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March 28 - April 3, 2018

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See
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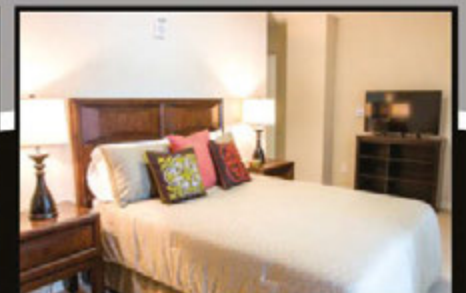
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CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED STATE AND FEDERAL APPLICATIONS FOR OPERATING AND CAPITAL ASSISTANCE AND PUBLIC HEARING

CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY ("CATA") has prepared applications requesting State of Michigan ("State") financial assistance for Fiscal Year 2019 from the State Comprehensive Transportation Fund under Act 51 of the Public Acts of 1951, as amended, and for federal transit assistance ("FTA") under federal laws, as follows:

State Operating Assistance	\$16,655,000
FTA/State (20%) Urban Capital Program (Section 5307)	\$ 8,063,611
State Specialized Services	\$ 40,000
FTA Rural Operating Assistance (Section 5311)	\$ 300,000
FTA/State (20%) Bus and Bus Facilities (Section 5339)	\$ 863,893
FTA/State (20%) Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality	\$ 78,277
FTA/State (20% capital) Enhanced Mobility (Section 5310)	\$ 434,086
TOTAL	\$26,434,867

Operating and capital funds listed above include both urban and rural funds. Capital projects to be funded include: Purchase large and small buses; purchase paratransit vehicles for transporting customers; preventive maintenance; technology systems; planning; maintenance equipment; bus replacement parts; safety and security system; customer enhancements; and facility improvements.

CATA ensures that the level and quality of transportation service is provided without regard to race, color, or national origin in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For more information regarding our Title VI obligations or to file a complaint please contact our Deputy CEO at the address given below.

Additional details on the proposed applications are on file at CATA, 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, and may be reviewed during a 30-day period (March 25, 2018 – April 23, 2018), Monday - Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Written comments on the proposed applications and/or written requests for a public hearing to review the application must be received by 5 p.m. on April 23, 2018. If a hearing is requested, notice of the scheduled date, time, and location will be provided at least 10 days in advance.

Submittals should be sent to: CAPITAL AREA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, FY 2019 Grant Application, Attn: Grants Department, 4615 Tranter Street, Lansing, MI 48910.

CP#18-070

CityPULSE

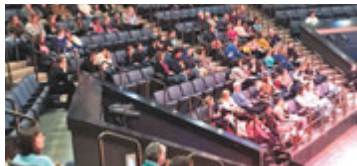
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Hemingway in Michigan on film



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Wharton Center brings in sensory shows



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Kingston Kitchen serves up Jamaican eats



**Cover
Art**

By Jonathan Griffith

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or email citypulse@lansingcitypulse.com
CLASSIFIEDS: (517) 999-6704

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER • Berl Schwartz
publisher@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5061

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR • Skyler Ashley
skyler@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5068

EVENTS EDITOR • Ella Kramer
ella@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-6704

PRODUCTION MANAGER • Abby Kelly
production@lansingcitypulse.com
(517) 999-5066

STAFF WRITERS • Lawrence Cosentino
lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com
Todd Heywood
todd@lansingcitypulse.com

SALES EXECUTIVE
Lee Purdy • lee@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5064

Contributors: Andy Balaskovitz, Justin Bilicki, Daniel E. Bollman, Capital News Service, Bill Castanier, Mary C. Cusack, Tom Helma, Gabrielle Lawrence Johnson, Eve Kucharski, Terry Link, Andy McGlashen, Kyle Melinn, Mark Nixon, Shawn Parker, Stefanie Pohl, Dennis Preston, Allan I. Ross, Dylan Tarr, Rich Tupica, Ute Von Der Heyden, David Winkelstern, Paul Wozniak

Interns: Kelly Sheridan, Shruti Saripalli, Sherry Min-Wang

Distribution manager: Paul Shore • (517) 999-5061

Delivery drivers: Frank Estrada, Dave Fisher, Jack Sova, Richard Simpson, Thomas Scott Jr.

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Now you have two ways to sound off:

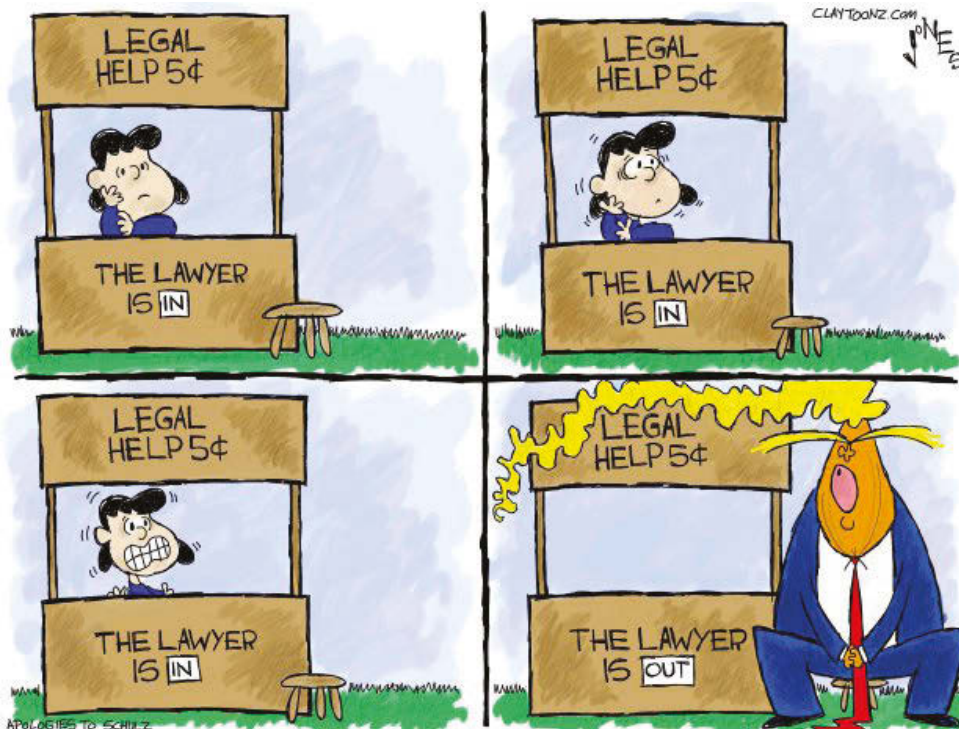
1.) Write a letter to the editor:

• E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com • Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912

• Fax: (517) 371-5800 At lansingcitypulse.com

2.) Write a guest column: Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com

or (517) 999-5061 (Please include your name, address and telephone number so we can reach you. Keep letters to 250 words or fewer. City Pulse reserves the right to edit letters and columns.)



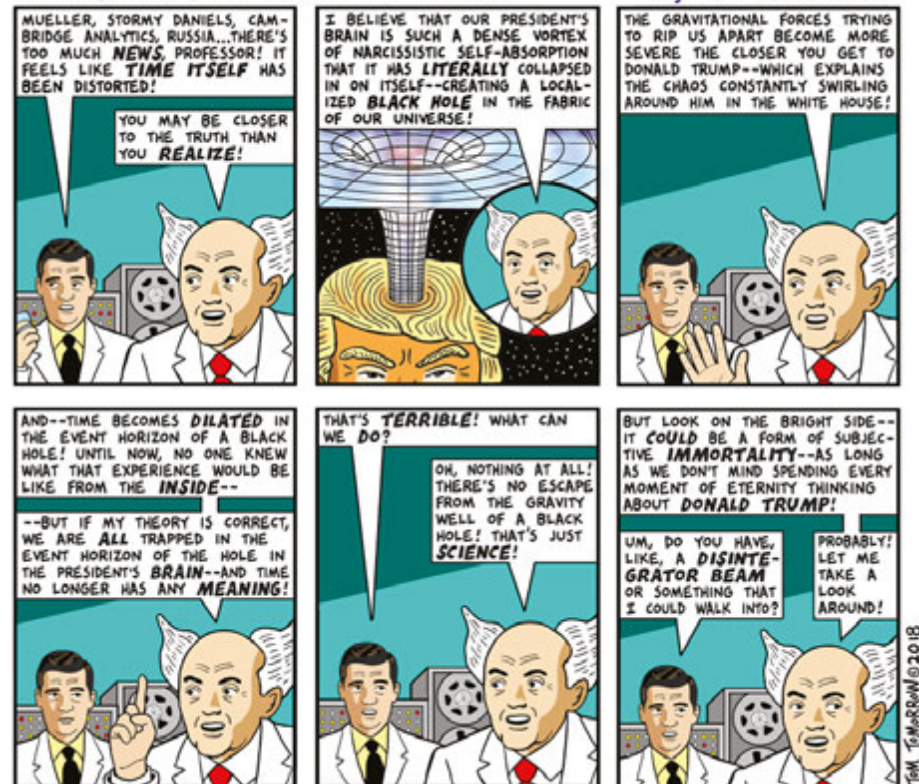
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



'Thinly veiled' payoff?

Deal with Nassar victim may violate state law, Meridian clerk alleges

A \$30,000 no-bid contract to a victim of Larry Nassar is under attack in Meridian Township by Clerk Brett Dreyfus and experts in the field of sexual assault prevention and education. But Township Manager Frank Walsh is defending what experts have characterized as a "sketchy" deal by accusing those questioning the contract as "re-victimizing the victim."

Dreyfus raised concerns about the contract during the board's March 20 board meeting. He is questioning if the contract with Brianna Randall-Gray, who reported her victimization by Nassar to township police in 2004, is a legal expenditure under state law.

"I want to ensure the community has a qualified consultant to deliver a training program that is effective," Dreyfus said by phone. "And that we follow state law on our expenditures. I also want to make sure we follow our own internal policies."

Dreyfus called the contract a "thinly veiled payout to the sexual assault victim."

"We shouldn't be doing backroom deals that the manager feels personally great about," Dreyfus said, referring to Walsh.

Walsh bristled at that implication. "She's not asked for a dime."

At issue is a state law that limits how townships in Michigan can expend money. The law limits expenditures related to domestic or sexual violence to "any private, nonprofit corporation or organization." The board approved the no-bid contract with Randall-Gray as an individual.

That contract would pay Randall-Gray \$30,000 to "assist in developing and implementing a community-wide sexual assault program."

Walsh played down the legal concerns in a combative interview Monday afternoon.

"We're in a good place on this," he said.

But asked if he had asked township lawyers to review the state law and provide a legal opinion, he said he had not. He also said that he had not personally read the law. He then pivoted to accuse those who might question the process of making Randall-Gray a victim again.

"If somebody wants to challenge us, they can," he said. "It's too bad that through this whole thing she is, I feel like, Brianna is

being made out to be the victim again."

Dreyfus slammed back on that allegation.

"It's really twisted logic to accuse someone of re-victimizing Brianna when that person is trying to comply with state law and township policies and serving in the role of the fiduciary responsibility," said the clerk.

And he's following that responsibility by seeking an outside legal opinion. He said he would meet with Ingham County Prosecutor Carol Siemon on Tuesday to discuss avenues to "investigate" his



Dreyfus



Meridian Township Manager Frank Walsh apologizes to Brianna Randall-Gray for the failure of Meridian Township Police to fully investigate her 2004 criminal sexual conduct complaint against Larry Nassar. Walsh is now under fire for a no-bid contract given to Randall-Gray to develop a sexual assault program in the township.

legal questions.

Siemon did not return calls seeking comment.

Tashmica Torok, who runs the local Firecracker Foundation, which does sexual assault and abuse education programming, said the policy and process questions were legitimate. "I don't think that is re-victimizing someone," she said. She will meet with township officials next week at their request. They hope to get her agency on board with Randall-Gray's program.

As the executive director of the National

Coalition Against Violent Athletes, Katherine Redmond has spent 25 years educating pro- and college-level athletes about sexual assault. She angrily dismissed Walsh's claims the questions being asked made Randall-Gray a victim again.

"It's not re-victimizing," Redmond said. "It has nothing to do with the victim and her claims. Of course, she was believed by those of us who understand sexual assault from the beginning, while others did not take her claims seriously and did not act. The issue here is the process and ensuring that the right people with the knowledge of sexual assault are

Ormond settlement?

City Council wants to settle lawsuit brought by park neighbors

A controversy over a neighborhood park that has roiled an eastside neighborhood for nearly a year could be coming to an end. The Lansing City Council in a closed session Monday night cleared the path for the city to begin negotiations for a settlement with the Friends of Ormond Park, according to sources.

The organization sued last year in an attempt to block the construction of a road through the 8-acre park at a cost of \$385,000 to create a new entry way to Groesbeck Golf Course. The suit maintained the drive threatened the unique physical features of the area, namely a section of an esker. Doing so, it argued, violated Michigan environmental law.

In October, Ingham County Circuit Judge James Jamo lifted the temporary restraining order after determining that allowing construction to proceed would not be an irreparable harm to the park. The city has largely finished the road project.

The Council had rejected the project, but former Mayor Virg Bernero successfully vetoed the override.

Peter Wood, a leader in Friends of Ormond Park, said Tuesday morning the group was "encouraged by the spirit of cooperation" that talk of a settlement brought to the table.

"But of course we have no response until we have heard the particulars of what that settlement would look like," he wrote in an email. "We remain concerned about the impact of the road on the enjoyment of and use of the esker, on the values of neighborhood homes, and the loss of play space for children. We remain committed to the protection of democratic process and the preservation of park land."

Meanwhile, Mayor Andy Schor said he has offered to return the play equipment to the park that was removed during road construction. Schor expressed his opposition to the road during his campaign last year. He said he will meet with neighbors to determine where best to restore the equipment.

But Schor said removing the road and restoring the park is not in the cards because of the expense, which he estimated at \$500,000 or more.

—TODD HEYWOOD

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A crowd gathers at the Capitol steps for the Constitutional Enforcement rally.



A 2nd Amendment supporter debates with a March For Our Lives participant.

Photos by Theresa Rosado

A DAY ON THE CAPITOL LAWN — On Saturday, two opposing groups met at the State Capitol of Michigan lawn. March For Our Lives met to call for stricter gun enforcement laws, drawing nearly 3,000 people. Later in the day the Constitutional Enforcement for 2nd Amendment Rights gathered, drawing about 60 people. Some speakers mentioned one thing they agreed upon the need for expanded mental health services in our communities.



Militia members decorate the Trump Bridge float at the Constitutional Enforcement rally.



A dad and his son pledge allegiance at the Constitutional Enforcement rally.



A father carries his son toward the Capitol steps at the March For Our Lives rally



Shown right, a mom and son gather at the March For Our Lives Rally.



March For Our Lives crowd at the Capitol.

Not going away

Dispensary owners doubling down in anti-ordinance fight

A group of medical marijuana activists is launching a second front in its effort to derail Lansing's new ordinance.

They are at work on mounting a drive to place separate issues on the ballot. One would seek to repeal the ordinance and the other would attempt to replace it with new language.

Meanwhile, the group, known as Let Lansing Vote, is continuing its lawsuit against

Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope over his rejection of its petitions for a ballot initiative. That called for the City Council to rescind the ordinance it passed last year capping dispensaries at 25 or allow voters to approve or reject it. Ingham County Circuit Judge James Jamo has ruled against a motion by the city to dismiss the suit. The city plans to appeal the ruling to the state Court of Appeals.

In an interview Tuesday with City Pulse that will be available later this week on its website, Mayor Andy Schor said the city will not settle. "A lawsuit against the city to get a legislative decision to change — to me that's not a settlement you can make," he said.

"If they win" the suit, Schor said, "we will

have have no marijuana ordinance whatsoever. We will have to shut everyone down."

Asked why, he said, "I'm not interested in breaking the law."

Reminded that his predecessor, Virg Bernero, allowed dispensaries to operate illegally, Schor said, "That was before there was a state law." A state law took effect last year regulating dispensaries.

But they were still illegal before that because of court rulings, yet Bernero allowed them to stay open in Lansing, Schor was told.

"You'd have to ask him" why he did so, Schor said.

One of the leaders of Let Lansing Vote, Jarren Osmar, and City Councilwoman

Kathie Dunbar are on the same wavelength on how the group should approach repealing and replacing the ordinance as two separate efforts. Let Lansing Vote has drafted the repeal language and a second group has submitted replacement language to the City Clerk's Office for preliminary consideration.

Dunbar, who voted for the ordinance when it passed in September 2017, said it was commendable to see recent college graduates and younger residents fighting for their cause.

"A group of young people have made it their mission to take on the system, and they're not

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Meridian

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no expectations would make it sketchy," said Redmond, who has provided training to pro and college athletes for the last 25 years.

Throughout the interview, Walsh referred to Randall-Gray as "our" victim, noting that organizations such as Firecracker Foundation weren't.

In February, as hundreds of women lined up to testify about the harm Nassar did to their lives through his assaults, township officials held a press conference to acknowledge they had failed Randall-Gray. A tearful Walsh stood before local and national media and apologized.

She brought a complaint against Nassar to Meridian Township in 2004, but Nassar was able to convince an investigator that he had performed a legitimate medical procedure and the case was closed.

While Randall-Gray has not shown any intent to sue the township, Walsh said officials recognized they had an opportunity to learn from the mistake and pro-

vide community-wide education about sexual assault and prevention. Within that context, Walsh said, Randall-Gray, who lives in Washington state and is a physician's assistant, expressed interest in leading the process.

Walsh said Monday she had not provided the township with a resume or curriculum vitae, and only on Sunday, days after the contract was signed, did she provide a one-page summary of some of her plans. The one-page project description has a vaguely worded assurance that she will create an educational program, but it has no clear deliverables, noted Dreyfus.

"We don't know exactly what this will look like until it's done," Walsh said. "But that's the deliverable."

When questioned whether he was aware of any other no-bid contracts for tens of thousands of dollars that provided no deliverable measures of timelines, he said he could not think of one off the top of his head.

On top of questions about the legality of the contract under state law, there are also questions about whether internal spending policies were followed. Dreyfus said the township requires bids for any

contract over \$5,000, but Walsh said there was no bid.

"If we did a bid it would be for someone who was a Nassar victim who had interactions with our department," he said. "I can't think of anyone else who fits that description."

Despite local services like the Firecracker Foundation, Walsh said he wasn't interested in working with them specifically. "We wanted to work with Brianna," he said. "That's it. We have a very good working relationship with her."

He said he can't assure taxpayers that Randall-Gray may replicate already available services. "We just don't know what it will be yet, just that it will be specific to our township and our schools," he said.

Dreyfus is also questioning whether it was legal for the township to foot the bill to fly Randall-Gray to Michigan to testify against Nassar. The township paid about \$1,300 for that flight.

"It was the right thing to do," Walsh said about the flight expense in a previous inter-

view with City Pulse.

As clerk, state law requires Dreyfus to oversee the issuance of payments and township accounting.

He said a decision to pay to have Randall-Gray fly in from Washington to testify against Nassar was "a nice gesture, but an illegal expenditure." State law requires that expenditures result in the township receiving goods or services equal to or in excess of the amount of taxpayer money spent.

-TODD HEYWOOD

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
INGHAM COUNTY**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
DECEDENT'S ESTATES**

File No. 18-000287-DE-P33

Estate of Bernice Pakkala,
deceased (D.O.B. 02/26/1926)

TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

The decedent, Bernice M. Pakkala, died 12/31/ 2017.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Ann Gilmore, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 313 W. Kalamazoo St. Lansing MI 48933, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of the publication of this notice.

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Ann Gilmore
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Lansing MI 48917

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

VALLEY COURT PARK SCULPTURE

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

Proposals will be received by the City of East Lansing up to **5:00 PM, Tuesday, April 10, 2018** from qualified artists interested in creating a commissioned work of public art for installation in Valley Court Park, 300 Valley Court, East Lansing, MI 48823. Proposals may be mailed or hand delivered to the Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation, at 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, MI, 48823, or emailed to the attention of Wendy Wilmers Longpre at wlongpr@cityofeastlansing.com.

The Request for Proposals may be electronically obtained by contacting the Wendy Wilmers Longpre at 517-319-6940 or wlongpr@cityofeastlansing.com.

Michigan artists are strongly encouraged to apply and local artists will be given priority consideration.

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: Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#18-066

City of Lansing
Notice of Public Hearing

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on April 23, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, MI, for the purpose stated below:

To afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing and other interested persons to appear and be heard on the application of Tecomet, Inc. for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate (IFT-01-18) pursuant to Public Act 198 of 1974, as amended, as requested by the applicant for the location indicated below:

Applicant: Tecomet, Inc.
By: Daren Dodson
IFT Location: 5858 Enterprise Drive, Lansing, MI

Legally described as:

LOT 16 EXC COM SW COR LOT 16, TH S 89DEG 35MIN 10SCD E 118.66 FT ON S LINE LOT 16, N 24DEG 03MIN 40SCD W 376.87 FT, S 65DEG 56MIN 20SCD W 108 FT, S 24DEG 03MIN 40SCD E 327.71 FT TO BEG; MIDWAY INDUSTRIAL CENTER.

Approval of IFT-01-18 as requested by Tecomet, Inc. will make certain new property investment (real property) eligible for tax abatements and/or exemptions. Further information regarding this application may be obtained from Mr. Karl Dorshimer, Lansing Economic Area Partnership, 1000 South Washington Ave., Ste. 201, Lansing, Michigan, 48910, (517) 702-3387.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on 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, MMC/CMMC
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#18-067

Dispensaries

from page 7

losing,” Dunbar said.

Osmar said the new effort was motivated by concern over the city’s appeal of Jamo’s ruling.

“If they were to win, then city clerks across the state could throw away signatures at their discretion,” Osmar said. “Ballot petition signatures, initiatives, referendums, and anyone trying to run for office could get all of their signatures thrown away.”

Swope rejected petitions because, the city alleges, two circulators incorrectly filled out residency information about themselves, not because they lacked sufficient valid signatures. Without those two circulators’ petitions, Let Lansing Vote lacked just 45 valid signatures.

The two sides will be in court next week over a motion by the city to prevent Swope from being deposed.

Appearing before the Council on Monday, Osmar told Swope he “would be deposed.”

“They have to defend that and explain why a public official shouldn’t be allowed to be questioned,” Osmar said in an interview. “Our primary question is why did [Swope] invalidate

the petitions.”

The group’s attorney, Bob Baldori, said the city was wasting taxpayers’ money on the appeal.

“They didn’t even do it in-house,” Baldori said. “They hired an expensive law firm in Detroit to appeal something that is frivolous.” The firm is Plunkett Cooney of Bloomfield Hills.

While the court fight goes on, the City Clerk’s Office continues to consider applications for dispensaries, grow operations and related businesses.

City officials say the city has spent hundreds of hours evaluating the applications, which they say justifies the \$5,000 fee per application.

City Attorney Jim Smiertka said that in the process of drafting the ordinance, the city “grossly underestimated” the true cost of implementing it.

The city attorney said that 25 percent of his staff has been occupied by work around the medical marijuana ordinance, answering questions from lobbyists and applicants and working with Lansing police to take action against operations that have been denied licenses.

“The amount of work that we’re going through right now? Boxes and boxes of insurance policies and performance [reviews] and the enormous amount of questions we’ve been getting from applicants,” Smiertka said.

Schor said Tuesday that his proposed budget, which was submitted to the Council on

Monday, includes one new position in the clerk’s office to handle applications and two more premise inspectors.

At even Smiertka’s original estimate of \$6,000, given the 148 license applications the city received as of March 27, the city would be facing an \$888,000 tab for the licensing process. Add in the maximum fee that the consulting firm IFC can charge for its assistance and the costs rapidly approach a cool \$1 million.

This compares to the \$740,000 the city has collected from those applicants. Lansing will only be able to pocket as much as \$577,500, because rejected applicants will see half their application fee returned.

Smiertka said that the regular costs of doing business could not warrant a fee, so all of his estimates are for the added responsibilities the city will face under the licensing

ordinance.

“We’re not talking about just the general costs of government — that’s how you distinguish what’s a valid fee supporting different expenses,” Smiertka said. “If there are activities that are directly related to the application, that’s the difference.”

That has to be the case, as a 1999 Michigan Supreme Court ruling against the city placed limits on what can be called a fee before it actually becomes a tax, which requires voter approval.

Smiertka said that he was “totally aware of the law” that said fees could not be used to generate revenue, as expected — he was the city’s attorney in that Supreme Court case.

— MAXWELL EVANS and BERL SCHWARTZ

Down the drain

Dispensaries sue Lansing over license denials

Five local dispensaries are suing the city of Lansing after they were denied licenses last week. The city claims the five businesses’ disposal plans for excess marijuana didn’t meet the standards of state rules, said Joshua Covert, who is an attorney representing the businesses.

Got Meds, Green Mile, Emerald City, Dank House and Cedar Leaf are among 18 businesses that Lansing City Clerk Chris Swope has denied licenses to in recent weeks. The five businesses are suing in Ingham County Circuit Court.

Swope said the 18 were denied due to building code and sanitation-related issues.

As a result of the denial, City Attorney Jim Smiertka determined that the businesses had to cease operations immediately under emergency state licensing rules. They were served with a cease and desist orders on March 19.

“We immediately filed for a temporary restraining order against the city after that happened,” said Covert. “We are still waiting on a decision on that request.”

The case was assigned to Ingham County Circuit Judge James Jamo, who is also hearing the suit by a differ-

ent group of dispensary owners against Swope for invalidating petitions to repeal the city’s new medical marijuana ordinance or place it on the ballot.

Covert said state regulations related to medical marijuana disposal are not as clear as they should be. “It’s like the state cut some corners here,” he said. That is resulting in differing legal opinions about what the disposal protocols and processes must look like.

“The city should have a wind-down time,” said Covert, “so businesses have an opportunity to advise their patients on where to get their medicine, as well as to sell off their product. There is not currently a legal way to transfer it anywhere else.”


Because of the closures, the businesses are suffering economic harm, Covert said

Smiertka noted that the businesses still have appeals available to them under the ordinance. The first appeal would go to an independent outside reviewer. If that decision is unfavorable to the business, then the decisions are appealed to the city’s Medical Marijuana Commission. If that body upholds the license rejection, it is considered final.

“We will be filing appeals,” said Covert. “But under the ordinance the decision is not final until it’s heard by the commission.”

— TODD HEYWOOD

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CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 9, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend Chapter 1426 by adding Section 1426.07- Fire and Smoke Damper Inspection Program.

For more information, please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., on 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](mailto:city.clerk@lansingmi.gov).

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#18-069

CITY OF LANSING SUMMARY OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE # 1221

Lansing City Council adopted an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan to amend Chapter 656.05 of the Lansing Codified Ordinances by providing for the times City Parks are closed.

Effective date: Upon publication

Notice: The full text of this Ordinance is available for review at the City Clerk’s Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan. A copy of the full text of this Ordinance may be obtained from the City Clerk’s Office, 9th Floor, City Hall, Lansing, Michigan at a fee determined by City Council.

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#18-068

TOP OF THE TOWN 2018

PRESENTED BY

CityPULSE AND **FOX 47 NEWS** YES!

It's time again for Lansing to hit the polls and for local businesses to claim their spots at the Top of the Town. The first round of voting for the 11th annual Top of the Town awards, presented by City Pulse and Fox 47, begins now! And a big hello from 55 Savushkina Street in lovely St. Petersburg, Russia! No hacking here, just fraternal greetings from one superpower to another! And now back to our introduction.

Voting is open at www.lansingcitypulse.com

There have been a lot of changes since we began this contest in 2008. Many businesses have come and gone, including our inaugural big winner, Bonnie's Place. And for the first time since 2005, we have a new Lansing mayor in Andy Schor, replacing Virg Bernero, who was known to win both Best Politician and Worst Politician in the same year.

Our staff has changed and the entire country is going through a tumultuous time. Some people have even expressed the fear that Russians will exploit this year's vote to sow chaos and discord among the citizens of Lansing. Ha, ha, what a ridiculous notion! The Golden Harvest sucks! But seriously, comrades, what hasn't changed is our desire to let you know which of Lansing's businesses, institutions and public figures are the best of the best.

THE RULES

Top of the Town is broken up into two

rounds. In the first round, which runs now through April 17, you can write in your own choices or choose people, places and businesses that have already been submitted.

Once the first round of voting concludes, the top five finalists of each category move onto the second round, which runs from May 16 to May 29. City Pulse will announce the winners in our June 20 issue. Ballots will be counted on the aircraft carrier Ronald Reagan, in a secure offshore location.

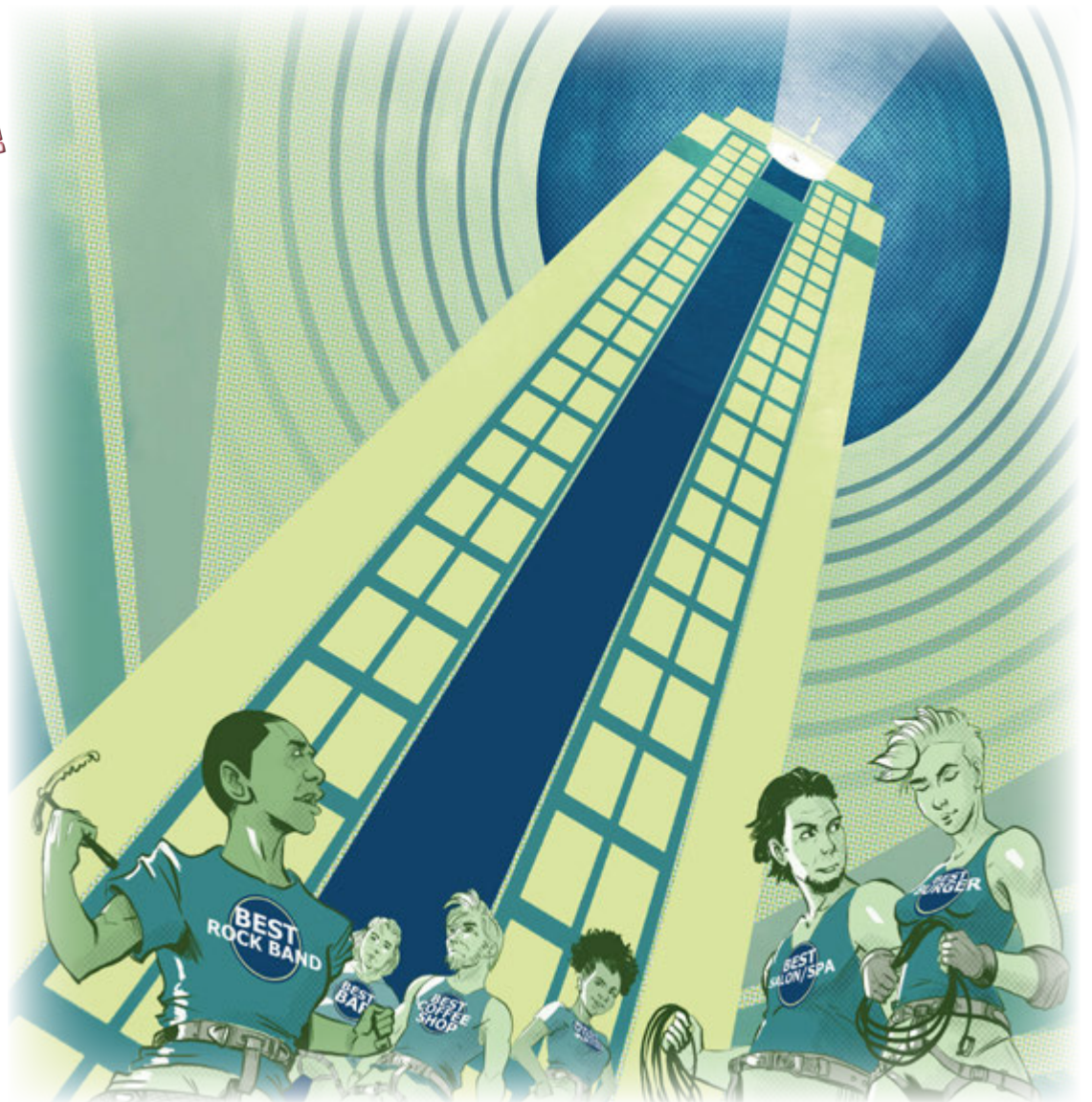
There are eight main categories and 151 subcategories. You must vote in at least 15 subcategories to have your votes count. You may spread your 15 votes through multiple main categories. You can only submit one entry per email address, so don't hit that submit button until you've voted in all the categories you wanted to. If you don't want to submit your vote digitally, you can bring or mail a paper list with your picks to the City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing 48912.

Note the new categories this year: Best Place for Bear Meat, Favorite Kremlin

Tower (hoorah, Nabatnaya!), Best Phishing Hole, Best Place to get a Tattoo of Vladimir Putin, Best Borscht Booth and Best Orifice for Hiding a Thumb Drive Containing Kompromat on Donald Trump.

IMPORTANT: If the business you are

nominating has more than one location, be sure to indicate as specifically as possible which location, such as "Cedar Street" or "West Lansing." In categories like Best Bartender or Best Hairstylist, be sure to list both the person and the business he or she works.





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TOP OF THE TOWN 2018 CATEGORIES

BEST BAR **NEW!**

- Dance
- Gay/Lesbian
- Happy Hour
- Karaoke
- Lansing Area Brewery
- Lansing Area Distillery
- Neighborhood Bar **NEW!**
- Open Mic **NEW!**
- Pub/Tavern
- Spartan Sports Hangout
- Sports Bar

BEST DINING

- Asian Buffet
- Bakery
- BBQ
- Breakfast
- Brunch
- Burger
- Chinese
- Cocktails
- Dessert

- Diner
- Family Friendly
- Fast Food **NEW!**
- Fish Fry
- Food Truck **NEW!**
- Fries
- Greek
- Ice Cream Shop
- Italian
- Kids-Eat-Free **NEW!**
- Late Night Food
- Margarita
- Mediterranean
- Mexican
- Nachos **NEW!**
- New Restaurant
- Patio **NEW!**
- Pizza
- Restaurant Beer List **NEW!**
- Restaurant Wine List
- Reuben **NEW!**
- Salad/Salad Bar **NEW!**
- Sandwich/Deli

- Seafood
- Steak
- Sushi
- Tacos **NEW!**
- Thai
- Upscale Dining
- Vegetarian/Vegan/
Gluten Free
- Wings **NEW!**

BEST HANGOUTS

- Biggby (specific address required)
- Bowling Alley **NEW!**
- Coffee Shop (non-Biggby)
- Comedy Night **NEW!**
- For Students
- Movie Theater
- Place of Worship **NEW!**
- Place to Take Kids
- Public Park **NEW!**
- Smoke Shop/Hookah Lounge **NEW!**

See Categories, Page 12



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Monday–Saturday: 10:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Sunday: Noon–5:00 p.m.

CATEGORIES

from page 10

BEST LOCAL ARTS

- Cover Band
- Classical Musician
- Club DJ
- Country
- Folk Band/Artist
- Hip-Hop Band/Artist
- Jazz Group/Musician
- Punk/Metal **NEW!**
- Radio Station
- Rock Band/Artist
- Local Theater Group

BEST PEOPLE

- Advocate/Activist
- Bartender
- Budtender
- CATA Bus Driver
- Event/Wedding DJ
- Food Delivery Person **NEW!**
- Hairstylist (and salon)
- High School Coach (and location)
- High School Athlete **NEW!** (and location)
- Massage Therapist (and office)
- Personal Trainer (and gym)

- Realtor (and office)
- Restaurant Waitstaff (and restaurant)
- TV News personality (and station)
- Best Local/State Politician
- Worst Local/State Politician

BEST SERVICES

- Accountant/CPA **NEW!**
- Auto Repair
- Bank
- Bed and Breakfast
- Bicycle Shop
- Cab Company

See Categories, Page 13



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 CORNER OF CEDAR & HOLMES

CATEGORIES

from page 12

- Car Wash/Detailing
- Caterer/Catering Company
- Cleaning Service
- Chiropractor
- Credit Union
- Dance Studio
- Dry Cleaner
- Electrical
- Food Delivery Service **NEW!**
(not individual)
- Gym/Fitness Studio
(address if chain)
- Heating/Cooling/Plumbing
- Law Firm/Lawyer
- Marijuana Dispensary
- Massage Company **NEW!**
(not individual)
- Music Lessons **NEW!**
- Nail Salon
- News Source
- Non-Profit Organization
- Pet Care/Vet Services
- Photographer/Photography Service
- Real Estate Company

- Salon/Spa
- Tailor/Seamstress **NEW!**
- Tanning **NEW!**
- Tattoo Parlor
- Used Tire Shop
- Wedding Services
- Yoga Studio

BEST SHOPPING

- Adult Bookstore **NEW!**
- Antique Shop
- Art Gallery
- Beer Selection in Retail Store
- Bookstore (local)
- Butcher
- Candy Shop
- Consignment Shop
- Farmers Market
- Florist
- Gardening Center **NEW!**
- Gift Shop
- Indoor Grow Shop
- Jewelry Store
- Clothing Store (locally owned)
- Grocery Store (locally owned)
- Musical Instrument Store
- Organic/Natural Market
- Pawn/Second Hand Shop

- Pet Store
- Record/CD Store
- Wine Shop

BEST WHATEVER

- Cleanest Public Restroom **NEW!**
- Dirtiest Public Restroom **NEW!**
- Eye Candy Place
- Eyesore Place
- Worst Pothole - specific location
- Best Day Trip **NEW!**
- Best WiFi **NEW!**

TOP OF THE TOWN VOTING BEGINS NOW!

APRIL 17:
END OF NOMINATING ROUND

MAY 16:
TOP 5 CONTESTANTS ANNOUNCED

MAY 29:
ALL VOTING ENDS

JUNE 20:
WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

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WHAT'S NEW THIS YEAR

There have been several changes, including many additional subcategories that await your nominations. We also have a new category entirely, "Best Bar."

Read the updates below to stay in the loop about who's in this year's contest.

BEST BAR:

Say hello to our new main category! Subcategories like "Best Dance Bar" and "Best Gay/Lesbian Bar" had previously been under the main category "Best Hangout." But, we decided that there were so many different varieties of bars and alcohol that it deserved its own category entirely. Anything rooted in the cause — and solution — to all of life's problems, alcohol, will be found here. The new subcategories are "Best Neighborhood Bar" and "Best Lansing Area Distillery." Now you can recognize the achievements of your favorite Lansing brewer with a Top of the Town nomination.

BEST DINING:

This category has been given a tuneup to reflect the changing culinary trends of Lansing. We've added much needed awards for "Best Nachos," "Best Kids-Eat-Free" and "Best Food Truck," just to name a few. After all, there are food trucks popping up all over the place and it is entirely possible for a non Mexican restaurant to have Lansing's best nachos. Or is it? That's up to you.

We've also added "Best Tacos" and "Best Wings," bringing entirely different tastes and styles into the Top of the Town foray. Wing lovers of Lansing rejoice! Because these subcategories are brand new, it's up to you to nominate your favorite restaurants.

BEST HANGOUTS:

As mentioned above, anything pertaining to alcohol has found a new home under the main category "Best Bar." But, that doesn't mean we've neglected to update our subcategories for "Best Hangout!" New additions include, "Best Bowling Alley," "Comedy Night," "Place of Worship," "Public Park" and "Smoke Shop/ Hookah Lounge." Again, these are going to require nominations from you, the voters. If you want your favorite place to be recognized, write their name in on your ballot!

BEST LOCAL ARTS & MUSIC:

For the first time in Top of the Town's history, we've added a subcategory for "Best Punk/Metal." So for all the thrashers and metal heads out there, it's your chance to get recognized in City Pulse. Let your fans know they can finally nominate and vote for your band.

BEST PEOPLE:

"Best People" has received two new additions, "Best Food Delivery Person" and "Best High School Athlete (and Location)." Nothing too dramatic, just remember to fill in your nominations for the new subcategories.

BEST SERVICES:

There a number of new services being recognized by Top of the Town. Now you can nominate your favorites for, "Best Accountant/CPA," "Best Food Delivery Service," "Best Massage Company," "Best Music Lessons," "Best Tailor/Seamstress," and "Best Tanning." Just note, that for "Best Massage Company" and "Best Food Delivery Service," you are nominating the business — not the individual. Though they will surely be flattered either way.

BEST SHOPPING:

There are only two new additions: "Best Adult Bookstore" and "Best Gardening Center." Two pretty seedy places, don't you think?

BEST WHATEVER:

We've got a handful of new places for "Best Whatever." Nominate your favorites, or least favorites, for "Cleanest Public Restroom," "Dirtiest Public Restroom," "Best Day Trip" and "Best Wi-Fi."

TOP OF THE TOWN'S LONGEST DYNASTYS AND SNAPPED STREAKS

There's a lot of establishments that have won for more than seven consecutive years. Newcomers will have to strive hard to snap these dynasties. But, with four streaks broken — three by vote, one by closure — it is possible for new blood to arise.

TEN YEARS

Crunchy's — Best Karaoke
Flat Black & Circular — Best Record/CD Store

Elderly Instruments — Best Musical Instruments Store
Horrocks — Best Produce

NINE YEARS

DeLuca's — Best Pizza
Jersey Giant — Best Sandwich/Deli
MSUFCU — Best Credit Union/Bank

EIGHT YEARS

Mitchell's Fish Market — Best Seafood

Spiral Dance Bar — Best Gay/Lesbian Bar
NCG Eastwood Cinemas — Best Movie Theater
Starfarm — Best Cover Band
Root Doctor — Best Original Band or Best Blues Band
Riverwalk Theatre — Best Local Theater Group

BROKEN DYNASTIES

Schuler Books & Music — Eastwood location closed
Woody's Oasis — Lost its seven-year reign over Best Mediterranean to Zaytoon
Green Door — Seven-year streak of winning Best Dance Bar snatched by Spiral Dance Bar
Douglas J. Aveda — Usurped by Jenny Nails after seven years of holding the title





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ARTS & CULTURE

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About a quarter turn of the clock: early 2018 Lansing album reviews

Catching up with recently released local music

Andrew Farmer & Jazz Special Forces — “Redacted Passages”

Listen: www.andrewfarmer.org

“Redacted Passages” by Andrew Farmer & Jazz Special Forces is epic in scope. Yes, it’s a concept album. One about things being “covered up,” whether because of lack of recognition, conspiracy, or just the erasure of memory. It can be difficult to tackle such issues without coming across as melodramatic, but there are only a few moments where “Dramatic Passages” is guilty of this.

The opening track, “Calling all the Crazies,” has some questionable lyrical choices. The childish hide and seek phrase “ollie ollie oxenfree” does not make for an interesting hook. This is followed by a verse that mentions the clichéd Shakespearean quote “To be or not to be.” Thankfully, the flagrant lyrical blunders somehow seem to be contained solely within the first track.

It’s followed by a stronger cut, “Said Goodbye to Summer,” which highlights a consistent trend throughout this album — Jazz Special Forces is incredibly strong when it is allowed to go off. Electric violin is not an instrument heard very often, and Farmer plays it very well. It could easily be confused for a guitar, but that’s actually Farmer wailing away as if he’s turned into Slash. The psychedelic violin playing paired with brass solos from Brad Fowler, Shawn Bell and Jon Gerwitz and the very off kilter piano playing from Jake Greenwood is absolutely killer. And that’s not to mention how well Greenwood also holds down the drums during these extended jams. Phenomenal moments like these are the album’s true selling point, and “Redacted Passages” has many peppered throughout.

Farmer’s vocals maintain a hushed cadence throughout the entire album, which works depending on the mood of the backing track. With the quiet guitar and spidery piano on “It Will Be Winter,” his voice meshes well and draws the listener in. But when things get louder on “Our Love is Not for Attribution,” Farmer sounds somewhat bored. The backing vocalists from “Calling all the Crazies” would have been better utilized during this song’s energetic verse.

Before the album closes, there are more strong instrumental passages. “House of Ghosts” has interesting and excellent percussion coupled with a series of great lines from the brass and Farmer on violin. This is also the moment where Farmer pushes his voice to its limit, a refreshing change of pace from his previously muted vocals. “Redacted Passages” ends with a jazz number that seems to be filtered through the white noise of a bustling café, similar to the bar chatter heard throughout Pink Floyd’s “Dark Side of the Moon.” As Farmer says, “With so many passages redacted, your lost memory is set in stone.”

— SKYLER ASHLEY

Crystal Drive — “Crystal Drive”

Listen: www.crystaldrive.bandcamp.com

Crystal Drive’s self-titled LP has a strong pedigree. The Lansing group’s sole permanent member is George Szegedy, whose last project, the People’s Temple, garnered national attention before its extended hiatus. The Lansing garage rock unit even earned kudos from Lenny Kaye, the original guitarist from the Patti Smith Group. That’s pretty damn cool.

Fittingly, Crystal Drive is an evolution of the People’s Temple’s Brian Jones-era Rolling Stones garage rock. Had the People’s Temple been an actual band in the ‘60s, it probably would’ve sounded like this by ‘84. This synth driven sound is extremely in vogue right now: the LP reminds one of the “Stranger Things” soundtrack and Tame Impala’s “Currents.” However, the obvious new wave influence is done tastefully. Thankfully, Crystal Drive is closer to Roxy Music’s “More Than This” than it is The Car’s “Just What I Needed.” It’s Gary Numan in his Tubeway Army days, before he was just a one hit wonder. The single “900” particularly impresses with its lush soundscapes and an earworm of a chorus, while “The Scanner” makes one wonder why Crystal Drive isn’t booked for Europe’s biggest musical festivals. Szegedy’s skills in the production field truly shine here with impressive results, considering that the liner notes state it was recorded entirely in his bedroom. Szegedy also had key help in the lyrical department from Hannah Scott, who helped pen eight of the album’s 12 tracks.

— SKYLER ASHLEY

Worn Spirit — “I Could Disappear”

Listen: www.wornspirit.bandcamp.com

The first track of “I Could Disappear” starts with a series of warm power chords and bass drum kicks that very easily fool you into expecting an upbeat rock song. Yet, 15 seconds later it’s enveloped by several other layers of bass, guitar and crooning vocals — like rain overtaking a sunny day. And, by the way, that upbeat song never comes.

It’s shoegaze in the literal meaning

of the term — music to stare at your shoes and mope out to. This singular mood carries throughout the entire EP, which if you listen to uninterrupted can leave you with the impression that you’ve only listened to a single song.

Interlocking guitar parts and thick drumbeats keep the flow steady. But, as soon it begins to drag, it finishes strong with its most exciting song, “Never Ending.”

Some bands like this have two guitar players that merely parrot each other, to garner a greater sense of power through doubling the volume. Thankfully, Worn Spirit instead developed a series of catchy lead riffs over its torrential rhythms. These little melodies give Worn Spirit a vital pop sensibility and are by far the highlight of the EP.

Some listeners might find the lack of range in the vocals or the mood of the music itself as off-putting. But if you’re looking for a solid reverb-soaked session of downer rock that harkens to Smashing Pumpkins and Sonic Youth, look no further.

— SKYLER ASHLEY

Yay High — “Clocked Out”

Listen: www.yayhighyayhigh.bandcamp.com

Yay High, a three-piece Lansing-based outfit, has released its highest-energy EP to date. The six-track record, “Clocked Out!,” blends the fast-paced guitar riffs reminiscent of early East Coast garage rock with the fuzzy vocal production heard from many of today’s top psych-rock groups.

Aesthetically, the band fits right into the “screw the man,” D.I.Y. mold galvanizing the Midwest currently, with standout lyrics such as, “I quit my job today, I quit

my job, made a way now, a billion fucking hours a week, swear to God I’m not gonna get no sleep, sleep, sleep, sleep oh!”

Sitting at just under 15 minutes in its entirety, the album’s fast driven instrumentation and Lo-Fi production take listeners to the grungy basement of their friend’s house. This is where they’ll find Yay High buzzing around like bees, playing in black and yellow long sleeve polos. The EP’s initial track, “Plaything,” opens with three clicks of Hickey’s drumsticks before the guitar and bass explode into the forefront and take charge. From there, songs like “Fool,” “I See Blood” and “He Knows” showcase a full breadth of exactly the kind of energy the band is capable of producing. Stressed out from the seriousness of work and school, Yay High has officially clocked out, turned in their timesheet and seem ready to just have some fun jamming out and jumping around with a room full of their fans.

— JONATHAN SHEAD

Arts Council of Greater Lansing calls for mural submissions

Selected works to be featured on walls of BWL’s Central Substation Project

By JONATHAN SHEAD

BWL’s Central Substation project plans to add a series of murals that reflects the city’s vibrant community.

BWL Art Submission Deadline

Friday, April 20, 2018 at 11:59 p.m. Submissions must be sent as a PDF package to Deborah Mikula at debbie@lansingarts.org.

The Arts Council of Greater Lansing has teamed up with BWL and other community partners in search of artists to submit their artwork to be dis-

played on the north and south entrances of the Central Substation.

“I think it was inevitable that the Central Substation project was going to happen,” said Deborah Mikula, the executive director of the Arts Council. “Once it was moving along we wanted to make sure that if there was any sort of creative or artistic project attached to it, that we would make that happen.”

Artist submissions must include a resume, visual portfolio of similar-scale work, preliminary sketches of design

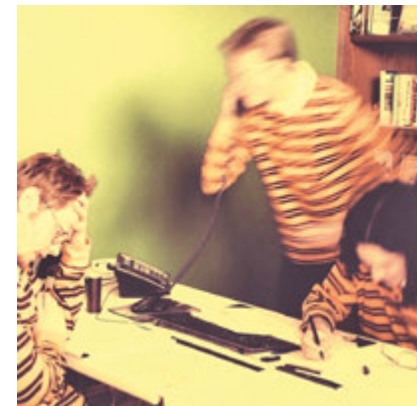
for Central Substation project, an artist statement, an estimated budget, and a statement detailing the maintenance and longevity of the piece being submitted.

Artist submissions to the project should be colorful, eye-catching and characteristic of the community. It must not contain propaganda, advertisements or nudity.

All three murals will be fully funded by BWL, with costs including everything from artist fees, supplies, insurance, permits, fabrication, labor, shipping, installation, and more.

Upon bringing this project to the public, BWL committed to dedicating \$20,000 every three years to fund the addition of new public art on or around the substation. While they, and others in the committee, collectively decided to fund three murals first, other visual art, such as sculptures, will grace the site in the years to come, explained Mikula.

Members of the selection committee are giving preference to artists from Ingham, Eaton and Clinton counties, though they are accepting submissions from artists across the state of Michigan. All are encouraged to apply.



For one and for all: sensory friendly performances at Wharton Center

New productions accommodate those on the autism spectrum

By CIARA PAGE

In the beginning of its 2017 season, the Wharton Center announced its initiative to host sensory friendly performances — productions with stage setups that accommodate children and adults on the autism spectrum.

“It’s a huge segment of the population that has experienced live theater before and that’s what our mission is, to bring people into the theater to experience what it’s like,” said Wharton Center Public Relations Manager Bob Hoffman.

Each show is performed in a supportive environment that includes lower sound levels, the elimination of potentially startling special effects and vastly dimmer stage lights.

“This is a friendly environment where you can stand up or sit down, you can take in your water, your fidget toys, anything you want in the theater to make you feel comfortable and still able to enjoy production,” Hoffman said.

In order for Friday’s sensory friendly performance of “Clementine” to be special for guests and first timers, the Wharton Center designated quiet and calm spaces, activity areas, had trained volunteers and professionals onsite, and also had sensory support items like earplugs and headphones.

In the next room, there were arts and crafts activities and a special guest Julia, the first Muppet with autism from Sesame Street. Children were excited to see and meet an animated character who was just like them.

Not knowing much about autistic children and the sensory sensitive community, Hoffman did not know the “why” behind the shows, until he met 13-year-old Dominic Blatnik after October’s sensory friendly performance of “Cat in the Hat.” Blatnik was diagnosed with autism at the early age of two and later diagnosed with ADHD at three years old.

“I had no idea, because it didn’t enter my life. Now I know we have to shout from the rooftop and educate people on these things,” said Hoffman.

Blatnik had never been to see a live performance until seeing the sensory friendly version of “Cat in the Hat.”

“He really likes it and he was able to make it through the whole day. He sat there transfixed and mesmerized. This is something we can do together,” his mother, Cathy Blatnik said.

The elder Blatnik has the problem of getting her son to relax in elements not familiar to him. She mentioned her stress levels at regular shows and how she is always on high alert about his social skills.

“The good thing about being able to have Dominic in a supportive and friendly atmosphere is that we all ‘get’ it. No explanation is needed or required when a child is flapping their arms, shouting out, can’t sit still or are talking to themselves,” said Blatnik. “To be able to look around and see everyone having a good time without being judged was a wonderful feeling for me. I can say that if the Wharton Center hadn’t started these sensory friendly performances, I don’t think I would have ever taken Dominic there.”

The next sensory friendly performance at the Wharton Center, “Disney’s The Lion King” is Saturday, July 21.



Courtesy photo

The crowd watches Friday’s sensory friendly performance of “Clementine.”

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Jonathan Sheard/City Pulse

Cleveland sits at home with his guitar.

No setbacks for Lee Cleveland

One handed guitarist carving out music career

By JONATHAN SHEARD

Lee Cleveland grew up like many other kids living in a family of musicians. He enjoyed listening to jazz records with his parents and he started playing trumpet in third grade before taking up piano shortly after.

The difference between Lee and other kids is he did all this with only one hand.

Lee was born with congenital limb deficiency, which affected the development of his left arm while in the womb. Despite this, he's never seen it as a setback or shied away from the challenge that comes with learning something new.

"It's definitely given me a different approach to problem solving and the way I approach any task," Lee said. "I don't take myself too seriously and just have fun with it."

"At first, guitar was definitely tough. I thought, 'How am I going to do that,' and a lot of people didn't think I could either," he said as he looked down at his left arm.

Lee tried to build different style picks and holsters to aid him in playing, all to no avail.

"I have this thumb thing. Nothing I built really hit at the right angle, but the thumb did so I said screw it, I'm going to power through the pain and take it from there."

That during Lee's freshman year of high school. Now as a senior at Michigan State University studying media and information, as well as acting, Lee is gearing up to record his first full-length solo album. He hopes to have it released by summer.

"The songs I've been working on, I've been performing them live for about a year now," he said, "But now I'm at the point where I'm ready to put them out there. Some people think my lyrics are kind of funny, but I just want it to be lighthearted easy listening."

As Lee gets things in motion for the eventual release of his solo work, he also hopes to record a new album with Blind Merle. Lee

said all the songs are written, the band just needs to arrange studio time.

"Lee was a huge catalyst for the band early on. At first the band was kind of lazy, but he's really been the driving force for things like social media, crowd involvement, and just getting our band to be of a higher caliber," said Blind Merle front man Jake Trisch. "He's kind of been our secret sauce for a lack of better terms."

Trisch never saw Lee's lack of a hand as a limitation for what he could do on his own music or with Blind Merle.

Through Blind Merle, Lee has also had the opportunity to play with Dan Campbell of the Wonder Years, performing trumpet for Campbell's folk rock side project Aaron West and the Roaring Twenties.

"It opened up a lot of doors in whole other ways," Lee said. "I didn't realize how much people needed horns. It's given me opportunities to record on a bunch of people's songs and albums that I'm happy about. I just love being in the studio and helping people with that process."

The only limitations Lee feels he's facing as a musician is the lack of a DIY house show culture around Lansing and MSU's campus.

"With the Lansing area, there's really only a couple bar venues. If you're not playing one of those it's kind of tricky," Lee said. "There's a joke that drummers come here to die, because there's nowhere to practice. It's rough here, but Lansing is still a bit easier than East Lansing."

Though Lee plans to continue living and performing in Michigan until he saves enough money or is offered something better, his eventual goals are to head out west. There he hopes to become a career musician and explore his interests in film, acting, improv and standup comedy.

"If I could get paid to do any of those things, then I'd do it," he laughed. "I love playing and performing, so if I could do that for the rest of my life, I'd be happy. I don't think I'm ever going to stop trying."

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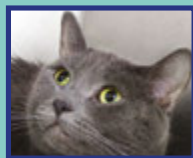
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2017
 DIVERGENT
 VOICES
 2018

Stained glass and democracy

Lansing Symphony makes a big deal out of smaller works

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Saturday, the Lansing Symphony took a break from the epic works it often tackles and gave exquisite, fine-grained, deeply pleasing performances of small- to medium-sized works.

The night began with three solidly built miniatures by James Niblock, head of MSU's music department and concertmaster of the Lansing Symphony some 50 years ago. Niblock reached his 100th birthday last fall — the occasion for Saturday's performance — but died earlier this year. Far from fading, the colors of melancholy and joy Niblock dyed into the fabric of the music decades ago were only deepened by the thought of the empty chair in the hall.

The music came straight from the sad, noble, ultimately optimistic mid-20th century American muse familiar from the works of Aaron Copland, Samuel Barber and Niblock's teacher, Roy Harris.

A series of quiet canons and fugues stood out, almost like orations, each voice clear and distinct, as if laying out an ideal musical vision of democracy.

It's hard to believe the American sound ever embodied so much reflection, tenderness and promise.

For the evening's solo turn, the LSO's principal cellist, Hong Hong, seized and held the sweet spot where premeditated action meets inspiration in Saint-Saens' Violin Concerto No. 1. He took up a black brush and painted a bold, continuous line of ink, now straight and long, now sinuous, now circling into a dark and gorgeous melody.

The evening's closer, the Symphony No. 3 of Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, contained another cream center — a dance melody with an ancient air, played at first by the flutes, then by muted strings.

Every note sounded rounded and soft yet weighted to the ground — hard work, no doubt, but it didn't show. The most ancient-sounding passages burned with a dark, hushed radiance, the aural equivalent of stained glass.

Sometimes the melody rested, like a moth on a tobacco flower at dusk, before taking wing again. The mellow softness of those half-second pauses surely added a few minutes to everyone's life. Take that, second law of thermodynamics.

The strings, woodwinds and brass locked into each other's arms tightly, warmly and seamlessly.

The finale involved a resumption of scurrying, gradually taken over by a stiff-backed fanfare with a chorale so catchy you could sing the words "Camel cigarettes" to it.

For the first time, the Cornometer started to stir, but the orchestra was so deep in the zone by now it almost didn't matter which brand of cigarettes was being advertised. Everybody needed one after the golden, sonorous, final chord.



Hong



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Ernest Hemingway's formative Michigan paradise

Lansing filmmaker documents the iconic writer's early years

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Ernest Hemingway spent his first 21 summers in Michigan as his “up north” was being transformed from an Eden-like existence to a popular tourist destination. The languorous summers were filled with fishing, roasting marshmallows, and exploring the woods and streams around Horton Bay, Michigan.

Later, those summers would be front and center in his stories about Nick Adams, a character much like his early self. Hemingway's Nick Adams stories have been collected in a single volume “The Nick Adams Stories” and include such classics as “The Last Good Country” and “The Big Two-Hearted River.”

Filmmaker George A. Colburn takes you back to that time in his documentary, “Young Hemingway & His Enduring Eden.”

In the documentary, Colburn follows Hemingway from his first visit as baby with his family in 1899 to his last visit in 1920 to marry his first wife Hadley.

He also includes the seminal winter of 1919 when Hemingway returns to Petoskey to heal his mind and body following injuries received while serving in the Ambulance Corps on the Italian front.

Colburn spent time in the late 60s at MSU, where he received his Ph.D., and was also an East Lansing City Council Member and a State House Democratic staff member in the early 70s.

The 90-minute documentary alternates between gorgeous footage of Hemingway's favorite places, dark flowing streams and lush green forests, to numerous Hemingway experts who help place the Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winning author in context.

Colburn, who has extensive experience in documentary filmmaking and educational consulting, first became enamored with Dwight D. Eisenhower and in 1991 produced and wrote three TV specials on “Ike”

for Discovery featuring NBC commentator John Chancellor. He later produced and wrote the five-hour series “The Eisenhower Legacy” for Disney Television.

The producer who lives on Walloon Lake said he became interested in the Hemingway legacy after asking the current owner of Windemere and nephew of Hemingway, Ernie Mainland, if he could film the deconstruction and the rebuilding of the cottage exactly as it was in the early 1900s.

He got the go-ahead, and gave the tapes to Mainland who called three years later and said it was time to get the tapes out of the safe.

Colburn said he learned that the International Hemingway Society was meeting in Petoskey in 2012 for the first time.

“I immediately thought maybe I could get some money and film the event. It's the first thing a documentary filmmaker sees when numerous experts come together at one place,” he said.

Colburn figured he could get some interviews in the can with little expense over the three-day meeting at the historic Perry Hotel in Petoskey.

“I got 8-10 interviews and an education on young Hemingway and the importance of Michigan on his writing,” he said.

“I was very fortunate and got all the top

scholars. It was like a postgraduate seminar.”

Colburn said it helped that he lived at Walloon. For example, he enlisted Robin Lee Berry, who owns an art gallery in nearby Boyne City, to record the sound track, which is deftly used throughout the 90 minute film.

In the film experts comment on Hemingway's early life in Michigan including Sandra Spanier and Robert Trogon, co-editors of the Hemingway Letters Project. Trogon is a professor of English at Kent State University and Spanier holds a similar position at Pennsylvania State University.

Others include Chip Lorenger, co-owner of the Horton Bay General Store; John Sanford, Hemingway nephew and scholar; and Authors Nancy Sindelar, “Influencing Hemingway,” Paul Hendrickson “Hemingway's Boat,” Mary Jane Doer, “Bay View,” and Fred Svoboda, “Hemingway: Up in Michigan Perspectives.”

A particularly moving interview was completed with the now deceased Jim Hartwell, the owner of the Fox Inn — a quirky bookstore and a paean to Hemingway in Horton Bay.

The documentary is augmented by the reading of numerous personal letters Hemingway sent his friends and family. The letters also track the development of Hemingway's simple writing style of noun, verb and

direct object.

Colburn also gives a shoutout to Hemingway's father, an Oak Park, Illinois doctor who was an avid amateur photographer.

“Finding photos in the public domain is very important to filmmakers,” he said. Numerous photos in the film, used in the Ken Burns style, were sourced from Central Michigan University and the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum.

So far, Colburn has spent six years on the project and his next goal is to get a commitment from Public Television to air the documentary. He also hopes to take the film, money permitting, to Paris for the meeting of the International Society in July 2018.

“I hope to show it in Paris on Hemingway's birthday, July 21,” he said.



A young Ernest Hemingway fishes at his family's cottage in Walloon Lake, Michigan.

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The City Pulse Book Club meets the first Thursday of each month, 7 p.m., at Schuler Books & Music in the Meridian Mall. April's selection is “Parting the Waters: America in the King Years 1954-63,” by Taylor Branch. The book is the first of a three-part series on the Civil Rights Movement. Upcoming books include “Slouching Towards Bethlehem,” by Joan Didion (May) and “Bobby Kennedy,” by Chris Matthews (June).

OUT ON THE TOWN

Events must be entered through the calendar at lansingcitypulse.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesdays for the following week's issue. Charges may apply for paid events to appear in print. If you need assistance, please call Ella at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, March 28

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

ALIGNING YOUR MONEY WITH YOUR VALUES: Investing for a Better Future for All. From 7 to 8:30 p.m. free. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road East Lansing.

MINDFULNESS MEDITATION. From 7 to 9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Lansing.

OPEN STUDIO LIFE DRAWING. From 7 to 9:30 p.m. Model fee: \$2 students (LCC, MSU, High School), \$5 all others.. Kresge Art Center, 600 Auditorium East Lansing.

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

THE POETRY ROOM PRESENTS: WORKSHOP SERIES ROUND 2. From 7 to 9 p.m. Strange Matter Coffee, 337 S Washington Square, Lansing, MI 48933 Lansing.

MUSIC

MSU FACULTY RECITAL: SUREN BAGRATUNI, CELLO, Ja-Eun Koo, piano. From 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. \$10 adults; \$8 seniors; free for students and those under 18 with valid ID. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road East Lansing. 517-353-5340.

EVENTS

GAMES AT THE MERIDIAN SENIOR CENTER (See Descriptions for Dates and Times). From 12:30 to 4 p.m. Bingo and Bridge- \$1 - \$2 per person to play. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

PRACTICE YOUR ENGLISH. From 7 to 8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

TEEN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM. From 2:30 to 6 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Thursday, March 29

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

FRIENDS IN TIMES OF PEACE AND WAR: THE LESSOR-KNOWN RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RUSSIA AND AMERICA. From 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This course costs \$119.00

See Out on the Town Page 23

The Cesar Chavez Gala



March 31

By JINGJING NIE

Back in 1993, when Paulo Gordillo was still a college student, he led the campaign to rename a portion of Grand Avenue to Cesar E. Chavez Avenue. The request was granted, but the decision got overturned in 1995. Twenty-two years later, a section of Grand River Avenue in Old Town was finally permanently renamed Cesar E. Chavez Avenue.

Cesar Chavez Gala

Causeway Bay Lansing Hotel & Convention Center
6820 South Cedar Street, Lansing
5pm March 31- 12am April 1
Tickets: \$15, \$20 at the door, \$200 VIP
<https://www.facebook.com/goodtiempos/>

The Cesar Chavez Gala will be held at Lansing this Saturday in honor of the street name change and the man himself. March 31 also serves as Cesar Chavez Day across the United States.

"We live in a very diverse community," said Gordillo. "There is a street in Lansing named after Martin Luther King, there is a street named after Malcolm X, so why not a street named after Cesar Chavez?"

Chavez was a legend and a great

labor leader, Gordillo said. "The Latinx community in Lansing regards him as a hero. Renaming the street in his honor is also a reflection of the city's commitment to the Latinx community."

Gordillo now works as the associate director of the Educational Talent Search at Michigan State University, which helps high school students get into college.

Street signs are important and powerful, said Patricia Moreno, organizer of the Cesar Chavez Gala.

"A street sign elevates his name into public consciousness in a way that we couldn't do in our classes. You can be casually speaking and all of sudden Cesar Chavez is a part of the conversation, even if it's just to say 'Go down Cesar Chavez Avenue and then go left.'"

Although this year's gala is held in honor of the Cesar E. Chavez Avenue name change, it will be an annual event, Moreno said.

Two awards will be presented at the gala: the Dolores Huerta leadership award and the Cesar Chavez humanitarian award. "We forget about Huerta, who was his right hand. They

would not have achieved so many things had it not been for her creativity in solving some of the obstacles in the way of their fight," said Moreno.

The gala will feature dance performances by Norma Patricia Serna, Gabriel Estrada and Ballet Folklorico and live music from DJ Mingo, Explosivo, La Corporacion and Tejano Sound Band.

A silent auction will also take place at the gala. Lansing Latina artist Felicitas Moreno created two unique collectable pieces for the event. The gala also will have 50/50 raffles to help raise money.

"Chavez Speaks," a documentary produced and directed by Emmy Award-winning producer Raul R. Rios will hold its world premiere at the Cesar Chavez Gala as well.

Proceeds from the money raised by the event will go to the Cesar Chavez Scholarship Fund, which is run by the Lansing for Cesar E Chavez Committee.

"What we really want to do is unite people all over the state. We want to celebrate and elevate all the works that we're doing. We want to honor all the fighting for justice we are doing, but also let our hair down and celebrate Cesar Chavez's life and legacy," said Moreno.

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Go to Sleep!"--beware of snoring.

- Across**
- 1 Apple variety
 - 4 Researcher's room
 - 7 Pea's place
 - 10 December drink
 - 13 Bob Hope's WWII gp.
 - 14 Gran finale?
 - 15 Map-providing org.
 - 16 Dye containing a nitrogen compound
 - 17 Can, to a Londoner
 - 18 Motel room perk, as promoted years ago
 - 20 Novelist DeLillo
 - 21 ___ Mahal (Indian beer brand)
 - 22 Be familiar with a Danube-based Austrian town?
 - 24 Bend's state
 - 26 Cookie crumbled in a fro-yo toppings bar
 - 27 "This is prophetic," from the opera "Nixon in China," e.g.
 - 29 Existent
 - 32 Make barbs about trip data?
 - 40 Blocks in the freezer
 - 41 Would rather not
 - 42 ___ Lingus (Irish airline)
 - 43 Chores for Superman's general nemesis?
 - 46 Paris-area airport
 - 47 Theatrical sigh
 - 48 Milky gemstone
 - 51 Some Oscar Wilde works
 - 55 Recorded by jazz saxophonist Stan?
 - 59 Happy hour order
 - 62 Christmas tree type
 - 63 Curl of hair
 - 64 Smoked salmon on a bagel
 - 65 CPR specialist, maybe
 - 66 Change two fives into a ten?

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69				70				71				72		

- 67 The night before
 - 68 Kimono sash
 - 69 "The Crying Game" star Stephen
 - 70 "That's right"
 - 71 "Hang on just a ___!"
 - 72 Pay stub amount
- Down**
- 1 Mixed-breed dog
 - 2 About 30% of the world's land mass
 - 3 Stuck together
 - 4 17th-century philosopher John
 - 5 "Git ___, little dogie"
 - 6 "The Jungle Book" bear
 - 7 Leave
 - 8 Swearing-in formality
 - 9 Author Eggers
 - 10 Lowest point
 - 11 Triatomic oxygen molecule
 - 12 "The Muppet Show" daredevil
 - 19 Have a title to
 - 23 1970 hit for the Kinks
 - 25 Makeshift windshield cleaner
 - 27 "Master of None" star Ansari
 - 28 Puerto ___
 - 29 Board game of world conquest
 - 30 90 degrees from norte
 - 31 Stub ___
 - 33 Chris Hemsworth superhero role
 - 34 Schlep
 - 35 DIY crafter's site
 - 36 Dennis's sister, on "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"
 - 37 Place for filing and polishing
 - 38 Wrestler John with an "unexpected" internet meme
 - 39 Rowing machines, casually
 - 44 "Chariots of Fire" actor Sir Ian
 - 45 Take care of the bill
 - 48 Auction bid
 - 49 Like 2 or 3, but not 1 or 4
 - 50 The body's largest artery
 - 51 Poacher's need?
 - 52 Tennis star Monica
 - 53 Main character of Minecraft
 - 54 Coyolxauhqui worshiper
 - 56 Serving platter
 - 57 Keep from view
 - 58 Loaf heels, really
 - 60 Brain segment
 - 61 Way out

©2017 Jonesin' Crosswords • For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to your credit card, call: 1-800-655-6548. **Answers Page 26**

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy

March 28 - April 3, 2018

Aries (March 21-April 19) A few years ago, a New Zealander named Bruce Simpson announced plans to build a cruise missile at his home using parts he bought legally from eBay and other online stores. In accordance with current astrological omens, I suggest you initiate a comparable project. For example, you could arrange a do-it-yourself space flight by tying a thousand helium balloons to your lawn chair. APRIL FOOL! I lied. Please don't try lunatic schemes like the helium balloon space flight. Here's the truth: Now is a favorable time to initiate big, bold projects, but not foolish, big, bold projects. The point is to be both visionary and practical.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) The Finnish word kalsarikännit means getting drunk at home alone in your underwear and bingeing on guilty pleasures. It's a perfect time for you to do just that. The Fates are whispering, "Chill out. Vegetate. Be ambitionless." APRIL FOOL! I told a half-truth. In fact, now is a perfect time to excuse yourself from trying too hard and doing too much. You can accomplish wonders and marvels by staying home and bingeing on guilty pleasures in your underwear. But there's no need to get drunk.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Actor Gary Busey is very sure there are no mirrors in heaven. He has other specific ideas about the place, as well. This became a problem when he was filming the movie Quigley, in which his character Archie visits heaven. Busey was so enraged at the director's mistaken rendering of paradise that he got into a fist fight with another actor. I hope you will show an equally feisty fussiness in the coming weeks, Gemini. APRIL FOOL! I lied, sort of. On the one hand, I do hope you'll be forceful as you insist on expressing your high standards. Don't back down! But on the other hand, refrain from pummeling anyone who asks you to compromise.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) In the Scots language still spoken in parts of Scotland, eedle-doddles are people who can't summon initiative when it's crunch time. They are so consumed in trivial or irrelevant concerns that they lose all instinct for being in the right place at the right time. I regret to inform you that you are now at risk of being an eedle-doddle. APRIL FOOL! I lied. In fact, the truth is just the opposite. I have rarely seen you so well-primed to respond vigorously and bravely to Big Magic Moments. For the foreseeable future, you are King or Queen of Carpe Diem.

Leo (July 23-August 22) Paul McCartney likes to periodically act like a regular person who's not a famous musician. He goes grocery shopping without bodyguards. He rides on public transportation and strikes up conversations with random strangers. I think you may need to engage in similar behavior yourself, Leo. You've become a bit too enamored with your own beauty and magnificence. You really do need to come down to earth and hang out more with us little people. APRIL FOOL! I lied. The truth is, now is prime time to hone your power and glory; to indulge your urge to shine and dazzle; to be as conspicuously marvelous as you dare to be.

Virgo (August 23-September 22) The coming days will be an excellent time to concoct an alchemical potion that will heal your oldest wounds. For best results, mix and sip a gallon of potion using the following magic ingredients: absinthe, chocolate syrup, cough medicine, dandelion tea, cobra venom, and worm's blood. APRIL FOOL! I mixed a lie in with a truth. It is a fact that now is a fine time to seek remedies for your ancient wounds. But the potion I recommended is bogus. Go on a quest for the real cure.

Libra (September 23-October 22) I expect you will soon receive a wealth of exotic and expensive gifts. For example, a benefactor may finance your vacation to a gorgeous sacred site or give you the deed to an enchanted waterfall. I won't be surprised if you're blessed with a solid gold bathtub or a year's supply of luxury cupcakes. It's even possible that a sugar daddy

or sugar momma will fork over \$500,000 to rent an auditorium for a party in your honor. APRIL FOOL! I distorted the truth. I do suspect you'll get more goodies than usual in the coming weeks, but they're likely to come in the form of love and appreciation, not flashy material goods. (For best results, don't just wait around for the goodies to stream in; ask for them!)

Scorpio (October 23-November 21) There's a narrow waterway between Asia and Europe. In the fifth century B.C., Persian King Xerxes had two bridges built across it so he could invade Greece with his army. But a great storm swept through and smashed his handiwork. Xerxes was royally peeved. He ordered his men to whip the uncooperative sea and brand it with hot irons, all the while shouting curses at it, like "You are a turbid and briny river." I recommend that you do something similar, Scorpio. Has Nature done anything to inconvenience you? Show it who's the Supreme Boss! APRIL FOOL! I lied. The truth is, now is an excellent time for you to become more attuned and in love with a Higher Power, however you define that. What's greater than you and bigger than your life and wilder than you can imagine? Refine your practice of the art of surrender.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21) Fifteenth-century Italian painter Filippo Lippi was such a lustful womanizer that he sometimes found it tough to focus on making art. At one point, his wealthy and politically powerful patron Cosimo de' Medici, frustrated by his extracurricular activities, imprisoned him in his studio to ensure he wouldn't get diverted. Judging from your current astrological omens, Sagittarius, I suspect you need similar constraints. APRIL FOOL! I fibbed a little. I am indeed worried you'll get so caught up in the pursuit of pleasure that you'll neglect your duties. But I won't go so far as to suggest you should be locked up for your own good.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19) Now is a favorable time to slap a lawsuit on your mom in an effort to make her pay for the mistakes she made while raising you. You could also post an exposé on social media in which you reveal her shortcomings, or organize a protest rally outside her house with your friends holding signs demanding she apologize for how she messed you up. APRIL FOOL! Everything I just said was ridiculous and false. The truth is, now is a perfect moment to meditate on the gifts and blessings your mother gave you. If she is still alive, express your gratitude to her. If she has passed on, do a ritual to honor and celebrate her.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18) Aquarian author Alice Walker won a Pulitzer Prize for her novel The Color Purple. She has also published 33 other books and built a large audience. But some of her ideas are not exactly mainstream. For example, she says that one of her favorite authors is David Icke, who asserts that intelligent extraterrestrial reptiles have disguised themselves as humans and taken control of our planet's governments. I bring this to your attention, because I think it's time that you, too, reveal the full extent of how crazy you really are. APRIL FOOL! I half-lied. While it's true that now is a favorable time to show more of your unconventional and eccentric sides, I don't advise you to go full-on whacko.

Pisces (February 19-March 20) Warning! Danger! You are at risk of contracting a virulent case of cherophobia! And what exactly is cherophobia? It's a fear of happiness. It's an inclination to dodge and shun joyful experiences because of the suspicion that they will disappoint you or cause bad luck. Please do something to stop this insidious development. APRIL FOOL! I lied. The truth is that you are currently more receptive to positive emotions and delightful events than you've been in a log time. There's less than a one-percent chance you will fall victim to cherophobia.

SUDOKU

INTERMEDIATE

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7						2	1	6

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 26

TURN IT DOWN A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

Thur. March 29 **MONTE PRIDE**



Michigan Songwriters II at 'The Fiddle'

Thursday, March 29, @ The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$18. \$15 members, \$5 students, 7:30 p.m.

The Ten Pound Fiddle presents a showcase of local talent, Michigan Songwriters II, Thursday at The Robin Theatre in REO Town. The roster of performers includes Roger Brown, Monte Pride and Sam Corbin. "This is my first Ten Pound Fiddle show," Pride said. "I grew up attending the concert series and it's always been a dream to play as part of one of their concerts; a bucket list performance." Pride said he often digs back to the '60s and '70s for inspiration — from Phil Ochs and Tom Paxton to Joni Mitchell and Townes Van Zandt. "I've [also] been inspired by all that's been in the news, all that's political," added Pride, who is compiling new material for his sophomore LP. "I've been hoping to sift through all of the trouble and turmoil to find a song or two."

Thur. March 29 **OFF THE LEDGE**



Off the Ledge at The Avenue Café

Thursday, March 29, @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 21+, FREE, 9 p.m.

The Avenue Café hosts a free night of rock music from local bands Off the Ledge and Jenn's Apartment. Sharing the bill is the Retrovales, a Huntsville, Alabama-based folk-rock duo. Off the Ledge, who close out the night, has been keeping busy since original singer Matthew Shannon left the group. Now, Eric Brandes (formerly the band's drummer) is on lead vocals and rhythm guitar. Jason Stacey, an Ann Arbor-based drummer, stepped in behind the kit. Off the Ledge is wrapping up its upcoming album, "Full Circle." The band is also preparing to shoot a music video for "Gary Wolf," a cutoff the forthcoming LP. Since its formation, Off the Ledge has kept busy gigging across the state—including opening shows for the likes of Joan Jett and the B-52s. For all of the upcoming dates, visit facebook.com/offtheledgeband.

Thur. April 5

WHOOPI GOLDBLUM



Whoopee Goldblum at Punk Rock Pizza Party

Thursday, April 5, @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$5, 9 p.m.

(Photo by Tyler M. Smith)

Multi instrumentalist Tim Eriksen, an Amherst, Massachusetts, native, headlines Friday at the Ten Pound Fiddle. Eriksen's brand of folk combines powerful vocals with imaginative accompaniment on banjo, fiddle, guitar and bajo sexto — a 12-string Mexican acoustic bass. That distinct sound has earned him praise from the likes of BBC Radio, who said Eriksen is "widely regarded as the best ballad singer of his generation." His repertoire, which spans many sub-genres of Americana from New England and Southern Appalachia, includes poignant interpretations of old ballads, love songs, gospel and dance tunes. His latest LP, 2012's "Josh Billings Voyage or, Cosmopolite on the Cotton Road" offers up 13 moody tracks about imaginary town. An interesting side note: Eriksen's former grunge-rock band, Cordelia's Dad, opened for Nirvana during the '80s — making him the only performer to share a stage with both Doc Watson and Kurt Cobain.

LIVE AND LOCAL

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT ELLA@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night	Off the Ledge (Free)	Pathway to the Pasture	Led Zeppelin Tribute (Free)
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Dale Wicks	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Road	DJ Trivia		Wise Guys	DJ Jimmy
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	The Good Cookies, 8 p.m.	Mike Skory & Friends Open Mic, 8:30 p.m.	The Hot Mess	The Knock Offs
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Johnny D Blues Night	Karaoke	Avon Bomb	Medusa
Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee St.				
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			The Insiders, 8pm	Vinyl Theatre Vesperteen, 7pm
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Cory Farley Band, 8pm	Cory Farley Band, 8pm
The Unicorn, 327 Cesar E Chavez Ave.				
UrbanBeat, 1213 Turner St.	International Chamber Soloists, 7pm			
Watershed Tavern and Grill, 5965 Marsh Rd.			Capital City DJ's	Capital City DJ's

To register for "Friends in Times of Peace and War" visit www.lcc.edu/KeepLearning. Or call 517-483-9853.. LCC East Campus--Room 113, 2827 Eyde Parkway East Lansing. 517-483-1415.

(TOPS) TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY . At 6 p.m. First meeting FREE.. Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St. Haslett.

MUSIC

FROG'S BIG BLUES JAM SESSION. From 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Free. Gus's Bar, 2321 W. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 371-4793.

JAZZ THURSDAYS AT URBANBEAT. From 7 to 11 p.m. Free Show Weekly food and drink specials!. UrbanBeat Event Center, 1213 Turner St. Lansing.

MSU GUEST LECTURE: JUDITH LOCHHEAD, MUSIC THEORIST, Stony Brook University. From 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road East Lansing. 517-353-5340.

EVENTS

LANSING REIKI SHARE. From 6 to 8 p.m. Donation / Free. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

LUNCH AT THE SENIOR CENTER. From 12 to 1 p.m. suggested donations of \$3.00. If you are age 59 and under, there is a charge of \$5.75 (this is not a suggested donation). Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME IN WACOUSTA. From 11 a.m. to noon Grand Ledge Area District Library , 131 E. Jefferson St Grand Ledge. 517.627.7014.

SPANISH CONVERSATION GROUP. From 7 to 8 p.m.

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

ARTS

KIDS ART WITH IRINA. From 6 to 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

Friday, March 30

LITERATURE-AND-POETRY

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

MUSIC

GOSPEL in the Key of Jazz. At 6:30 p.m. Free concert . St. Stephens Church, 1007 Kimberly Drive Lansing. (517) 484-2180.

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR SING-ALONG. From 7 to 9 p.m. No cost. Free will donations will be accepted.. Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing, 5509 S. Pennsylvania Ave Lansing. 517-351-4081.

EVENTS

LIBERALI. Apocalyptic Old World themed event featuring art, music and more. 9pm-12am, Cedar Street Art Collective, 1701 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Mi. Find us on Facebook at <http://www.tinyurl.com/Liberali2018>

ARTS

MARCH 2018 ARTIST IN RESIDENCE: SHANI PETERS. From 3 to 5 p.m. Events are held throughout the entirety of the month of March. All events are free

FRIDAY, MARCH 30>> TILES OF CONSCIOUSNESS II

Lansing poet Eric Crosley's collaborative art and poetry performance "Tiles of Consciousness" is receiving a follow-up Friday at the Robin Theatre. As with his previous show, he will be joined by a number of close friends and fellow poets. Alongside Crosley will be Janam Mukherjee, Peggy Campbell and Hamid "Masoud" Murshid.

Mukherjee is a professor of history and anthropology at Ryerson University in Toronto, Campbell is a digital media analyst for ESPN and Murshid has previously worked for the BBC. Murshid, also a published author of poetry and former reporter for the Lansing State Journal, will be appearing via Skype in light of visa problems. Despite a long history of living in Lansing and receiving a letter of support from Senator Gary Peters, Murshid was denied travel from the U.K. into the United States.

6:30 p.m. \$ 10 The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave. Lansing www.therobintheatre.com



Courtesy Photo

Hamid Murshid, or Masoud as he's called by close friend Eric Crosley, will read his poetry via Skype.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30>> PATHWAY TO THE PASTURE

Join Cowpie Music Festival and Further Frequencies production company for a battle of the bands concert featuring Biomassive, progressive electronica, GreggFish, reggae/rock and Stormy Chromer, progressive rock. Bands will be performing for the potential to secure a spot on Cowpie Music Festival's 2018 lineup. Tickets can be purchased for \$5 in advance of the show, or \$8 at the door.

9 a.m.-12 p.m., 2021 E. Michigan Ave, Lansing, www.avenuecafelansing.com

MR. TACO / PUNK TACO



Allan I. Ross/City Pulse

Next week, Potent Potables partner Sam Short (right) and executive chef Scott MacPherson will open the doors to Punk Taco, a new fast casual Mexican restaurant in Old Town. It will feature six types of salsa, scratch-made corn tortillas and tamales, as well as daily taco and margarita specials.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

The two biggest food stories in Lansing this week can be summed up in one word: Taco — "Mr." and "Punk," respectively.

Last weekend, restaurateur Bill Bonofiglo staged a sneak premiere of the relaunch of **Mr. Taco**, the south Lansing restaurant his father started in 1967. After teasing the restaurant's reopening for nearly three years, he held back-to-back drive-thru only events at the location, 3124 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., last Friday and Saturday as a training session for new staff.

Cars snaked down Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard as customers waited for popular favorites from the original restaurant's heyday, including the red all-meat burrito and the beef enchilada combo, AKA, "the #14." Fans posted photos, disappointed customers ranted, yet permanent hours were never announced. Bonofiglo did not return interview requests, so stay tuned I guess.

Meanwhile, following a similar nearly three-year hiatus after first being announced, **Punk Taco** has been given an opening date, albeit not at the original intended location near Frandor. Next Tuesday, April 3, the latest addition to the Potent Potables Project restaurant group will open in the space adjacent to the group's **Creole Burger Bar & Southern Kitchen**. Punk Taco will have tacos, tequila, tamales and other Mexican fare that doesn't start with "t" — just don't saddle it with labels like "bar" or "restaurant."

"We're calling ourselves a 'taco joint,'" said Sam Short, one of the three Potent Potables co-owners. "We're going to be doing with tacos what Cosmos did with pizza — definitely nontraditional."

The menu — created by chef Scott MacPherson, who also oversees the

Creole's kitchen — consists of 10 tacos, as well as nachos and sopes (fried tostadas). Taco creations will include Thai-spiced beets with pickled peanuts, ancho shrimp with habañoero honey and blackened salmon with caper relish.

Short described the set-up as "hybrid pub-style service" — basically, a twist on fast casual. Customers will order their food (and cocktails, if they want them) at the bar, then sit down either inside the 38-seat space or outside on the patio, shared with the Creole. The server/bartender will then deliver the food when it comes up, and continue bar service, if desired.

"Surveying other concepts and talking to local restaurant users, we found that customers are trending toward efficiency on the front end," Short said. "They don't like waiting to be seated, then waiting for their server before they even order their food. We're going to be able to eliminate a lot of the waiting time and still retain a model that's close to full-service."

The bar will have at least 15 types of tequila, as well as craft beer cans, a limited wine menu and a selection of specialty cocktails, including margaritas that will be served in branded take-home cups. And as for that name?

"I loved punk rock when I was a kid, and we thought the name fit our concept," Short said. "We're going to have a heavy punk music motif, including a 7-foot mural done by a New York artist who specializes in hyper-realistic paintings of mosh pits. We try to do a little something different at each location. It's fun to keep people on their toes."

Punk Taco (opening Tuesday, April 3) 1216 Turner St., Lansing 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday

and accessible to the public. . MSU Union, MSU Campus East Lansing.

Saturday, March 31

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

TINKRLAB: TINKERING WITH MAKEY MAKEY. From 5 to 6 p.m. Members: \$10/Non-Members: \$20. tinkrLAB, Meridian Mall, 1982 W Grand River Okemos. 517-233-1524.

HOLIDAYS

EASTER EGG HUNT ON THE CAPITOL LAWN. From 10 a.m. to noon FREE. Capitol Lawn, Lansing. EventsDoggie Easter Egg Hunt & Eggstravaganza. From 1 to 4 p.m. 1:30pm Kids Registration Opens (\$8 per child, Under 2 years old free) 2pm Dog Registration Opens (\$12/dog, \$6/ each additional dog). Hawk Island County Park, E. Cavanaugh Road Lansing. (517) 676-2233.

EVENING WITH A PSYCHIC ORACLE (CHANNEL). From 6 to 8 p.m. \$29.92. Willow Stick Ceremonies & Healing Arts, 335 Seymour Ave, Suite D Lansing. 517-402-6727.

Sunday, April 01

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

JUGGLING. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St. East Lansing.

Monday, April 02

CLASSES-AND-SEMINARS

PHOTOGRAPHY CLASS - Lansing. From 6:30 to 9 p.m. Photography class - for beginners, with multi professional International award winning photographer/writer, Ron St. Germain - Lots of laughs while learning to be in charge of how your photos turn out.

Lansing - Woldumar Nature Center - (517) 322-0030 - April 2, 7, 9, 16
Weekday classes are from 6:30 - 9:00pm - Saturday class is from 10:00am - 1:00pm
Cost is \$60 covers all four sessions - Call venue for registration.. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road Lansing.

UP IN THE CLOUDS. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$35/ MEMBER; \$40/NON-MEMBER. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave. Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

Tuesday, April 03

MUSIC

JAZZ TUESDAYS AT MORIARTY'S. From 7 to 10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5287.

EVENTS

TUESDAY GAMES. From 1 to 4 p.m. Euchre, Free Bridge, \$1 - \$2 per person. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos.

ARTS

THE ART OF NATURE. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$35/ MEMBER; \$40/NON-MEMBER . Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave. Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY MARCH 28-30>> SECOND STAGE IMPROV AT PEPPERMINT CREEK

Second Stage Improv, Michigan State University Department of Theatre's student improv group, is hosting interactive performances for the community. The group invites attendees to make suggestions and help them create a new show every night. Thursday night will focus on family-friendly themes, and Friday and Saturday night will be open to any and all suggestions. Tickets are \$10 for the public, and \$5 for students or seniors, sold online or at the door on the day of the show.

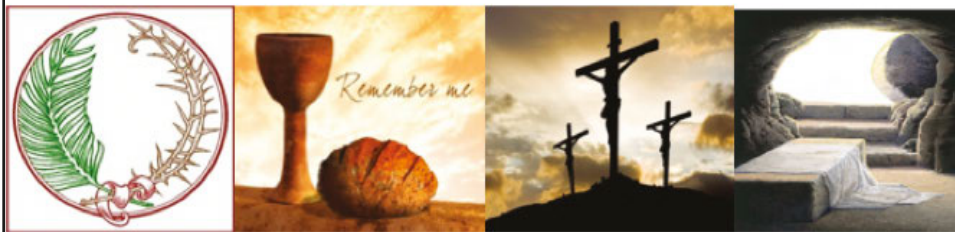
8 p.m. — 10 p.m., Peppermint Creek 6025 Curry Ln, Lansing, www.peppermintcreek.org/

FRIDAY MARCH 30>> "ANDY WARHOL | THIS IS NOT A TOUR" EXHIBIT

Iconic pop artist Andy Warhol is often thought of as one of the pioneers of the contemporary art movement dating back to the 1950s, but what was Warhol's life actually like? The Broad Art Museum dives deep into the details of Warhol's life through an interactive tour to understand how his art became a reflection of his reality. Warning: this exhibit may contain strong language and graphic content unsuitable for young ages.

6 p.m. — 7 p.m., 547 E. Circle Dr, East Lansing, www.broadmuseum.msu.edu/

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PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
125 SOUTH PENNSYLVANIA AVE., LANSING MI 48912
ONE FAITH – ONE BAPTISM – ONE LORD**



Palm / Passion Sunday 9:30 AM / 12 PM Processional Choirs Passion	Maundy Thurs. 6:30 PM Dramatic Reading on the Events On the Night in Which He Was Betrayed	Good Friday 12-3 PM Gospel of Mark 6:30 PM Stations of the Cross	Easter Sunday 9:30 AM / 12 PM Combined Choirs Bell Choirs Holy Communion Easter Breakfast
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HOLY WEEK: MARCH 25 – APRIL 1, 2018

First Congregational United Church Of Christ

210 W. Saginaw Hwy. Grand Ledge, MI 48837 Ph. 517-627-2336

Thursday, March 29 - 5:30 - 7:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Worship & Light Supper
Friday, March 30 - 7:00 pm - Good Friday Ecumencial Service at Immanuel Lutheran, Grand Ledge.
Easter Sunday, April 1 - 8:30 - 9:00 am - Service of Water & Light
9:00 - 10:00 am / Easter Breakfast
10:00 am / Easter Egg Hunt
10:30 am / Easter Worship Service

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SUDOKU SOLUTION
From Pg. 23

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTION
From Pg. 23

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Back of house: Shawn Fearon of Kingston Kitchen

By MEGAN WESTERS

Shawn Fearon is the owner and head chef of Kingston Kitchen, the six month old Jamaican restaurant in Okemos. Fearon has worked in kitchens from Michigan to Florida. Taking that former experience and combining it with inspiration and culinary knowledge from home and professional training, Fearon is bringing his twist on his native cuisine to greater Lansing.

How did you find your way to Michigan from Jamaica?

I grew up in Kingston, Jamaica and came to the United States for a better opportunity. I enrolled in the temporary work program and was placed on Mackinac Island, Michigan. I ended up returning to Mackinac Island for several seasons, until I eventually decided to stay the winters as the executive chef of one of the few restaurants that stay open year-round.

You were trained in the culinary arts, correct? Where did you study?

I trained in the culinary arts at the HEART College of Hospitality Services in Runaway Bay, Jamaica.

How did you come to open your own restaurant? What inspired that career move?

My dream of opening my own restaurant was years in the making. As a chef, I've always wanted to have my own kitchen with a menu with dishes from my culture. I have had some version of Kingston Kitchen's menu in the works before I even had a city or building in mind. This dream stems from my love of food and hospitality, not as a calculated career or business decision.

As a chef and a restaurant owner, what are your day-to-day responsibilities?

Do you write the menu?

My restaurant is six months old. Currently, my day-to-day is anything and everything. I am on the line for both lunch and dinner service, directing the front of house staff, as well as the less exciting business things like payroll. I wrote our regular menu and continue to test new recipes for seasonal menus and weekly specials. Creating dishes that are unexpected and well-loved are what I love doing most.

I'm assuming your childhood in Jamaica played a big part in inspiring the food on the menu, but it also seems to have a bit of western influence as well, with burgers, meat-centric entrees and pasta dishes. Is the menu a mix of both Jamaican and American influences or is it strictly classic Jamaican food?

I wanted Kingston Kitchen to be a place welcoming to folks with a range of comfort levels with spice and other traditional Jamaican flavors. More than anything else, I wanted people to expect dishes that are made from scratch with fresh ingredients and a vibrant flavor profile. If I wouldn't eat it or make it for my family, it is not being served at my restaurant. My menu has traditional Jamaican dishes that I grew up on: oxtail, jerk chicken, curry goat and escovitch fish. It also has some dishes more familiar to Americans with a Jamaican influence, like Jerk Chicken fettuccine Alfredo and Coconut Shrimp with mango pineapple marmalade. People can enjoy familiar dishes that are enjoyably different from most American menus.

How often, if at all, does your menu change?

Because we just celebrated Kingston Kitchen's half birthday, our regular menu has not changed yet. With warmer weather



Megan Westers/City Pulse

Shawn Fearon, owner and chef of Kingston Kitchen prepares food from his home country, Jamaica.

er just around the corner, we are introducing a separate spring and summer menu available for a limited time with dishes like Lobster Hot Dogs, Zesty Guava & Pineapple Chicken, and Jamaica's national dish, Ackee & Saltfish. We will debut this menu in April.

Your upbringing in Jamaica seemed to have a big effect on your growth as a chef. Were you the cook of your family?

Cooking for others and gathering around a great meal is an integral part of Jamaica's culture. Our meals last hours with several rounds of dishes and conversation with friends and family. When food was not readily available, I learned to love and appreciate the times when we did have it. When my mother was cooking oxtail, I knew things were all right. My mom taught me to cook with what we had and make things last without waste. Food is sacred. I haven't lost that appreciation for serving others through creating and preparing dishes with care.

How have Kingston Kitchen's first six months gone?

We celebrated our half birthday March 5. These last six months have been the most rewarding of my career. The community's reception has been astounding and heartwarming. I have met so many in the Lansing area and look forward to the years to come.

Can I ask about your logo? What inspired the bird? Is that also a reference

to Jamaica?

My logo is of Jamaica's national bird, the Doctor Bird, a beautiful hummingbird that can only be found on the island. Its iridescent feathers are one of a kind.

Why did you want to open it in Okemos?

Opening in Okemos was more luck than anything else. Kingston Kitchen needed its home to be in a community that enjoys international cuisines and is adventurous in its dining choices. Many people of Okemos and the Greater Lansing area enjoy diverse food choices. I also wanted an open kitchen set up so visiting Kingston Kitchen would feel as welcoming as stepping into my home. The open kitchen layout at our location on Central Park Drive sealed the deal for Kingston Kitchen to open in Okemos.

As a chef and a restaurant owner, I can imagine life is quite busy. How do you balance work and life?

There is no balance, only trade-offs. Right now, Kingston Kitchen demands to be a priority but things change over time.

As a chef, where do you eat out when you want to eat out?

I'm not eating out right now, but when things settle down, I look forward to trying some of the great places in the Lansing area.

What is your favorite dish on the menu currently?

Oxtail. All day, every day.




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