the Green Door and all those winged whale T-shirts and tattoos around town.

— Allan I. Ross

Contemporary Color (97 minutes)
7 p.m. Sunday, April 9



Lansing Public Media Center
2500 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
“Contemporary Color” captures the

making of a concert of the same name, an event put together by former Talking Heads frontman David Byrne where the sport of color guard — the flag-waving, rifle-spinning performers that often accompany marching bands — is paired with original music performed live by contemporary musicians like Byrne, Nelly Furtado and St. Vincent. But this is no mere concert film.

Most concert films are information vehicles with backstage footage that serves as exposition, often going into quite intimate detail about the performers’ personal lives. And while we get small snippets of personal information about some of the young members of the various color guard teams, most of the backstage footage is put in service to a far more interesting cinematic idea: capturing the excitement of performance from the performer’s perspective. Most films of this genre are presented from the audience’s point of view, a way to simulate a concert-going experience. “Contemporary Color” doesn’t do that, and thus becomes a refreshing exploration of the artistic experience and the thrill of performance.

Make no mistake — despite being labeled a sport and sometimes compared to cheerleading, there is an art to color guard. The film demonstrates this through its own impressive artistry. Masterful editing and superimpositions turn the camera into a kind of prism, rendering the young dancers and their routines into impressionistic waves of color and movement. It’s a film

that takes immense pleasure in arresting images, and the results are stunning. The performances are often punctuated by rehearsal footage of the routines in unusual settings, like a city street or school gym, that allow us appreciate the discipline and talent needed to pull off these routines. It’s one of the most cinematic and imaginative documentaries I’ve recently seen.

— Eric Bayley

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Secret life

Arts patron Gregg Hill comes out as composer

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Gregg Hill closed his eyes and drifted back to a summer afternoon in the 1990s. He was sitting near a warped, red-framed door and coffee was still pouring at the long-closed Travelers Club International Restaurant & Tuba Museum in Okemos.

“You’re with friends, there’s this summer rain and you’re sort of floating,” he said. “They had a raggedy screen door that kept tapping. It’s a simple rhythm, and that tripped a song.”

That moment became a tune, a page in a growing musical diary decades in the making.

Lansing jazz lovers know Hill, along with his wife, Lois Mummaw, as patrons of the arts and supporters of the local jazz scene. But this month, he will be publicly outed as a thoughtful, prolific composer in two free concerts led by a who’s who of area jazz greats.

“It’s Gregg’s secret creative life nobody knows about,” said guitarist and concert organizer Elden Kelly.

On two Sunday afternoons in April, about half of Hill’s 81 tunes will get a royal premiere from seven ensembles led by the cream of the mid-Michigan jazz scene: bassist supreme and MSU Jazz Studies Director Rodney Whitaker, Latin music master Mike Eyia, guitar virtuoso Elden Kelly, organist Jim Alfredson of Organissimo, veteran pianist Arlene McDaniel, composer/pianist Ron Newman and saxophonist/bandleader Carl Cafagna.

The free concerts celebrate the release of Hill’s second book of tunes, “Spontaneity.”

The music will take listeners on a tour of Lansing life, especially its musical life, over the last 20 or 30 years. “Still Life With Tuba” was banged out on the battered piano at the late Travelers Club. “Cadillac Club” recalls the quirky automobile-themed club in REO Town — previously a bowling alley and now a church — where blues, jazz and pop artists got a Vegas-style showcase in the 2000s.

“Betty’s Tune,” named after singer Betty Joplin, harks back to the 1990s heyday

of Mr. Kenny’s Ribs and Jazz on South Cedar Street, where Sunny Wilkinson, pianist-composer Ron Newman and saxophonist Andrew Speight were regulars.

Hill also soaked up every gig Wilkinson and Newman did at the now-defunct Cappuccino Café in the early aughts.

“I was captivated by them,” he said. “They influenced me a great deal.”

Kelly, McDaniel and Newman helped Hill get the tunes into final form and commit them to paper.

Newman said Hill is a “wonderful” composer.

“His music presents a variety of styles and moods, and are a lot of fun to play and to experience,” he said.

Hill didn’t even think of approaching Whitaker, an international jazz star.

“I just assumed, he’s such an upper-tier player, and he’s so busy, he wouldn’t be interested,” Hill said.

But on Election Day 2016, at Jazz Tuesday’s at Moriarty’s, Whitaker overheard Kelly and Hill talking about the concert project.

“How come I didn’t get the call?” Whitaker asked.

Whitaker leapt in, to Hill’s delight.

Kelly said “there’s an element of outsider art” in Hill’s work, but Whitaker and the other top musicians would not have signed on if there weren’t craft and passion in the music.

“There’s plenty of musicians who are completely outside of recognition, who are perhaps way more talented than those who are,” Kelly said.

Hill grew up in Midland. His dad was a “music nut” who chased big bands all over the map through the 1930s and ‘40s.

“There were conga lines going through the house when I was trying to sleep,” Hill said.

His parents took him to see Dizzy Gillespie, Duke Ellington and many other greats in the 1950s at the Old Crow Bar in Saugatuck or Cobo Hall in Detroit. He got a set of mail order bongos when he was 14, a de rigueur accessory for the budding bohemian.

“I had the argyle socks, the beret and everything,” he said. “We had parties where we played bongos and read poetry. We were faking it.”

At Michigan State University, Hill studied philosophy with Al Cafagna, who is also a jazz musician and co-founder of the Summer Solstice Jazz Festival.

Hill bounced around the country for 25 years as a truck driver, soaking up the jazz scenes in New York, California and Detroit. (A few tunes in his collection conjure up long, lonely rides.) He and his first wife, Gail, moved to Lansing in the early 1970s.

Several of Hill’s songs were inspired by their two sons, Jeremy and Matthew.

“We had some magical experiences when they were growing up,” he said.

Gail died in 2000, after she and Gregg had been married 32 years.



Photo by Lynne Brown

Gregg Hill (right) works with guitarist Elden Kelly on an original composition. Hill celebrates the release of his second book of musical compositions with two star-studded concerts this month.

“Before I knew Gregg, he was haunting the blues jams,” Kelly recalled. “His first wife had passed on, and he was feeling the blues. But he got bored with that after a while.”

Frustrated with his musical limitations, he went to Marshall Music and dove into theory and composition books.

“That’s when I started getting serious,” he said. “Learning theory propelled me into writing denser, more complex material.”

Hill is still learning about the technical side of writing music from Kelly, Newman and his other friends in the local scene, but inspiration has never been much of a problem.

“What helps is not depression, but melancholy, where you get into a deep state and you’re removed from everyday life,” he said. “The goddamned muse just appears, it hovers around, bugs you, or it hops on a bus and goes out of town.”

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JAMM honoree announced

Jeff Kressler to be honored with award, tribute concert

By CITY PULSE STAFF

The Jazz Alliance of Mid-Michigan announced last week that pianist and arranger Jeff Kressler will be its 2018 honoree, with a tribute concert scheduled for Nov. 12 this year.

Kressler’s jazz style is limpid, lyrical and loose, peppered by prickly prods and arpeggios and an occasional foray into song. He has been a mainstay of the mid-Michigan jazz scene, and the music scene in general, for over 30 years. He

got his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Michigan State University and wrote many arrangements for the Spartan Marching Band and MSU jazz bands, as well as groups at other universities and high schools. He’s played with the Woody Herman and Jimmy Dorsey orchestras and has backed Bob Hope, Nancy Wilson, the Four Freshmen and Bob Newhart. He made a mark in mid-Michigan as 2011 JAMM honoree Patti Richards’ piano player.

Kressler is also a respected jazz educator, now retired as band director at DeWitt Public Schools and currently teaching at Central Michigan University. He’s a first-call pianist for all sorts of musical productions and has recently been on national tour with clarinet player Dave Bennett.

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

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ZOOS OF BERLIN with special guests
Krissy Booth, Double Winter, LVRS
THE AVENUE • 9pm doors • \$5 at the door

STEF CHURA with special guests
Small Parks, Peter J Hochstedler, Lucy
THE AVENUE • 9pm doors • \$5 at the door

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

GUILTY SIMPSON with special guests
Red Pill, Nolan the Ninja, DJ Ruckus
THE AVENUE • 9pm doors • \$5 at the door

THE COOL KIDS with special guests
Owen Bones, Jahshua Smith & The Race Card,
MikeyyAustin & The Happy Medium
THE LOFT • 8pm doors • \$20 online + at the door

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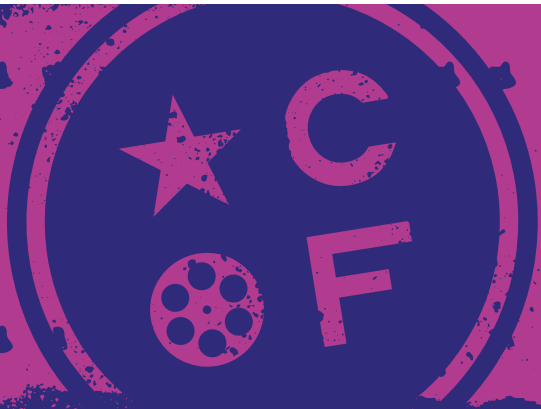
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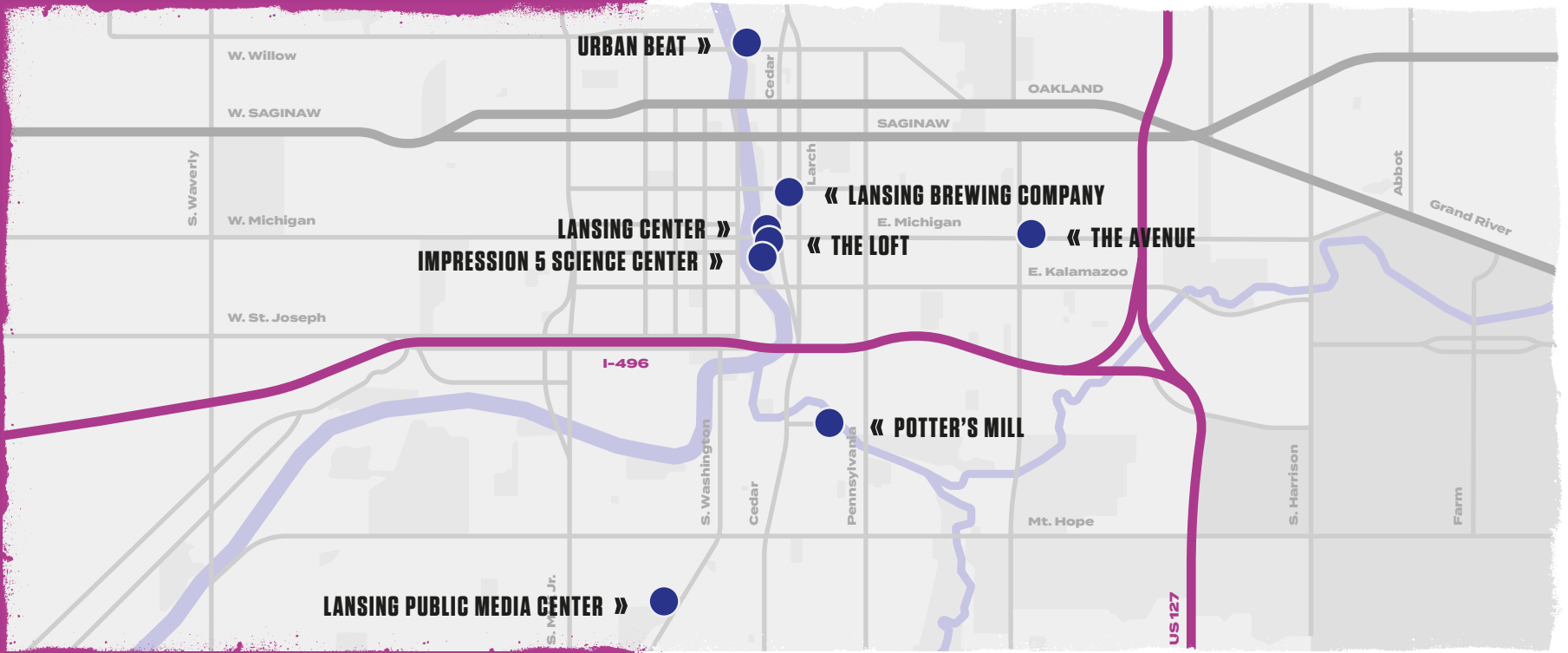
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*NOTE: SOME ARE FREE OF CHARGE; SEE DETAILS ON OPPOSITE PAGE
- 🎵 **CONCERTS** \$5-\$20
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• SHORTS SPOTLIGHT

⊗ AFI SHORTS SHOWCASE

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE



The American Film Institute's (AFI) Directing Workshop for Women (DWW) is a film training program that educates and mentors its participants. Increasing the number of women working professionally in screen directing is the primary goal of this tuition-free program. All of the short films in this showcase are directed by DWW alumnae. This event is free of charge at the 2017 Capital City Film Festival.

DOCUMENTARY SPOTLIGHT

⊗ CONTEMPORARY COLOR

CLOSING NIGHT FEATURE



In the summer of 2015, legendary musician David Byrne staged an event at Brooklyn's Barclays Center to celebrate the creativity of color guard: synchronized dance routines involving flags, rifles, and sabers, colloquially known as "the sport of the arts." Byrne recruited performers Lucius, Nico Muhly & Ira Glass, Nelly Furtado, St. Vincent, Devonté Hynes, How To Dress Well, Zola Jesus, Money Mark + Ad-Rock, and tUnE-yArDs to join him in creating original compositions to accompany ten color guard teams' performances. The result is CONTEMPORARY COLOR, a bold and irrepressible snapshot of a one-of-a-kind live experience.



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-  FILM & MUSIC
-  LIVE MUSIC
-  ALCOHOL OFFERED











TUESDAY, APRIL 4

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
 7:00P	1984 [NATIONAL SCREENING]	Lansing Public Media Center 





















WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
 7:00P	SYMPHONIC CINEMA: Disney's AROUND THE WORLD Live with the Lansing Symphony Orchestra [FREE • FAMILY-FRIENDLY]	Lansing Center 




















THURSDAY, APRIL 6

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
 5:00P	Red Carpet Premiere Party	Lansing Brewing Company 
 7:00P	Nothing	The Loft 
 7:30P	Dave Made a Maze [OPENING NIGHT FEATURE • MICHIGAN PREMIERE]	Potter's Mill 
 9:00P	Zoos of Berlin	The Avenue 
 9:30P	Thursday Night Shorts	Potter's Mill 











FRIDAY, APRIL 7

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
 5:30P	Ed's Whale [WORLD PREMIERE • DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE]	Lansing Public Media Center 
 5:30P	The Void [MICHIGAN PREMIERE]	Potter's Mill 
 5:30P	Friday Documentary Shorts [FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE]	Urban Beat 
 8:00P	Future '38 [MICHIGAN PREMIERE • DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE]	Lansing Public Media Center 
 8:00P	Dear Sylvia [MICHIGAN PREMIERE • DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE]	Potter's Mill 
 8:00P	Friday Shorts @ 8	Urban Beat 
 9:00P	Stef Chura	The Avenue 
 10:00P	The Queen of Ireland [MICHIGAN PREMIERE]	Potter's Mill 
 10:00P	Friday Shorts @ 10	Urban Beat 
 10:15P	Without Name [MICHIGAN PREMIERE]	Lansing Public Media Center 

SATURDAY, APRIL 8

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
 10:00A	Science of Cinema [FAMILY-FRIENDLY]	Impression 5 Science Center 
 12:00P	Chasing the Moment [WORLD PREMIERE • DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE]	Lansing Public Media Center 
 12:00P	One Nine Five Lewis [MICHIGAN PREMIERE • DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE] In partnership with the LCC Centre for Engaged Inclusion	Potter's Mill 
 12:00P	Saturday Shorts @ Noon [FILMMAKER IN ATTENDANCE]	Urban Beat 
 2:30P	Girl Flu [MICHIGAN PREMIERE]	Potter's Mill 
 2:30P	Animated Shorts [MATURE AUDIENCES ONLY]	Urban Beat 
 3:00P	Georges Méliès Showcase ft. Heartland Klezmerim LIVE [FREE] In partnership with the MSU Broad Art Museum	Lansing Public Media Center 
 5:00P	Always Shine	Lansing Public Media Center 
 5:00P	Sylvio [MICHIGAN PREMIERE]	Potter's Mill 
 5:00P	Olancho [MICHIGAN PREMIERE • DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE]	Urban Beat 
 7:30P	AFI Shorts Showcase [FREE • DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE]	Lansing Public Media Center 
 7:30P	Dayveon [MICHIGAN PREMIERE]	Potter's Mill 
 9:00P	Guilty Simpson	The Avenue 
 10:00P	Destroy All Cinema ft. Comedy Coven & The Craft [LIVE COMEDY]	Lansing Public Media Center 
 10:00P	Hounds of Love [MICHIGAN PREMIERE]	Potter's Mill 

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
 11:00A	Fortnight Film Contest [SCREENING & AWARDS]	Lansing Public Media Center 
 2:30P	Sunday Documentary Shorts [FILMMAKERS IN ATTENDANCE]	Lansing Public Media Center 
 4:30P	Fortnight Film Contest: The Next 10 [SCREENING]	Lansing Public Media Center 
 7:00P	Contemporary Color [CLOSING NIGHT FEATURE]	Lansing Public Media Center 
 8:00P	The Cool Kids	The Loft 



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

COMEDY COVEN



Comedy Coven is a group of three dynamic sketch performers (Tricia Chamberlain, Stephanie Onderchanin, and Emily Syrja) who produce and perform in a monthly variety show in their hometown of Lansing, Michigan. Combining nihilism and absurdity with their love of pop culture, current events, and the occult, Comedy Coven seeks to provide a truly original comedy experience. See the trio rip apart the goth-chic horror classic THE CRAFT at CCF's Destroy All Cinema on Saturday, April 8.

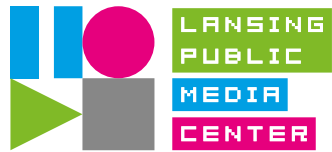
MUSICIAN SPOTLIGHT

GUILTY SIMPSON



Detroit MC Guilty Simpson has been putting it down since the mid-90s for the city of Detroit and Michigan as a whole. Originating from the crew The Almighty Dreadnaughtz, Guilty has worked with some of most talented producers & MCs in the game. J Dilla, Mr. Porter, Madlib, BlackMilk, Sean Price, & Apollo Brown to name a few. True to his underground roots, Guilty Simpson brings raw hip-hop to whatever stage he rocks! Don't miss out — Detroit will definitely be in the building.

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CURTAIN CALL

Shock therapy

'1984' a grim reminder of dangers of authoritarianism

By TOM HELMA

You may not want to take a first date to see "1984." But your soon-to-be voting, nearly 18-year-old son or daughter? No question.

"1984"

Williamston Theatre
Through April 23
8 p.m. Thursday-Friday; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday
\$25 Thursday/\$30 Friday and Saturday evenings/\$27 matinees/\$10 students/\$2 discount for seniors and military
Williamston Theatre
122 S. Putnam St.,
Williamston
(517) 655-7469,
williamstontheatre.org

Williamston Theatre's 2017 reawakening of George Orwell's dystopian vision of an un-brave new world — in which verbs are purged from the language, two plus two is five and electro-

shock therapy cleanses one's soul of any individuality — is just what the doctor ordered for increasing social consciousness.

Michael Gene Sullivan's adaptation of the Orwellian tale, in the capable hands of director Tony Caselli and his ensemble cast of six, cuts a deep swath of raw emotion through the wordy complexity of the novel on which it is based.

Eschewing the bleak description of this mechanistic society, Sullivan takes us backward from the middle of the book to the beginning, then to a terrifying end-game, via the four-person interrogation of central character Winston Smith.

Smith is thrown out onto the stage, chained in a shallow grave-like metal trough, while his four interrogators act out the pages of his secret forbidden diary, hurling his own words down on him like acid rain. All four take turns beating him with both harsh invectives and actual body blows. A final scene of increasingly intense electroshock, followed by a graphic enactment of Smith's worst fear, reduces him to emotional rubble and strips him of all dignity.

Smith's four antagonists, three male and one female, are all cloaked in identical grey three-piece suits. They are joined on stage by a fifth chief interrogator. Throughout the play, he was a mere diabolical voice, but he becomes the most heinous of the bunch, one more grey suit in a hopelessly grey world.

Anonymity is a key element in these roles, yet each of the actors manages to infuse their characters with unique qualities. David Wolber is Smith, whose

many tortured moments are painfully difficult to watch yet excellently performed. Tobin Hissong's limping shopkeeper/Fourth Party member stands out, as does Robin Lewis-Bedz's Second Party character. She moves back and forth between two characters, playing Smith's lover and one of the interrogators. Brandy Joe Plambeck and Curran Jacobs, as First and Third Party members, bring a dogged determination to their menacing roles. John Lepard emerges as the aforementioned heinous voice/chief interrogator. Williamston Theatre-goers may have a hard time seeing him in the future as the nice guy he is off stage.

Kirk Domer has created an effective, deceptively simple-looking set, and Michelle Raymond devised a series of props that includes a cage of rats — yep, live rats.

This is not an easy play to watch. Oligarchy and the annihilation of the human spirit is nothing to sneeze about. Democracy and free speech do not come easy. Orwell's vision is clearly applicable today, but then again, it always has been. Bravo, Williamston.

Barrel of laughs

'Wonder of the World' delights with quirky characters, fun visuals

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

Riverwalk Theatre's latest barrel-of-laughs play — partly about going over Niagara Falls in a barrel — was more fun than a barrel full of monkeys with keys to a funhouse. "Wonder of the World" was a roaring cascade of humor from start to finish.

The true wonder of the play was its central character, Cass, as portrayed by Sarah Hayner. Cass, who retreats to Niagara Falls after discovering an unknown

"Wonder of the World"

Riverwalk Theatre
7 p.m. Thursday, April 6; 8 p.m. Friday, April 7-Saturday, April 8; 2 p.m. Sunday, April 9
\$11/\$8 students, seniors and military Thursday; \$16/\$13 students, seniors and military Friday-Sunday
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive, Lansing
(517) 482-5700,
riverwalktheatre.com

side of her husband, was politely described as "effervescent" and "as bubbly as sparking cider." Hayner kept up the energy and wacky appeal of the uber-hyper, talkative, scatterbrained woman on a journey of self-discovery. She managed

to sustain an I-just-chugged-a-triple-shot-espresso-mixed-with-an-energy-drink persona every time she appeared on stage. That was especially impressive, since she was on stage in every scene.

How many scenes? I lost count after 10 set changes. Laura Croff — who assumed multiple characters — told me after the performance that there were "at least 20." (The running crew — Diane Cooke, Kelly Jo Garland, Bernie Lucas, Kathryn Stratton, Ric Sadler, and Charles Sartorius — mastered the task of frequent set transformations.)

Croff mastered the task of transforming herself into a six-pack of comedic eccentrics, each with a distinct voice and all worthy of praise. Each character, dressed in comical costumes designed by Anna Maier, earned waves of laughter.

Director Shannon Bowen expertly navigated the churning spectacle and kept "Wonder of the World" flowing. In a magnificent manner, Bob Nees designed a minimal, movable stage that, with minor modifications, always maintained a meaningful manifestation of what each scene meant to communicate.

Erin Hoffman — who also voiced an amusing theater rules announcement at the play's opening — portrayed Lois, a boisterous, often obnoxious drunk that Hoffman made enjoyable to watch. Adam Carlson's performance as the creepy husband with deviant tendencies was deliciously palatable. Joe Dickson played Captain Mike — maybe the only "normal" character in the cast — with an

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April 14 at 7pm
April 16 & 17 at 6pm

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April 9 at 10 AM

Maundy Thursday—April 13 at 6:30
Good Friday—April 14 at Noon

Easter Sunday
April 16 at 10 AM

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United Church of Christ
Lansing, MI

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Sunday - 10 AM
(517) 484-7434
PilgrimUCC.com

Plymouth Congregational Church

Palm and Passion Sunday
April 9, 2017 - 10:30 PM

Maundy Thursday
April 13, 2017 - 7:00 PM

Good Friday
April 14, 2017 - 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM
Self-guided Meditative Reflections
on the Seven Last Words of Christ

Easter Sunday Worship
April 16, 2017, 10:30 AM

2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
Little over 1/2 mile west of Frandor
(517) 484-9495 www.plymouthchurch-lansing.org

obvious ease. The talented trio helped inspire endless ripples of laughter.

Complementing the powerful pool of potent principals was a pair of minor roles, Karla and Glen. Susan Chmurny and Mark Zussman took on the roles of husband-and-wife private investigators with a cheesy outrageousness. Chmurny was especially charming as a deadpan senior with an adolescent's potty mouth. The couple's shocking revelations were about as predictable as pork chop ice cream in the produce section of a vegan hardware store.

David Lindsay-Abaire's script often veered into the unpredictable and weird. His unique, intertwined and multi-faceted play took the jokes to higher levels. Recurring details and connections between the characters unfolded imaginatively. Surely, even a straight read of Lindsay-Abaire's script would have been a silly treat. Having his absurdities brought to life on stage produced a waterfall of delights.

The playbill's cover art — signed by SW Drayer — was also delightful. So were the included "bucket lists" of all those involved in the play, a nod to the massive bucket list Cass carried on stage. What the program overlooked was deserved attribution for its filmic delights.

Credited only as a lighting technician, Cody Skalmowski collected nostalgic slides of iconic locations that were projected on a large cloth screen between scenes. An un-credited Matt Ottinger merited recognition for his crafty incidental videos.

Ottinger also assembled the entire cinematic and photographic collection, including final "where-are-they-now?" pictures taken by producer Rita Deibler. The captioned slides were a hilarious and over-the-top finale to an already delightful production of an over-a-relationship-and-over-the-falls story.

Knocking on death's door

'Eurydice' raises questions of love and loss

By **PAUL WOZNAK**

If you could visit a deceased loved one, would you? That's one question, among with many others, posed by Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.'s latest production, "Eurydice."

"Eurydice"

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.
8 p.m. Thursday, April 6-Saturday, April 8; 2 p.m. Sunday, April 9
\$15/\$10 students and seniors
Miller Performing Arts Center
6025 Curry Lane, Lansing
(517) 927-3016,
peppermintcreek.org

Co.'s latest production, "Eurydice." Sarah Ruhl's script, along with Mary Job's deft direction, blends a contemporary worldview and Greek mythology

into a beautifully surreal exploration of life, death, loss and memory.

Based loosely on the ancient Greek myth, "Eurydice" — pronounced "yoo-RID-uh-see," for those of you don't remember your mythology lessons — follows the story of Eurydice (Sally Hecksel), the wife of Orpheus, who dies and goes to the Underworld, where she must drink from the River Lethe to forget her earthly existence. Before she drinks away her mortal memories, Orpheus (Michael Boxleitner) travels to the Underworld to try to bring her back. In this production, Eurydice reconnects with her late father (Jeff Boerger) and encounters a group of Greek chorus-like talking stones (Connor Kelly, Angela Dill and Veronica Gracia-Wing), as well as a "nasty interesting man" and the Lord of the Underworld, both played by Heath Sartorius

While rooted in the Greek story, Ruhl's script is more concerned with the imagery and poetry of the myth than the plot points. The production becomes a discussion about the relationship between death and memory and what it means to lose a loved one. It's sure to strike a nerve with anyone who has experienced loss.

Job is the perfect director for this production, because she regularly stages classical productions like the works of Shakespeare in both traditional and contemporary settings. Here, she grounds her actors in earthly emotions, creating bonds between characters that feel like they've always been there. Boxleitner and Hecksel share a fun and whimsical bond that starts out playfully at the beginning and then grows more intense, driving Orpheus through his quest into the Underworld. Even more touching is Hecksel's connection with Boerger. Moments like the father re-teaching his daughter to read are layered with humor, and the saddest moments come when each forgets the other completely, sitting like stones in silence.

The supporting and featured players often steal the show. Kelly, Dill and Gracia-Wing get the best laugh lines as the extremely vocal stones, explaining rules to the audience or to Underworld

inhabitants. But Sartorius is absolutely magnetic in his two distinct roles. As the charming yet creepy "nasty interesting man," Sartorius lures Eurydice to his penthouse with a pompous and predatory gaze. Later, Sartorius rides a tricked-out trike on the stage as the Lord of the Underworld, a spoiled child with ultimate power. As a thin, young actor, Sartorius may not look physically intimidating, but his performances show how a performer can internalize and exude an air of privilege and power.

Despite its relatively small budget, some of the best aspects of this play are the production elements. Lark Burger's costume design works wonders on the stones. Anna Szabo's makeup design, which completes the look of the stones, could be described as "Victorian mime" — however you describe it, it's effective. In addition to his acting duties, Boerger also designed the multi-level set. Blending jungle green netting and Chinese lanterns, as well as a twisted metallic fountain and gears powering an elevator door, this Underworld feels like the Upside Down from "Stranger Things" with a steampunk makeover. Supported by sound designer Bryan Ruhl's eerie dripping water effects, Richard Chapman's ethereal lighting design and ingenious props — like a floating umbrella bound with strings — and you have an imaginative and unsettling Underworld.



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Time: 2:00 – 3:00pm
RSVP by April 18th

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Women behind bars

Author Lora Bex Lempert details women sentenced to life

By BILL CASTANIER

When the doors at the Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility closed behind Lora Rex Lempert for the first time, she had no idea what she would encounter. It certainly wasn't prison as portrayed by Netflix's "Orange is the New Black."

"My ongoing interactions with life-serving women opened a new world to me. A world that I never considered, a world that was not in any life plan for me, a world that I did not know existed," she writes in her book, "Women Doing Life: Gender, Punishment and the Struggle for Identity."

Lempert, professor emerita at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, had no idea when she began teaching in 1993 that

she would spend a significant portion of her academic career studying 72 women who were sentenced to life in prison with no hope of parole. Most of the study took place from 2010 to 2011, when more than 170 women in the U.S. were serving life sentences.

Lempert, now retired, lives in San Francisco. Her interest in women in prison came out of her work studying violence against women, Lempert said in a visit to Michigan to accept the 2017 Notable Book Award from the Library of Michigan.

"(Violence against women) was the spark to study lifers," Lempert said. "Of the women in prison, 85 percent were in an abusive relationship."

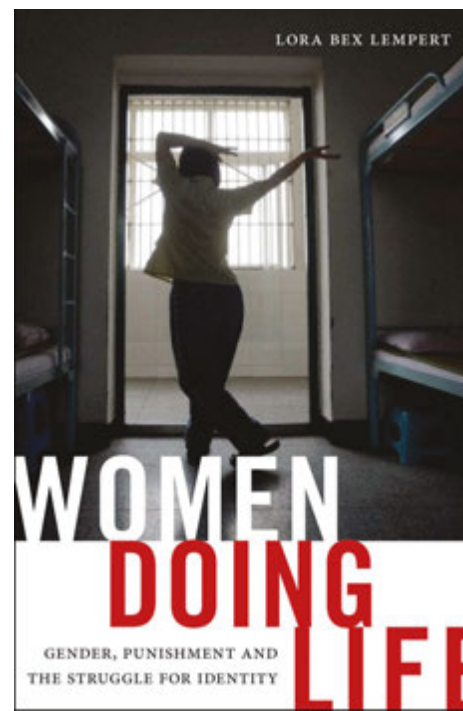
She also said many of the lifers are there for crimes committed "behind a man." For example, a man may have pulled the trigger, but the woman may have set the victim up to be robbed.

"Like most people, I had formed ideas from TV shows about women in prison, but what struck me was how public perception was so wrong," Lempert said. "Some of the finest women I know I met in prison."

Lempert conducted two to three focus groups a week and asked the imprisoned women to keep personal diaries. She found an incredible self-determination among the women, despite their knowing they were sentenced to life.

"They are incredibly strategic, have diverse skill levels and create meaningful lives," she said.

In addition to classifying or identifying certain characteristics of those behind bars, Lempert also details how the women adapt to becoming prisoners and navigat-



Courtesy Photo

Lora Bex Lempert's "Women Doing Life" explores the lives of women sentenced to life in prison.

ing what she calls "the mix."

A chapter titled "Eating the Life Sentence Elephant" delves into how same-sex intimacies serve multiple purposes in the lives of life-serving women. (Lempert never uses the term prisoners). Sexual intimacy in prison is extremely complex and, for purposes of the book, is divided into 11 distinct categories ranging from "entry sex" to "sex for sex's sake."

She also explores the prison culture of

drugs and sex, which is especially moving in a chapter named "Juvenile Lifers as 'Minnows in a Shark Tank.'" Lempert talks with two lifers, now in their 30s, who were teenagers when they were admitted. Lempert is especially tortured by the long sentences of juveniles in prison for life.

"By the time they are 38, they have already been imprisoned for life," she said. "Michigan may not have a death penalty, but it does have incarceration for life."

In the book, she also explores a class of women who use prison as a spiritual journey, with hopes of making the incarceration meaningful. She finds that prayer is the most common way women create "meaningful lives."

She also explores through the thoughts and voices of the prisoners themselves and the complicated relationships with "good" and "bad" correctional officers. It is imperative to note that just prior to the time of Lempert's study, correctional officers' abusive sexual relationships with prisoners resulted in a lawsuit ending with a \$15.4 million award for the victims.

Lempert's experience in conducting the study, writing the book and meeting the women sentenced to life has made her an outspoken activist for prison reform.

"We have to recognize that redemption is possible, and there needs to be second chances," she said. "We can't just throw people away in order to extract vengeance. Vengeance seems to be the reason we punish people far longer and punish them harder."

Lempert is also adamantly opposed to private for-profit prisons, which she says "have to be filled."

In our conversation, Lempert reflected on her time as an undergraduate at Michigan State University in the 1960s (she graduated in 1966) and its impact on her concept of social justice. She recalled the Civil Rights movement on campus and MSU's over-reaching restrictions on women.

"If you tried to it to young women today, it would be like explaining painting on cave walls."

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Saturday, April 8 @ 11am
Meridian Mall

Meet Michigan author and musician Kitty Donohoe as she sing songs and reads from her new children's book *Henny and Benny Bunyan and the Maple Syrup Adventure*.

Poetry Month Celebration

Tuesday, April 11 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center

Featuring Laura Apol, author of three poetry collections, including *Requiem, Rwanda*; Joyce Benvenuto, author of *A Grand River, Poems for Michigan and Poem Journey: More Poems & Poetry from along Old Grand River*; Marianne Forman; and Aram Kabodian.

Poetry Month Celebration

Thursday, April 13 @ 7pm
Meridian Mall

Featuring NYC poet Matthew Thorburn is the author of six collections of poetry, including his most recent, *Dear Almost*, a book-length poem addressed to an unborn child lost in miscarriage; Poet and writer Keith Taylor, author of 16 collections of poetry, including the recently released *The Bird-while*; and Cody Walker, author of two poetry collections: *The Self-Styled No-Child* and *Shuffle and Breakdown*.

for more information visit
www.SchulerBooks.com

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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 Allison at (517) 999-5066.

Wednesday, April 05

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Gentle Yoga. Relaxing pace class suitable for beginners. 11 a.m.-noon. First class FREE/\$5/\$3 members. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston.

Mindfulness. Meditation for beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 420-5820, ow.ly/CIHU305nMqx.

Beyond Stretching Class. Learn slow movements to reduce muscle tension. 7:30-8:30 p.m. \$10. LotusVoice Integrative Therapies, 4994 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. beyondstretching.weebly.com

Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed step meeting. 6 p.m. Donations. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 899-3215.

Photography Class Lansing. With award-winning photographer Ron St. Germain. 6:30-9 p.m. \$60 for four sessions. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing.

Photography Class Okemos. With award-winning photographer Ron St. Germain. 6:30-9 p.m. \$60 for four sessions. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Photography Class with Ron St Germain. Basics with award-winning photographer. 6:30-9 p.m. \$55. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Shamanic Education & Healing Clinic. Talk and demos on contemporary shamanism. 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$5-\$10 donation. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3, Lansing. (517) 402-6727, willowstickceremonies.com.

SMART Recovery. Self Management Addiction Recovery Training for any dependency. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Wharton Center Inner Circle Book Club. "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time," by Mark Haddon. 3:30-5 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 1982 Grand River Ave., Okemos. whartoncenter.com.

MUSIC

Deacon Earl: Allen Farmers Market. Acoustic blues, reggae, Americana, folk and more. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

MSU Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival: Korean Hearts of Vision Chamber Orchestra. 7:30

See Out on the Town, Page 21

Dog days — and nights



Photo by Joan Marcus

Adam Langdon plays Christopher, a boy with autism spectrum disorder, in "The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time," which opens Tuesday at the Wharton Center.

him,"

Langdon said.

Christopher, who is never explicitly diagnosed in either the book or play, shows signs of being on the autism spectrum. While Christopher has difficulties interacting with certain people and situations, Langdon finds he still has typical traits of a teenager.

"I think he's a little snarky but very smart and knows how to play it off, so it's like, 'No, I wasn't being like that, I was just telling you that you're wrong. And you are,'" Langdon said. "So I think that's one of the things I really want to bring into him, that he's just like everyone else at that age."

To prepare for the role, Langdon met with three young men with autism spectrum disorders. This experience was important, Langdon said, because the condition can manifest itself in a variety of ways.

"It was just incredible," he said. "It really allowed me to open up and think, 'Yes, I can be my own Christopher,' because these three young men have just shown me they're individuals, and to think anything else would be a real

dishonor to them."

While the musical's subject is serious, Langdon said the show will still satisfy theatergoers who love spectacle. It features intimate moments of human emotion while constantly keeping the audience on the edge of their seats with stunts like wall flips and actors suspended in the air.

"It's like 'Hamlet' combined with Cirque du Soleil," he said.

"It's incredible moments of crazy physicality. This is the most unique and incredible play that's come around for a while, so it'll be a great move for everybody to come and see this."

— Diamond Henry

"The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time"

6:30 p.m. Sunday, 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 11-Thursday, April 13; 8 p.m. Friday, April 14; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 15; 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, April 16
Tickets start at \$41/\$28 students
Wharton Center
750 E. Shaw Lane,
East Lansing
(517) 432-2000,
whartoncenter.com



Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICHTUPICA

NOTHING AT THE LOFT

Thursday, April 6 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$15, 7 p.m.



THU. APRIL 6TH

Genocya

Nothing, a Relapse Records-signed band, headlines Thursday at the Loft; opening the all-ages show are two heavy, Lansing-based bands: Hordes and Cavalcade. Nothing formed in 2010 in Philadelphia, but the alt-rock/shoegaze band's frontman, Domenic Palermo, got his start leading Horror Show, an early 2000s hardcore-punk act. Horror Show's career was cut short after a 2002 incident landed Palermo in prison for two years for aggravated assault. (He pleaded self-defense). After his release, Palermo formed Nothing, and by 2014, the group debuted on Relapse Records with its "Guilty of Everything" LP. All Music hailed it as an "impressively dark and beautiful debut album." Last year, after touring the United States and Europe, the band released its sophomore LP, "Tired of Tomorrow."

THE COOL KIDS AT THE LOFT

Sunday, April 9 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$20, 8 p.m.



SUN. APRIL 9TH

The Cool Kids

Freshly reunited Chicago-based hip-hop duo the Cool Kids headline Saturday at the Loft. Opening the show are DJ Owen Bones, Jahshua Smith & the Race Card and Mikeyy Austin & the Happy Medium. The Cool Kids formed 12 years ago after the pair – Sir Michael Rocks and Chuck English – met online and traded beats and rhymes. After online demos received critical praise from tastemakers like Pitchfork, the duo opened a tour for M.I.A. and then dropped its debut EP, "The Bake Sale," in early 2008. The group's "When Fish Ride Bicycles" LP followed in 2011. In July, after a five-year hiatus, the band announced its reunion and tour dates. Last week, Billboard.com premiered the duo's new video, "TV Dinner."

ZOOS OF BERLIN, STEF CHURA AND GUILTY SIMPSON AT THE AVENUE CAFÉ

April 6-8 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$5, 9 p.m.



APRIL 6-8TH

Stef Chura

The trio of film fest concerts at the Avenue kicks off Thursday with Zoos of Berlin. The Detroit-based quartet plays art-pop music that melds Brian Eno-influenced electronics and melodious, abstract indie rock. Last year, the band released its "Instant Evening" LP. Openers are: Krissy Booth, Double Winter and LVRS. On Friday, lo-fi indie rocker Stef Chura performs along with openers Small Parks, Peter J Hochstedler and Lucy. Chura released her debut LP, "Messes," in January via Urinal Cake Records. On Saturday, Detroit emcee Guilty Simpson headlines a night of hip-hop. Openers are Red Pill, Nolan the Ninja and DJ Ruckus. Simpson signed with Stones Throw Records in 2006 after being championed by the late hip-hop legend J Dilla.

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT ALLISON@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Zoos of Berlin, 9 p.m.	Stef Chura/Small Parks, 7 p.m.	Guilty Simpson, 8 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.				Sarah Brunner
Buddies - Holt, 2040 N Aurelius Rd			Chris Laskos	
Buddies - Okemos, 1937 W Grand River Ave			Lee Groove, 9 p.m.	
Classic Bar & Grill, 16219 Old US 27		Lee Groove, 7 p.m.		Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Champions, 2440 N. Cedar St.	Donald Benjamin, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Chris Laskos, 9 p.m.?
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.			Blue Hair Bettys, 9 p.m.	
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Rd				
Darb's Tavern, 117 S Cedar St				
Eaton Rapids Craft Co., 204 N Main St.		Steve Cowles, 6 p.m.	Rush Clement, 6 p.m.	
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 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.	The Hot Mess, 9:30 p.m.	Summer of Sol, 9:30 p.m.
Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.			Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Narc Out the Reds, 8 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9 p.m.	Soulstice, 9 p.m.
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 E. Michigan Ave.			Rachel Curtis, 5:30 p.m.	
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.,			Terminally Skilled, 8 p.m.	Hizen, 8:30 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Untied Skates / Former Critics, 8 p.m.	Half Waif, 7 p.m.	Captured By Robots, 8 p.m.	Beatz Bangin & Dj Enyce, 8 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Licoln County Process, 9 p.m.	Greg Nagy, 9 p.m.	Further Adventures of Fat Boy, 9 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road			The New Rule, 8-12 p.m.	The New Rule, 8-12 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Kyle's Open Mic Jam, 7-11 p.m.	Kathy Ford, 7:30 p.m.	Last One Out, 7 p.m.	
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Bobby Standal, 8-12 p.m.?	Rush Cleemt?, 8 p.m.?
Ryan's Roadhouse, 902 E State St.		Ryan's Roadhouse, 6-10 p.m.		
Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.			
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.		Collateral Damage, 4 p.m.		
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	Spoonful, 9 p.m.	Spoonful, 9 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.		Marc Sala	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr.		HENDERSHOTT, 7 p.m.		

p.m. Tickets between \$5-\$15. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. 517-353-5340.
Stagetime Open Mic. Stagetime Open-Mic with Blue Rhythm Boys feat. Bob Fuller. 7-10:11 p.m. FREE. Sir Pizza Grand Cafe, 201 E. Grand River, Lansing.
Symphonic Cinema: Disney Around the World. Lansing Symphony Orchestra plays along with Disney movies. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing.
Tavern House Jazz Band. 7:30 p.m.-10:30 a.m. Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Square Lansing.
Together, Let's Jam! For children, adolescents and adults who rock out. 9 a.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.
Zhuhua Tang and the Gracewood Singers. The Lansing Matinee Musicale hosts pianist Zhuhua Tang. 1-2 p.m. FREE. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

THEATER

Auditions for Elephant's Graveyard. With Over the Ledge Theatre Company. 7 p.m. Over the Ledge Theatre Co., Fitzgerald Park, Grand Ledge. 517-318-0579.

EVENT

After School Action Program. Light meal, tutoring and activities. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Eastside Community Action Center, 1001 Dakin St., Lansing.
After School Teen Program. For teens in grades 7-12. 2:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.
Allen Farmers Market. Fresh produce, baked goods, and other products. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.
Drop-in Spring Ice Cream Social. Make a sundae and visit with family and friends. 5:30-7 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Aurelius Branch, 1939 South Aurelius Road, Mason. (517) 628.3743.
Family Storytime. Builds literacy skills for ages 6 and under. 11:15 a.m.-noon. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Webberville Branch, 115 South Main St., Webberville. 517.521.3643.
Make Your Own Comic Book. Ages 7-18. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. 517.694.9351.
Read to Scout. Ages 6-18 practice reading to therapy dog. Call to register. 3-3:45 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Leslie Branch, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. 517-589-9400.
Senior Discovery Group meeting. International student speaks on life in their home country. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.
Spring Break Adventures: Mammals of Michigan. Hands-on, full-day camps for ages 5-10. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. \$40/\$35 members. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.
Star Wars Spring Break: Trivia Night. Testing Star Wars knowledge. Call to register. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Okemos Branch, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. 517.347.2021.
Wine Night. Wine tasting with licensed sommelier. 5:30-7:30 p.m. \$15. UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St. Lansing.

ARTS

Kresge Life Drawing Open Studio. Open studio drop-in life drawing sessions with nude models. 7-9:30 p.m. \$5/students FREE. Kresge Art Center, 600 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 337-1170.
Walk-In Wednesdays. Art activities for all ages. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

Thursday, April 06

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.
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.
Bach Stress Relief. Using flower essences to work through stress. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave. Suite 3, Lansing.
Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing. crisisrfc.com.
Celebrate Recovery. For all types of hurts and hang-ups. 6 p.m. Donations welcome. Trinity Church, 3355 Dunckel Road Lansing.
Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 5:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900.
Preschool Science Explorations: All about Plants. Hands-on science exploration activities. 1-2:30 p.m. \$4 per child. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.
Trees of Green: Adult Watercolor Class. Six-week class focusing on using the color green. 1-3 p.m. \$120. Michigan Lighthouse Art Gallery, 107 S. Putnam St. #215, Williamston. 517-256-8335.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Thursday Book Group. Monthly group. New members welcome. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster St., Lansing. (517) 485.5185.

EVENT

After School Action Program. Light meal, tutoring and activities. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Eastside Community Action Center, 1001 Dakin St., Lansing.
After School Teen Program. For teens in grades 7-12. 2:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.
12-Step Meeting. AA/NA/CA all welcome. In room 209. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing.
Capital Area Audubon Society. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Non-members cordially invited to attend. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.
Crafternoon: Paint a Piggy Bank. Ages 5-10. Call to register. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Mason Branch, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088.
Drop-in LEGO Club. Ages 4 and up. 3:15-4:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Webberville Branch, 115 South Main St., Webberville. (517) 521.3643.
Kids Reading to Dogs. Ages 6 and up read to trained dog. 4-5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Haslett Branch, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324.
Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:20 a.m. \$5 and yearly dues fee. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing.
Play with Purpose. Play-based program supporting early literacy. Ages 3-6. 1-2 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Haslett Branch, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324.
Spring Break Adventures: Gross Nature. Hands-on, full-day camp for ages 5-10. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. \$40/\$35 members. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

Friday, April 07

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Elementary Statistics Class Series. Grades 3-5 learn to think like a statistician. Register online. 4-5 p.m.

FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Gentle Yoga. Relaxing pace class suitable for beginners. 11 a.m.-noon. First class FREE/\$5/\$3 members. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston.
Picture This! Ages 21 and up. Bring a photo and learn how to recreate it with paint on canvas. 7-9:30 p.m. \$28/\$50 for two. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Rally Warm-Up 'Storypaloosa'. Tales from several super storytellers. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Schuler Books & Music, 2820 Towne Centre Blvd., Lansing. (517) 316-7495.

MUSIC

Monte Pride - LIVE @ Mac's Bar. Lansing-born, Lansing-based singer-songwriter & fingerstyle guitarist performs. 7-11 p.m. \$10/\$8 adv. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795.
MSU Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival: NOBILIS

Trio. 8 p.m. \$5-\$15. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. 517-353-5340.

THEATER

Alton Brown: Eat Your Science. TV star shares songs, antics and potentially dangerous food demos. 8-10 p.m. Tickets from \$25. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON.
Phantom of the Universe. Presentation on dark matter. 8-9 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

EVENT

After School Teen Program. For teens in grades 7-12. 2:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.
From Naked Eye to the Invisible. Planetarium show about dark matter. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.
Howl at the Moon: Guided Night Walk. Dogs on a non-retractable leash are welcome. 8-9 p.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township.

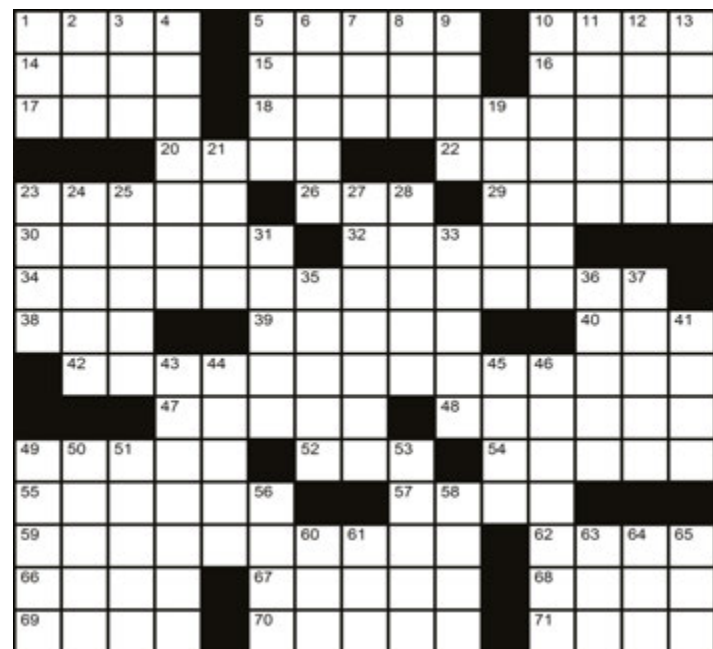
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"SMarvelous"--
 'smeaningful to the
 theme, too.
 Matt Jones

Across

1 Branch offshoot
 5 Charlie of "Winning!" memes
 10 All-out battles
 14 "How awful!"
 15 Dance company founder Alvin
 16 Creature created by George Lucas
 17 Washington newspaper
 18 Take-away signs of happiness
 20 Lhasa ____ (Tibetan breed)
 22 Oil transport
 23 Casually uninterested
 26 Puddle gunk
 29 They directed "O Brother, Where Art Thou?"
 30 1990 Stanley Cup winners
 32 Gets warmer
 34 Rough purchase at the dairy?
 38 One of LBJ's beagles
 39 Anaheim Stadium player, once
 40 "____ little teapot ..."
 42 1980s actor Corey hawking some tart fruit candies?
 47 Passport endorsements
 48 Doughnut shape
 49 Goaded (on)
 52 "Spring forward" letters
 54 Teeming with testosterone
 55 Grand Canyon pack animals
 57 Burgles
 59 "If something can go wrong, Gargamel will never get it right!"
 62 Pinball foul



66 "Fashion Emergency" model
 67 Slow mover
 68 On-screen symbol
 69 Employer of Serpico or Sipowicz
 70 Road trip expenses
 71 Penny value

Down
 1 Outdo
 2 One of a reporter's W's
 3 "Shoo" additions?
 4 "You busy?"
 5 Backtalk
 6 Athlete's camera greeting
 7 The Manning with more Super Bowl MVP awards
 8 "Electric" creature
 9 Putin turndown
 10 Sign your dog is healthy, maybe
 11 Got up
 12 Seth of "Pineapple Express"

13 Some toffee bars
 19 "____ bleu!"
 21 Liven (up)
 23 NBA great Chris
 24 Bartenders' fruit
 25 What a snooze but-ton delays
 27 Fashion status in various states?
 28 Stuff in an orange-lidded pot, traditionally
 31 Adds some seasoning
 33 Frank Zappa's son
 35 Aquatic nymph
 36 "Hot Fuzz" star Pegg
 37 Clickable communication
 41 "Toy Story" kid
 43 Stated as fact
 44 Get ____ (throw away)
 45 Bausch & ____ (lens maker)
 46 Rigorous
 49 "The Beverly Hillbillies" star Buddy
 50 Like some kids' vitamins

51 Cranky sort
 53 Hiker's path
 56 Part of iOS
 58 Nocturnal rat catch-ers
 60 ____-cones
 61 Kobe's old team, on scoreboards
 63 Word before pick or breaker
 64 Chaney of "The Wolf Man"
 65 C7H5N3O6, for short

Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

April 5-11

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Be interested in first things, Aries. Cultivate your attraction to beginnings. Align yourself with uprisings and breakthroughs. Find out what's about to hatch, and lend your support. Give your generous attention to potent innocence and novel sources of light. Marvel at people who are rediscovering the sparks that animated them when they first came into their power. Fantasize about being a curious seeker who is devoted to reinventing yourself over and over again. Gravitate toward influences that draw their vitality directly from primal wellsprings. Be excited about first things.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Are you weary of lugging around decayed guilt and regret? Is it increasingly difficult to keep forbidden feelings concealed? Have your friends been wondering about the whip marks from your self-flagellation sessions? Do you ache for redemption? If you answered yes to any of those questions, listen up. The empathetic and earthy saints of the Confession Catharsis Corps are ready to receive your blubbery disclosures. They are clairvoyant, they're non-judgmental, and best of all, they're free. Within seconds after you telepathically communicate with our earthy saints, they will psychically beam you eleven minutes of unconditional love, no strings attached. Do it! You'll be amazed at how much lighter and smarter you feel. Transmit your sad stories to the Confession Catharsis Corps NOW!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Now is an excellent time to FREE YOUR MEMORIES. What comes to mind when I suggest that? Here are my thoughts on the subject. To FREE YOUR MEMORIES, you could change the way you talk and feel about your past. Re-examine your assumptions about your old stories, and dream up fresh interpretations to explain how and why they happened. Here's another way to FREE YOUR MEMORIES: If you're holding on to an insult someone hurled at you once upon a time, let it go. In fact, declare a general amnesty for everyone who ever did you wrong. By the way, the coming weeks will also be a favorable phase to FREE YOURSELF OF MEMORIES that hold you back. Are there any tales you tell yourself about the past that undermine your dreams about the future? Stop telling yourself those tales.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) How big is your vocabulary? Twenty thousand words? Thirty thousand? Whatever size it is, the coming weeks will be prime time to expand it. Life will be conspiring to enhance your creative use of language . . . to deepen your enjoyment of the verbal flow . . . to help you become more articulate in rendering the mysterious feelings and complex thoughts that rumble around inside you. If you pay attention to the signals coming from your unconscious mind, you will be shown how to speak and write more effectively. You may not turn into a silver-tongued persuader, but you could become a more eloquent spokesperson for your own interests.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): We all need more breaks from the routine -- more holidays, more vacations, more days off from work. We should all play and dance and sing more, and guiltlessly practice the arts of leisure and relaxation, and celebrate freedom in regular boisterous rituals. And I'm nominating you to show us the way in the coming weeks, Leo. Be a cheerleader who exemplifies how it's done. Be a ringleader who springs all of us inmates out of our mental prisons. Be the imaginative escape artist who demonstrates how to relieve tension and lose inhibitions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): People in your vicinity may be preoccupied with trivial questions. What's more nutritious, corn chips or potato chips? Could Godzilla kick King Kong's ass? Is it harder to hop forward on one foot or backward with both feet? I suspect you will also encounter folks who are embroiled in meaningless decisions and petty emotions. So how should you navigate your way through this energy-draining muddle? Here's

my advice: Identify the issues that are most worthy of your attention. Stay focused on them with disciplined devotion. Be selfish in your rapt determination to serve your clearest and noblest and holiest agendas.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I hope that by mid-May you will be qualified to teach a workshop called "Sweet Secrets of Tender Intimacy" or "Dirty Secrets of Raw Intimacy" or maybe even "Sweet and Dirty Secrets of Raw and Tender Intimacy." In other words, Libra, I suspect that you will be adding substantially to your understanding of the art of togetherness. Along the way, you may also have experiences that would enable you to write an essay entitled "How to Act Like You Have Nothing to Lose When You Have Everything to Gain."

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): If you have a dream of eating soup with a fork, it might mean that in your waking life you're using the wrong approach to getting nourished. If you have a dream of entering through an exit, it might mean that in your waking life you're trying to start at the end rather than the beginning. And if you dream of singing nursery rhymes at a karaoke bar with unlikable people from high school, it might mean that in your waking life you should seek more fulfilling ways to express your wild side and your creative energies. (P.S. You'll be wise to do these things even if you don't have the dreams I described.)

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If you're a Quixotic lover, you're more in love with love itself than with any person. If you're a Cryptic lover, the best way to stay in love with a particular partner is to keep him or her guessing. If you're a Harlequin, your steady lover must provide as much variety as three lovers. If you're a Buddy, your specialties are having friendly sex and having sex with friends. If you're a Histrionic, you're addicted to confounding, disorienting love. It's also possible that you're none of the above. I hope so, because now is an excellent time to have a beginner's mind about what kind of love you really need and want to cultivate in the future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Your new vocabulary word is "adytum." It refers to the most sacred place within a sacred place -- the inner shrine at the heart of a sublime sanctuary. Is there such a spot in your world? A location that embodies all you hold precious about your journey on planet Earth? It might be in a church or temple or synagogue or mosque, or it could be a magic zone in nature or a corner of your bedroom. Here you feel an intimate connection with the divine, or a sense of awe and reverence for the privilege of being alive. If you don't have a personal adytum, Capricorn, find or create one. You need the refreshment that comes from dwelling in the midst of the numinous.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You could defy gravity a little, but not a lot. You can't move a mountain, but you may be able to budge a hill. Luck won't miraculously enable you to win a contest, but it might help you seize a hard-earned perk or privilege. A bit of voraciousness may be good for your soul, but a big blast of greed would be bad for both your soul and your ego. Being savvy and feisty will energize your collaborators and attract new allies; being a smart-ass show-off would repel people.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Here are activities that will be especially favorable for you to initiate in the near future: 1. Pay someone to perform a service for you that will ease your suffering. 2. Question one of your fixed opinions if that will lead to you receiving a fun invitation you wouldn't get otherwise. 3. Dole out sincere praise or practical help to a person who could help you overcome one of your limitations. 4. Get clear about how one of your collaborations would need to change in order to serve both of you better. Then tell your collaborator about the proposed improvement with light-hearted compassion.

Out on the town

from page 21

(517) 349-3866.

MSU Observatory Open House. Night sky observing and hands-on activities. 7-11 p.m. FREE. MSU Observatory, located at the corner of Forest and College roads, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

Spring Break Adventures: Wilderness Rangers. Hands-on, full-day camps. Ages 5-10. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. \$40/\$35 member. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

Spring Break Craft: Mix & Create. Ages 3-10 make snacks and crafts. Call to register: 2-3 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Mason Branch, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. 517-676-9088.

St. Casimir Church Fish Frys. One trip only of three portions. 4-7 p.m. \$10/\$9 seniors/\$5 kids. St. Casimir Catholic Church, 800 W. Barnes Ave., Lansing.

Saturday, April 08

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

A Rally of Writers. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Lansing Community College West Campus, located at the

corner of W. Mount Hope and Snow roads, Lansing. (517) 267-5452.

My Cub & I: Nature for Toddlers Saturday.

Nature walk and activities for toddlers and guardian. 10-11 a.m. \$35 for 6 week class. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

MUSIC

MSU Latin IS America Festival: Khemia Ensemble. Music from composers from around the Americas. 8 p.m. FREE. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

EVENT

14th Annual Girls Get Going - Girls Sports Clinic. Variety of sports for girls in grades 3-8. 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. IM Sports West, 393 Chestnut Road, East Lansing.

Exploring Space. Ages 3 and up enjoy activities and stories about space. 11 a.m.-noon. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Dansville Branch, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511.

Gastropod-Live. Live podcast event. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, 219 S Harrison

See Out on the Town, Page 23



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Out on the town

from page 22

Road, East Lansing.
Magical Mystery Tour 60s Party. Taco bar, dancing and contests. 6:30 p.m. Voiture 946 40 et 8, 2949 S. Waverly Highway, Lansing. (517) 882-2602.
MSU Science Festival Early Childhood Zone. Hands-on activities for kids 7 and younger. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. MSU Molecular Plant Sciences Building, 1066 Bogue St., East Lansing.
MSU Science Festival Expo Day. Hands-on activities for the family. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. MSU Biomedical and Physical Sciences Building, 567 Wilson Road East Lansing. (517) 355-1855.
PaleoJoe: Crinoids, Corals, Cephalopods, and More. PaleoJoe talks about fossils. 10-10:45 a.m. FREE. MSU Chemistry Building, Room 136, 578 S. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-8977.
Second Saturday Supper. Come have a meal at Mayflower Church. 5-6:15 p.m. \$9/\$5 children. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-3139.
Second Saturdays at the Museum: The Futurist Designer. Attendees create artistic robots. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE with museum admission. Michigan History Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. 517-241-6852.
Taste of the Town. Appetizers, soups, breads, entrees, desserts and beverages. 5:30-7 p.m. \$30. Henry Center for Executive Development, 3535 Forest Road, Lansing.

THEATER

Phantom of the Universe. Presentation on dark matter. 8-9 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

Sunday, April 09

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.
Kendo Martial Art Class. Martial arts practice group. 10-11:30 a.m. \$5. Westside Community YMCA, 3700 Old Lansing Road, Lansing.

MUSIC

MSU Cello Plus Chamber Music Festival: Chamber Music Masters. 3 p.m. \$5-\$15. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.
Rocktopia Live. Celebrates fusion of classical music with classic rock. 7 p.m. Tickets from \$42. Wharton

Center for Performing Arts, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982.

EVENT

Minecraft Game Night. Ages 8-15. Call to register. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster, Lansing. (517) 485-5185.
3 in 30: The Science of Communication. Discuss many hot topics at the pub. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Dublin Square, 327 Abbott Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2222.
Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance. 6 p.m. \$8 dance/\$10 dance and lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 321-0933.
One World One Sky. Big Bird and Elmo take imaginary trip to the moon. 2-3:30 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.
Race for the Place 5K Run/Walk. Family-friendly fundraiser for MSU Safe Place. 1 p.m. Jenison Fieldhouse, on MSU campus off of E. Kalamazoo Street, East Lansing.

THEATER

Phantom of the Universe. Presentation on dark matter. 8-9 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

Monday, April 10

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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.
Gentle Yoga. Relaxing pace class suitable for beginners. 11 a.m.-noon. First class FREE/\$5/\$3 members. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston.
My Cub & I: Nature for Toddlers. Nature walk and activities for toddlers and guardian. 10:30-11:30 a.m. \$35/child for six-week class. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.
Support Group. For the divorced, separated & widowed. Room 9. 7:30 p.m. St. Davids Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272.
Painting Basics, Session 3: Mixed Media. Ages 14 and up. 6:45-7:45 p.m. \$40. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St., Jackson. (517) 784-2389.

MUSIC

MSU Faculty Recital: Ken Prouty, trombone, Joseph Lulloff, saxophone, and Ron Newman, piano. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/students and kids FREE. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building, 333 W. Circle

See Out on the Town, Page 24

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BEGINNER

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TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 24

Out on the town

from page 23

an instrument or dust off an old one. 6-8 p.m. MSU Community Music School, 4930 Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-7661.

EVENT

After School Action Program. Light meal, tutoring and activities. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Eastside Community Action Center, 1001 Dakin St., Lansing.

After School Teen Program. For teens in grades 7-12. 2:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Building Fun. Create using our Zoob collection. Ages 3 and up. 4-5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351.

Chess, Cribbage, Hand & Foot. Weekly activities at the center. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.

Game Night at UrbanBeat. Bring your own or play provided games. 5-8 p.m. FREE. UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St., Lansing.

Social Bridge. Play bridge and meet new people. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing.

Tuesday, April 11

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Aerial photography with Kites. Learn to use simple alternative to drones. 4-5 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 7 p.m. FREE for visitors. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300.

Communicating During Crisis: Connecting With Audiences Truthfully and Quickly. Dr. William Donohue discusses communication. 6:15-8 p.m. FREE. 115 Eppley Hall, MSU, 645 N. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 896-4091.

Michigan Audubon: Nest Box Monitoring. How to build and maintain safe nest boxes for local birds. 6-8 p.m. \$15. Michigan Audubon Office, 2310 Science Parkway, Suite 200, Okemos. (517) 580-7364.

Take off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. Wheelchair accessible. 6 p.m. FREE first visit. St. Therese Parish, 102 West Randolph Street, Lansing. (517) 487-3749.

Vision Journey Preparation. Pre-registration & six-week commitment required. 7-9 p.m. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3, Lansing.

Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing. crisisrfc.com.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Poetry Reading. Reading by local poets. Ruelaine Stokes will be master of ceremony. 7 p.m. FREE. Eastwood Towne Center, 2820 Towne Center Blvd., Lansing.

MUSIC

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

EVENT

12-Step Meeting. AA/NA/CA all welcome. In room 209. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing.

AARP HomeFit Program. Experts help seniors assess their homes to help them live safely and independently. 10-11 a.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.

After School Action Program. Light meal, tutoring and activities. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Eastside Community Action Center, 1001 Dakin St., Lansing.

After School Teen Program. For teens in grades 7-12. 2:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Bingo, Bridge, and Euchre. Weekly activities. 1-4:30 p.m. Cost Varies. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.

LCC West Toastmasters. Learn public speaking and leadership. 5-6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-1314.

Mid-day Movies. Adults only. Today: Fences. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 South Capitol Ave., Lansing. 517-367-6363.

Overeaters Anonymous. Help for those struggling with food. 7 p.m. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road., Okemos. (517) 349-9536.

Wednesday, April 12

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed step meeting. 6 p.m. Donations. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 899-3215.

Gentle Yoga. Relaxing pace class suitable for beginners. 11 a.m.-noon. First class FREE/\$5/\$3 members. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston.

Mindfulness. Meditation for beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Chua Van Hanh Temple. 3015 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 420-5820, ow.ly/CIHU305nMqx.

Ballroom Dance: Fox Trot. For ages 17 and up. 8:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. \$21/\$42 couples. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St., Jackson. (517) 784-2389.

Photography Class - Lansing. With award-winning photographer Ron St. Germain. 6:30-9 p.m. \$60 for four sessions. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old

Lansing Road Lansing.

SMART Recovery. Self Management Addiction Recovery Training for any dependency. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St. Lansing.

Starting a Business. Course for aspiring entrepreneurs. Call to register. 9-11 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Amir Sulaiman Poetry Reading. Poems on love, tragedy and the unprecedented trials of modernity. 7-9 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Bookworms at the Broad MSU. Story time and creativity. Ages 2-5. 1-2 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

EVENT

After School Action Program. Light meal, tutoring and activities. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Eastside Community Action Center, 1001 Dakin St., Lansing.

After School Teen Program. For teens in grades 7-12. 2:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Allen Farmers Market. Fresh produce, baked goods, and other products. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Computer Club. Discuss technology questions with an expert. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.

Mah Jongg and Pinochle. Weekly activities at the Senior Center. 1-4:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.

Post-Polio Support Group Meeting. 1:30-3 p.m. FREE, contributions welcome. Plymouth Congregational

Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

Qi Gong/Tai Chi. Learn Qi Gong and the Eight Brocades for health. 2-3 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.

Toastmasters Club. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 6 p.m. Agroliquid, 3055 West M-21, Saint Johns.

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 24

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SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 25

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THE RECORD LOUNGE

Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

After spending nine years in East Lansing, Heather Frarey moved her shop, the Record Lounge, to its new home in REO Town last week. The retail vinyl store also sells T-shirts, posters and vintage stereo equipment. .

By ALLAN I. ROSS

If millennials and baby boomers can agree on one thing, it's that music sounds better when it's played on vinyl. Over the last decade, vinyl album sales have exploded thanks in part to those two demographics, reviving an all but obsolete media format and creating an opportunity for a new wave of retailers. Now REO Town is getting in on the action, as a 9-year-old East Lansing business, the Record Lounge, relocated to a vacant storefront in the burgeoning neighborhood last week.

"I'd been here for (annual music and art festival) Art Attack, but I'd never really spent much time in REO Town before I decided to move here," said Record Lounge owner/operator Heather Frarey. "And so far the people have been very welcoming. It's a totally different vibe from East Lansing. Here, it's all about small business owners who stick together."

But that move wasn't voluntary. Last week, Frarey was evicted from her location at 111 Division St. in downtown East Lansing after a rent disagreement with Cron Management, which manages the property. For years, Frarey had paid her rent to the State News, which owns the building, and said that a misunderstanding among the three parties led to a discrepancy of over \$4,000 in unpaid rent and court costs since last fall.

"I was by no means a model tenant, but I don't think I needed to be treated like that," Frarey said. "To be evicted after nine years and have only two days to get everything out was extremely difficult. I feel this could have been handled much better by them. How do you move a whole store in two days?"

Frarey, 53, said that until last November, she paid her rent directly to State News general manager Marty Sturgeon but was informed that Cron Management was taking over the property management of the building

due to the influx of new businesses, including Panda Express and Blaze Pizza. She said it all started with a rent check that went unbanked for three weeks, during which time she made a quarterly sales tax payment.

"When they finally cashed the check, the funds weren't there, and everything fell apart from there," Frarey said. "I was out of town when it happened, and when I got back, I thought I could handle this on my own. I didn't tell anyone, not even my husband, what was going on. I was scared. There was a lot of stress on my shoulders."

Frarey said she thought she had successfully dug herself out of her hole, but claims she mistakenly forgot to pay a roughly \$1,000 court fee, which ended up being the final straw. Last Tuesday, a court officer served her with eviction papers, giving her one day to get out. She appealed for an extra day, and by noon Thursday, the shop was cleaned out.

"Luckily I know a lot of people, so I started making calls," Frarey said. "One of the first people I tried was Dylan (Rogers), who put me in touch with Ryan Wert, and pretty quickly he was able to help me figure something out."

Rogers and Wert are two of REO Town's biggest ambassadors. Rogers is co-founder of the performance venue Robin Theatre, and Wert is the owner of Elm Street Recording, as well as owner of the building that will soon be home to Sleepwalker Spirits and Ale. Wert is also executive director of the REO Town Commercial Association and knew about an empty space adjacent to REO Town Recording, 1134 S. Washington Ave.

"Zack Tuck at REO Town Recording had been carrying the rent (in this space) for about a year, and he was very accommodating to help get me in here in a hurry," Frarey said. "It's about 600 square feet, almost the exact same size as the East Lansing store, but the layout is actually better and will allow

me to fit more into the space. I also have a bathroom now. It's great."

Frarey estimates that she had about 15,000 vinyl albums to move last week, in addition to all her racks and vintage stereo equipment. She said it was physically grueling for both her husband, William, and her. The two were involved in a motorcycle accident in 1999 that has left both of them in chronic pain, but it's also what led her to open the store in the first place.

"I'd been working as a dental assistant, but after the accident, it became too much for me physically," Frarey said. "Before I did that, I had spent years (in the retail record industry), so I thought maybe I could sell records online. But I really missed working with people."

So on Jan. 2, 2008, Frarey opened the Record Lounge, taking advantage of East Lansing's built-in student population and the coincidental resurgence of vinyl. The store quickly became a staple in the scene, joining Flat, Black and Circular and Replay Entertainment Exchange as the triumvirate of locally owned record stores. That was also the year that Record Store Day debuted, where special vinyl albums are released to select outlets around the country. Frarey said part of her financial distress was caused by plunking down over \$5,000 to buy merchandise for this year's Record Store Day, which this year falls on April 22.

"There was that moment of panic when I had no idea what I going to do for Record Store Day," Frarey said. "That's one of our biggest days of the year. We've already been swamped with people stopping by, so I don't think (our regular customers) will have a hard time finding us. I feel so incredibly lucky that this worked out the way it did. This may have been a blessing in disguise."

The Record Lounge
1132 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
11 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday
(517) 862-1976, facebook.com/thercordlounge

Do you know of a new Greater Lansing business that should be featured in New in Town? Send an email to allan@lansingcitypulse.com.

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

THE BEST RESTAURANTS IN
GREATER LANSING AS DECIDED
BY CITY PULSE READERS

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2016 Top of the Town contest, we've assembled a guide to your favorite Lansing-area eateries. We'll run single categories in the paper periodically, but the complete dining guide is always available on our website or on our official mobile app, The Pulse. The app is available on iPhone and Android platforms; head over to facebook.com/lansingapp or text "pulse" to 77948 for links to download.

Bon appétit!

TOP 5 BAKERIES

#1 BAKE N' CAKES

"Butter makes it better" at this bakery, known for its cupcakes and specialty desserts
 3003 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing
 (517) 337-2253
bakencakes.com
 6:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday

#2 ROMA BAKERY

City Pulse readers love its baked goods, especially the cannolis
 428 N. Cedar St., Lansing
 (517) 485-9466
romabakerydeli.com
 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday

#3 GLAZED & CONFUSED

Specializing in donuts, this bakery offers unique flavors.
 (517) 253-7147
glazedandconfusedbakery.net
 107 S. Washington Square, Lansing
 6:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Friday; 7 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday.

#4 SWEETIE-LICIOUS BAKERY CAFE

This bakery, which specializes in pies, encourages patrons to "eat pie, love life."
 108 N. Bridge Street, Dewitt
 (517) 669-9300
sweetie-licious.com
 7 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday.

#5 GROOVY DONUTS

This bakery bills itself as an old-school and retro donut and coffee shop.
 313 W. Grand River Ave., Williamston.
 (517) 996-6300
 Closed Monday; 6:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday; 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday; 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday.

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Summer of Brosé

Checking out value wines
for warm weather adventures
By JUSTIN KING

We need to talk about the rosé problem. The rosé narrative is at a fever pitch, and if we don't get this under control, all the delicious cheap pink wine juice out there will increase in price by 30 to 50 percent.

I was in a store this month and I saw two rosé packages, a canned rosé 4-pack in cardboard with the package top reading "stay basic" and a wine called Brosé. Dudes in salmon-colored shorts are now drinking the pink. I guess it's no surprise everyone's drinking rosé now. After all, it's usually cheap and delicious.

Rosé is new Soft Parade, and it's time to get evolved, son. Your spring and summer lounging plans require you get turned only at a moderate pace, and you need to stay cheap, and you need think about crowd-pleasing wine. We're here to help.

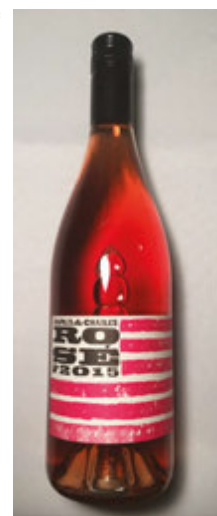
Dry rosé is one of the best summer wines, and there is finally a large group of West Coast winemakers keyed into the style, making good, fruit-driven dry wines that are pleasing as punch for the cash you're obligated to throw down to the cashier.

I'm an indie-first guy, but it's time to level up here. Charles & Charles 2015 rosé is a



Justin King/City Pulse

Charles & Charles 2015 rosé is a quality wine for the budget-minded summer fun-seeker



must-have for your patio. MUST-HAVE. First up, you'll probably be able to find this all over town for around \$12. It could easily be \$16, but it's not. This is a joint project between Sammy Hagar-look-alike winemaker Charles Smith and hipster-entrepreneur Charles Bieler. It's mostly syrah, with some mourvedre, grenache and other grapes.

These guys are making great wine at low prices. Even if Charles Smith sold much of his brands to the vino-megalopolis known as Constellation, this is still quality first. And this rosé will save your grilling parties year-round.

But dry pink wine alone won't redeem your value wine acquisition record throughout 2017. Next cheap wine stop: pinot noir.

I know it may sound boring to the bourgeoisie, but the always cheap Hybrid pinot noir, made by Peltier Winery, might be the value winner of the year.

Expect to pay around \$9 for a completely acceptable example of fresh cherry/plum fruit in a California winemaking style that tastes more thoughtful than mass-produced. There are few faults in this California concoction. This isn't complex wine — you're not going to be raving about the finish and how tertiary elements articulate beauty — but Hybrid pinot noir should probably be the light-bodied red of the year, based on its stupidly enjoyable vino-to-price ratio.

If you can't shed the big, bold reds in your life but still need a cheap wine, I recommend the Moulin de Gassac cabernet

sauvignon. This bottle will run you roughly \$12 and could probably be \$15. All the right cabernet sauvignon flavors are here: quasi-jammy cassis, plum and blackberry. And the fun part is that you get to pay half the price compared to equivalent Napa cabernets. Why is this?

Moulin de Gassac is made in a land of little consequence for red wines, Languedoc-Roussillon. In this southern French region, one can expect to find a bounty of magnificent rosé wine, sandy beaches and topless women sunbathing on the Riviera. Occasionally, you'll find cheap red wine that does all you ask of it. The 2015 Moulin de Gassac cabernet sauvignon is just that for our market, and I hope that the power, ripeness and dexterity of this wine doesn't leap too aggressively anytime soon against our pocketbooks. It's just too tasty for the money.

Or maybe you're digging on white wines, those effortless and juicy bottles that are prime for incredible grilling pairings and patio experiences.

Want to know what beverage can do this? Are you sure you want to know?

Riesling. Riesling will save you. It will save your pocketbook, and it'll save your sanity. You can buy an incredible case of riesling that can pair with spicy yet hearty foods for only \$10 to \$15 a bottle. How does this happen so often with riesling?

In the last 10 years, rieslings have become quality wines that most hospitality-driven folks can believe in, due to their balance and age-worthy style. Sometimes, however, they represent an arcane past, hobbled by inconsistencies or hard-to-read labels. There is just too much good riesling out there right now at an incredible value, so you might as well take advantage.

You can find \$15 riesling that should be \$25 riesling.

A great example is Dr. Loosen's Dr. L 2015 riesling. An off-dry, moderately mineral, steely, compelling citrus-and-apricot-leaning wine, this wine shows promise years away from its harvest. But if you're feeling impatient, you could drink this by the case this summer with no guilt whatsoever.

Justin King is a certified sommelier and owner of Bridge Street Social, a wine and cocktails-focused restaurant in DeWitt.

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Avocado don — Sushi Ya

I've been a semi-regular diner at Sushi Ya since roughly 2007, when my brother lived in an apartment directly above its old location near the corner of Abbot Road and Grand River Avenue. (Both Sushi Ya and my brother were forced to move shortly after so the properties could be redeveloped, and we all know how well that's gone.) But somehow in my 10 years



of eating at Sushu Ya, I didn't know about the avocado don until last week.

Avocado don sounds like a friendly guy you might meet at a farmers market, but don here is short for donburi. Roughly translated as "rice bowl dish," donburi is a catch-all term for a variety of Japanese comfort foods featuring meat or vegetables served over rice in a bowl. The star of Sushi Ya's avocado don is a whole avocado that is stuffed with spicy crab salad and then fried in panko breading. It's served in a bowl over a seaweed salad and rice.

What's your favorite dish/drink?

Do you have a go-to dish or drink at your favorite local restaurant? We want to know about it. Email your favorite dish/drink and a short explanation about why you love it to food@lansingcitypulse.com, and it may be featured in a future issue. If possible, please send a photo along with your description — a nice smartphone photo is fine. Cheers!

The dish is both substantial and refreshing, somewhere between a salad, a sushi roll and a stir fry. The cool salad is a nice contrast to the warm avocado and rice, and the crab salad adds a nice, subtle kick to the creamy avocado. I tried to tough it out with chopsticks, but next time I'm going to swal-

low my pride and dig in with a fork.

— Ty Forquer

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