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April 19-25, 2017

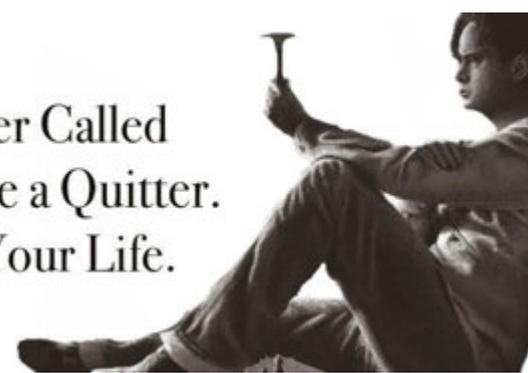
35TH

WHARTON CENTER

WHARTON CENTER LIFTS THE LID ON POP CULTURE-POWERED 35TH SEASON, P. 5

A BOOD
LAW FIRM 1956
Divorce & Family Law

No One Ever Called
Andy Dufresne a Quitter.
Take Back Your Life.



Lansing Promise Dinner || Thursday, April 27, 2017 || 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. || After Party 9:01 p.m.



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MSU FRIENDS OF THEATRE 2017 GALA

A BITE OF BROADWAY

Wednesday, May 10, 2017 | 6:00-8:30 PM
On stage at the Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center

While strolling the streets of "New York", stop by our vendors to sample a variety of foods and wine. Enjoy a special performance by the **NEW Musical Theatre Touring Company** with a guest **Broadway** artist!

Experience theatre as never before.

\$100 TICKETS Buy tickets at: theatre.msu.edu | 517.355.6690
\$50 will be a tax-deductible donation to the MSU Friends of Theatre Endowment Fund

The Habibi Dancers

APRIL 22, 2017

Habibi Dancers (present)

**Tarab:
A Dancer's Journey
Starring Beata
& Horacio
Cifuentas
From Berlin,
Germany**

Tickets \$15
\$20 at the door
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WORKSHOP and CONCERT LOCATION
**East Lansing Hannah
Community Center**
Albert A. White Performing
Arts Theater
819 Abbott Rd., East Lansing,
MI 48823

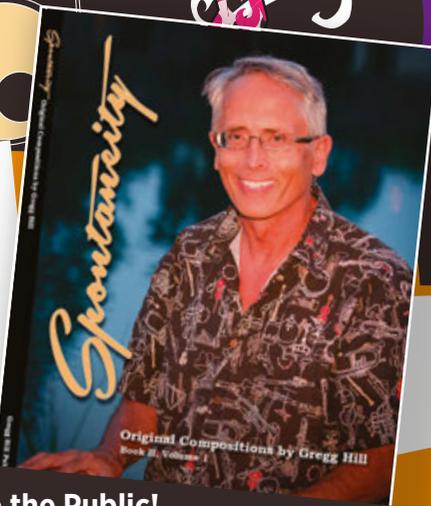
Middle Eastern Dance Workshop
April 22-23, 2017



Jazz Composer Gregg Hill Celebrates The Release of His 2nd Book "Spontaneity" with 1 Live Show!

"The Door is Open"

Sunday, April 23rd at 2 p.m.
Featured Band Leaders:
Arlene McDaniel, Mike Eyia, 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

Feedback

Council wrong on sanctuary city repeal

The rescission of the Lansing City Council's sanctuary city designation was apparently in response to the Trump Administration's threat of the withholding of federal money. The threat was more hollow than Trump's promise to sue the 12 women who were allegedly sexually assaulted by him. The city council reversed itself just days short of a federal court ruling that may have finally put to rest the issue. Trump's executive order that would have withheld funds is being challenged in California. That is because such an order may be deemed unconstitutional since the rights of immigrants would be sacrificed on the altar of federal involvement in lo-

cal policing. The Tenth Amendment and recent court rulings prohibit the federal government from usurping the role of local police agencies.

Moreover, it is Congress, not the President, which has the Constitutional authority to attach conditions to federal grants. Although the city council and the mayor have maintained that Lansing remains a welcoming city, there was no reason to reject the sanctuary city moniker. If the city council can buckle to pressure from local and state chambers on this issue, on what issue will they ever stand on principle?

— **Robert Nelson, chairman
Lansing Area ACLU
East Lansing**

PUBLIC NOTICES

**CITY OF EAST LANSING
ELECTION NOTICE
SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017
FOR
THE ELECTORS OF THE EAST LANSING SCHOOL DISTRICT
INGHAM AND CLINTON COUNTIES, MICHIGAN**

To the electors of the East Lansing School District, please take notice that an election will be held in the City of East Lansing, Ingham and Clinton Counties, Michigan, on **TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2017**

For the purpose of voting on the following proposal:

East Lansing School District Bonding Proposal

Polls at said election will be open at 7:00 a.m. and will remain open until 8:00 p.m.

LIST OF POLLING LOCATIONS:

- Pct. 1 - Brody Hall, 241 W. Brody Road, MSU
- Pct. 2 - Martin Luther Chapel, 444 Abbot Road
- Pct. 3 - East Lansing Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road
- Pct. 4 - Capital City Vineyard Church, 1635 Coolidge Road
- Pct. 5 - Shaarey Zedek Congregation, 1924 Coolidge Road
- Pct. 6 - Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 1315 Abbot Road
- Pct. 7 - St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3383 Lake Lansing Road
- Pct. 8 - University Reformed Church, 841 Timberlane Street
- Pct. 9 - Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road
- Pct. 10 - Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road
- Pct. 11 - Burcham Hills Retirement Community, 2700 Burcham Drive
- Pct. 12 - Union Bldg., 49 Abbot Road, MSU
- Pct. 13 - Union Bldg., 49 Abbot Road, MSU
- Pct. 14 - Union Bldg., 49 Abbot Road, MSU
- Pct. 15 - Brody Hall, 241 W. Brody Road, MSU
- Pct. 16 - Wesley Foundation, 1118 S. Harrison Road
- Pct. 17 - Shaarey Zedek Congregation, 1924 Coolidge Road

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

The East Lansing City Clerk's office will be open on Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to issue and accept absentee ballots for qualified electors.

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION REQUIRED TO VOTE - ALL voters are required to show photo identification when applying for an absent voter ballot in person and to vote at the polls. Voters without identification will be required to fill out and sign an affidavit in order to receive a ballot.

To see if you are registered or to find your polling location, check the Secretary of State Voter Information website at www.michigan.gov/vote

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk **CP#17-106**

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the May 2, 2017 Special Election for registered voters in the East Lansing School District, Ingham and Clinton Counties, has been scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2017 at 10:00 a.m., Hannah Community Center located at 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the program being used to tabulate the results of the election, counts the votes in the manner that meets the requirements of the law.

All interested persons are welcome to attend.

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk **CP#17-107**

CityPULSE

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Legendary saxophonist Wayne Shorter swings through East Lansing



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Lansing names first-ever poet laureate



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Lula's Cookhouse worth the drive to Owosso



**COVER
ART**

Image by JONATHON GRIFFITH

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

1. PRIVATE CORPORATION ENLISTS POWER OF THE STATE TO ENFORCE CAPRICIOUS REGULATION.
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE'VE REACHED OUR CRUISING ALTITUDE OF 36,000 FEET! BUT IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE FUEL EFFICIENCY, THE UNDERCOVER SKY MARSHALS ARE GOING TO SELECT A VOLUNTEER TO JUMP OUT OF THE PLANE!
WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE!
2. VIDEO OF INCIDENT GOES VIRAL; COMPANY'S SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS ARE UNAPOLOGETIC.
Passengers are cargo, stripped of human rights and any vestige of dignity. If you don't like it, stay home!
Anyway, it's not OUR fault if the guy didn't know how to use a parachute! \ (/)
Please direct further inquiries to someone else. We have better things to do with our time, LOL! 😂😂😂
3. SOMEBODY DIGS UP SOME DIRT ON THE PASSENGER IN QUESTION. HE RECEIVED SEVERAL SPEEDING TICKETS OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS!
SO HE HAD A HISTORY OF LAWLESS BEHAVIOR?
HE WAS DEFINITELY NO ANGEL!
4. CEO ISSUES INCREMENTAL APOLOGIES AND WAITS FOR THE WHOLE THING TO BLOW OVER.
WE ARE SORRY THE DISRUPTIVE PASSENGER DID NOT COMPLY WITH OUR NEED TO RE-ACCOMMODATE HIM OUT OF THE AIRPLANE MID-FLIGHT!
E.R. THAT IS-- WE ARE VERY SORRY!
THAT HE WAS SO UNCOOPERATIVE.
5. PUBLIC OUTRAGE IS INEVITABLY FOLLOWED BY CONTRARIAN HOT TAKES. ACTUALLY, THROWING PASSENGERS OUT OF AIRPLANES IS GOOD!
IF YOU READ PARAGRAPH 97 SUBSECTION 15(e) OF THE CONTRACT OF CARRIAGE, THE RIGHT TO EJECT PASSENGERS AT ANY ALTITUDE IS CLEARLY SPELLED OUT!
6. EVENTUALLY IT ALL SEEMS PERFECTLY NORMAL. AGENTS FROM THE BUREAU OF ARBITRARY ENFORCEMENT JUST VAPORIZED AN ENTIRE FAMILY IN THEIR OWN QUARTERS!
WELL, THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RESIST A POLITE REQUEST TO VOLUNTARILY RE-ACCOMMODATE YOURSELF TO THE NEAREST INTERNMENT CENTER!

TOM TOMORROW ©2017

SERVING UP THE HITS



WHARTON CENTER UNVEILS POP CULTURE-POWERED 35TH SEASON

By **TY FORQUER**

The Wharton Center lifted the lid on its 35th season at a donors/subscribers event Monday night, and it's serving up a hefty platter of pop-fueled Broadway hits, genre-stretching jazz offerings, high profile speakers and much more.

The crux of the 2017-2018 season is a lineup of seven Broadway hits that's driven by pop culture and film — and light on big-name revivals.

"Broadway has become quite a magnet, especially with the new megahits like 'Hamilton' that seem to come out every year. It's becoming America's art form," said Mike Brand, Wharton Center's executive director. "We see a lot of our songwriters, performers, choreographers and script writers are gravitating toward Broadway."

One of those songwriters is Sara Bareilles, who wrote the lyrics and music for "Waitress," which comes to the Wharton Center in January. Despite four nominations, the Broadway smash hit was blanked at the Tony awards, losing in most categories to a musical called "Hamilton." (We'll get to that a little later.)

Next season also features four musicals based on films: "An American in Paris," based on the 1950 film built around the music of George and Ira Gershwin; "Finding Neverland," based on the Academy Award-winning film of the same name; Disney's "The Lion King"; and "The Bodyguard," based on the iconic 1992 Kevin Costner/Whitney Houston drama. Fueled by Whitney Houston's soaring "I Will Always Love You," the soundtrack to "The Bodyguard" is the best-selling soundtrack of all time and the 16th bestselling album in the U.S., according to the Recording Industry Association of America, selling over 17 million copies.

Rounding out the Broadway series is "Something Rotten," a comedy that centered on two struggling playwrights in the 1590s trying to compete with William Shakespeare, and "On Your Feet!," based on the careers of Latin-pop superstars Emilio and

Gloria Estefan.

If you're keeping track at home, that's six new shows, with only "The Lion King" making a return visit to the Wharton Center.

"We could have put a revival in, but we didn't want to leave any of these out," Brand said. "We just wanted six new shows."

"That is feedback we get from our audience, particularly the Broadway audience, that they want something new," added Dianne Willcox, Wharton Center's director of marketing and communications. "Fresh and forward-looking for our 35th season."

in line when those coveted "Hamilton" tickets go on sale.

"I was in the parking lot at Eastwood the other day, and someone came up to my car — someone I've never met before — and knocked on my window and asked me, 'When can I get 'Hamilton' tickets?'" said Bob Hoffman, Wharton Center public relations manager. "We feel an obligation to our subscribers, to reward them for their affiliation. We're asking people to subscribe to our 2017-2018 season, for five shows or more, and then renew a subscription of five shows



Photo by Joan Marcus

Jessie Mueller stars as Jenna in the touring production of Broadway hit "Waitress," written by singer/songwriter Sara Bareilles, which comes to the Wharton Center in January.

The 'Hamilton' hook

But perhaps the best piece of bait to lure Wharton Center 2017-2018 season subscribers doesn't even appear on next season's schedule. Earlier this year, it was announced that Broadway crossover phenomenon "Hamilton" will come to the Wharton Center as part of its 2018-2019 season. The hook? People who subscribe to five shows or more next season will be first

or more for the 2018-2019 season — and one of those can include 'Hamilton.'"

Season subscriptions for the 2017-2018 season go on sale today at whartoncenter.com.

Classics and jazz (but not much classic jazz)

This season's jazz lineup featured two quartets anchored by jazz heavyweights Dave Holland and Wayne Shorter, respec-

tively, and a performance by throwback jazz group the Hot Sardines. (See p. 20 for our interview with Shorter.) Next season offers a less traditional jazz series that branches out into funk, soul, swing and rock.

"It's very diverse," said Ryonn Clute, Wharton Center senior marketing manager.

The 2018 season features "To Ray With Love," a tribute to Ray Charles led by funk/soul saxophonist Maceo Parker. Parker, who got his start playing in James Brown's backing band, has also toured with Parliament-Funkadelic and Prince and has recorded collaborations with De La Soul, Jane's Addiction and the Dave Matthews Band, to name just a few. He has included a Ray Charles cover on each of his 16 solo albums and recorded a tribute to Charles, "Roots and Grooves," in 2007.

The series also offers Gypsy swing group Squirrel Nut Zippers, best known for its 1996 breakout single, "Hell." The band is joined by blues group Davina & the Vagabonds for a night of genre-blending throwback jazz. Even the most straight-ahead

jazz performance next season, the Birdland All-Stars with drummer Tommy Igoe, brings a show that's heavy on re-arrangements of rock tunes by artists like David Bowie and the Police.

"Tommy's one of the best drummers out there today," Brand said. "When Tommy gets cooking, the whole place goes nuts."

The Wharton Center's classical music series is headlined by a power trio of big name soloists teaming up for a one-night engagement. Cellist Yo-Yo Ma, pianist Emanuel Ax and violinist Leonidas Kavakos visit East Lansing in February, presenting a program that includes trios by Brahms and Schubert.

"This is very special for us and for the community, because they're doing a very small number of shows as a trio," Clute said. "They're playing Carnegie Hall, then the Kennedy Center, then the Wharton Center."

Last season featured a performance of "Swan Lake" from Russia's Moscow Festival Ballet. Next season, the Russians are coming again, this time in greater numbers. Wharton

Center's dance series features the return of the Moscow Festival Ballet — this time performing "Cinderella." Its classical music series brings the Moscow State Symphony Orchestra. Under the direction of longtime chief conductor Pavel Kogan, the group will perform Jean Sibelius' Symphony No. 2, Wagner's "Rienzi" Overture and Robert Schumann's Cello Concerto, with Narke

Hits

from page 5



Funk/soul saxophonist Maceo Parker brings "To Ray with Love" to the Wharton Center April 2018. Backed by the Ray Charles Orchestra and the Raelettes, Parker pays tribute to Ray Charles, one of his musical heroes.

Haknazaryan as soloist.

"He's one of the foremost conductors of our time," Clute said of Kogan. "He's been the musical director for 28 years. That's quite a stretch."

Shining a light

Wharton Center's 2017-2018 season also includes a rebranding of its theater series. The series has been renamed Illuminate, based on a saying often used by Clifton Wharton, former MSU president and the

performing arts center's namesake, that "art provides a beautiful window through which to view humanity."

"Rather than just calling it a theater series, we want to talk about what our objective is, in terms of programming these events," Willcox explained. "What we're trying to do is provide a new view of the world, to illuminate that window through which you see the world."

The series features Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theater performing "Matinee," a new work co-commissioned by the Wharton Center, which is based on a New Yorker short story of the same name by Robert Coover.

"It's essentially a film within a film within a dance piece. It has a real film noir feel to it," Clute said. "The dancers are also actors, and they're very good. You won't see anything else like it."

Also on the series is "Lungs," a theater piece staged in the round in the Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre.

"Lungs is a very intimate piece — only two people. It's a bare set; it's really just lights. And the audience will be partially seated on the Pasant stage," Willcox said. "The couple is on their way to Ikea, and they're talking about whether they want to have a child. They have a really in-depth conversation that affects the rest of their lives."

Also hoping to illuminate Wharton Center audiences is the World View lecture series, which hits some of the hottest topics

in the news today. Author and Washington Post columnist David Ignatius visits East Lansing in October to talk about foreign policy and the war on terrorism, and former EPA chief Gina McCarthy comes in December to discuss the Clean Water Act and other environmental issues. Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Lynn Nottage wraps up the series in April, discussing women of African descent and other overlooked voices in our society.

Sensory friendly

Part of the Wharton Center's search for new audiences brings them into a community that often has difficulty attending and enjoying live performances: people with autism spectrum disorders.

"We have a really strong program for people with disabilities and mobility issues. We have ASL performances and open captions for the deaf and hard of hearing. We have audio description if you have vision issues," Willcox said. "But we realized, looking at that menu, that we were leaving out people who are not neurotypical — people on the Autism spectrum, people with developmental disabilities, people with any kind of sensory input disorders."

Three shows this year will offer a special sensory-friendly performance. At these performances, adjustments are made to lighting and sound, and theater etiquette is relaxed. Audience members can sit, stand, vocalize or even leave the hall if they need

to.

"The events on stage are of the same quality you would experience at any other performance, but the sound might not be as loud, and the lights might not be as bright. Strobe light effects will not be used," Willcox explained. "We'll also provide sensory supports like sound-canceling headphones and comfort objects, and people are welcome to bring their own. We want them to come to the theater with whatever they need to focus or provide enough stimulation to have an enjoyable experience."

The Wharton Center will also provide an activity room, as well as "quiet rooms" for audience members who feel over-stimulated.

The three shows offering sensory-friendly performances this year are "Dr. Suess's The Cat in the Hat" (Oct. 29), "Clementine" (March 25) and "The Lion King" (July 21).

The Wharton Center dipped its toe into sensory-friendly performance last year with "Temple," a play based on the life of Temple Grandin, an influential animal researcher and autism spokeswoman. The performance was well received, albeit not well attended.

"We put that together really quickly, so our audience was very small, but they really wanted us to pursue this," Willcox said. "So it's really important for us to reach out now and be talking to people as much as possible."

See Hits, Page 8

Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum

Michigan State University

On view April 29–October 22, 2017

THE TRANSPORTED MAN

FREE OPENING

SAT. APR. 29,

6–8PM



Jason Dodge

MSU BROAD

PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING PUBLIC HEARING ON
PRELIMINARY FY2018 BUDGET AND TAX RATE**

WHEREAS, a public hearing on the proposed budget for the City of East Lansing is required by City Charter and the State Budget Law; and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing is required under the provisions of the Truth in Taxation Law; and,

WHEREAS, the general appropriations act must set forth the total number of mills to be levied and the purposes for the millage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of East Lansing does hereby establish the date of Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., in 54-B-Court Room 2, City Hall, 410 Abbot in East Lansing, Michigan, as the date, time, and place for the required public hearing; and be it further resolved that for the purposes of the hearing it shall be assumed that the total tax rate will be **22.2087 mills consisting of 17.5891 mills for operating purposes, 1.8250 mills for solid waste, 0.7946 mills for debt service, and 2.0000 mills for the Library pursuant to section 1 of 1887 PA164.**

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

The budget is available for public inspection at the East Lansing Library and City Clerk and Finance Office at City Hall; along with the City's website: cityofeastlansing.com under Finance.

Public comments, either oral or written, are welcome at the Public Hearing. The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting upon seven (7) calendar days' notice to the City of East Lansing. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should write or call: Shellie Neumann, Human Resources Department, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, (517) 319-6893, TDD (517) 337-0767.

This notice is published by: Marie E. Wicks, City Clerk, City of East Lansing, Michigan, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6881.

Marie E. Wicks, City Clerk

CP#17-105

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
AS-NEEDED MATERIALS TESTING SERVICES**

**CITY OF EAST LANSING
410 ABBOT ROAD
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48823**

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., Friday, May 12, 2017, for a professional soils and materials firm to provide construction materials testing, observation, and engineering services on an as-needed basis for the City's infrastructure projects during the remainder of FY 2017 and all of FY 2018. 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.

A copy of the Request for Proposals may be obtained from the Director of Public Works' Office, located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

The City will apply its Local Purchasing Preference Policy, Policy Resolution 2009-3, in considering 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
By: Marie Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-109

**CITY OF LANSING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, April 24, 2017**, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan to amend Chapter 654, Noise Ordinance, Section 654.11, Special Permits, to modify the notice requirement to twelve days in advance of the public hearing.

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

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#17-103

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

2017 MISCELLANEOUS CONCRETE PROJECT

**CITY OF EAST LANSING
410 ABBOT ROAD
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48823**

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., Friday, May 12, 2017, at which time and place proposals will be publicly opened and read for the furnishing of materials, labor and equipment for an unspecified quantity of miscellaneous concrete work 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, including Specifications, Plans and Bidding Forms may be obtained at the Director of Public Works' Office, located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan, by paying a Twenty-Five Dollar (\$25.00) non-refundable preparation fee.

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

Prevailing wages are not required for this project.

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
By: Marie Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-110

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL**

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing City Council on **Tuesday, May 9, 2017** at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider the following:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1400, an ordinance to amend Section 50-814 of Chapter 50, Zoning, of the Code of the City of East Lansing to reduce the parking requirements for residential uses in the B2 and B3 districts and allow for further parking reductions when warranted.
2. Site Plan and Special Use Permit: An application from Harbor-Bay Real Estate Advisors for the properties at 125, 135, and 201 East Grand River Avenue and 200 Albert Avenue to demolish existing structures to construct a 12-story (140 feet in height) mixed-use development with the following uses:
 - 22,307 square feet of retail on Grand River
 - 20,178 square feet of retail on Albert Avenue
 - 271 market rate apartments
 - 93 apartments reserved for 55 years and older
 - Parking structure with 715 parking spaces

The properties are located in the B3, City Center Commercial District.

3. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1404, an ordinance to amend Section 50-382 of Chapter 50 – Zoning of the Code of the City of East Lansing to allow for extended care facilities to be licensed for the sale of alcohol beverage and alcoholic liquor.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable accommodations, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting, upon notice to the City of East Lansing, prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations or services should write or call the City Manager's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-3777.

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-111

**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, APRIL 4, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Harris

ALSO PRESENT: Phil Clark, Attorney

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:
Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.
Minutes of the meeting held on March 21, 2017 approved.
Agenda approved.
Resolution 17-8: Bureau of Elections Grant Application adopted.
Ratified and affirmed R-16-21 conditional rezoning ordinance 31.235.
Budget amendment approved.
Claims approved.
Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor
Susan L. Aten, Clerk

CP#17-098

Hits

from page 6

Part of that outreach is an advisory group that includes the Mid-Michigan Autism Association and the Autism Alliance of Michigan. The Wharton Center is also actively recruiting volunteers and professionals to train its staff on interacting with patrons with sensory input disorders.

The Wharton Center hopes to offer at least two sensory-friendly performances each season.

"No one in the state is doing this at the level we hope to," Willcox said. "We hope this year will create an infrastructure so that we can do this for years to come."

Wharton Center 2017-2018 Season

BROADWAY

"The Bodyguard" — Oct. 17-22
 "An American in Paris" — Nov. 14-19
 "Finding Neverland" — Dec. 12-17
 "Waitress" — Jan. 23-28
 "On Your Feet!" — Feb. 13-18
 "Something Rotten!" — March 13-18
 Disney's "The Lion King" — July 11-29, 2018
 (Sensory-friendly performance July 21, 2018)

Courtesy Photo

Wharton Center's 2017-2018 season features the premiere of "Matinee," a work by Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theatre that was co-commissioned by the Wharton Center.



PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on May 9, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, for the Chesterfield Hills Neighborhood residential permit parking (RPP) program, per the submitted residential petitions and recommendation of the Transportation Commission.

The City of East Lansing will provide reasonable accommodations, such as interpreters for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at this meeting, upon notice to the City of East Lansing, prior to the meeting. Individuals with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations or services should write or call the City Manager's Office, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 319-6920, TDD 1-800-649-3777.

Marie E. Wicks, City Clerk

CP#17-108

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 24, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider An Ordinance of the City Of Lansing, Michigan, to amend Section 810.22 of the Lansing Codified Ordinances by entering into a new Video Service Franchise Agreement.

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

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
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CP#17-104

CLASSICAL

Moscow State Symphony Orchestra — Nov. 7
 Vienna Boys Choir: Holiday — Nov. 28
 Yo-Yo Ma, Emanuel Ax, Leonidas Kavakos — Feb. 26

DANCE

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago — Oct. 10
 Travis Wall's Shaping Sound: After the Curtain — Nov. 1
 Moscow Festival Ballet — Jan. 12
 Dance Theatre of Harlem — May 2, 2018

JAZZ

Squirrel Nut Zippers and Davina & the Vagabonds — Jan. 18
 The Birdland All-Stars featuring Tommy Igoe — Feb. 24
 To Ray with Love starring Maceo Parker — April 20, 2018

VARIETY

David Sedaris — Nov. 3
 Jeff Daniels and the Ben Daniels Band — Nov. 12
 Yamato: The Drummers of Japan —

Feb. 6

Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy: Visions from Cape Breton & Beyond — Feb. 8

ILLUMINATE

Stuart Pimsler Dance & Theater — Jan. 17
 "Lungs" — Feb. 15-18

WORLD VIEW LECTURE SERIES

David Ignatius — Oct. 30
 Gina McCarthy — Dec. 4
 Lynn Nottage — April 2

ACT ONE FAMILY SERIES

"Dr. Seuss's The Cat in the Hat" — Oct. 28
 (Sensory-friendly performance Oct. 29)
 "Dragons Love Tacos ... and More!" — Jan. 27
 "Clementine" — March 24
 (Sensory-friendly performance March 25)
 Lightwire Theater: "Moon Mouse, A Space Odyssey" — April 15

Ticket prices and other details available at whartoncenter.com.

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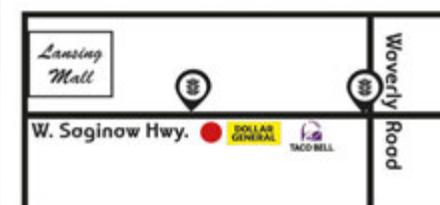
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'Surprise of eternal adventure'

Jazz icon Wayne Shorter turns poison to medicine

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Standard orbit is not Wayne Shorter's style. Shorter, 83, reached escape velocity from his storied past a long time ago.

"We have to be cree-ayyy-tive," he said, warping the word into a wormhole. "We have to keep watering the plants and keep making more, better telescopes. Better than Hubble!"

The saxophonist with the unmistakable, piercing, bird-like cry was a mainstay of Miles Davis' second great quintet, flexed into flux with the fusion group Weather Report and made many landmark recordings in the heyday of Blue Note. Now he's at the core of an all-star, interstellar quartet he will bring to the Wharton Center Friday, featuring Brian Blade on drums, John Patitucci on bass and Danilo Perez on piano.

A passionate follower of astronomy and science and a fan of science fiction, Shorter talked with City Pulse by phone last week. He was delighted to learn that his quartet will play across the street from MSU's Facility for Rare Isotope Beams, an exclusive club where isotopes that exist elsewhere in the universe, but not on Earth, will be brought into existence to play very brief solos.

"All right!" he said.

It gives Shorter a kick to think that cutting-edge scientists are digging his music. The FRIB reminded Shorter of scientist and jazz fan Donal Manahan, a former dean at the University of Southern California and an expert on sea life.

"He's crazy about — what it means to forge ahead and take the best of the past with you," Shorter said. "Don't burn the bridges behind you, but go ahead with all the humility you can muster."

Manahan is an expert on sea urchin larvae that thrive in extremes, from hydrothermal vents to polar icecaps.

"He's been in a submersible about five times in Antarctica," Shorter said with admiration. "His whole thing is the origin

of life and all that. From time to time he'll take a paper he's working on and give it to me, not knowing that I don't understand all that stuff, but he said, 'You've got the spirit.'"

Manahan told Shorter he used to sneak little jazz breaks between zoology classes in his undergraduate days at Trin-



Photo by Erica Gannett

Saxophone legend Wayne Shorter brings his quartet (left to right: Brian Blade, Danilo Perez, Shorter and John Patitucci) to the Wharton Center Friday.

ity College in Dublin, Ireland.

"When his professor left the room, he and some other guys would put on their earphones and dial up some stuff," Shorter said. "They'd be saying to each other in whispered tones, 'Did you hear what Miles just played?'"

Recently, Shorter and his frequent collaborator and Miles Davis bandmate, keyboardist Herbie Hancock, had a ball hanging out with a group of scientists from Stanford.

"We developed a relationship," Shorter said. "They're telling us about their dis-

coveries and stuff like that. They wanted to talk about improvisation in science."

For a TV segment, astrophysicist Neil DeGrasse Tyson challenged Shorter to evoke the sound of a photon of light escaping the white-hot star where it is born and lives for millions of years.

Shorter pulled out his soprano sax and played one long note. Tyson got unusually quiet, as if he wasn't sure whether Shorter was messing with him or not. Hancock looked on with a Cheshire Cat grin, knowing that Shorter vibrates on his own wavelength.

"In the movie 'Mindwalk,' a reporter asks a scientist — [actress] Liv Ullmann, I think — what's the purpose of this whole thing, the universe and life?" Shorter said. "She says, 'The universe wants to create.'"

He broke it down.

"Create what? Creating values?" He laughed. "Creating havoc? You find out that in Zen Buddhism, there is an opportunity in havoc, in negative stuff. You can

he said. "The challenge of being in the moment onstage, whether it's acting or being in the science laboratory, you're working on a prediction. But before the prediction comes, you capture the simultaneity of cause and effect and transform it — before what you don't know is going to happen, happens — and you get surprised!"

His words flowed faster, like notes in a solo, folding into a dense zone of dark matter.

"The eternal mission is the surprise of eternal adventure, where we transform ourselves and become eternally more human," he said. "How much more human can we get? Just look around. We have a long way to go, but it's got to be an adventure. There's got to be some hurt and some negative stuff. But just like we're playing music, the negative stuff is temporary. We don't have to confuse that with being a constant."

Shorter's current quartet is so alert and alive that even people who haven't reached escape velocity — who still expect to hear one of Shorter's classic tunes like "Juju" or "Footprints" — stick with them.

"We hear this all the time — 'Is that all? That was short, wasn't it?'" Shorter said. "With that kind of music, with other people, it's like, 'Man, when is this going to end?'"

He loves to tell a story about an 11-year-old girl who visited him backstage with her mother after a recent European concert.

"I know what you're doing," she said to Shorter.

"When we've been playing lately, these last 15 years, nobody leaves," he said. "What we get from them is like, 'We want to see what's going to happen next.' It's good that we don't know what's going to happen."

With a combined experience on the bandstand that's off the scale, what's happening on stage might seem like far-out rocket science, but you don't have to earn a degree in jazz, or anything else, to take the ride.

"They're looking at us, not knowing the notes, not knowing how to play music, but they're seeing John laughing when he's playing the bass, looking at Danilo," Shorter said.

"If I want to turn a light on in my house, I'll just turn on the switch," he added. "I don't get a book on electricity and see how the light works. We get on a plane and the pilot flies it; we don't. You enjoy yourself, enjoy your trip, enjoy your life."

change poison to medicine. In Sanskrit that's 'hendoku iyaku.' I'm gonna do hendoku iyaku all day, man!"

There are usually ways to judge an experiment or an expedition as a success or failure. What about music? Shorter's current quartet doesn't rehearse or work from set lists. One "tune" can expand into a 90-minute nebula of sound. At the end of the night, does Shorter ever feel he's found what he's looking for?

"You carry one little baby thought — that there's no such thing as a coincidence, no such thing as an accident,"

Home entertainment

StoopFest brings live music, comedy to Lansing living rooms

BY EVE KUCHARSKI

Pulling up your favorite artists on YouTube might seem like the best way to see them in your living room, but StoopFest founders Dom Korzecke and James Radick and a small army of volunteers are changing that. The multi-site festival turns local homes into intimate music venues for one afternoon.

“There are multiple houses that function like stages, and you walk between them,” Korzecke said.

Now in its second year, StoopFest offers a packed slate of music and comedy presented across seven venues. The festival is inspired by Grand Rapids’ Lamp Light Music Festival, which has a similar format.

“They have performances going on through houses, all on the same block,” Korzecke said. “They only do three houses, though, and they kind of focus on one genre. I took that model and wanted to blow it up.”

Last year’s inaugural event had six house venues. This year’s festival offers shows in five homes, each with a nickname, as well as the Lansing Bike Co-Op and the Avenue Café. Each home will have a unique flavor — in some cases literally.

“We’re gonna have the living room and move all the couches so that’s all open, and then we’ll take all the living room and dining room tables and have a taco bar,” said Alex Grein, one of the hosts. “We’ll probably have the bands set up in the backyard.”

Grein’s house is nicknamed the

Squirrel Trap.

“We have a family of squirrels living in our attic, and I’m constantly trying to catch them,” Grein explained.

A first-time host, Grein said he isn’t worried about having potentially hundreds of people visiting his home.

“Between me and my roommates, we have a ton of energy and are constantly coming up with things to do for StoopFest,” said Grein, who is a graduate student at Michigan State University. “This is a fun way to end the school year for me.”

Korzecke said this year’s festival will feature nearly 80 performers. But getting from venue to venue won’t be overwhelming.

“They’re scattered throughout the East Side Neighborhood, with the Avenue kind of acting as the central home base. They’re all close to equidistant from the Avenue,” Korzecke said. “The longest distance between any two venues is a half mile. It’s not bad at all, and we also encourage people to bike.”

The ultimate goal of the fledgling festival, Korzecke said, is creating community within Lansing’s diverse music scene.

“I’ve been kind of involved in the Lansing music scene since I was in high school,” Korzecke said. “I’m always looking for new and cool experiences to bring together everyone in the scene.”

Even with this year’s lineup set and venues ready to go, Korzecke said he won’t relax until this festival is in the books.

“Going into the second year of a festival, that’s the year that you’re most likely to fail,” Korzecke said. “You basically have to prove to people that you have what it takes to stick around and that you’re going to continue to provide a cool experience.”

If all goes well, he hopes to work on becoming a mainstay in the Lansing scene.

“It would be cool to see the festival get bigger and to incorporate more things,” Korzecke said. “The short-term goal is to make sure that we can sustain it.”

Saying ‘I do’ to a stranger

Lansing native appears on Lifetime’s ‘Married at First Sight’

By SARAH SPOHN

Nate Duhon didn’t have a typical summer wedding. The 26-year-old Lansing native married a complete stranger in front of a television camera crew.



Duhon

of Lifetime’s “Married at First Sight,” a reality TV social experiment where participants marry someone they haven’t met prior to their wedding day.

“Marrying a stranger was extremely odd,” Duhon said. “One day you’re single, and the next day you have someone calling you ‘husband.’ You don’t know this person, what their living habits are, their likes and dislikes — wait, better yet, what’s their number?!”

The show kicks off its fifth season 9 p.m. Thursday. Participants go through an extensive application process, including background checks, questionnaires and psychological tests. A panel of three experts accompany the contestants throughout the process, offering guidance, therapy and support.

Cameras document the participants’ wedding, honeymoon and home life.

After several weeks as husband and wife, the couple decides if they want to stay married or get a divorce. Previous seasons have resulted in some successful couples, including two couples from the first season who are still married.

After watching the third season of “Married at First Sight,” Duhon admits he thought the people participating were insane. But when the opportunity arose and he got to hear about how the process worked, he went for it — sweaty palms and all.

“It took about three months to go through the entire process,” Duhon said. “This included thousands of questions pertaining to what I want in a mate and multiple interviews with the experts.”

The show’s season five expert panel comprises sociologist Dr. Pepper Schwartz, relationship and communication expert Rachel DeAlto and Calvin Roberson, a pastor and marriage counselor.

Religion was one of the key components of Duhon’s experience. He wanted a woman who brings substance to the table and is spiritually strong, someone with whom he could build a respectful, loving and honest life.

This season was filmed over the summer last year. Duhon found the schedule exhausting. Camera crews followed the couples at home, on dates and to therapy, usually five days a week.

“I work from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and then I would have to film right after work, which made for really long days,” he said.

Keeping the marriage status under wraps until the television premiere hasn’t been an easy task, especially considering today’s ever-present social media scene.

“It was definitely difficult keeping things a secret,” Duhon said. “Especially

See ‘I Do,’ Page 11

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, May 8, 2017**, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan to amend Chapter 1240 Title 6 of the Planning and Zoning Code, Part 12 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Lansing, Chapter 1240, Section 1240.03 for the purpose of defining a “Garden”, “Garden Structure”, “Gardening” and to amend the definition of “Open Space”.

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

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#17-101

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Z-9-2016, 2122 N. ML King & the Vacant Parcels at the Southeast and Southwest Corners of N. Grand River Avenue and Logan Access Street
Rezoning from “A” & “DM-4” Residential, “CUP” Community Unit Plan, “E-1” Apartment Shop, “F” Commercial and “J” Parking Districts to “H” Light Industrial, “F” Commercial & “G-2” Wholesale Districts.

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, May 8, 2017** at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider Z-9-2016. This is a request by 3GT Racing, LLC to rezone the properties at 2122 N. ML King and the vacant parcels at the southeast and southwest corners of N. Grand River Avenue and Logan Access Street from “A” Residential, “DM-4” Residential, “CUP” Community Unit Plan, “E-1” Apartment Shop, “F” Commercial and “J” Parking Districts to “H” Light Industrial “F” Commercial & “G-2” Wholesale Districts, with the condition that a 30 wide foot strip of land along the east property lines of parcels 33-01-01-05-476-062 & 33-01-01-05-476-122 will remain in a natural state (no structures, pavement or other improvements). The purpose of the rezoning is to permit office, commercial and light industrial uses on the subject properties.

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

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk
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CP#17-102

CURTAIN CALL

Toilet humor

Talented actors drive MSU's 'Urinetown'

By TOM HELMA

Review

Maybe a baseball analogy will help us here. It's hard to imagine hitting a home run when the count is no balls and two strikes, and you've already fouled off a few good pitches. "Urinetown: The Musical," the latest production by MSU Department of Theatre, is staged on the always challenging, dungeon-like distances of the Wharton Center's Pasant Theater, where actors on stage appear to be the size a thumb. (A booth near the door where one can rent binoculars hints at the ongoing problem.) This is not, and never has been, a great venue for live theater.

Musical director Dave Wendelberger's dynamic five-piece orchestral combo was often undone by asleep-at-the-switch sound engineering. Add to that the shrill feedback of overmiked singers and actors — I observed more than one audience

member covering their ears — and we're

already in a pretty deep hole.

"Urinetown"

MSU Department of Theatre
7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 19-Thursday, April 20; 8 p.m. Friday, April 21; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, April 22; 2 p.m. Sunday, April 23
\$22/\$20 seniors and faculty/\$17 students/\$10 children
Pasant Theatre
Wharton Center
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
(517) 432-2000,
whartoncenter.com

Despite these structural problems, a cadre of very talented actors, singers and dancers managed to — excuse the expression — pull this production out of the toilet.

"Urinetown" is, at its core, a classic tale of an everyman fighting against the excesses of corporate greed. DJ Shafer, in the starring hero role of Bobby Strong, brings a powerful singing voice and muscular movements as he dances across the stage, reminiscent of the giants of a bygone musical

See Curtain, Page 12

'I Do'

from page 10

when people who are friends see you wearing a wedding ring and ask 'When did this happen? To who? I could have sworn you weren't dating anyone!'"

The J.W. Sexton High School alum played basketball through high school and later at Lansing Community College. He went on to play NCAA basketball at Chicago State University from 2012 to 2014. While there aren't many similarities between the basketball court and courtship with a stranger, he describes both as unbelievable experiences.

"The process has taught me that God can work in mysterious ways, and patience will take you a long way," he said. "There is no perfect marriage, but a good one would be one where each partner is willing to be patient and understanding."

Duhon is also hopeful the process can help viewers too.

"Hopefully people find inspiration from watching the show and find ways they can improve in their daily lives/relationships," he said.

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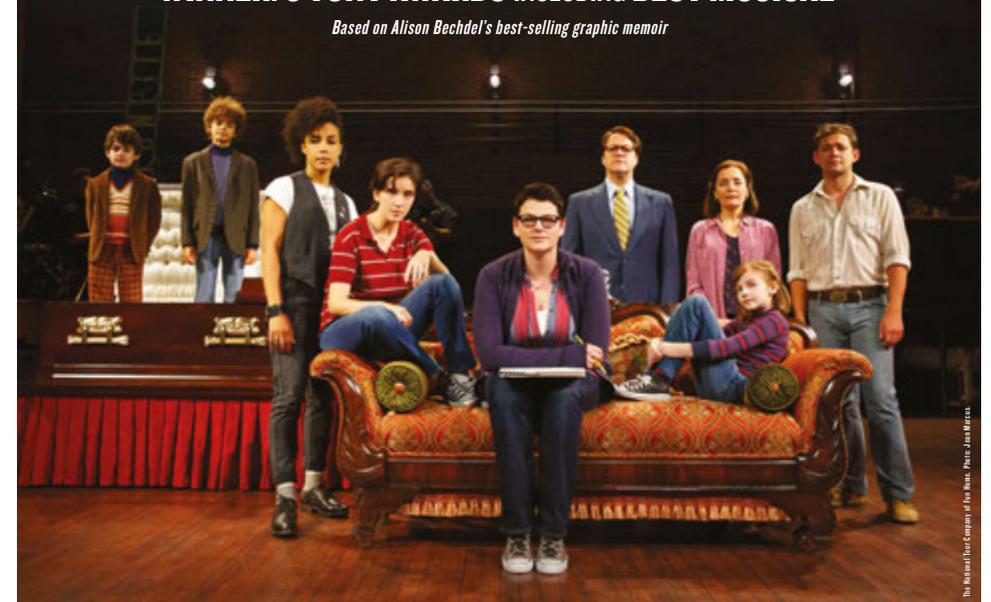


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—Charles McNulty Los Angeles Times

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Poetry for the people

Dennis Hinrichsen named Lansing's first poet laureate

By BILL CASTANIER

While it's only been four years since poet Dennis Hinrichsen left Lansing Community College, he has already experienced a different city from the one he knew before he quit.

"The city is a different place when you aren't working," he said. "I've just gotten the feel for the rhythm of the homeless."

Hinrichsen, who retired from LCC in 2013 after teaching nearly three decades, was announced today as Lansing's first poet laureate. The position — created by a coalition of the Lansing

Bill Castanier/City Pulse

Local poet Dennis Hinrichsen poses next to a Lansing-themed piano at the Lansing City Market. Hinrichsen has been named Lansing's first poet laureate.



Economic Area Partnership (LEAP), the Lansing Poetry Club and the RCAH Center for Poetry at MSU — is designed to serve as an "ambassador for poetry" in Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties.

The two-year appointment offers a \$2,000 a year stipend, and Hinrichsen's duties include hosting workshops and readings and organizing community poetry projects.

With this position, Lansing joins a handful of other communities and cities in Michigan with poet laureates, including Grand Rapids, Port Huron and the Upper Peninsula. But Lansing's poet laureate position is probably the first in the state underwritten by an economic development agency.

Robert Trezise, president and CEO of LEAP, believes naming a poet laureate sends a strong message about the region's cultural environment.

"We are in global competition at all times for people to work here, and we have to demonstrate a diverse, sophisticated and fun environment to get people to move here and stay," he said.

Hinrichsen was selected from a group of 12 poets who applied for the position. Applications were judged on both the quality of the poets' work and their proposed plans for sharing poetry in the community. The selection was made by a committee of 12 writers, poets and

arts leaders from the community. (Full disclosure: This writer was on the selection committee.)

Selection committee member Molly Signs-Rehmann, executive director of the Clinton County Arts Council, said she was impressed by how passionate and thorough the selection committee was in its review. Signs-Rehmann, a 2016 graduate of MSU's Residential College in the Arts and Humanities, is especially looking forward to getting "kids excited about poetry."

"The poet laureate is an amazing opportunity for Clinton County," she said. "It's another way for us to flesh out and build up our cultural offerings."

Hinrichsen, who believed for much of his life that he was "never not going to be a poet," has written seven books of poetry and two chapbooks, and his poetry has won several national awards. Hinrichsen taught writing, creative writing and poetry for 30 years at Lansing Community College. He prefers to say that he "quit" rather than "retired."

"I quit to take care of cancer," he said.

Hinrichsen often finds himself com-

paring poetry to music. On a recent trip to visit his daughter in Berkeley, Calif., he visited a record store and found himself sifting through records sorted by category. He immediately thought about how similar that was to classifying poetry.

"It's not exclusive — there's room on the bandwidth for everyone to add their voice," he said. "Poetry can help with critical thinking skills, developing figurative language and creating new worlds."

In his first year as poet laureate, Hinrichsen plans to work with middle school and high school students to write poetry that celebrates place.

"Writers would be asked to explore a sense of place through our local geography, history, etc.," he wrote in his proposal. "The idea here is to find a hidden treasure, a hidden moment or a special or secret place. It might be as simple as loving the sound of freight trains at night."

He said the emphasis will be on vision and seeing things clearly and in a fresh way.

Hinrichsen also expects to develop outlets for publishing local poetry and will conduct group readings of original poetry created as part of the poet laureate project. He also plans to work with local arts organizations like REACH Studio Art Center and Keys to Creativity to pair poetry with visual arts. Hinrichsen can be reached by email at lansing-poet@gmail.com.

Anita Skeen, director of the RCAH Center for Poetry at MSU, said the selection of a poet laureate is important to the Greater Lansing region.

"It shows we recognize the importance of poetry, particularly because we don't have a state poet laureate," she said.

Curtain

from page 11

era. He is joined in this effort by a trio of women with serious acting chops. Anna Birmingham, as Penelope Pennywise, belts out bombastically with great dic-

tion and pitch, while Hannah Martin, as Hope Cladwell, is the personification of great hope.

It is the third of this triumvirate, however, who steals the stage and keeps the audience laughing. Bethany Heinlein, as Little Sally, is Flopsy, Mopsy and Cottontail all wrapped up in a tiny package of energy and spastic animation. Her plaintive solo near the end of the show, "Tell Her I Love Her," comes close to knocking the ball out of the park.

Director Brad Willcuts doubles as choreographer, setting crisp dance moves to the frenzied score.

Stylistically, "Urinetown" is campy, with heavy emphasis on comic exaggeration. This produces a lot of laughs but also detracts from the serious central notion of the play — that an absence of water might very well become one of the major outcomes of unaddressed climate change.

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Why marijuana makes dollars and sense for Lansing

A special report by Mickey Hirten

Also:

- Medical marijuana a growth business.
Why is City Council strangling it through zoning?
- Mayor Virg Bernero speaks out. A Q&A with Berl Schwartz



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Pot of gold?

Lansing's reefer madness approach shortsighted as state moves rapidly toward legalization

What if Lansing hadn't embraced the automotive industry?

It's not so farfetched. After all, who wants those dirty, noisy cars running through our quiet town? Pedestrians will get hurt. Stick with horses.

But people wanted cars, and fortunately Lansing had a forward-thinking attitude — or at least a laissez-faire one. And it fought to keep GM when in the 1990s the auto giant was going to pull out.

Lansing is at a crossroads right now when it comes to marijuana. Recreational marijuana is coming to Michigan, almost certainly next year, but we are nowhere close to being ready to get our share of this multi-billion-dollar boom.

Our business leaders and politicians are letting us down, as our reporting in these pages shows. Business leaders are either opposed to capitalizing on this opportunity or haven't given it sufficient thought. Politicians are trying to balance the future against constituents with a reefer madness mentality who would kill the marijuana business in Lansing if they could. Our likely future mayor, Andy Schor, has a wishy-washy stance. And the marijuana business community is so afraid of being put out of

business that it has failed to use its considerable resources to make a stink.

The goal of this special section is to generate a serious discussion about the choices facing Lansing over marijuana before it is too late, which it almost is.



BERL SCHWARTZ

I say that because the Public Safety Committee of the Lansing City Council is close to finishing an ordinance that will do great damage to the medical marijuana business. But even worse, it will set the tone for how we will

deal with recreational marijuana. If they can't accept medical marijuana, they're going to like recreational even less.

The mere fact that medical marijuana is being dealt with by a committee called Public Safety says a lot. This issue ought to be in Development and Planning. And instead of a bias toward gutting medical marijuana, as is evident in the Public Safety Committee, the emphasis should be on how to maximize the potential of a great economic opportunity.

I hope you'll take the time to look at the map on pages 18 and 19. It shows how many dispensaries will survive — or more to the point, will not survive. Five out of six will be put out of business. That's 54 out of 62 job-producing businesses, many occupying formerly empty buildings, many in the south end, where development is struggling.

Under the leadership of Councilmembers Adam Hussain and Carol Wood, the opponents of marijuana have gotten the upper hand. They look at marijuana as a vice, and Hussain and Wood are enabling them. The two of them display a heartless disregard for the entrepreneurial efforts of business owners.

They will say businesses can simply move to areas that wouldn't be off limits to dispensaries. Spoken like people who have never run a brick-and-mortar operation and who don't seem to have any regard for capitalism. Many dispensaries have sunk a lot of resources into improving properties in areas of town where they have decent visibility. Case in point: Michigan Avenue. Not a single dispensary would be allowed.

Moreover, Hussain and Wood want to ghettoize dispensaries on the far north and south ends of the city. They say there are hundreds of properties available — but that's not really true. Dispensaries under their ordinance can't be within 500 feet of each other. And how many of those properties are appropriate for retail operations that are not already occupied?

Who are they to say how many dispensaries Lansing should have? There's no magic number. Critics say we don't want the Wild West, but sometimes that is what it takes while capitalism figures out what works. I could fill a lot of space with the names of automobiles that no longer exist.

Our outgoing mayor, Virg Bernero, has a good handle on the current lay of the land.

"There are forces in the city that want to return to the bad old days — strong forces. I used to call them Nixonian, law and order Puritanical Republicans. Maybe they are Trumpian — Nixonian but Trumpian — because (U.S. Attorney Gen. Jeff) Sessions has said marijuana is right there with heroin in its awfulness," he told me on our TV show last week. (You can see it at lansingcitypulse.com.)

Added Bernero: "They're trying to go back to the old way. They want to push it underground, which does not work."

A final note: This special section has been costly. We've never called on readers to support us before, but we hope you will help now. We are conducting a crowdsourcing campaign at GoFundMe.com/citypulse. If you think our effort is worthy, then I hope you will send us a contribution. Or just mail us a check at City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. Skip buying a gram and send us \$10. Thanks.

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THE BILLION-DOLLAR POT ECONOMY IS COMING – WHILE LANSING DITHERS

By **MICKEY HIRTEN**

The new pot economy is coming — but Lansing isn't ready

In 2018, Michigan voters may, and likely will, approve a ballot initiative allowing the recreational use of marijuana, unleashing an economic surge in jobs, investment and tax revenue.

Based on the experience in other states, treating marijuana as a recreational drug will create a new and sprawling industry worth billions of dollars, and some communities already are angling for the economic gold rush.

Lansing isn't one of them.

For a city that sees itself as progressive, Lansing is weighing rules and regulations that will decimate its fledgling medical marijuana industry. Of 62 medical marijuana dispensaries operating in Lansing, all but eight would be zoned out of business if the City Council approves the current draft ordinance. And the region overall is hardly marijuana friendly. There are no medical marijuana dispensaries in East Lansing and few if any in cities and town surrounding Lansing. Among the region's political and business leaders, the approach to the emerging marijuana industry is often antagonistic, at best ambivalent, and uninformed.

If it chose to embrace marijuana in Michigan as an opportunity for economic growth and thousands of jobs, mid Michigan, and Lansing most notably, is uniquely positioned for a disproportionate share of the "new-economy" marijuana business. It is centrally located, flanked by two interstate highways, allowing easy transport. Industrial proper-

ties are available at attractive prices. Housing is affordable. It is the seat of government for a product that will be highly regulated and very political.

The city-owned Board of Water and Light boasts electric rates lower than other regional utilities — ideal for power hungry grow operations. And the region is home to Michigan State University, one of the nation's leading agricultural research institutions, which has in the past shown interest in cannabis cultivation.

Also, it has standing in the fledgling cannabis industry. Michigan voters approved the use of medical marijuana in 2008, an initiative that the state's political leaders bungled from the outset. They provided minimal regulation to ensure quality, drug safety, patient protection, distribution, transportation, supply and other guidance sought by voters. Adding uncertainty and confusion to the burgeoning market, state courts found that dispensaries serving many patients were essentially illegal. It is only since September that lawmakers and the governor have approved meaningful policies to govern licensing, security, transportation and structure for the retail market.

The result of the state's laissez faire approach was that Lansing's medical marijuana industry prospered. Besides the dispensaries that proliferated, there are an unknown but substantial number of grow operations, many housed in residential neighborhoods.

They are operated by entrepreneurs seeking a share of a lucrative medical marijuana market that the no-partisan Michigan House Fiscal Agency projected at \$837 million as the

market matures.

To date there are at least 250,000 in-state residents with medical marijuana cards and 41,000 licensed caregivers. The Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulation reported that as of Jan. 1, 2016, there were 6,982 patients and 1,434 licensed caregivers in Ingham County. In Clinton County there were 1,018 patients and 232 caregivers; Eaton had 2,527 patients and 559 caregivers.

The vacuum of weak regulation by the state and city made Lansing an attractive location for medical marijuana businesses. The city's commercial real estate market, weakened by the Great Recession, left the region with hundreds of vacant buildings and storefronts, many of them in the southeast, along Cedar Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, and in the southwest along Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

With low rents and easy access, these are ideal locations for medical marijuana entrepreneurs to set up shops. The potential market is larger than the 10,500 or so licensed patients from Ingham, Clinton and Eaton Counties. Lansing was established as a marijuana-friendly locale.

It attracted customers, that is, patients, from across central Michigan, particularly from the west, said James Barr, of Strata Business Services, a Michigan-based consulting and accounting business for the medical marijuana and healthcare industry.

"One third of the business for Lansing dispensaries is from places like Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo. Lansing has a primary market and a huge secondary market," said Barr, who recently addressed city municipal leaders in Hillsdale about the marijuana market.

While it has no hard data to quantify medical marijuana tourism, Jack Schripsema, CEO of the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau, said the staff believes the city is attracting marijuana day-trippers. "It's anecdotal, but it might make sense that they would come here," he explained, noting the limited marijuana options elsewhere in Michigan.

But the success of dispensaries, in particular, rankles the southeast and southwest neighborhoods where dispensaries have proliferated, prompting a belated, but serious effort by the city to curtail the marijuana trade with stringent regulations and restrictive zoning.

"We have an entire industry that is operating unchecked. We're experiencing the unintended consequences of the the drug trade," said 3rd Ward Lansing Councilman Adam Hussain. "When we bring in investors and developers all they see is pot, liquor stores and predatory businesses."

The South Lansing experience with medical marijuana colored the region's political

The Coalition to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol lists as members these organizations:

- MILEgalize
- The Michigan Cannabis Coalition
- The National Patient Rights Association
- Michigan NORML
- The American Civil Liberties Union
- The Drug Policy Alliance (lawyers representing the Marijuana Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan).

and business leaders. Few, if any, are looking ahead to economic and business development opportunities offered by a legalized adult-use market for marijuana.

Tim Daman, president and CEO of the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce expressed the attitude succinctly. "If you are looking for Chamber support for the city to be the marijuana capital of Michigan it's not going to happen." Noting that the chamber hasn't formally adopted a position on marijuana, Daman said the more pressing issue was to regulate the medical marijuana and its impact on the city.

LEAP President and CEO Bob Trezise said the economic development partnership of governments and business simply hasn't addressed the issue or really thought about it. "LEAP is just beginning a five-year strategic planning process and I suppose this is one of the issues we need to contemplate." He said LEAP recently had a major out-of-state developer inquire about a major marijuana distribution center. "We didn't know how to handle it," Trezise said. "We don't know what the municipalities want."

Andy Schor, a Lansing mayoral candidate who represents most of Lansing in the state House of Representatives, offered a similar perspective suggesting that looking ahead to legalized marijuana was premature. "We have to figure out the current law. That's the first priority, and I know the council is working on that."

But he added that if elected he would look at studies and reports outlining job opportunities that would come with marijuana legalization.

Mayor candidate Judi Brown Clarke's position is unclear. The at-large Councilwoman did not respond to a request for comment.

If the Lansing region wants a share of the thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in commerce that will come with legalizing marijuana, past and present experience is a poor indicator of the opportuni-

See Pot Economy, Page 16



"If you are looking for Chamber support for the city to be the marijuana capital of Michigan, it's not going to happen."

— Tim Daman,
President/CEO Lansing
Regional Chamber of
Commerce

Second Annual 420 Issue

Pot Economy

from page 15

ties that will emerge in Michigan.

The Marijuana Policy Group's report on Colorado divides the marijuana industry into three segments: retailing, cultivation and manufacturing, each with different economic impacts. Its economic model integrating the legal marijuana businesses into Colorado's economy found that the industry in 2015 generated \$2.39 billion in state output and created 18,005 new full time equivalent positions.

Its report said each retail dollar spent on marijuana generated \$2.40 in state output. For manufacturing the dollar multiplier was \$2.34 and for cultivation, \$2.13. MPG compared these numbers with other business sectors: Business services, \$2.13; general manufacturing, \$1.94; and retail trades (including alcohol), \$1.88. It acknowledged that while these figure apply to Colorado they may not reflect the experience of other states.

RETAIL SALES

Marijuana retail sales in a legalized market is very different from the boot-strap sales medical marijuana dispensary business proliferating in Lansing.

"In 2016, cannabis sales averaged \$1.98 million per retail location in Colorado's adult-use market and \$896,000 per location in the medical channel," Arcview Market Research, a marketing and investment services firm focusing on the marijuana industry, stated in its latest industry report.

Sales at marijuana retail stores in other state trail those in Colorado, but are significant nonetheless. In Washington, which has displaced medical dispensaries with adult-use outlets, 257 retailers averaged \$1.55 million in sales per location. Oregon's 350 retail outlets had sales of nearly \$672,000 per location and its 381 medical dispensaries experienced average sales per location of \$294,000, Arcview reported.

Jobs associated with retailing include sales clerks, called budtenders, entry level jobs paying in the \$10 to \$13 an hour range, according to industry online jobs boards like

420 Careers. Other jobs included office administrative staff, maintenance workers and a range of accounting, legal and compliance services, positions normally associated with retail businesses.

CULTIVATION

State laws governing the legal marijuana market allow for different levels of growers. The legalization drive in Michigan divides producers into three classes: not more than 100 plants, not more than 500 and not more than 2,000. Also it allows individuals — with some limits — to grow their own.

In a deregulated market, large indoor growing facilities supply much of the local industry.

For indoor farms, some with thousands of plants, an analysis MPG finds that expenses are distributed broadly. Employee payrolls account for a quarter of cultivators' expenses. Jobs include trimmers, who nip marijuana buds from leaves, agronomists and back office staff.

There are high-paying executive positions that fit comfortably with MSU agriculture expertise. For example, Colorado Product Services is seeking a director of cultivation who would be "solely responsible for complete oversight of all areas in the cultivation facility. Job responsibilities would include correct propagation, vegetation, dry, cure, oversight and distribution of all flower." The posted salary is posted at \$100,000 to \$130,000 depending on experience. Jobs like assistant growers to oversee and manage plant feeding cycles pay between \$20,000 and \$40,000. Trimmer jobs pay \$500 a week, based on performance.

Cultivators spend about 25 percent of their budgets on electricity — a boon for utilities. There are large expenses for heating, cooling and ventilation services, rent security and administrative services.

MANUFACTURING

Manufacturing is perhaps the least understood sector in the marijuana industry. MPG offers this snapshot of the business: "Infused product manufacturers purchase



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"In 2016, cannabis sales averaged \$1.98 million per retail location in Colorado's adult-use market and \$896,000 per location in the medical channel."

— Arcview Market
Research

marijuana trim and flower as the primary input to production, followed by other food products, then machinery rents, payrolls, warehouse rental (or imputed rent), security and cash management services, and chemicals."

As with other segments of the industry, MPG noted that manufacturers pay rents, need security, electricity and administrative staffs. But they also hire specialized trade-skill positions. Manufacturers and edible companies hire "chefs" in addition to factory floor staff while concentrate manufacturers hire machine operators. Employee payrolls and marijuana flowers are manufacturers' two largest expenses.

And in all three segments, the real estate industry has been one of the winners.

Said MPG of the Colorado experience: "Warehouse space that was previously underutilized is now highly demanded by cultivation operators and manufacturing companies. Retail sales locations have created additional upward pressure for commercial real estate, construction, and related services. In 2015, some office spaces have become available as exclusive "marijuana business incubators" in the Boulder and Denver area, which has inspired the moniker for Colorado's Front Range as "Cannabis Silicon Valley."

To date eight states (Alaska, Colorado, California, Maine, Massachusetts, Nevada, Oregon and Washington) have legalized sales of recreational marijuana and 28 approve sales for medical use. As it evolves, the marijuana industry generally is generally consistent from state to state. What differs is the scale. California, which approved adult-use marijuana in 2016, will dominate the industry.

For Michigan, the success of its medical marijuana market suggests a strong roll out for legal sales for starting in 2020. The economic activity unleashed by legalization is projected at \$2 billion, according to Barr's Strata Business Services analysis.

Arcview's report on Michigan is more conservative, but still forecasting a vibrant new industry.

"The strong support for medical cannabis in the state suggests that adult use

will be approved within the forecast period (starting 2020). Arcview's forecast for this market includes an assumption that medical sales will decline in 2020, when adult-use sales are expected to begin. The adult market is forecast to launch with \$440 million in sales in 2020, growing to \$939 million in 2021. The addition of adult-use market will bring total legal sales to \$1.6 billion."

State-level control of cannabis creates a highly localized industry, said Arcview. "Almost all spending on marijuana flows to workers and businesses within the state."

For the Lansing region, the potential of the marijuana economy is likely to emerge as the legalization drive advances and the opportunities for jobs and revenue become more apparent.

Even vigorous opponents of Lansing's medical marijuana industry like Adam Hussain acknowledge that the city should look at the legalization possibilities. "It's a conversation that deserves our full consideration."

East Lansing is taking a tentative approach to legalization according to Mayor Mark Meadows. It expects to pass a reworked ordinance within the next that he said reflects the community's longstanding acceptance of marijuana while attempting to navigate the tangle of state regulation and its own poorly drafted laws.

"Because of a new statutory framework for what is coming, we can authorize growing in East Lansing. We can authorize the sale of marijuana in East Lansing. Business can submit permit fees," Meadows said.

He believes that communities desperate for revenue will embrace marijuana enterprises and that greater Lansing will have to compete hard for businesses.

We want to recognize that it will happen, to take a jobs and economic approach," Meadows said. Reflecting on his East Lansing's opportunities he added: "There is some farmland in the city. We could have growers up there in the north tier."



"LEAP is just beginning a five-year strategic planning process, and I suppose this is one of the issues we need to contemplate."

— Bob Tresize,

President/CEO Lansing Area
Economic Partnership

'GATEWAY DRUG' RALLYING CRY OF OPPOSITION TO LEGALIZATION

While polling suggest that 60 percent of American's favor legalizing the recreational use of marijuana, there is nonetheless significant opposition to the change.

The new attorney general of the United States, Jeff Sessions, recently declared that marijuana was "only slightly less awful" than heroin. And he has reminded states that distributing marijuana remains a federal crime throughout the United States

Citing increased youth marijuana use, health concerns, increases in parent "abuse," marijuana related workplace issues and more, anti-legalization advocates cite studies and expert testimonials to support their view that marijuana is a dangerous drug.

In Michigan, opposition forces are few, at the moment. A Macomb County group, Mobilizing Michigan: Protecting Our Kids

from Marijuana" is warning on its fledgling website that with "all of the of the talk about medical marijuana and the legalization of marijuana for "recreational" purposes in the media and in public discussion, there seems to be very little focus on the many negative consequences of youth use."

It references information from organizations like the Partnership for Drug Free Kids (www.drugfree.org) and the National Institute for Health's National Institute on Drug Abuse (www.drugabuse.gov) to support its views.

NIDA cites marijuana as a commonly abused drug with short- and long-term health issues, among them, lowered reaction time, problems with balance and coordination, increased heart rate and appetite, problems with learning and memory, hal-

lucinations, anxiety and psychosis.

National groups like Citizens Against Legalizing Marijuana (CALM) oppose any state law that attempted to undermine the Federal Controlled Substances Act, which treats marijuana as a schedule 1 drug, in the same class as heroin, LSD, Quaaludes and Ecstasy. It campaigned hard and lost in California and has mounted anti-marijuana movements in other states.

CALM cites, for example, a damning report on marijuana from the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine (not to be confused with the National Academy of Science) that finds little therapeutic benefits from cannabis and that use may affect mental health, increase the risk of developing substance dependence, affect memory and attention and result in lower birthrates for babies whose mother smoked marijuana during pregnancy.

But both opponents and supporters of legalizing marijuana find ample support for their positions.

A report by Arcview, a leading marijuana marketing research company, counters the view oft shared by critics of legalization that it is a gateway to harder drugs.

It cites the annual Survey on Drug Use and Health from the Department of Health and Human Service, which it said showed that "even as adult use rose in Colorado in the first two years of legal sales, teen use of cannabis declined."

It referenced a published study in an American Public Health Association publication that linked a decline in traffic fatalities with legalized medical and recreational marijuana. Another study in the journal of the American Association for the Advancement of Science found that overdoses from opioid painkillers was nearly 25 percent lower in states that permitted medical marijuana.

— Mickey Hirten



PRO-POT GROUP AIMS FOR \$8 MILLION TO FUND LEGALIZATION EFFORT IN 2018

Undaunted by failure in 2016, advocates see 2018 as the year Michigan will legalize adult-use of marijuana. There is money behind the initiative, momentum from other states that have ended pot prohibition, and polling that suggests the people are ready to "legalize it."

Behind the new drive is the Marijuana Policy Project, a Washington, D.C., organization instrumental in Michigan's approval of medical marijuana in 2008. It drafted the proposed 2018 voter initiative and created a statewide pro-legalization committee, the Coalition to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol, which hopes to raise \$8 million for the drive, said its spokesman, Josh Hovey.

The coalition is proposing a comprehensive package of regulations titled the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act. Yes, that is how the state of Michigan officially spells marijuana.

The legalization initiative requires 252,523 valid signatures to place it on the 2018 ballot. And because it's an initiative, not a constitutional amendment, the Legislature could override the measure with a three-fourths vote of both houses.

The legalization initiative requires 252,523 valid signatures to place it on the 2018 ballot. And because it's an initiative, not a constitutional amendment, the Legislature could override the measure with a three-fourths vote of both houses.

According to the Coalition, key provisions of the 6500-plus-word initiative draft would:

- Legalize the possession, cultivation, and use of cannabis and industrial hemp.

- Protect consumers with regulations that mandate testing and accurate labeling.

- Tax marijuana at the wholesale level in addition to the standard state sales tax. Half of the excise taxes will be used to make community colleges and vocational schools more affordable for Michigan residents. The other half will be directed to local governments that allow marijuana businesses in their jurisdictions.

- Give people convicted of a non-violent marijuana crime a path to clear their criminal record.

"The trend across the country shows that the country increasingly accepts marijuana use both for medical and recreational use," Hovey said.

"More and more people understand that prohibition is a failed policy. It doesn't make sense to arrest 20,000 people in Michigan each year for possession and growing marijuana."

Outlined within the proposal are measures that would:

- Allow people to grow their own, up to 12 plants at their primary residence.

- Prohibit retailers from selling to anyone age-21 and under from using marijuana and any consumption in public places.

- Establish requirements and standards for cultivation, processing, testing, packaging, labeling and related items.

- Except for determining age, prohibit its requirements retailers from requiring customer identification.

- Establish licensing for retailers, growers, transporters and other enterprises in the marijuana business.

- Give current marijuana business early consideration for adult-use sales.

Advocates attempted to place a legalization measure on the 2016 ballot. They gathered 354,00 signatures (253,000 were needed), but were sabotaged by the Legislature and Gov. Rick Snyder, who signed a rush-job bill invalidating petition signatures more than 180 days old.

But the push for decriminalization in Michigan is undeniable and growing.

Polling in January and February by Epic-MRA found that 57 percent of 600 people surveyed favor legalization and trending higher. In 2013, only 47 percent of those surveyed favored legalization, said Epic's President Bernie Porn. If it is on the ballot, he expects it to pass and attract unprecedented numbers of younger voters, 70 percent of whom favor legalization, he said.

— Mickey Hirten



TAX WINDFALL BECKONS WITH POT LEGALIZATION

While polling suggest broad popular support for legalizing recreational marijuana, Michigan's political establishment, local and state, is cautious at best.

To build support for legalization and discourage locales from restricting marijuana businesses, the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act is studded with sweeteners — an array of fees and taxes — that will appeal to many revenue challenged communities.

While there are no hard numbers, Josh Hovey, spokesman for the Coalition to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol, estimated that excise taxes alone will yield \$100 million in revenue. The group derives this estimate from the size of the Michigan's medical marijuana industry and the tax-revenue experience of other states, Hovey said.

The legalization act specifically apportions the excise tax windfall to community colleges, veterans, county government and municipalities. Among the revenue oppor-

tunities in the proposed measure are:

Administrative/Enforcement fees: Municipalities can charge each business as much as \$5,000 annually to cover their costs.

Civil violation fines: Businesses with civil violations of a municipality's marijuana ordinances face fines of up to \$500 per violation.

Individual fines: A range of penalties for civil infractions and misdemeanors range between \$100 and \$2,000.

Excise taxes: The state would tax the sale and transfer of marijuana at \$20 per dry-weight ounce of marijuana flowers and \$6.75 per dry-weight ounce of marijuana leaves.

Other taxes: Marijuana transactions will be subject to sales taxes. Businesses will pay personal property taxes on equipment. Municipalities will collect income taxes. Buildings will be assessed property taxes and fees for improvements.

— Mickey Hirten

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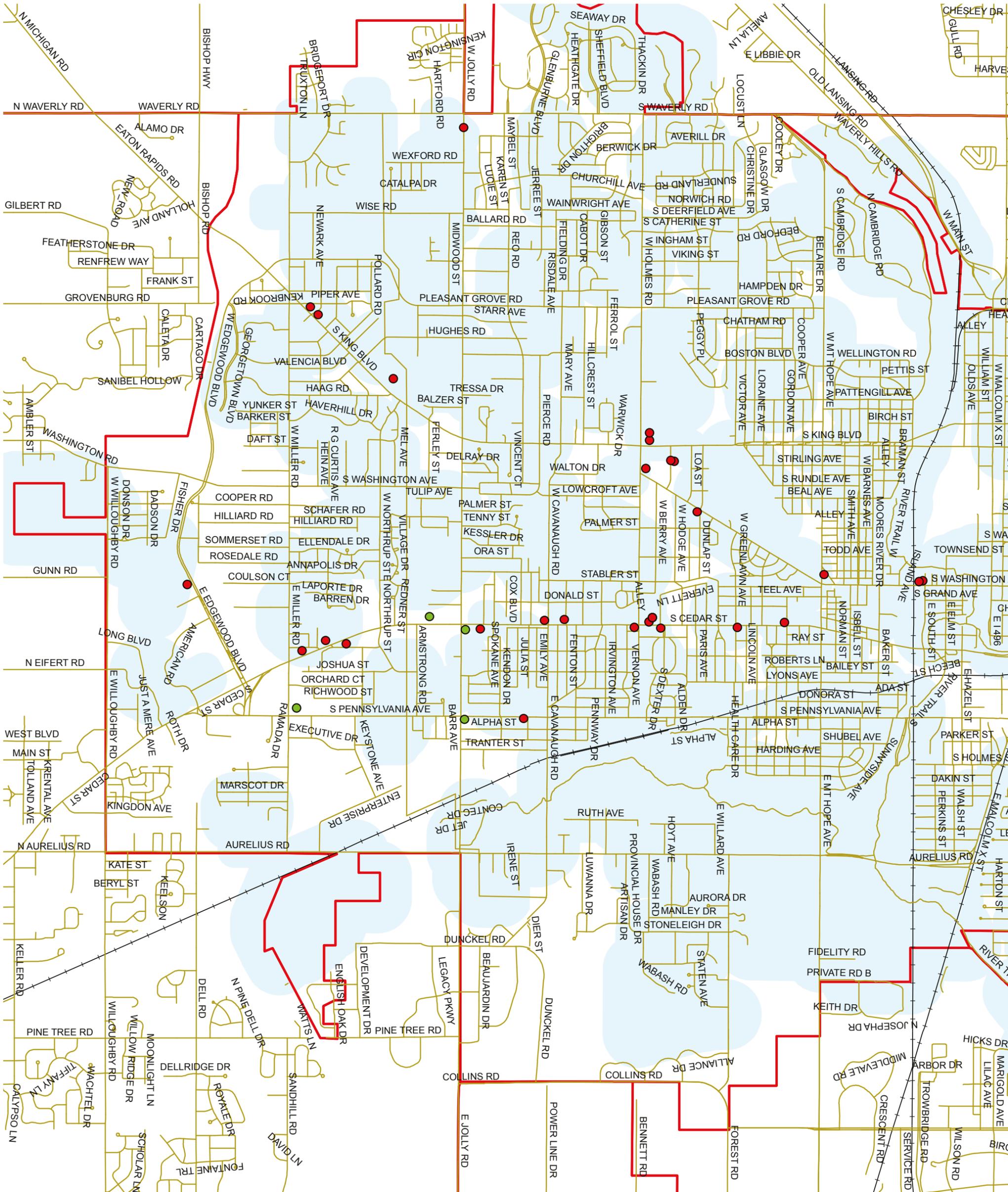
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Ordinance would shutter 5 out of 6



6 medical marijuana dispensaries

POT GHETTOS

Outlets would be forced to Lansing's far ends

The Lansing City Council has spent nearly a decade struggling with the medical marijuana dispensary issue. In 2010, it approved an ordinance that allowed for 48. But before it could be implanted the state courts ruled them all illegal.

Only a few defied the ruling — and nothing happened to them in Lansing, thanks to the progressive position of the Bernero administration. Gradually, old owners reopened and new ones came along until they flourished again. Some estimates ran as high as 80 dispensaries in 2016.

But then opposition, from the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce on one end of the economic spectrum and from the south end on the other, persuaded the administration to declare a moratorium. Meanwhile, City Council's Public Safety Committee undertook the first hard look at dispensaries since the ill-fated 2010 ordinance.

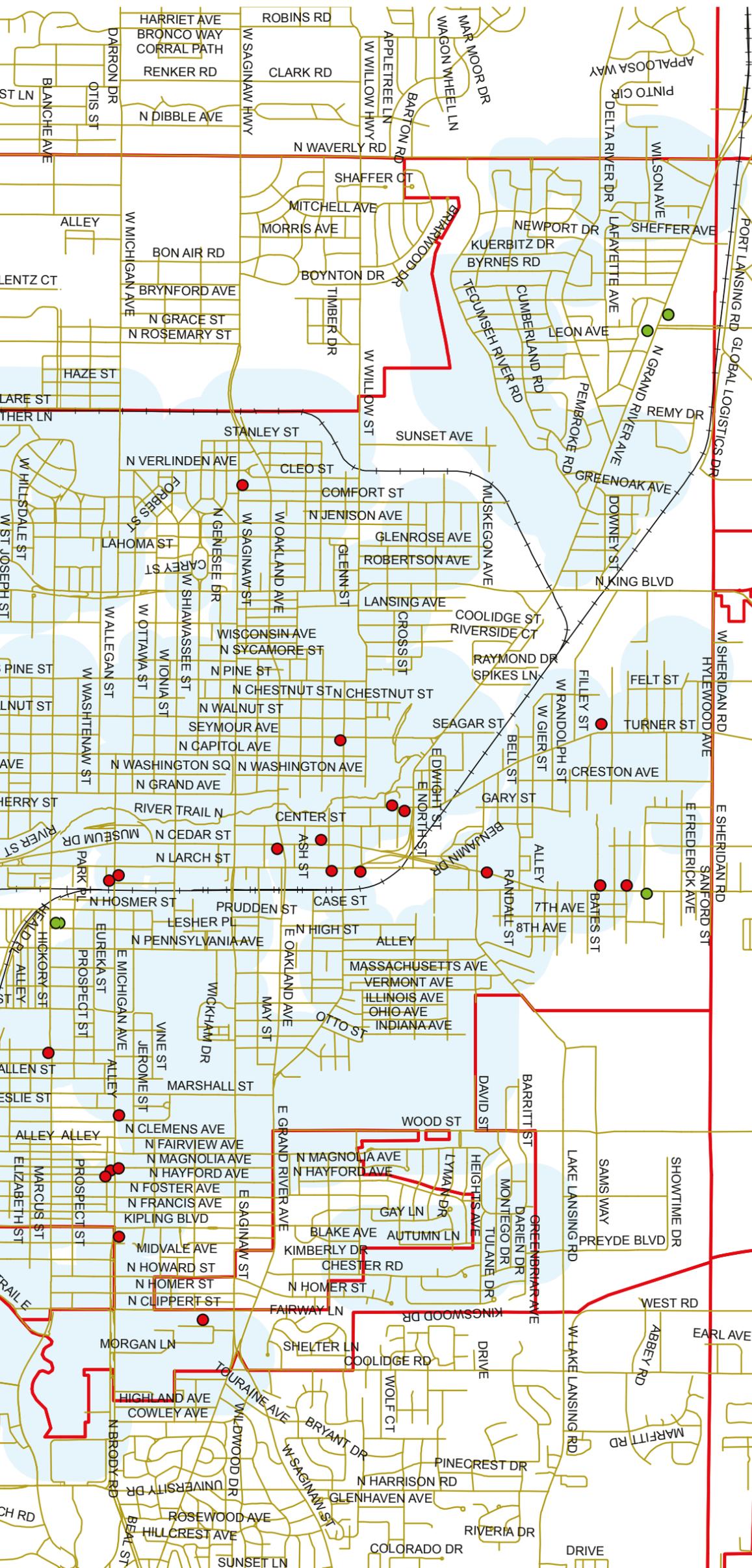
The result, thus far, is an ordinance that treats medical marijuana as if it were a vice, like alcohol or pornography. The tool is zoning.

City Pulse took a hard look at what the current draft of the ordinance would mean to existing dispensaries — a harder look than apparently the city has taken. To our knowledge, the city has no map showing which dispensaries would stay and which would go under the ordinance. Instead, it seems to have a let-the-chips-fall-where-they-may attitude — and the chips fall decidedly in favor of those who want to zooming dispensaries out of existence, or close to it.

The map at left is based on the map the city provided City Pulse after we filed a Freedom of Information request. The blue area is where dispensaries would be prohibited.

We placed existing dispensaries on the map. We came up with 62 through various sources. Efforts to reach a few indicated they may be out of business, so let's round off the number we could document are in business to 55.

All but eight dispensaries, represented by green dots, would have to close. Those with red dots are the losers. The white area is where dispensaries could open or move to — provided they are not within 500 feet of each other or 500 to 1,000 feet from churches, schools, daycare centers and parks.



Dispensaries in non-restricted areas

These are the dispensaries that City Pulse has determined would be able to stay in business in their current locations:

1. 420 Dank, 3301 Capitol City Blvd.
2. Capital City Med Station, 3301 Capitol City Blvd.
3. Cannaiseur - 3200 N. East St.
4. Capital City Seed Bank, 821 E. Kalamazoo St.
5. Cedar Leaf, 5031 S. Cedar St.
6. Green Crush - 5025 S. Pennsylvania Ave,
7. Pure Options, 6030 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
8. Your Healthy Choice Clinic, 5300 S. Cedar St.

Dispensaries in restricted areas

These dispensaries would have to close or move if the proposed ordinance becomes law:

1. 420 Solutions, 5528 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
2. 5 Star Meds, 1039 N. Cedar St.
3. Mi Casa, 1039 N. Cedar St.
4. 517 Releaf, 910 Southland Ave.
5. Best Buds, 2617 E. Michigan Ave. (technically in Lansing Township but taxed by the City of Lansing)
6. Budz R Us Provision Center, 1804 W. Saginaw St.
7. Buono Lounge & Caregiver, 1419 Turner St.
8. Cannacare Lansing, 3314 S. Cedar St.
9. Capital City Caregivers, - 2208 E. Michigan Ave.
10. Capital Dank, 1202 S. Washington Ave.
11. Capital Wellness, 1825 E. Michigan Ave.
12. TNT MMP, 1825 E. Michigan Ave.
13. Carter Medz, 2907 Turner Street,
14. CBD Gardens, 6070 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
15. Cedar Street MMMP, 3205 S. Cedar St.
16. Cornerstone Wellness, 3316 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
17. Edgewood Wellness, 134 E. Edgewood Blvd.
18. First Class Releaf, 4215 N. Grand River Ave.
19. GotMeds, 3405 S. Cedar St.
20. Grand Releaf Meds, 229 W. Grand River Ave.
21. Puff N Stuff, 229 W. Grand River Ave.
22. Green Cross Solutions, 6020 S. Cedar St.

Second Annual 420 Issue



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COUNCIL CRACKDOWN

Strict proposed ordinance uses zoning to sharply reduce dispensaries

By **TODD HEYWOOD**

The medical marijuana ordinance being considered in City Hall would force all but eight of Lansing's 62 dispensaries to shut down or move.

And it's unclear how many would even be able to operate elsewhere because of restrictions on how close they can be to each other.

Those conclusions are based on taking a map provided by the City Council of proposed restricted and non-restricted areas and placing on it the existing dispensaries that City Pulse was able to determine are operating in Lansing. It is information that the drafters of the ordinance had not done for themselves.

Council members said they have turned to a more restrictive use of zoning after hearing from neighborhoods and constituents that they wanted the facilities to be far removed from where they live and play. That, experts in land use, say is the core conundrum involved in planning and land use development.

There is one thing all the players involved in the medical marijuana regulation saga in Lansing say they agree on: they want patients to have access to safe, affordable medications. Beyond that, a morass of the frustrating process of balancing the needs of neighbors with the marijuana businesses and working within a still evolving state regulatory framework.

"It needs to be made relative to the values of the community," said Mark Wyckoff, the director of the Planning and Zoning Center at MSU. That's part of the Land Policy Institute, where he is the interim director. "That means all the stakeholders have to be at the table. There has to be a transparent, open process in which everyone's views can be heard."

The City Council Committee on Public Safety, where the ordinance is being developed, has held over 50 meetings and participated in hundreds of hours of public debate. They've reviewed at least eight draft ordinances in the last year alone.

On Tuesday the committee, which has been handling the draft ordinances since the early days of the conversation in 2010, began the line by line review of 30-page "Draft 6b" version of a local law.

The ordinance regulates the industry from two perspectives. First it uses zoning to restrict the locations of facilities, and second it uses its police powers to create strict licensing rules. The battle rests on the use of zoning.

Zoning is a process by which city planners create specific areas with a city designated for certain uses. For instance, if you're reading this in a coffee shop, that is designated a business zone. If you're reading this at home in your apartment, there's a designation for multi-unit residential zoning, and there's one for single family dwellings as well. Each designation in the city carries with it specific requirements about what can happen in that area.

In the latest draft of the ordinance, dispensaries have a little bit more leeway in which areas they can locate. They can be located in commercial districts as well as the zoned areas for the business types. The other licensed facilities, labs, transporters, growing operations and processing centers, could only be located industrial, light industrial and wholesale districts.

A 2014 study of similar zoning restrictions for marijuana facilities in Denver, conducted by Colorado University-Denver Professor Jeremy Németh, found the restrictions pushed the businesses into lower income, minority communities and neighborhoods.

With some small exceptions, the draft ordinance calls for pushing dispensaries into the northwest and southern edges of the city. Those two areas, according to census data City-Data.com, have a gen-



Wood



Hussain

erally lower annual average income than other areas of the city.

Németh, in a phone interview Tuesday, said with buffer restrictions and zoning, the "particularly insidious" result was to deepen the disparity between wealthier areas of the communities and lower income areas.

"It exacerbates it," he said. "These create this situation with more prohibitive restrictions of the 'bad stuff' because 'we' [the wealthier parts of the community] have so much good stuff that it can't be near."

The result of the zoning restrictions, an analysis by City Pulse found, is that only eight of the 62 dispensaries iden-

tified as operating in Lansing could remain in their current locations. The rest would have to relocate, or close.

City officials say there are 618 properties that fit within the various zones available for the marijuana trade. But they concede that not all of those properties will be available. Some are rented. Some are not appropriate for retail. And since dispensaries cannot be within 500 feet of each, many will be ruled out.

Robin Schneider, legislative liaison for the National Patient Rights Association, challenges any assumption that dispensaries will find it easy to relocate.

She said businesses are "frantically" searching in the areas identified in the draft legislation for property, but aren't finding anything.

"It's not available," she said.

Moving could be expensive. A survey commissioned by City Pulse and conducted by Michigan State University found that out of 30 responding dispensaries, 29 had done improvements on their location. Ten spent between \$5,000 and \$50,000 on upgrades and improvements to the property. Three claimed to have invested between \$85,000 and \$120,000 on improvements, while the remainder said they had spent between \$40 and \$3,500.

Reviewing the map, it appears the city has landed on one side of an age-old debate in land use circles: concentrate or disperse. The map appears to show a concentration approach.

Councilwoman At-Large Carol Wood

said the proposed concentration in the northwest and south was unintentional. It was, she said, the result of years of city leaders tinkering with zoning and trying to bring order to the chaos of city planning. As a result, the lump sum of available properly zoned properties fell with that area.

The ordinance does more than just restrict the businesses to specific zoning areas. It further restricts their locations by preventing them from being 1,000 feet from schools and child care facilities and 500 feet from parks, substance abuse treatment facilities and other medical marijuana facilities.

But those restrictions could be somewhat flexible, Wood said. Some properties could qualify for possible variances from the restrictions.

"If you were, say, 490 feet from a park, you could put in for a variance," she said in hypothetical terms. "There is a potential that could be granted."

Variances are granted by the Zoning Board of Appeals, and appeals of that body's decision go directly to circuit court, circumventing city government altogether.

Wood said there had been discussion and it was not off the table, to "cap the number of dispensaries, and limit the number in each ward."

That could overcome Schneider's opposition to the zoning exclusions, she said. Doing so would require a "reasonable" number of facilities, which she said was 20 to 30, and a focus on what those businesses are doing to improve the community and the business.

Asked to comment on that possible resolution, Third Ward Councilman Adam Hussain, who chairs of the Committee on Public Safety, would say only that he "promised a fair discussion on this."

He said he believed the ordinance "achieved those objectives" he heard outlined by community members.

Schneider, legislative liaison for the National Patient Rights Association, said she opposes the use of zoning as a regulation tool, calling it "shortsighted" and "somewhat discriminatory."

Bernero: Proposed ordinance is 'Trumpian'

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero may as well be called Mayorajuana, given his outspoken support for legalization — even though he claims never to have had even a puff. Bernero's policy has been to "normalize" marijuana whenever possible, which he explains in this interview, conducted by Berl Schwartz on the TV show "CityPulseNewsmakers." Bernero also makes it clear he wants to finish the regulatory process before he voluntarily leaves on Dec. 31.

You've said the proposed ordinance is going in exactly the opposite direction. What do you mean?

There are forces in the city that want to return to the bad old days — strong forces. I used to call them Nixonian, law and order Puritanical Republicans. Maybe they are Trumpian — Nixonian but Trumpian — because (U.S. Attorney Gen. Jeff) Sessions has said marijuana is right there with heroin in its awfulness. [Editor's note. Bernero was close. Sessions said marijuana is "only slightly less awful" than heroin and produces "life-wrecking dependency."] Every week when the Cabinet gets together, the fire and police chiefs report on heroin overdoses, how many were there, how many cases did we dispatch Narcan, and how many fatalities. And every week I ask how many marijuana overdoses. Somewhat I do it for comic relief, but also to get this out of the chief: Zero, zero marijuana deaths.

But there are who cannot stand the fact that we have essentially in Lansing normal-

ized medical marijuana. We have normalized the distribution, supply, purchase of medical marijuana. The state passed the law, the public initiated it, the state facilitated it with state medical marijuana cards, and we have normalized medical marijuana distribution. Crime is down, despite their best efforts to try to reinvent that. I think statistically banks and credit unions get knocked off more than dispensaries.

Are there too many dispensaries? That's a subject of debate. Are they too clustered. In my view, yes. That's a zoning issue that needs to be addressed in the ordinance. Adam (Hussain, who chairs the Council committee that is crafting the ordinance), Jody's son, is not serious about fixing it. I think

they've decided they want to drag this out through the election because they've decided the people who are up for election — which is not them, not Jody, not her son, not Carol — they've decided that it might work negatively against some of the incumbents so they want deliberately to take longer. Before they wanted to move very quickly.

They're trying to go back to the old way. They want to push it underground, which does not work. We want to bring it into the light, regulate it, fix the clustering, fix the problems, and as you know, we are trying to fix the problems of the home-grow operation, a significant problem the Legislature failed to deal with. We want to move to a system where we can move the production out of homes, where it does not belong, anything over a few plants. The idea of 72 plants in the home is insane, but that's what the state law allows. We're trying to move that into a commercialized, industrial grow, put it into an

industrial park. And we have places in Lansing where that could happen. Where you could have large-scale, professional production so you'd have production of medibles and edibles. This is a hundreds-of-million-dollar operation that could be headquartered in Lansing.

Is Lansing prepare to take advantage of the legalization, which could come as soon as next year?

Lansing has a tremendous opportunity to set the standard for what this industry should be. That's what I am trying to create in this ordinance. We have a tremendous opportunity to again further facilitate the normalization of marijuana and do it right and professionalize it, get it out of the neighborhoods. Stop the clustering, have a legitimate debate about how many does Lansing need, but market forces will determine that. Basically with zoning you can fix most of that, but you don't do exclusionary zoning, you don't make it so there can only be three or something, but you make it so they are going to be in the appropriate places. And the commercial grows are a different operation than dispensaries. They're trying to make the production facilities subject to the same regulations as retail. That's ridiculous. We've always separated that out. We've always looked at production as one thing and retail as another, and that must be preserved in the ordinance.

I hope we get it right. this is one thing I'd really to have done. And the people running for mayor ought to want us to get this done because if I were coming in as a new mayor, I wouldn't want to have to work on crafting this, I'd just want to implement it.



List

from page 19

- 23. Green Leaf Clinic, 900 W. Holmes Rd.,
- 24. Greenwave Dispensary, 500 E. Oakland Ave.
- 25. Helping Hands Clinic, 4100 S Cedar St.
- 27. Homegrown Provisioning Center, 628 East Michigan Ave.

- 28. Hybrid Life, -3001 S. Washington Ave.,
- 29. The Green Room, 3001. S. Washington Ave.
- 30. Hydroworld, 3308 S Cedar St.
- 31. Jay Deez's Herbs, 4511 S Pennsylvania Ave.
- 32. KGB Distributors MMMP Services, 1122 W Holmes Road
- 33. KIND Dispensary, 2201 E Michigan Ave.
- 34. KOLA, 1106 N Larch St.
- 35. Kush Café, 503 Mall Court
- 36. Lansing Green Mile, 3023 N. East St.

- 37. Lansing Tribute, 617 E. Miller Road,
- 38. Lansterdam, 1300 N. Larch St.
- 39. Meds. Ink, 106 W Mt. Hope Ave.
- 40. MedsPath, 1214 S Washington Ave.
- 41. Nature's Alternative, 2521 S. Washington Ave.
- 42. Old 27 Wellness, 2905 N. East St.
- 43. Pure Cannibis, 3711 W. Jolly Road
- 44. Quality Cannabis, 5735 S. Cedar St.
- 45. Shucky Farms, 6040 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

- 46. Star Buds, 2012 N. Larch St.
- 47. Superior Genetics, 1522 Turner St.
- 48. The Doghouse, 5812 S. Cedar St.
- 49. The Emerald City, 2200 S. Cedar St.
- 50. The Herbal Connection Medical Marijuana Provisioning Center, 4314 S Cedar St.
- 51. The Lansing Market, 918 Southland Ave.
- 52. Tree House, 1410 E. Kalamazoo St.
- 53. Tru Releaf, 4929 S. Cedar St.
- 54. Veterans Social Center, 114 S. Hayford Ave.

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 <p>Capital Wellness 1825 E. Michigan, Lansing (517) 708-7023 Hours: Mon-Thur: 11am-10pm; Fri & Sat: 11am-11pm; Sun: Noon-9pm</p>	<p>Visit Capital Wellness for Lansing's largest selection of medibles! We also have a huge selection of flower, concentrates and accessories. Check out our specials on Weedmaps and Leafly. Find us on Instagram at Capital_Wellness.</p>	 <p>Cedar Street MMMP 3205 S. Cedar St., Lansing (517) 708-0577 Hours: Mon-Fri: 8 am-11 pm Sat-Sun: 10 am-11 pm</p>	<p>Here at Kola, we have the highest quality, lab tested medibles obtainable. We strive to continually raise the bar, bettering the industry and community through excellent quality control, great service and education. You can expect an open, safe facility with professional, knowledgeable and friendly staff - stop by and let us show you what we have to offer.</p>
 <p>The Emerald City 2200 S. Cedar St., Lansing (517) 253-0397 Hours- Mon-Sat: 10 AM-11 PM Sun: Noon-7 PM</p>	<p>Emerald City is one of Lansing's oldest and fastest growing provision centers! We Strive to provide the most comfortable, professional and cleanest atmosphere to access medical marijuana in the state of Michigan. Our meds are the highest quality at the best possible prices we can provide. "City Pulse" to (313) 349-4700.</p>	 <p>Got Meds 3405 S. Cedar St, Lansing (517) 253-7468 Hours- Mon-Thurs: 9 a.m.-midnight Fri-Sat: 9 a.m.-2 a.m. Sun: 9 a.m.-10 p.m.</p>	<p>Got Meds is a donation-based organization committed to meeting its customers' needs. As a result, a high percentage of our business is from repeat customers and referrals. Our budtenders are knowledgeable and experienced, allowing us to deliver you the best services and products in a fun, relaxed atmosphere.</p>
 <p>CBD Gardens 6070 Martin Luther King Blvd., Lansing (517) 618-9544 Hours- Sun-Thu 9am - 10pm Fri-Sat 9am- midnight</p>	<p>Great Buds, Great Music, THC, CBD Edibles and more. Weed Love to see you.</p>	 <p>Kola 1106 N. Larch St., Lansing (517) 999-0994 Hours- Mon - Sat Noon-7pm Sun Noon-5pm</p>	<p>Our mission is to ensure the highest standards of client relations, make sure each patient feels comfortable, and informed. Come meet our friendly and knowledgeable staff for recommendations on our wide variety of flower, edibles, CBD products, concentrates, and more! Still need to get certified? Stop in and we'll help!</p>
 <p>Superior Genetics 1522 Turner St., Lansing Hours- Mon-Sat 10am-8pm Sunday 10am-5pm</p>	<p>Conveniently Located in the Old Town District in North Lansing. Just minutes from I496 and I69. We Offer ONLY Top Quality Medical Marijuana Strains, Medibles, and Alternative Medicines that are ALWAYS Lab tested. Check us out on the WEEDMAPS app, or stop in today! "Superior Genetics, A Natural Healing Collective."</p>	<p>Advertise your DISPENSARY Here!</p>	

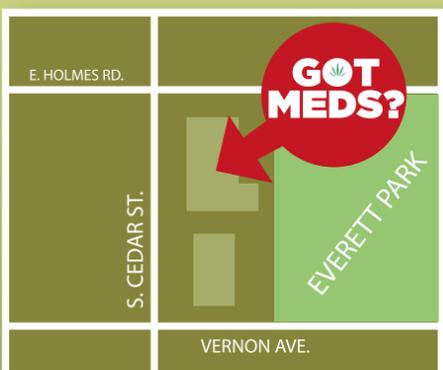
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Sexual Violence Doesn't Discriminate

by Lydia Weiss

Fear, misconceptions, misinformation and stereotypical assumptions are all part of why sexual assault and relationship violence are not often talked about as LGBTQ+ issues. However, a refusal to be open about sexual assault and relationship violence within the queer and transgender community can put us further at risk.

According to a document provided by the Michigan State University Safe

Place, research shows that the prevalence of intimate partner violence occurs at similar rates among the LGBT community as in heterosexual



Deanna

relationships. Although the rates of violence are similar, LGBTQ+ folks are often less likely to report instances of intimate partner violence than heterosexual folks. Deanna Hurlbert, Director of the MSU LGBT Resource Center, said some of the reasons for this could include: feeling like intervention services are not intended for the LGBTQ+ community, a lack of confidence that the police will treat them without bias if they make a report, and seeking help can be equated to "coming out" to the person/entity to whom they are reporting the incident.

Those same factors can also contribute to why our community fails to focus on these issues.

In our society, assault and violence are often positioned as women's issues, where (cis) men are perpetrators and (cis) women are victims. Adding men, same-sex couples, and transgender folks to the equation complicates the discussion. "There's a dirty laundry

element to it, too," said Hurlbert. "We don't want to make the queer community look any more pathological than it's already wrongly presumed to be." As a result, queer and transgender survivors are discouraged from speaking about their experiences and reporting incidents to service or protection agencies.

Transgender individuals experience additional barriers to reporting sexual assault and relationship violence. Due to bias, discrimination, and a lack of training, reporting to the police can increase risk of harm by being mishandled or experiencing additional violence within the system. In short, reporting can make matters a lot worse.

So what do we do? We need to demand that service providers train their first responders to appropriately respond to LGBTQ+ populations and have a working understanding of the multiple and intersecting identities therein. The good news is that the staff of the MSU Safe Place (a community relationship violence shelter) and the MSU Sexual Assault Program (including their community crisis hotline respondents) are trained to support LGBTQ+ survivors. And more and more police departments are similarly training their officers and special victims units.

But we also need to be realistic about the prevalence of sexual assault and relationship violence that befalls our community. We cannot ignore or further silence the experiences of survivors within our community. Most importantly, we need to support survivors. All survivors.

If you or someone you know is experiencing relationship violence or stalking, call the MSU Safe Place at 517-355-1100 or visit their website at safeplace.msu.edu. If you or someone you know requires sexual assault crisis intervention, call the Sexual Assault Program 24-hour crisis line at 517-372-6666.

Help is out there.

The Sound of Silence

by C.J. Starry

It has been a decade since I graduated high school. There are days when it seems like it was yesterday and days when it feels like it's been a lifetime. So much has changed in the world, and yet we also face some of the same issues that we did when I was still riding the bus and spending my evenings with my theater friends.

I wasn't a child who took much stock in social structure. I did not grasp the differentiation in sexes until my body began to develop. I didn't know what this meant for me.

In my teenage years, thoughts soon turned to romance. My best friend took me aside one day and confided that she had a crush on our other best friend — also a girl. In that instant, I realized two things: girls could like other girls (something I had never considered, even after kissing a girl in fourth grade) and I had a crush on my friend. Of course, I helped the two of them get together.

This was an awakening. I wasn't sure what it meant to be gay, and we weren't provided with the language and descriptors that are readily available and discussed today in many places. I read the one book with gay characters in our school library, cut my hair, and started attending our Gay

Straight Alliance (GSA).

More accurately, I started going to RISE meetings. We didn't have a GSA — supposedly because the school board would not allow it. Instead, we had a "more inclusive" club called Respect for Individuals in a Safe Environment. I was starting to accept myself. It wasn't smooth or easy, because I was outed before I was even sure of who I was.

Like most members of RISE, I hadn't made any official declaration of my identity, but people felt compelled to label me. A girl outside of RISE (who ended up coming out as a lesbian after high school) started the rumor that I was a "dyke," and it spread like wildfire. My friends would constantly say that I was a "gay man trapped in a woman's body," and, not realizing what I was saying, I would reply, "No, I'm a bi man trapped in a woman's body."

I wouldn't learn the word "transgender" until much later.

My theater director cast me as a man in our fall play, but I wouldn't learn about the gender spectrum until years later. At the time, it felt like everyone had an opinion about who I was, even before I had all of the details worked out for myself.

Meanwhile, I wrestled with the idea

See Silence, Page 26

DAY OF SILENCE
FRIDAY, APRIL 21

Silence

from page 25

that I was part of a community that wasn't accepted by society. I told my closest friends that I was attracted to women. I also told my mother, who was compassionate, but cautious. When I came out to my brother, he told me he'd guessed as soon as I had "gotten the Ellen DeGeneres political activist haircut."

I felt alone.

Hiding wasn't working very well. People I barely knew called me names. A senior in class threw a textbook at me before grabbing my wrist and holding a lighter to my sleeve, calling me a faggot. When my mother saw the bruises, she told the principal, who reprimanded the teacher for not watching his students. The result? My teacher failed me in a class I had previously been acing.

I had nothing left to lose. I decided to participate in the Day of Silence with other members of RISE. This was meant to include a day-long vow of silence to represent the silencing of LGBTQIA+ students. We got matching t-shirts, and during a brief morning announcement asked everyone to respect our decision not to speak.

In theater class, I requested my scene partners rehearse without me, but they protested, bringing the director over. He told me that I would be given a zero for participation if I did not break my silence. I cried, but I was afraid of the long-term consequences that might accompany standing by my morals. I broke the silence only for theater class — the one class I had previously felt safe in. It felt more like a punch in the gut than getting punched ever had.

One day of silence didn't end my experience with high school bullying. I didn't overcome my challenges in a single grand gesture. No one ever even offered me an apology — and yet I still feel victorious. I am here today in a world moving toward progress. I have found a wide spectrum of friends that understand and love me for who I am, and I have realized that the world is much broader than my close-minded high school in suburban Michigan. It did get better, but I understand why people lose hope. I can't count the numerous times that I did.

The Day of Silence exists because some of us never get to experience what I have been so fortunate to find. It is a way for those of us with the privilege to speak to use something just as powerful: silence. The silence speaks not only for those who have lost their voice permanently, but also for those who still cannot speak for themselves. For young people who struggle like I did, a gesture of solidarity can make all the difference.




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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 19

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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.

Growing Healthy Herbs. Presented by MSU Extension. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt.

Make Your Business Legal. Course on tax, liability, contracts and more. Call to register. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921.

Mindfulness. Meditation for beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Ave., 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.

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.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

MSU Creative Writing Center Group. Contact creativewritingwcmsu@gmail.com for more info. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

Stagetime of Lansing. Feat. the Ruple Brothers. 7-10:11 p.m. FREE. Sir Pizza Grand Cafe, 201 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

Swing Dance with MSU Jazz Orchestras. Part of the 37th Annual Jazz Spectacular. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/students and children FREE. Demonstration Hall, 229 Dem Hall Road, East Lansing.

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

EVENT

After School Action Program. Light meal, tutoring and activities. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Eastside Community

See Out on the Town, Page 29

Vinyl brings us together



Courtesy Photo
Heather Frarey moved her store, the Record Lounge, to REO Town earlier this month. The Record Lounge is one of several Greater Lansing stores participating in Record Store Day.

April 22

There is one day a year where Baby Boomer music lovers and Millennial hipsters come together: Record Store Day.

Record Store Day Greater Lansing locations Saturday, April 22

Flat Black & Circular
11 a.m.-6 p.m.
541 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
(517) 351-0838,
flatblackandcircular.com

The Record Lounge
11 a.m.-6 p.m.
1132 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
(517) 862-1976,
facebook.com/therecordlounge

Schuler's Books and Music — Eastwood
9 a.m.-10 p.m.
2820 Towne Center Blvd., Lansing
(517) 316-7495,
schulersbooks.com

Replay Entertainment Exchange
9 a.m.-9 p.m.
536 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
(517) 999-0346,
facebook.com/replayarmy

It's also a special day for local shops, as the quasi-holiday brings in diverse crowds looking to purchase special releases or other Record Store Day goodies. Dave Bernath, owner of East Lansing record store Flat, Black & Circular, said that it's the shop's busiest day of the year. "It's a good way to recognize independent mom and pop stores," Bernath said. "We've always had vinyl, and we'll continue to have vinyl until

whenever we close."

Started in April 2008, Record Store Day was created to support and celebrate artists, music stores and fans who still embrace vinyl records. It's become a significant day for small business owners across the U.S and has spread to countries around the world. It has even been declared an official holiday in several cities, including Los Angeles and New York. Many record labels send out special, limited edition records to sell on that day.

"People line up to come in buy stuff, which we can't sell until that morning," Bernath said. "The only way you can get it is to stand in line that day."

"It is a lot of detail and effort to put in," added Chris Baratono, who orders vinyl records for Schuler Books & Music. "As far as the product line goes, it really does help."

While sales of CDs have plummeted since the rise of iTunes and digital music, vinyl has actually seen growth in sales numbers.

"We got into the vinyl about

seven years ago, and vinyl stayed to the point where I had to start ordering vinyl for Grand Rapids," Baratono said.

This year's exclusive Record Store Day release range from reissues of Johnny Cash and the Ramones to special edition releases from Bastille and Justin Bieber.

"We get anything from 18-year-olds to 60-year-olds," Baratono said. "It's really been nice. It's a mixed crowd."

For small shops, of course, Record Store Day can be stressful. Record stores put up a lot of money to get the exclusive releases. Some cities, including Midwest cities like Lansing, may not get certain releases. But most stores are willing to put up with the stress for the financial boon.

"There's a lot of foot traffic that day and excitement; it's really fun," Baratono said.

"There should be a Record Store Day every month," Bernath said with a laugh. "Come in and experience it. If you're into music at all, you should be in here."

— Diamond Henry

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

MIKE VIAL RELEASES NEW ALBUM AT THE ROBIN THEATRE



THURS. APRIL 20TH

Mike Vial

Thursday, April 20 @ The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. \$15/\$10 adv., 7 p.m.

Michigan-folk troubadours Mike Vial and Jen Sygit share a double bill Thursday at the Robin Theatre. Vial is celebrating the release of his fourth disc, "A World That's Bigger." The album, inspired by the stripped-down production of Nick Drake's "Pink Moon" LP, was recorded in a Northern Michigan cabin in the spring of 2016 using minimal recording gear and three acoustic guitars. Vial, an Ann Arbor resident, said the album is a candid take on his work.

"We spent three days in a cabin in Indian River, and I recorded the entire thing live," Vial said. "After 150 takes, we took the best 10. No overdubs; no edits. It's just me sitting in a chair with my acoustic guitars, singing the songs I wrote about life, death and my family."

Over the past year, Vial has had plenty of real-life fodder for his songwriting. And it's documented on the new record.

"Last year, three days after my record came out, a car hit me as I was crossing the road to play at the Ark," he said. "Then three days after that, my wife leaned over me as I laid in bed and said, 'I'm pregnant.'"

"My head is still spinning," Vial added. "I'm lucky to still be here as a father and person who is still searching for the next song."

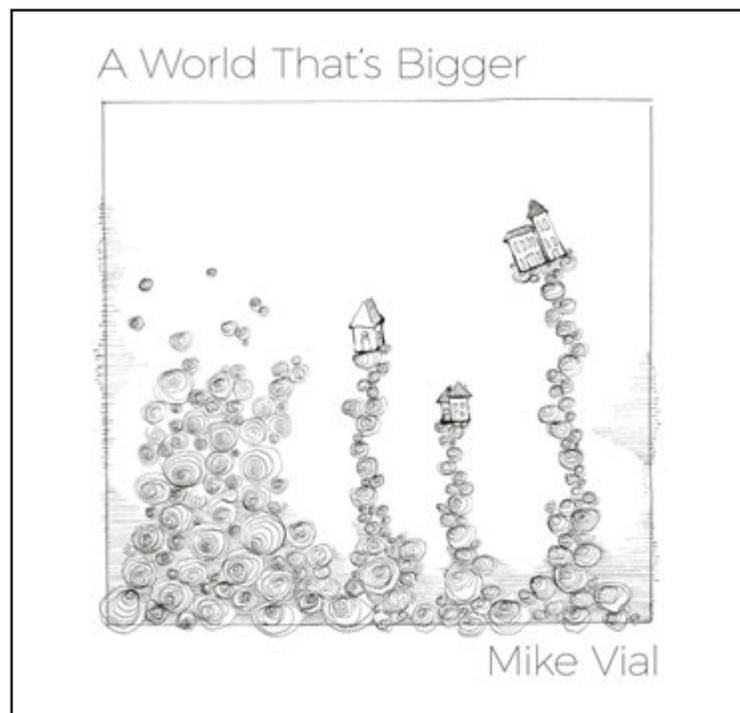
Vial's pop-laced Americana tunes also delve into the financial pressures that come with being a husband, new parent and first-time home owner. The title track celebrates the birth of his first child, but also addresses the accompanying anxieties.

"I looked up how expensive college will be for Ginny in 17 years, and it was half of the mortgage of the house," he said. "I had to write a song to calm my nerves."

Vial said his past records have been traditionally produced, but obtaining a natural flow was important for him this time around. He and his friend Mike Gentry engineered it to feel organic.

"In the past, I've always let producers convince me I had to do my records to click tracks and record all the parts separately," he said. "While I'm proud of my catalogue of releases, after doing three EPs and various singles and playing over 1,000 gigs, I finally had the courage to do this in a more authentic fashion that fits me."

"A World That's Bigger" is available for purchase or streaming at mikevial.bandcamp.com.



UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT ALLISON@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Serv Industry, 3 p.m.	4.20 Tribute, 9 p.m.	Luxury Flux, 7 p.m.	Stoopfest, 8 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.				Alistair, 9 p.m.
Buddies - Holt, 2040 N Aurelius Rd				
Buddies - Okemos, 1937 W Grand River Ave				
Classic Bar & Grill, 16219 Old US 27				
Champions, 2440 N. Cedar St.	Kyle's Open Mike Jams, 7:30 p.m.			
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.				
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Rd				
Darb's Tavern, 117 S Cedar St				
Eaton Rapids Craft Co., 204 N Main St.				
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.				
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.				
Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.				
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.				
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 E. Michigan Ave.				
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.,				
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.				
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Sloan, 9 p.m.	Calling Dr. Howard, 9 p.m.	Eastside Players, 9 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road				
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27			The New Rule, 7 p.m.	The New Rule, 7 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.				
Ryan's Roadhouse, 902 E State St.				
Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square				
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.				
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog & the Beef Tones, 9 p.m.	Samantha and the Cool Cats, 9 p.m.	Samantha and the Cool Cats, 9 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.				
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr.		Alex Mendenall, 6 pm	Dan MacLachlan, 6 pm	Comedy Showcase, 8 pm

Out on the town

from page 27

Action Center, 1001 Dakin St., Lansing.
Allen Farmers Market. Open year round and indoors through May 2017. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

BDS: From Libel to Label. Pulitzer Prize winning investigative journalist author Edwin Black presents. 7 p.m. Congregation Shaarey Zedek, 1924 Coolidge Road, East Lansing.

Call for Crafters. I.A.M.M. is looking for crafters for spring craft show. \$15 space/\$5 table/\$5 electrical access. Inner Ascended Masters Ministry, 5705 S. Washington Ave., Lansing.

Drop-in LEGO Club. Playing with LEGO collection. Ages 4 & up. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster, Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

Earth Day Storytime. Upcycle project and stories about environment. Ages up to 6. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

Practice Your English. Practice listening to and speaking English. All skill levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Preschool Storytime. Build early literacy skills. Ages 3-6. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Aurelius Branch, 1939 South Aurelius Road, Mason. (517) 628-3743.

Preschool Storytime. Build literacy skills. Ages 3-6. Call to register. 9:30-10 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster, Lansing. (517) 485-5185.

Science & Society, a Science Cafe. Exploration of the relationship between science and society. 6:30-9:30 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing.

Spring Fling Jingo. Play Jingo and win prizes with Miss Joye. All Ages. 3:15-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Leslie Branch, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400.

Teen After-School Program. For teens in 7th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Wii Games & Popcorn. After school. Ages 5 & up. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Dansville Branch, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511.

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 East Lansing.

Thursday, April 20

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 Road, Lansing. (517) 371-3010.

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

Celebrate Recovery. For all types of hurts and hang-ups. 6 p.m. Donations welcome. Trinity Church (Lansing), 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing.

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 5:45

APRIL 19-22 >>> MSU JAZZ SPECTACULAR

Starting tonight, MSU's jazz studies program offers a four-night feast of jazz music. The festivities start tonight with a swing dance concert at MSU's Demonstration Hall featuring MSU's student jazz orchestras. Then Thursday, MSU's jazz octets offer an evening of intimate performances in the Cook Recital Hall. On Saturday, Fairchild Theatre hosts an all-day high school jazz band festival that culminates in an evening of performances by MSU's Professors of Jazz and Jazz Orchestra 1, as well the band named Outstanding High School Band of the Day. Call or see website for times, locations and ticket prices. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu.

p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

Starting a Business. Workshop for aspiring entrepreneurs. Call to register. 6-7 p.m. FREE. MSUFCU Farm Lane Branch, 4825 E. Mt. Hope Road, East Lansing. (517) 483-1921.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Chipmunk Story Time: Happy Rain. Story and activities. April's lead story is Happy Rain. 10-11 a.m. \$3 child. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

MUSIC

MSU Faculty Recital: Ralph Votapek, piano. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE students and children. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

MSU Jazz Octet Concert. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE students and children. Cook Recital Hall, MSU Music Building, 333 West Circle Drive, 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.

Beal Botanical Garden Tour: Spring Ephemerals of the World. Led by assistant curator Peter Carrington. 12:10-12:50 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

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

Drop-in LEGO Club. Helps develop skills used for reading. 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.

Google Calendar 101. Learn Google Calendar. For Adults. Call to register. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Leslie Branch, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400.

Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club. All skill levels welcome. Lessons, practice, exercise and fun. 9:30-11:20 a.m. \$5 and yearly dues fee. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing.

Learn a Language. Pronunciator is a tool that helps you learn over 80 languages. Call to register. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Mason Branch, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088.

PFLAG monthly meeting. Support, educate and advocate for LGBTQ community. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900.

Play with Purpose. Play-based program for early literacy. Ages 3-6. 1-2 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Haslett Branch, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324.

Remembering Dansville. With local historian Kelen Gailey. For Adults. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Dansville Branch, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511.

Spanish Conversation Group. Practice listening to and speaking Spanish in a friendly setting. All skill levels are welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Spring Open House Speaker Series. For anyone interested in attending Western Michigan University. 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m. FREE. LCC University Center, 210 W. Shiawasse St., Lansing.

Teen After-School Program. Program is for teens in 7th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

The Relationship of Human Migration to Climate Change. Climate change's effect on human habitats. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing.

Friday, April 21

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Make Your Business Legal. Course on tax, liability, contracts and more. Call to register. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921.

Mud & Mug. Ages 21 and up. Get hands on some clay, and try the pottery wheel. 7-10 p.m. \$25. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643.

See Out on the Town, Page 30

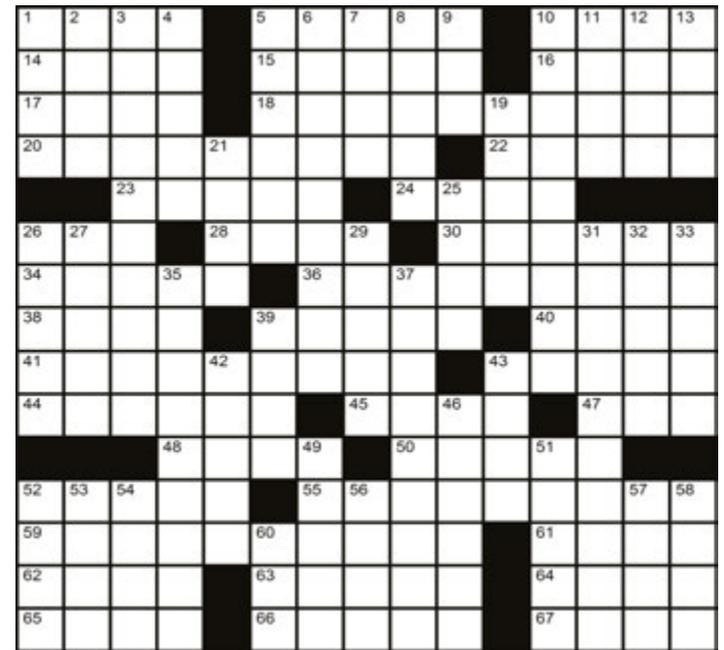
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Hm..."--I think it's stuck in the middle.
 Matt Jones

Across

- 1 "Listen up," long ago
- 5 Allude (to)
- 10 1/8 of a fluid ounce
- 14 Perennial succulent
- 15 "I'd Be Surprisingly Good For You" musical
- 16 Certain mortgage, informally
- 17 Extinct New Zealand birds
- 18 Current host of "Late Night"
- 20 Far from optimal
- 22 Basic PC environment
- 23 Like lycanthropes
- 24 JetE, for one
- 26 Grand Coulee or Aswan, e.g.
- 28 "Kilroy Was Here" rock group
- 30 Anthony of the Red Hot Chili Peppers
- 34 Go off to get hitched
- 36 Mr. Burns's word
- 38 This and that
- 39 Ceilings, informally
- 40 Past time
- 41 Emo band behind 2003's "The Saddest Song"
- 43 "Ad ___ per aspera"
- 44 They may use tomatoes or mangoes
- 45 "Am ___ Only One" (Dierks Bentley song)
- 47 Jan. 1, e.g.
- 48 Dwarf planet that dwarfs Pluto
- 50 ___ ipsum (faux-Latin phrase used as placeholder text)
- 52 Longtime "Saturday Night Live" announcer



- Don
- 55 Epiphany
- 59 "Way to botch that one"
- 61 Elevator innovator
- Elisha
- 62 In ___ (properly placed)
- 63 "___, With Love" (Lulu hit sung as an Obama sendoff on "SNL")
- 64 Golden goose finder
- 65 Trial run
- 66 Enclosures to eds.
- 67 Sorts

- 5 Vacation spot
- 6 Annually
- 7 Needs no tailoring
- 8 "I Love Lucy" neighbor
- 9 Zodiac creature
- 10 Times to use irrigation
- 11 Sax player's item
- 12 "The Mod Squad" coif
- 13 Battleship call
- 19 It may be sent in a blast
- 21 One way to crack
- 25 ___ out a living (just gets by)
- 26 IOUs
- 27 Hawaii hello
- 29 Il to the V power
- 31 Genre for Cannibal Corpse or Morbid Angel
- 32 Start
- 33 Great value

- 35 Ended gradually
- 37 "Oh, well!"
- 39 Actor Oka of "Heroes"
- 42 Deck for a fortune-teller
- 43 Prefix with space or plane
- 46 They clear the bases
- 49 Island with earth ovens called 'umus
- 51 Eggplant, e.g.
- 52 Sound from an exam cheater
- 53 Frenchman's female friend
- 54 Decomposes
- 56 "Bonanza" son
- 57 Kroll of "Kroll Show"
- 58 Admonishing sounds
- 60 Abbr. after Shaker or Cleveland

Down

- 1 "Mad Men" star Jon
- 2 1966 N.L. batting champ
- 3 Trap on the floor, slangily
- 4 "Tik Tok" singer

Out on the town

from page 29

LITERATURE AND POETRY

StoryTime. An interactive program with songs, stories and activities to lay the foundation to be great readers. Ages 2-5 years. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

Composetheway EP Release Show. Special guest Taylor Taylor. 7-9 p.m. \$10/\$8 adv. UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St., Lansing.

Insight Preview: Wayne Shorter Quartet. Discussion will take place in the Stoddard Lounge, upper tier of Cobb Great Hall. 7:15-7:45 p.m. Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982.

Music for the Village. Evening of jazz featuring Lansing's own Twyla Birdsong. 6:30-9 p.m. \$25. Cadillac Room, 1115 S. Washington Ave., Lansing.

THEATER

S'Moves Alive! 2017. Evening of dance, music and song entertainment. 7:30-8:45 p.m. Donations Accepted. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing.

EVENT

Books, Bites and Bids. 5:30-9 p.m. \$30/\$60 per couple or family donation suggested. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Campfire Science at Woldumar Nature Center. Campfire chemistry light show with Dr. Amy Pollock. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing.

Magic the Gathering Game Club. Eat pizza and play Magic. Ages 12-17. Call to register. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Mason Branch, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088.

Minecraft Game Night Using Library Computer. Play Minecraft. Ages 8-15. Call to register, ext. 3. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road Holt. (517) 694-9351.

Pasty Dinner at the Masonic Lodge. Dine in or take out. First come, first served. 5-7 p.m. \$9/\$6 Half Dinner. Masonic Lodge 179, 200 W. River Street, Grand Ledge. (517) 627-7257.

Phantom of the Universe. Presentation on dark matter. 8-9:30 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

APRIL 21- 22 >>> 'MEET ME IN ST. LOUIS' AT AUDIO AIR FORCE

Audio Air Force once again dips into the Golden Age of radio with "Meet Me in St. Louis," a musical hit from the 1940s. The vintage radio-style reading features live music, voice actors and sound effects. 7 p.m. Friday; 2 p.m. Saturday; \$10. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 881-9746, audioairforce.com.

APRIL 21-23, 28-30 >>> 'PINOCCHIO' AT RIVERWALK THEATRE

All-of-us Express brings the classic story of the marionette with the growing nose to the Riverwalk Theatre stage. In a production directed by Dale Williams, East Lansing's children's theater troupe follows the adventures of Pinocchio, a marionette who wants to become a real boy. Along the way, he must navigate the temptations of Pleasure Island and rescue his maker from a giant fish. 7 p.m. Friday; 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$7/\$5 children. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 >>> NIGHT AT THE MSU MUSEUM

The MSU Museum stays open late Saturday for an evening of educational fun exploring dinosaurs, icebergs and more. The Night at the MSU Museum, part of the ongoing MSU Science Festival, offers visitors an after-hours look at its exhibits, including a display of aquatic animal specimens from the museum's special collection. Visitors can also participate in a scavenger hunt jointly hosted by the Broad Art Museum. 5-8 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 355-2370, sciencefestival.msu.edu.

Police Storytime. Feat. local Mason Police Officer. Ages 2-5. Call to register. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Mason Branch, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088.

Spring Thrift/Rummage Sale. Come for household items, clothes/shoes and more. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-3139.

Teen After-School Program. Program is for teens in 7th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Saturday, April 22

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Bellydance Workshop. Comprehensive two-day workshop with the Habibi Dancers, plus public concert. 9 a.m.-10 p.m. \$15 concert. See web for workshop prices. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

MUSIC

MSU Jazz Spectacular Finale Concert. Part

of 37th Annual Jazz Spectacular Festival. 8 p.m. \$25/\$20 Senior Citizens/\$15 Students and Kids. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

THEATER

A Night at the Opera. Hour-long showcase of opera and operetta scenes. 8-9:30 p.m. FREE. Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing.

S'Moves Alive! 2017. Evening of dance, music and song entertainment. 7:30-8:45 p.m. Donations Accepted. Central United Methodist Church, 215 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing.

EVENT

Dinner Dance. Roast pork dinner and dance to Frankenmuth's Linda Lee. 5:30-11:30 p.m. \$10 dinner/\$4 kids dinner/\$6 dance/FREE kids dance. Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing.

Earth Day Extravaganza. Biggest volunteer workday of the year. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Fenner

Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

Family Special: Nature's Architects. Families perform in activities to learn. 2-3:30 p.m. \$7 a Family. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

FOHL 2017 Spring Used Book Sale. Collections of hardcover and paperback books, CDs and DVDs. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Haslett Library Building, 1590 Franklin Street, Haslett.

Friends of the Library Used Book Sale. Collections of hardcover and paperback books, CDs and DVDs. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Haslett Branch, 1590 Franklin St. Haslett. (517) 339-2324.

Impression 5 Science: LED Jewelry. Make wearable LED flair while supplies last. Ages 8-12. 2-3 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 South Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

Minecraft Free Play. Limit to first 15 to arrive. Grades 3 & up. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Okemos Branch, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

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

Spring Dragon Boat Open House. Email to register at be.robflanders@gmail.com. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Building Twentyone, 1288 N. Cedar St., Mason.

Spring Thrift/Rummage Sale. Come for household items, clothes/shoes, and more. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-3139.

ARTS

Michigan Puppet Collective Nature Brigade with March for Science. Don masks and puppets to represent Earth and her creatures. 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. FREE. Adado Riverfront Park, 531 N. Grand Ave., Lansing.

Sunday, April 23

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Bellydance Workshop. Comprehensive two-day workshop with the Habibi Dancers, plus public concert. 11 a.m. \$15 concert. See web for workshop prices. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

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

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

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

See Out on the Town, Page 31



Community Music School 

ALL SCHOOL RECITAL

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 3 P.M., CMS - FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY CMS STUDENTS

(517) 355-7661 or www.cms.msu.edu

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY *CMS is the outreach arm of the MSU College of Music* 4930 S. Hagadorn Rd. East Lansing, MI 48823

SUDOKU

INTERMEDIATE

TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 32

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

Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsy

April 18-25

ARIES (March 21-April 19): After George Washington was elected as the first President of the United States, he had to move from his home in Virginia to New York City, which at the time was the center of the American government. But there was a problem: He didn't have enough cash on hand to pay for his long-distance relocation, so he was forced to scrape up a loan. Fortunately, he was resourceful and persistent in doing so. The money arrived in time for him to attend his own inauguration. I urge you to be like Washington in the coming weeks, Aries. Do whatever's necessary to get the funds you need to finance your life's next chapter.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Fantasize about sipping pear nectar and listening to cello music and inhaling the aroma of musky amber and caressing velvet, cashmere, and silk. Imagine how it would feel to be healed by inspiring memories and sweet awakenings and shimmering delights and delicious epiphanies. I expect experiences like these to be extra available in the coming weeks. But they won't necessarily come to you freely and easily. You will have to expend effort to ensure they actually occur. So be alert for them. Seek them out. Track them down.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Contagion may work in your favor, but it could also undermine you. On the one hand, your enthusiasm is likely to ripple out and inspire people whose help you could use. On the other hand, you might be more sensitive than usual to the obnoxious vibes of manipulators. But now that I've revealed this useful tip, let's hope you will be able to maximize the positive kind of contagion and neutralize the negative. Here's one suggestion that may help: Visualize yourself to be surrounded by a golden force field that projects your good ideas far and wide even as it prevents the disagreeable stuff from leaking in.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A reader named Kris X sent me a rebuke. "You're not a guru or a shaman," he sneered. "Your horoscopes are too filled with the slippery stench of poetry to be useful for spiritual seekers." Here's my response: "Thank you, sir! I don't consider myself a guru or shaman, either. It's not my mission to be an all-knowing authority who hands down fool-proof advice. Rather, I'm an apprentice to the Muse of Curiosity. I like to wrestle with useful, beautiful paradoxes. My goal is to be a joyful rebel stirring up benevolent trouble, to be a cheerleader for the creative imagination." So now I ask you, my fellow Cancerian: How do you avoid getting trapped in molds that people pressure you to fit inside? Are you skilled at being yourself even if that's different from what's expected of you? What are the soulful roles you choose to embody despite the fact that almost no one understands them? Now is a good time to meditate on these matters.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): In the coming weeks, there will be helpers whose actions will nudge you -- sometimes inadvertently -- toward a higher level of professionalism. You will find it natural to wield more power and you will be more effective in offering your unique gifts. Now maybe you imagine you have already been performing at the peak of your ability, but I bet you will discover -- with a mix of alarm and excitement -- that you can become even more excellent. Be greater, Leo! Do better! Live stronger! (P.S.: As you ascend to this new level of competence, I advise you to be humbly aware of your weaknesses and immaturities. As your clout rises, you can't afford to indulge in self-delusions.)

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): I love to see you Virgos flirt with the uncharted and the uncanny and the indescribable. I get thrills and chills whenever I watch your fine mind trying to make sense of the fabulous and the foreign and the unfathomable. What other sign can cozy up to exotic wonders and explore forbidden zones with as much no-nonsense pragmatism as you? If anyone can capture greased lightning in a bottle or get a hold of magic beans that actually work, you can.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A friend told me about

a trick used by his grandmother, a farmer. When her brooding hens stopped laying eggs, she would put them in pillowcases that she then hung from a clothesline in a stiff breeze. After the hens got blown around for a while, she returned them to their cozy digs. The experience didn't hurt them, and she swore it put them back on track with their egg-laying. I'm not comfortable with this strategy. It's too extreme for an animal-lover like myself. (And I'm glad I don't have to deal with recalcitrant hens.) But maybe it's an apt metaphor or poetic prod for your use right now. What could you do to stimulate your own creative production?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Now would be an excellent time to add deft new nuances to the ways you kiss, lick, hug, snuggle, caress, and fondle. Is there a worthy adventurer who will help you experiment with these activities? If not, use your pillow, your own body, a realistic life-size robot, or your imagination. This exercise will be a good warm-up for your other assignment, which is to upgrade your intimacy skills. How might you do that? Hone and refine your abilities to get close to people. Listen deeper, collaborate stronger, compromise smarter, and give more. Do you have any other ideas?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): "If I had nine hours to chop down a tree, I'd spend the first six sharpening my ax," said Abraham Lincoln, one of America's most productive presidents. I know you Sagittarians are more renowned for your bold, improvisational actions than your careful planning and strategic preparation, but I think the coming weeks will be a time when you can and should adopt Lincoln's approach. The readier you are, the freer you'll be to apply your skills effectively and wield your power precisely.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Zoologists say that cannibalizing offspring is common in the animal kingdom, even among species that care tenderly for their young. So when critters eat their kids, it's definitely "natural." But I trust that in the coming weeks, you won't devour your own children. Nor, I hope, will you engage in any behavior that metaphorically resembles such an act. I suspect that you may be at a low ebb in your relationship with some creation or handiwork or influence that you generated out of love. But please don't abolish it, dissolve it, or abandon it. Just the opposite, in fact: Intensify your efforts to nurture it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your astrological house of communication will be the scene of substantial clamor and ruckus in the coming weeks. A bit of the hubbub will be flashy but empty. But much of it should be pretty interesting, and some of it will even be useful. To get the best possible results, be patient and objective rather than jumpy and reactive. Try to find the deep codes buried inside the mixed messages. Discern the hidden meanings lurking within the tall tales and reckless gossip. If you can deal calmly with the turbulent flow, you will give your social circle a valuable gift.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The best oracular advice you'll get in the coming days probably won't arise from your dreams or an astrological reading or a session with a psychic, but rather by way of seemingly random signals, like an overheard conversation or a sign on the side of a bus or a scrap of paper you find lying on the ground. And I bet the most useful relationship guidance you receive won't be from an expert, but maybe from a blog you stumble upon or a barista at a café or one of your old journal entries. Be alert for other ways this theme is operating, as well. The usual sources may not have useful info about their specialties. Your assignment is to gather up accidental inspiration and unlikely teachings.

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 >>> 'STAR WARS AND BEYOND' AT LANSING SYMPHONY

It's not a trap! It's just an evening full of music by one of Hollywood's most celebrated composers. Guest conductor Stuart Chafetz hops in the pilot seat to steer the Lansing Symphony Orchestra through a tour of John Williams' famous film scores, including themes from "Star Wars," "Superman," "Harry Potter" and more. 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$20. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 487-5001, lansingsymphony.org.

APRIL 22-23 >>> 'TARAB: A DANCER'S JOURNEY' WITH HABIBI DANCERS

Dancers from across the Midwest will converge at the Hannah Community Center this weekend for a weekend of belly dance performances and workshops. Lansing's own Habibi Dancers team up with special guests Beata and Horatio Cifuentes for "Tarab: A Dancer's Journey." The two-day event offers workshops like "Shake Up Your Shimmies" and "Sensuous Moves," as well as a Saturday night performance that is open to the community. See website for workshop registration and other details. Concert: 8 p.m. Saturday. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbott Road, East Lansing. (517) 645-7664, habibidancers.org.

SUNDAY, APRIL 23 >>> MICHIGAN ANTIQUARIAN BOOK AND PAPER SHOW

The Midwest's largest book and paper show returns to the Lansing Center Sunday, offering a plethora of interesting items for serious book collectors and casual historians. The Michigan Antiquarian Book and Paper show offers over 70 exhibitors with thousands of first edition books, rare comics, vintage postcards and collectable stamps. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. \$5/children FREE. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 332-0112, curiousbooks.com.

Out on the town

from page 30

3700 Old Lansing Road, Lansing.

MUSIC

Concert in the Cafe: Cliff Gracey. Original songs and covers from artists like James Taylor. 2 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Mountain Town Brass Band Concert. Brass ensemble in British brass band tradition. 7-8:30 p.m. Donations Welcome. Wilson Center Auditorium, 101 W. Cass St., St. Johns.

EVENT

Interracial Marriage: The Loving Story (documentary) and the Sanford Experience. Watch award winning film. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing, 5509 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 351-4081.

Joyce Bartels Memorial Solar Project Dedication. Open to public. Questions answered about "going solar." 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. FREE. Haslett Community Church, 1427 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 339-8383.

Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance. 6 p.m. \$8 dance/\$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 321-0933.

MMMP Patient Fundraiser for MILEgalize. Help get marijuana legalization up for vote in 2018. 3-6 p.m. \$20. The Lansing Market, 918 Southland Ave., Lansing. (517) 894-8172.

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.

Phantom of the Universe. Presentation on dark matter. 4-5:30 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams Planetarium, 755

Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.
South Asian Women's Association (SAWA) Annual Fundraiser. Nonprofit organization working with Southern Asian families in need. 4-6 p.m. \$20 suggested donation. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

ARTS

Putting the A in STEAM, a Science Cafe. Exploration of the intersection of art and science. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Dublin Square, 327 Abbott Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2222.

Monday, April 24 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

See Out on the Town, Page 32



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**Emily, Peter,
Jesse, Jordan**

Out on the town

from page 31

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.

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 4: Watercolor. For ages 14 and up. 6:45-7:45 p.m. \$40. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St., Jackson. (517) 784-2389.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

BabyTime. First experience for babies and their caregivers with rhymes and finger plays. Ages 0-2 years with Adult. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Graphic Novel Writing Club. Bring some of own supplies. Ages 12 and up. 4-6 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Harry Potter - Blackout Poetry. Ages 8 and up. Register at elpl.org. 6-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Out of This World Book Club. 1632 by Eric Flint. 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

MSU Musique 21: "Surface Tension?" In conjunction with last year's "Water Moves MSU." 7:30 p.m. FREE. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340.

New Horizons Community Band. Learn to play 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.

Chess, Cribbage, Hand & Foot. Weekly activities

SUNDAY, APRIL 23 >>> SHAKESPEARE IN THE CEMETERY

Lansing-area actors celebrate the 453rd anniversary of the Bard's birth with an unconventional performance of his best known work. City Pulse's Todd Heywood directs the final scenes of "Romeo and Juliet" in Fratcher Memorial Garden in the historic Mt. Hope Cemetery. The production, which benefits the Friends of Lansing's Historic Cemeteries, features a cast of local actors, including Sally Hecksel and Heath Sartorius in the lead roles. 3 p.m. FREE, donations encouraged. Mount Hope Cemetery, 1800 E. Mt. Hope Ave, Lansing.

SUNDAY, APRIL 23 >>> COMEDY COVEN PRESENTS : GOODRICH GEVAART

Lansing's very own comedy witches host Los Angeles-based comedian Goodrich Gevaart for a night of standup comedy. Gevaart, who got his start in the Chicago comedy scene, is a contributing writer for the Hard Times and founded Chicago's Comedy Exposition standup festival. He's also worked with comedians like Kumail Nanjiani, Kyle Kinane, Chris Gethard, Rhea Butcher and Kurt Braunohler. The ladies of the Comedy Coven — Emily Syrja, Stephanie Onderchanin and Tricia Chamberlain — are also slated to perform. 8 p.m. \$10. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. comedycoven.com.

at the Center. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos.

French Club. Practice listening to and speaking French. All skill levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE.

East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

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

Monday Movie Matinee: Moonlight. Moonlight, Rated R. For Adults. Popcorn while supplies last. 1 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Social Bridge. Play Bridge and meet new people. No partner needed. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing.

Tuesday, April 25

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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.

Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale Lansing. 555-555-5555.

Money Smart Week: Adult Financial Education. Learn budgeting and saving for retirement. 3-4 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Start Your Creative Business with Etsy. Course on using craft-selling website. Call to

register. 10-11:30 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Sq. Suite 110 Lansing. 517-483-1921.

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.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

ToddlerTime. Active storytime designed to build pre-reading skills in toddlers. Ages 18-36 months with adult. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

MUSIC

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

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. Check Facebook page to see who's playing. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. <http://ow.ly/sagD30aUsqU>. (517) 485-5287.

MSU Symphony Band Concert. John T. Madden, conductor. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 Senior Citizens/FREE Students and Kids. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing.

Turntable Tuesday - DJ's Choice. Get there early for DJ Trivia at 7pm with Stephen Hammes. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$5 18+/No cover 21 and up. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 482-6376.

EVENT

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

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

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

Overeaters Anonymous. Struggling with food? Overeaters Anonymous offers hope. 7 p.m. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 349-9536.

Wednesday, April 26

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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.

Mindfulness. Meditation for beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Ave., 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.

Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?

Info about inheritance and transfer of personal possessions. 6-8 p.m. FREE. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey Road, DeWitt.

Writing a Business Plan: Your Roadmap to Success. Course for aspiring entrepreneurs. Call to register. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Charlotte City Hall, 111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. 517-483-1921

MUSIC

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

EVENT

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

Allen Farmers Market. Open year round and indoors through May. 3-6:30 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

Night of a Thousand Donuts. Free donuts, coffee, juice, and healthy snacks for students. 8-10 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Practice Your English. Practice listening to and speaking English. All skill levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Teen After-School Program. Program is for teens in 7th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

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.

Teen Movie: Dead Poets Society. Rated PG. Popcorn while it lasts. 3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 29

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SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 30

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SPIRAL DANCE BAR / THE TIM BARRON GROUP AT RE/MAX

Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

After 19 years, iconic Old Town nightclub Spiral Video & Dance Bar is up for sale. The owner is asking \$375,000 for the business but hopes to retain ownership of the building.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Spiral Dance Bar — Metro Lansing's longest-running nightclub and its most prominent LGBT-friendly business — is up for sale. Last week, the 19-year-old bar/performance venue in Old Town was listed with the commercial real estate firm **NAI Mid-Michigan/TMN Commercial** for \$375,000.

"I hope (whomever) buys it decides to keep it going as Spiral, but there's a chance they could go in a different direction," said Tom Donall, who owns the building, the property and the business. "Either way, it's had a good run and proved that Lansing is a welcoming community. There were a lot of good times there."

Since it opened in 1998, Spiral has been a hub for Lansing's gay community. Donall, who is also an artist, designed the interior. With its brushed steel bar, hand-crafted furniture, red velvet curtains and landscaped patio — complete with fire pit — it has served as a popular venue for parties surrounding local and statewide gay rights celebrations. It's also served as a melting pot for gays and straights alike looking for a place to dance and commune.

"We've hosted guest DJs from around the world, and we've also given some of Lansing's up-and-coming DJs their first opportunity," Donall said. "(General manager) Sammy (Courtney) has been doing a great job running it, but right now my priority is focusing on the Palace."

Ten years ago, Donall moved to Miami, and shortly afterward bought the Palace, an iconic South Beach gay bar. He still owns several buildings around Lansing, including the Old Town homes of **Pablo's Panaderia**, 311 E. Grand River Ave., and

the Grid, 226 E. Grand River Ave., as well as **Blue Night Hookah Lounge**, 224 S. Washington Square in downtown Lansing. He also has houses in Lansing and in Northern Michigan.

Spiral's \$375,000 price includes business operations, equipment and liquor license, with the new tenant being responsible for all taxes, insurance and maintenance on the 4,870-square-foot building and 0.375-acre property. Donall said he hopes to maintain ownership of the building but would consider selling it.

"My life is in Miami now, but Michigan will always be home for me, too," Donall said. "I'm proud of what Spiral has become to local culture. Lansing needs a place like Spiral, but if someone's going to turn it into something else, I'll have to be OK with that. It's become a part of Lansing's history."

Barron to the MAX

If you're hunting for a home in the tri-county area sometime soon and the listing agent who answers the phone sounds like he should be on radio, there's a chance he already is. Earlier this month, longtime local DJ Tim Barron joined the sales team at Lansing's **RE/MAX Real Estate Professionals** office.

"I've been involved in real estate for years, but I've considered a move (to selling professionally) for a few years now," Barron said. "Radio's good, not great. And this move allows me to do something with the rest of my day."

After spending 40 years in commercial radio, Barron left antennae-based stations in 2015 to launch his own Internet-only station, Tim Barron's Radio Michigan (timbarronsradiomichigan.com). He hosts the station's live weekday talk show from 7

to 10 a.m. and plays a blend of classic rock and news updates throughout the day. He also maintains an active role in multiple

charity groups around town and serves as emcee for many high-profile Lansing events, including the Greater Lansing Balloon Festival, which benefits the Lansing Promise. It was at this event last year that Barron met the RE/MAX team.

"Everyone's seen the RE/MAX balloon, so I just struck up a conversation with them," Barron said. "I had no idea where it would lead. Life is funny."

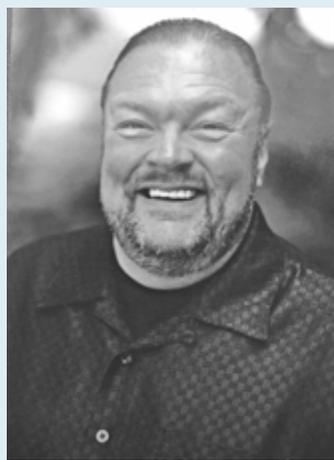
Barron said he started the real estate agent licensing process in November and recently passed his final exam. He said he chose RE/MAX because of its national and international presence, allowing him to work with Michigan buyers and sellers who may be looking at out-of-state moves.

"The best thing about (being licensed) is being able to help people find a home that's a perfect fit for them," Barron said. "And RE/MAX is a well-respected company that will give me a lot of ability to do that. I'm really looking forward to taking on this new role."

"Tim Barron joining our firm is a fantastic opportunity for both of us," said Bob Plesscher, broker/owner of the RE/MAX west Lansing office, via Facebook. "I've followed Tim's career for years and feel like I've known him forever. His genuinely warm and engaging personality, desire to help his clients, tremendous work ethic and real world knowledge will no doubt benefit all those that will be working with Tim in his real estate career."

The Tim Barron Group will serve both buyers and sellers of residential and commercial real estate. Barron can be reached at timbarron@remax.net.

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



Barron

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 BREAKFAST

#1 GOLDEN HARVEST

Legendary Old Town diner known for loud music, off-kilter decor and creative breakfast offerings
1625 Turner St., Lansing.
(517) 485-3663
7 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

#2 SOUP SPOON CAFE

City Pulse readers love Soup Spoon's breakfast options, soups and sandwiches
1419 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 316-2377
soupspooncafe.com
7 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday; 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday

#3 FLEETWOOD DINER

Twenty-four hour diner famous for its Hippy Hash
2211 S. Cedar St., Lansing.
(517) 267-7606
thefleetwooddiner.com
Open 24 hours Sunday-Thursday; 6 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday

#4 CREOLE COFFEE CO.

Sister-restaurant to The Creole that specializes in breakfast, lunch and Sunday brunch.
1216 Turner St., Lansing
(517) 371-1361
thecreolelansing.com/creole-coffee-co
8 a.m.-2 p.m. daily

#5 GOOD TRUCKIN' DINER

REO Town diner known for its breakfast omelets and burritos and specialty burgers
1107 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
(517) 253-7961
7 a.m.-2 p.m. daily.



HE ATE

SHE ATE



Lula's Cookhouse worth the trip to Owosso

A worthy tribute to New Orleans

By **MARK NIXON**

Road trips are food for the soul. And with any luck, there's good food waiting for you at the trail's end.

Do your soul and stomach a great favor: Hop in the car and drive 40 minutes northeast of Lansing to Lula's Louisiana Cookhouse. But you'd better make reservations, because this snug restaurant in downtown Owosso fills up fast.

Gumbo, fisherman's stew, shrimp po'boy, red beans and rice — Lula's has Cajun/Creole flavors down to an art, leaving me wistful about another road trip I took years ago to rural Louisiana.

In the course of two visits to Lula's, we tasted nearly a dozen appetizers, entrées and sides, as well as one dessert. Rather than pile on too many superlatives, let's settle on one: outstanding.

A must for meat lovers is the charcuterie sampler. It's one of the most expensive dishes on the menu (\$17.99) but worth it. The platter had generous portions of house-smoked pork belly, beef brisket, ham, turkey and duck rillettes, as well as two sausage staples of Cajun Country, Andouille and boudin. This is simply the best charcuterie I have ever tasted.

Next up was the fisherman's stew (\$7.99). Many restaurants cheat on seafood-based soups and chowders, adding tasteless thickener until you're left with a gooey glop the consistency of Elmer's Glue. But not Lula's. The broth is the crown

prince of this dish, thin but steeped with flavors of the sea. I found chunks of crawfish, shrimp, calamari and lightly breaded oysters swimming in the tomato-enhanced broth. Perfection in a bowl.

Portions at Lula's are generous, none more so than an order of fried chicken (\$15.99). Expect to wait about 20 minutes for the chicken, because Lula's doesn't prep or fry it ahead of time. It's

worth the wait. At least a half-chicken landed on our table, delicious and not overly battered like fried chicken from a fast food restaurant. Half of the half-chicken went home in a takeout box, and it was just as tasty warmed up the next day.

I was dubious about Judy's choice for an appetizer, fried avocado (\$6.99). I like avocado in all of its simple, raw glory. Well, I was wrong. The avocado chunks were lightly coated and fried, almost like an ultra-thin tempura, allowing the nutty flavor of avocado to prevail.

Our second road trip to Lula's was for Sunday brunch, where we shared various dishes with our friends, Bruce and Jan. The gumbo (\$11.99) with Andouille could hold its own with gumbos I've had

Lula's Louisiana Cookhouse

11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday; closed Monday
113 S. Washington St., Owosso
(989) 720-5852,
lulascookhouse.com

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Chicken from heaven

By **GABRIELLE LAWRENCE**

Let us start today by singing the praises of Lula's Cookhouse's fried chicken (\$15.99). The breading is light and, dare I say, buttery. The skin crackles and crunches as you bite into it, and juices run down your chin. The meat is rich and moist — even more so when you drag your morsel through the dish of bacon cream gravy

on the side of your plate. You don't need a bucket of this chicken, because you know that this chicken is meant to be an occasional indulgence. It feels like something special.

We drove to Lula's twice for dinner, and we were glad that we made a reservation both times. Nestled in the heart of downtown Owosso, about 40 minutes from our Moores Park Neighborhood home, Lula's is down the street from what has to be one of the world's last free-standing J.C. Penney stores and an outstanding coffee shop, Foster Coffee Co. On the drive there, we scoured the menu, trying to be prepared with our orders when we arrived. It was never a question for me — I was going for the fried chicken.

We were joined on this trip by our friends Aaron and Emily. With a group of

four, we were able to try several different appetizers. My advice? Lula's should lose most of the appetizer selections and focus on the outstanding entrées. The fries in the Cajun poutine (\$12.99) became soggy almost immediately under the weight of the waxy sauce. The fried avocado (\$6.99), on the other hand, were dry and would have benefitted from a sauce. The calamari (\$9.99) was the best of the three we tried, but it didn't have any of the distinctive flair that oozes out of every Lula's entrée.

Aaron chose the shrimp Curwood (\$17.99). Named after Curwood Castle, a historical building in Owosso, the dish features jumbo shrimp doused in a slightly spicy cream sauce and topped with a heavy-handed sprinkling of bacon. While the menu claims that the creamy shrimp sit atop a throne of grits, we found what appeared to be polenta underneath. Still tasty, to be sure, but it made me wonder if Lula's is trying to avoid seeming too elitist. (Remember when President Obama said he liked arugula and was branded as an elitist? What I wouldn't give for the days when our president lamenting the price of arugula at Whole Foods was the most bombastic news to come out of the White House.)

Emily also chose the fried chicken and shared my enthusiasm. Of the two sides I chose to accompany my platter of four pieces of chicken from heaven, the bacon cabbage was the best. The cabbage was coated with a generous helping of rich-tasting bacon fat but still retained its snap. The red beans and rice were, sadly, forgettable.

On our return visit, we started with the chieffricken (\$8.99) — essentially boneless, bite-sized pieces of fried chicken doused in a mildly spicy sauce. The chicken was flavorful, but based on the entrée, I'd expected something a little better. Again, appetizers isn't where Lula's shines. I chose the Spanish fisherman's stew (\$11.99), a big, steaming bowl of hearty, seafood-studded soup in a rich tomato-based broth. The chopped celery of varying size told me that it was chopped fresh, and the stem end of a tomato that I found floating in the broth confirmed my suspicion that the tomatoes were not from a can but were *gasp* actual tomatoes. So many restaurants use canned tomato products, and the metallic tinge left behind is always disappointing.

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He Ate

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Gabrielle Lawrence/City Pulse

Lula's Cookhouse's signature fried chicken features four large pieces of chicken served with bacon cream gravy, bread and two Cajun-inspired sides.

in New Orleans. The biscuits with sausage gravy (\$7.99) was, said Jan, "the best I've ever tasted." I agreed.

Judy's shrimp po'boy (\$12.99) was packed with shrimp fried in a corn meal batter with a slather of lightly spicy remoulade. Side dishes of red beans and rice and maque choux, a sweet corn and onion medley akin to succotash, are great accompaniments to any entrée. All were excellent, though Judy noted that a sturdier bread, such as a baguette, would have been a nice upgrade for the po'boy.

During brunch, three in our party of four ordered bloody marys (\$8 each). The drink had a distinct dill flavor and was not overly spicy. Smiles and appreciative nods all around.

We indulged in a shared dessert, bread pudding (\$5.99). The smiles and nods gave way to a chorus of "wows." The pudding's sweet, whiskey-based sauce married perfectly with cinnamon-spiced apples. In last

month's review of Gracie's Contemporary Bistro, I raved about the bistro's bread pudding. Lula's is better.

It's a bit quirky to think of Owosso as a haven for Louisiana cooking. We were curious and asked our server, Brittany, how Lula's came to be. She explained that the owners had traveled to Louisiana several years ago and were smitten by Cajun/Creole cuisine.

I think it's fair to say they are smitten with the whole culture of New Orleans and even the surrounding cities and villages of Cajun Country. Lula's walls are a paean to the region. There are portraits of jazz artists, out-sized Mardi Gras beads and what appears to be homemade Zydeco instruments.

Something else stands out. On the south wall is the "Wall of Flame," a long row of brightly-colored bottles of hot sauce. These aren't just baubles. If you see a sauce you like, grab the bottle and douse your food with the fiery stuff.

The one complaint I have about Lula's is more a lament. It's almost an hour's drive from our Eaton Rapids home. Road trips are fun, but it's also nice to have a dining destination closer to home. Maybe the owners will consider opening a Lula's II a little closer to Lansing.

She Ate

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Gabrielle Lawrence/City Pulse

Lula's hearty fisherman's stew features shrimp, crawfish, calamari, fish and Andouille sausage floating in a tomato-based broth and topped with popcorn crawfish "croutons."

The chunks of shrimp, crawfish, and white fish had me slurping up this stew, and I forked rings of calamari into my smiling face. The only flaw was the popcorn shrimp "croutons," which were tough and didn't add much to the flavor.

Mr. She Ate chose the shrimp po'boy, one of his absolute favorite sandwiches. The French roll was toasted and thick enough to stand up to the generous handfuls of flash-fried shrimp, which were layered on top of crisp lettuce and slathered with a tangy remoulade sauce. The accompanying fries were well seasoned, salty and crisp.

On both visits, we finished our meals with a plate of beignets. Here, I must make a confession: I've never been to New Orleans, and my exposure to beignets has been limited. But I can report that Lula's beignets were fat, hot and doughy oversized doughnut holes of varying size — clearly made in-house — and they melted in my

mouth. The quick-fry method left the outside just crispy enough to satisfy my insane need for texture, and the heavy dusting of powdered sugar almost sent me to J.C. Penney to pick up a new pair of Arizona jeans. (It would still have been worth it.) There were plenty of Michigan beers and wines on the menu, and my companions were happily buzzed enough to not notice when I snagged the final beignet, smiling like the cat who ate the delicious canary.

What we liked best about Lula's was, of course, the food. But what made the experience even more pleasant was that Lula's employees just seemed so nice. They smile at you when you come in and as they escort you to your table. They operate as a well-oiled machine, with one group of servers taking orders and another running food to tables as soon as it is ready, so your food doesn't spend time congealing under a heat lamp. The restaurant is small, but everything has a place, including the hundreds of hot sauce bottles lining one wall. These employees aren't too cool for you, and they won't sneer if you ask for your burger to be cooked to medium. Yes, it's a drive. Make the trip.

Margarita — Cancun Mexican Grill

A citrus fruit called "laraha" was one of its ingredients. And the more I drank, the more I began to "ha-ha."

The classic Mexican margarita served at Cancun Mexican Grill in Grand Ledge includes Curaçao — a liqueur made with laraha grown on the island of Curaçao — as well as triple sec, an orange-flavored liqueur. These



Cancun Mexican Grill Grand Ledge

11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-10:45 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Saturday; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday
300 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge
(517) 627-6157, cancungl.com

extras added spikes of taste and alcohol. Since the margarita also contained a generous amount of tequila, it was no wonder I found it so easy to giggle.

Margaritas served in Mexico are usually generous with the al-

cohol and light on lime mix, and in this way, Cancun's version feels authentic. That wasn't a surprise, since the restaurant emphasizes a south-of-the-border authenticity with its food and its colorful "hecho en Mexico" chairs and tables.

The flavorful Margarita comes standard with Sauza tequila, a reliable brand, but a wide range of top-shelf tequilas is also available upon request. (I opted for 1800.) The drink comes in four sizes — regular, jumbo, monster and pitcher — and there are also mango, peach and strawberry variations.

Of course, anyone sampling any size should employ a designated driver. I knew after one easy-to-drink jumbo Cancun margarita it was best for me to avoid operating any machinery heavier than an electric toothbrush.

— David Winkelstern



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NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Carolyn Goddard, died 3/28/16. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Robert Van Wormer, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo, Lansing, MI 48933, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

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CP#17-112

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON THE CITY OF LANSING'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET

The City Council of the City of Lansing will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, April 24, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers on the 10th Floor of Lansing City Hall located at 124 W. Michigan Ave., on the proposed City of Lansing budget and capital improvements. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.**

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

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

CHRIS SWOPE, LANSING CITY CLERK

CP#17-113

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