

CityPULSE

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August 24-30, 2016



City Pulse's Summer of Art: "Sandhill Cranes at Sunset," by William Rowan. See page 9 for story.



YEFIM BRONFMAN, PIANO

Sunday, September 18 AT 6:30PM

Grammy-winning piano powerhouse Yefim Bronfman brings his electrifying skills for an enchanting Wharton Center debut including Debussy's *Clair de Lune*, Schumann's *Humoreske*, Bartók's passionate Suite, Op. 14 and Stravinsky's *Petrushka*.
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CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS

HOSTED BY **BERL SCHWARTZ**



SAMMY COURTNEY
Manager, Spiral Dance Bar



RYAN SEBOLT
Co-Chairman, Michigan Pride



EMILY DIEVENDORF
President of the Lansing Association for Human Rights



THIS WEEK MICHIGAN PRIDE

my 18 LANSING JACKSON MY18TV!
NEW TIME 10:30 a.m. EVERY SATURDAY
COMCAST CHANNEL 16 LANSING
7:30 P.M. EVERY FRIDAY

JOIN CityPULSE AT THE CAPITAL CITY COMIC CON!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27
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GRAM

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Friday, August 26, High Noon-2AM

6th Annual Clio Cultivation Birthday Bash, 40th Birthday Celebration For Damaris (Bring a Present)

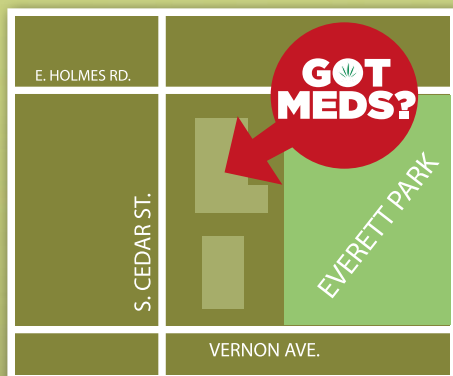
Free Breakfast 10AM-4:20PM.

20 Industry Booths, Huge One Day Sale, 6 Food Vendors, 8 Bands, 80x80 Med. Tent, Free Painting, Bounce Houses, Live Music form Covert.

Saturday August 27

High Times After Party • 4:20PM-2:00AM. • Free Show From Dead Again-8pm-Midnight

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PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER
NOTICE OF DAY OF REVIEW OF DRAINAGE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES
AND DAY OF REVIEW OF APPORTIONMENTS

Notice is Hereby Given that on Wednesday, August 31, 2016, the Ingham County Drain Commissioner will hold a Day of Review of Drainage District Boundaries from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl, Mason, Michigan 48854. At that time and place, the Drain Commissioner will hear the proofs and allegations and carefully reconsider and review the description of lands comprising the Drainage Districts for the Drains listed below, and determine whether the addition or deletion of lands will more accurately define the boundaries of the land benefitted by the Drains and is just and equitable pursuant to Section 197 of 1956 PA 40, as amended. The Drain Commissioner will also review the apportionment of benefits for assessment purposes. The Drains are located and established in the following municipalities, and a general description by section number of the lands proposed to be added or deleted in whole or in part include the following:

DRAIN NO.	DRAIN NAME	MUNICIPALITY	SECTION NUMBERS
C 23-00	COLUMBIA STREET DRAIN	CITY OF MASON VEVAY TOWNSHIP	5, 6, 7, 8 6, 7
C 29-00	COSTIGAN DRAIN	CITY OF EAST LANSING MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP	8, 9 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10
F 30-00	FARMINGTON DRAIN	LANSING TOWNSHIP	18
F 31-00	FARMINGTON NO. 2 DRAIN	LANSING TOWNSHIP	18
F 32-00	FARMINGTON #3 DRAIN	LANSING TOWNSHIP	18
F 25-00	FOUNTAIN DRAIN	AURELIUS TOWNSHIP	16, 17, 20, 21
M 36-00	MEADVILLE DRAIN	INGHAM TOWNSHIP WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP	25, 26, 35, 36 30, 31
P 13-00	POWELL DRAIN	WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP	10, 15, 16, 21, 22
P 18-00	PROESTAL DRAIN	STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP WHITE OAK TOWNSHIP	4 33
Q 01-00	QUINN AND HICKEY DRAIN	BUNKER HILL TOWNSHIP STOCKBRIDGE TOWNSHIP	1, 11, 12, 13 7
S 16-00	SLOAN CREEK DRAIN	ALAIEDON TOWNSHIP CITY OF LANSING MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP WHEATFIELD TOWNSHIP WILLIAMSTOWN TOWNSHIP	1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23, 24 3 34, 35, 36 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32 31, 32, 33

Drain assessments will be collected in the same manner as property taxes. If Drain assessments are to be collected in installments, they may be paid in full with any interest to date at any time to avoid further interest charges. Maps of the proposed Drainage District boundary revisions may be found at the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's Office or web site (<http://dr.ingham.org>).

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Ingham County Drain Commissioner at (517) 676-8395 or the Michigan Relay Center at 711 (TTY) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

You are Further Notified that persons aggrieved by the decision of the Drain Commissioner to add or delete property to or from a Drainage District may seek judicial review in the Ingham County Circuit Court within ten (10) days of the decision. And persons aggrieved by the decision of the Drain Commissioner with regard to the apportionment of benefits for assessment purposes may appeal to the Ingham County Probate Court within ten (10) days of the Day of Review.

August 2, 2016

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#16-184

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Hirten: Decency wins one in the demise of Gawker

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

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

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER • Mickey Hirten
mickey@lansingcitypulse.com

ARTS & CULTURE EDITOR • Ty Forquer
ty@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5068

PRODUCTION MANAGER • Allison Hammerly
adcpsy@lansingcitypulse.com • (517) 999-5066

STAFF WRITERS • Lawrence Cosentino
lawrence@lansingcitypulse.com

Todd Heywood
todd@lansingcitypulse.com

ADVERTISING • Shelly Olson, Liza Sayre,
Suzi Smith, Mandy Thiele

shelly@lansingcitypulse.com
liza@lansingcitypulse.com
suzi@lansingcitypulse.com
mandy@lansingcitypulse.com

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

Delivery drivers: Frank Estrada, Dave Fisher, Paul Shore, Dick Radway, Richard Simpson, Thomas Scott Jr.

Interns: Kayleigh Garrison, Eve Kucharski, Callie Opper



Capital City Comic Con comes to campus

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Lansing Derby Vixens host international tournament

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Joshua Davis crowdfunding next album

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CITY PULSE *on the AIR*

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THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW

ELECTION PHENOMENA
LESS THAN THREE MONTHS TO GO BUT HEY WHO'S COUNTING

ONE OF THESE THINGS IS NOT LIKE THE OTHER ONE
HE IS AN UNSTABLE, IGNORANT, RACIST LUNATIC WHO LIES EVERY TIME HE OPENS HIS MOUTH!
BUT SHE HAD THAT EMAIL THING!

THE LONG-AWAITED PIVOT
--AND IT'S BEEN ELEVEN HOURS SINCE TRUMP INSULTED ANYONE!
WHAT AN EXTREMELY STATESMANLIKE SHOW OF RESTRAINT!
OH WAIT, HE'S BACK ON TWITTER.

COMMENTS-SECTION CANDIDATE
HIRING THAT BREITBART GUY WILL SOLIDIFY TRUMP'S LEAD WITH ASSHOLE-AMERICANS!
WE ARE A CRUCIAL DEMO-GRAPHIC!

FELLOW TRAVELERS
IT'S GOOD THAT HILLARY HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY JOHN NEGROPONTE!
AND IS FRIENDS WITH HENRY KISSINGER!
REAL, REAL GOOD!

SCARY CAMPFIRE STORIES
--SO YOU SEE, MANY PROMINENT LEFTISTS ARE SECRETLY ROOTING FOR... A TRUUUMP VICTORY!!!
GASP!
EEEEEEK!

THE FUTILITY OF SATIRE
ACCORDING TO THIS OBSCURE CARTOON, DONALD TRUMP WOULD NOT MAKE A VERY GOOD PRESIDENT!
CONSIDER MY EYES OPENED!

IT AIN'T OVER TIL IT'S OVER
BELIEVE ME, IF I LOSE IT'S BECAUSE CROOKED HILLARY STOLE A RIGGED ELECTION!
HAVE YOU SEEN MY FACEBOOK LIKES?
DEFEAT IS UN-POSSIBLE!

IRONIC TWIST ENDING?
AND SO, THE MAN OBSESSED WITH WINNING IS REMEMBERED AS THE BIGGEST LOSER IN AMERICAN HISTORY--HIS NAME SYNONYMOUS WITH UTTER FAILURE!
AKSHUN MCFEENE NETWORK
SAD!

TOM TOMORROW © 2016

Cascading costs

Greater transparency sought on BWL substation expense

A coalition of community members and groups is asking the Lansing City Council to appoint an independent committee to review the plans and costs associated with a controversial power substation plan.

On Monday evening, the Lansing Board of Water and Light once again raised the estimated costs of the project, proposed for the corner of Malcolm X Street and South Washington Avenue, from \$26 million to \$27.9 million. BWL officials said the increase was to reflect an “apples to apples” comparison of the project with another location.

In February, BWL announced plans to build a new power substation at Scott Park at Malcolm X Street and Washington Avenue. The project has drawn criticism from historic preservationists and neighbors in the historic Cherry Hill Neighborhood nearby.

Also among the critiques is how the city-owned utility is arriving at the shifting cost estimates it is sharing with city leaders and citizens.

City Pulse has documented at least 14 different sets of numbers presented since February by the BWL for a substation at Scott Park or other locations. Monday night, the utility presented a 15th estimate.

“We really need a third party committee to look at the costs,” said Dale Schrader, vice president of Preservation Lansing and part of a coalition that includes Cherry Hill, The Lansing Garden Club and concerned citizens.

City Pulse reported in April that the utility initially placed the cost of maintaining and updating the Eckert substation, instead of a new one, at \$39 million. Earlier this month, utility officials told the City Council that retaining the Eckert substation would cost \$42 million. That estimate has ballooned to \$70 million, according to figures outlined on three separate pages of the utility’s public presentation Monday night.

But even this estimate is controversial. “The total cost of refurbishing Eckert for seven years beyond its 2020 retirement date is \$60 million and is repeated on multiple pages in the PowerPoint, not \$70 million as you stated,” BWL spokesman Steve Serkaian said by email to City Pulse Tuesday.

But he said taxpayers would pay an

additional \$10 million over seven years to service the \$60 million.

He said a new cooling water intake structure presented at Monday’s meeting would cost \$30 million because of federal environmental requirements, bringing it to \$60 million.

The substation reflects BWL’s desire to end all electricity and steam production at the iconic coal-burning Eckert plant by 2020. The current substation is located adjacent to it in the Grand River floodplain.

“Where is the data?” asked James McClurken, a member of the Lansing Parks Board who opposed the plan when it was



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Members of a coalition of groups and citizens opposed to a proposal to locate the BWL’s Central Substation at Scott Park explain why they want an independent review of the utility’s plans and cost estimates.

before that body earlier this year. “All I see is a PowerPoint.”

Steve Japinga, director of government relations for the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, said his organization would not be opposed to an independent review of the BWL’s cost estimates and plans. The Chamber supports BWL’s proposal.

“I think that was a fair point,” he said by phone Tuesday about the proposed third party review. “I didn’t see in the notations where they arrived at those numbers, and with this type of project, you’d expect to see that on an issue this complex.”

This is not the first time the BWL has been asked to show the data behind its proposed cost estimates.

Last month, Councilwoman Jody Washington, who represents the First Ward, said she wanted to see a spreadsheet of how the cost estimates had been arrived at. Her concern was related to the newly identified Diamond Reo Way location for the substation just behind the

BWL. Officials at the utility had said putting the project there would cost ratepayers \$13 million, resulting in a 4 percent rate increase for seven years.

But that proposed rate increase, based on numbers previously provided by BWL, would have resulted in raising \$70 million — \$57 million more than the costs associated with the project.

Washington said BWL still has not provided the spreadsheet she was seeking and on Tuesday she renewed her call.

The Diamond REO Way location was “exhaustively reviewed,” Serkaian said.

The BWL’s presentation to the Council Monday night showed two approaches for transmitting electricity between a Diamond REO substation and downtown Lansing.

One option, rendered dramatically, placed transmission lines on poles up and down Washington and in surrounding neighborhoods.

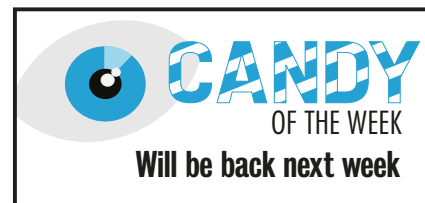
The presentation caused some in the audience to gasp, and At-Large Councilwoman Patricia Spitzley told BWL officials the images “took me aback.” The cost for the overhead option was slated at \$86.4 million, according to the PowerPoint from BWL.

The second option is to run the power underground, which BWL PowerPoint indicated would cost \$101.4 million. The route would run across the Grand River and up along the GM property on Townsend Street.

Asked by City Pulse why the utility had presented an underground line plan to the Council that did not use the current underground infrastructure that already runs up Washington Avenue, Serkaian said in an email he did not see any such infrastructure in previous presentations and the route presented was “best route to take relative to best practices.”

Ultimately, the consequence of placing the substation at Diamond REO Way, BWL argued, would cause issues with the look and feel of the neighborhood and entail considerable time over-runs as the utility worked to obtain rights to run the power lines along private property or permits to run it under or over the river. This cost would be borne by ratepayers.

— Todd Heywood



County dismisses Mathews

Investigation continues into campaign violations

A candidate for Lansing Community College trustee has been dismissed from her post at the Ingham County Register of Deeds.

Angela Mathews, the community outreach coordinator, was terminated Aug. 16, said Travis Parsons, the county’s human resources director.

Derrick Quinney, the Register of Deeds, confirmed the dismissal, but referred all other questions to Parsons.

Neither would comment on why Mathews, an at-will employee, was let go.



Mathews

The Mason Police Department is investigating accusations by Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum that she committed perjury last month when she signed an affidavit of identity to get her name on the Nov. 8 ballot.

The affidavit requires a candidate to acknowledge that all campaign finance reports and fines or fees owed by a candidate have been paid. Byrum alleges that Mathews had not filed any campaign paperwork and campaign finance reports as required for her 2014 bid for the same office. As a result of the unfiled paperwork and reports, Mathews owes \$1,300 in campaign fines, according to Byrum.

Mathews has not responded to requests for comment. Her attorney, Joseph Garcia, of Honigman, Miller, Schwartz and Cohn, has written Byrum that Mathews was unaware of the campaign filing requirements or the fines. Garcia said the candidate had moved in 2014 from her registered address in Lansing Township to Lansing shortly after getting on the ballot in 2014. She withdrew from the race shortly afterward.

However, Lansing Township records show Mathews voted in her polling location in Lansing Township in both August and November 2014. Election law allows a person who moved during the preceding 60 days to vote in the old precinct. Voting after that at the old precinct could be prosecuted as a misdemeanor.

Garcia said there was no way his client would have known about the reports and other requirements because she was not receiving the first-class letters sent by the clerk. However, Jennifer Shuster, the election coordinator in Byrum’s office at the time, said she and Mathews spoke by phone in 2014 about the reporting requirements.

If Mathews is charged and convicted of perjury, she could face up to five years in prison and fines.

Lisa McCormack, chief assistant prosecutor for the Ingham County Prosecutor’s Office, said investigators had sent a report to the office. However, prosecutors wanted more information and have sent it back to detectives in Mason. She was uncertain when the additional information would be made available or when a decision to prosecute would be made.

— Todd Heywood

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On August 17, 2016, the following minutes of the proceedings of the Meridian Township Board were sent for posting in the following locations:

Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court
Hope Borbas Okemos Branch Library, 4321 Okemos Road
Haslett Branch Library, 1590 Franklin Street
Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road
Snell Towar Recreation Center, 6146 Porter Ave.
and the Township Web Site www.meridian.mi.us.

August 4, 2016 Regular Meeting

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#16-196

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **September 14, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1379, an application from Hagan Realty to rezone the properties at 136, 138, and 152 Durand Street, and 1020 Short Street from R-2, Medium Density Single-Family Residential to RM-32, City Center Multiple-Family Residential.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1380, an ordinance to amend Section 50-795 of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to allow renovations to multiple-family buildings with nonconforming uses in cases where the renovations will not increase the occupancy or footprint by more than 20 percent.
3. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1381, an ordinance to amend Section 50-583 of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to clarify the nonconforming use provisions and allow structural alterations to the interior of the nonconforming rental units.
4. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1382, an ordinance to amend Section 50-583 of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to clarify the nonconforming use provisions and allow structural alterations to the interior of nonconforming rental units as well as an addition of not more than 20 percent of the floor area.
5. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1383, an ordinance to amend section 50-583 of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to clarify the nonconforming use provisions and allow structural alterations to the interior of nonconforming rental units as well as the addition of bathrooms.
6. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1384, an ordinance to amend Section 50-94 of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to establish special use standards for multiple family dwellings in a portion of the Downtown Development Authority District.
7. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1385, an ordinance to amend the Code of the City of East Lansing by adding new sections, which new sections shall be designated as Sections 50-361, 50-362, 50-363, 50-364 and 50-365 of Division I – Generally – of Article V – Multiple Family Residential Uses – of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to require universal design features in multiple-family housing.
8. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from John Kinch for Site Plan approval to develop a solar array within Burcham Park. Burcham Park is located in the C, Community Facilities District.
9. A public hearing will be held to consider a site plan and special use permit application from 100 Grand River, LLC for the properties at 100-140 W. Grand River Avenue to develop a 12-story (140') mixed-use building with underground parking and commercial use on the first floor and either office or residential uses, or both, on the remaining floors. The properties are located in the B-3, City Center Commercial District.

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

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

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#16-197

Glad Gawker is gone Libel, privacy and fairness buttress good journalism

Gawker, the intrusive and often salacious website, has been forced to close. It's about time.

And maybe, just maybe, its demise might signal a turn to more responsible reporting at the far end of the journalistic spectrum.

It's apparent, even to casual computer users, that civil dialog in so many forms is suffering. Some of the problem is us. The Internet encourages unfiltered communication — not necessarily bad — but hardly cost-free. What's missing is accountability.

If you doubt it, read the comments attached to news stories. The anonymity of social media has coarsened our conversations, freeing people from the social and legal norms that have generally served us well.

Granted I write this from a perspective framed by traditional journalistic standards. But these aren't accidental. Gawker was brought down by the successful invasion of a privacy lawsuit by wrestler Hulk Hogan (real name is Terry Bollea). He has been awarded \$115 million in compensation — a ridiculous amount, far exceeding the harm to his reputation. But he convinced a jury that he was damaged by Gawker's posting a sexually explicit tape.

"It's a good story," Gawker founder and owner Nick Denton told CBS News. "It's true. It's a matter of public concern. He's a very public figure, so if we were gonna have a story to go to trial, I'm actually pretty glad it's this one."

Now, does anyone really believe that Hulk Hogan's sex life is a matter of public concern?

"Gossip is the version of news that the authorities or the celebrities or the officials don't want people to know; it's the unauthorized version. I think people have a right to know the unauthorized version as well as the authorized version of news," Denton also told CBS News.

We don't, and why should we?

There are two bodies of law that keep journalism on the tracks: libel and privacy. Add in fairness, and you have defined the boundaries that govern most news reporting.

Libel, according to The Associated Press, means injury to reputation and is further defined by state laws. Simplified, the law distinguishes between public figures and private individuals. Because he is Lansing's mayor, there is more latitude reporting on, or commenting about, Virg

Bernero than one of his neighbors. It's sometimes difficult to define this public/private boundary. In general, public figures intentionally make themselves prominent. And overriding all of this is truth. It's the most powerful defense.

For news organizations, libel is always a concern, but not really an issue. Ethics policies, lawyers and experience keep them safe. But online, libelous statements — injury to reputation — are common, enabled by lack of attribution and the flawed Communications Decency Act that shields websites from liability for comments posted by their users.

Privacy, particularly the expectation of privacy, is the more difficult frontier for journalists. It is where Gawker lost its bearings and the business.

The Hogan sex tapes show him in three sexual encounters with his best friend's wife. Sordid, I suppose, but private. Gawker defended its posting as freedom of the press. But freedom of the press isn't absolute.

News organizations debate libel and privacy issues against a background of shifting circumstances. What is the story? Is it important to the public? Who is involved? Are they public or private individuals? What is past practice?

Is the drug arrest of the son or daughter of a public figure fair game for reporting? Usually not. But what if the arrest is based on drugs found in the family's home? That makes it more newsworthy. Say the drug is heroin and the parent is an anti-drug crusading politician? Even more newsworthy.

At some point public interest may override the expectation of privacy. And increasingly, the standard I favor anyway is fairness. It's one of those standards that may be difficult to quantify, but you know it anyway.

The Gawker demise was colored by billionaire Peter Thiel's willingness to fund Hogan's lawsuit. It was payback for an item on Gawker's Valleywag blog in 2007 outing him. Gawker justified its report saying Thiel's sexuality was known widely, but not broadcast, in some circles. "I thought that attitude was retrograde and homophobic," Owen Thomas, author of the blog post, told The New York Times.

Why is that his call?

Thiel disagreed and his involvement stoked debate in some journalistic circles about big money interests trampling on the First Amendment press freedoms.

But the playing field is never level. Sites like Gawker have been able to buy their way out of trouble with secret settlements. They are the big dogs until bigger ones come along.

The best defense for journalism is attention to basic libel law, privacy law and an acknowledgment by news organizations that what they don't publish is as important as what they do put online or in print.



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SMALLER BUT STRONGER

CAPITAL CITY COMIC CON SHORTENS CONVENTION, MOVES TO LARGER VENUE

By TY FORQUER

Ant-Man, the Marvel Comics superhero and protagonist of the 2015 Paul Rudd film, has the power to shrink down to insect size but retain the strength of his full size form. The Capital City Comic Con, which kicks off its second year Saturday, is attempting a similar feat. The event is shrinking from two days to just one, but has moved from Haslett High School to the ample space of MSU's Breslin Center and is attempting to pack as much punch as it can into the shortened schedule.

"It was clear that we were outgrowing our space," explained James Curtis, marketing manager at McLaren Greater Lansing and an organizer of the convention. "And we wanted a more central location."

This year's convention includes over 80 artists and exhibitors, ranging from independent artists to video game designers to local cosplay groups. Cosplay — short for costume play, where attendees dress up as fictional characters — is a popular feature at most comic conventions, and this weekend's convention includes a cosplay competition with a \$100 first prize. But, Curtis said, the centerpiece of the event is comic book culture.

"We wanted to focus on four things — the four Cs," he said. "Comics, collectibles, creators and community."

Relatively new to the comic convention community is Lisa Naffziger, a cartoonist and illustrator who will be exhibiting at this weekend's convention. "I've only done a few conventions so far," she said. "I've learned a lot from the last two conventions — how to set up a table and how to display and sell art."

An Illinois native, Naffziger, 24, studied sequential art (another name for comics and graphic novels) at Savannah College of Art in Design in Savannah, Ga. She moved to Lansing late last year when her husband landed a job at MSU. Naffziger publishes much of her work online, including a webcomic, "Petrichor," where she posts a new page every Tuesday. Conventions represent an opportunity to meet readers in real life.



Courtesy Photo

Chalk artist Ryan Holmes poses near a "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles"-themed work at Old Town's Chalk of the Town event. Holmes will create a 7-foot Incredible Hulk drawing at Saturday's convention.

"I really like meeting people who are familiar with my work online," she said.

Naffziger recently signed a deal with Iron Circus Comics to write a 200-page graphic novel. "Minus," slated for release in 2018, is an adult crime/mystery novel that follows a sheltered, home-schooled girl whose life is upended when she encounters a gas station shootout.

"I'm about 25 pages into it," she said. "I pitched a 150-page book, but when I mapped it out, there were a lot of things I needed to include. I'm hoping to pare it down a little for my publisher's sake."

For young artists like Naffziger, comic conventions are also an opportunity to network with established artists.

"It's wonderful that you can talk to basically anyone," she said. "You can talk with artists you really admire about their work."

And there are some big names at this convention. The slate of special guests includes Marvel Comics artist Ryan Stegman and independent comic artist Jason Howard.

"We're really excited to have Ryan on board," Curtis said. "He's worked on virtually every important Marvel franchise."

Ryan Claytor, another featured guest at this weekend's convention, has been teaching classes on comics and visual narratives at MSU since 2009. The university recently ap-

proved his proposal for a cross-disciplinary minor in animation and comics storytelling, which is available to students this fall.

"I'm looking forward to chatting about my work," Claytor said. "I'm a process junkie. I love when other creators give a breakdown of how they work."

Claytor is a comic convention veteran — he recently participated in his 12th San Diego Comic Con — and he finds that meeting independent artists is the most interesting part.

"I'm most excited about creators making their own work," he said. "That's where you find some unique voices."

"There are so many independent publishers out there," Curtis added. "I think that the things they're doing are pushing the major publishers to take risks."

Adam Bray, another featured guest, started his career as a freelance travel writer/journalist. He lived in southeast Asia for seven years, exploring Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and New Zealand. One of the publishers he worked with at the time was DK Books, which also publishes popular science fiction and comic book reference books.

"I always knew DK made these great 'Star Wars' books," Bray recalled. "I had an idea that if I wanted to move back to the U.S., maybe I could write for those."

Bray, 40, came back to the states about 4 years ago, just as DK was looking for another writer to contribute to its "Star Wars" books. He has written or contributed to six books, including "Star Wars: Absolutely Everything You Need To Know." His most recent work, the similarly titled "Marvel: Absolutely Everything You Need To Know," brings him closer to the proper comic book universe.

"It's a fact and trivia book on all the characters, events and artifacts in the Marvel universe," Bray explained. "With Marvel, you have 75 years of comics. It's a tremendous amount of information."

Also pulling inspiration from the Marvel universe is Ryan Holmes. The local chalk artist will be drawing a "life-size" Hulk in MSU Spartan gear on the sidewalks outside the Breslin Center.

"I'll be adding to the chaos," Holmes joked, referencing the construction currently surrounding the basketball arena.

To prepare for Saturday's event, Holmes has been making sketches on paper to perfect the design.

"I'll do 20 or 30 sketches a day," he said. "I see how fast I can do them. I should be able to do the outline in 10 or 15 minutes. Then it's all coloring and shading."

Holmes, 33, a special education professional for Waverly School District, can be found most Friday nights making chalk drawings on the walls at Lansing's Tin Can bar. Recent works include "Ghostbusters" characters and a tribute to the late musician Prince.

"I do things that are culturally relevant," he said. "The people who follow my art have a chance to see me do it live. It's become performance art."



Courtesy Photo

Lansing artist Lisa Naffziger will exhibit her cartoons and illustrations Saturday at the Capital City Comic Con.

Destination: Dimondale

Roller Derby teams skate into town for international tournament
By TY FORQUER

The opening match of this weekend's Women's Flat Track Derby Association Division 2 Tournament features Tri-City Roller Derby, who will make the 270-mile trip from Kitchener, Ontario, to Dimondale. But their considerable commute pales in comparison to that of their opponent. Bear City Roller Derby, out of Berlin, Germany, will take on a 4,200-mile transatlantic trek to compete in the international tournament.

The three-day event, hosted by the Lansing Derby Vixens, comes to Dimondale's the Summit Sports and Ice Complex this weekend. The tournament features a ten-team slate of competitors, including teams from California, Utah and even Norway. The shortest commute goes to Grand Raggidy Roller Derby, who will make the 70-mile trip from Grand Rapids to compete.

"It's kind of a big deal — not just for our team, but for Lansing," said Sarah Wardell.

Wardell, 37, has been skating with the Lansing Derby Vixens since 2013. The group fields three adult teams — Old Town Beat Down, Capital Corruption and the Lansing Derby Vixens All-Stars — and two youth

WFTDA Division 2 Tournament

9 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26 and Saturday, Aug. 27; 9 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 28

Three day passes: \$65/\$45 ages 9-12 or 55+/children 8 and under FREE

Single day passes: \$28/\$20 ages 9-12 or 55+/children 8 and under FREE

Evening passes (entry after 3 p.m.): \$18/\$15 ages 9-12 or 55+/children 8 and under FREE

The Summit Sports and Ice Complex

9410 Davis Highway, Dimondale
wftda.com/tournaments/2016/lansing

teams — LJV Miskits and the Lansing Junior Vixens All-Stars. But none of those teams compete this weekend. As the host team, the Derby Vixens skaters will be busy running the logistical side of the tournament.

"Roller derby is really a grassroots sport," Wardell said. "This started six months ago. It's been a massive effort."

Landing a high-profile tournament is a big step for the group, which formed in 2010 and was officially accepted into Women's Flat Track Derby Association membership in 2012. The nonprofit organization is volunteer driven and has no staff on its payroll.

"One of our goals has always been to host a tournament," said Ashley Jenkins. "When (the Women's Flat Track Derby Association) approached us about hosting the Division 2 playoffs, we were really excited."

An Ann Arbor native, Jenkins, 31, started training with the Lansing Derby Vixens in 2012 and skated in her first bout in 2015. She



Photo by Rhonda Morse Photography

Sarah Mullkoff, aka Mullicious Intent, pushes past competitors in a Lansing Derby Vixens All-Stars bout. The team hosts an international tournament in Dimondale this weekend.

competes with the Lansing Derby Vixens All-Stars but has also skated for the other two adult teams. Jenkins is looking forward to learning from the international slate of teams coming to town this weekend.

"The coolest part is interacting with other skaters and learning new strategies," she said. "Roller derby is one of the fastest growing women's sports in the world."

"Seeing some of these amazing skaters in person is an amazing opportunity," Wardell added. "It's different than watching a local scrimmage."

Both Jenkins and Wardell were initially drawn to roller derby by the physicality of the sport.

"There aren't many opportunities for

women to play contact sports," Wardell said.

"I grew up playing ice hockey," Jenkins said. "I thought it would be fun to try something different."

But the real core of the team, Wardell says, is its sense of community. In addition to the camaraderie among the skaters, the team also gives back to the surrounding community. To date, the Lansing Derby Vixens have donated over \$60,000 in cash and in-kind gifts to local charities and community events.

"I love the community focus," Wardell said. "We work with nonprofits. We really love Lansing."

The Women's Flat Track Derby Association is the largest roller derby organization in the world, boasting 376 full member teams and 74 apprentice teams. The league's Division 1 tournaments take the top 40 teams in the league and divide them into four regional tournaments. The next 20 teams are split between two Division 2 tournaments. Both divisions feed into a championship tournament November in Portland, Ore.

"They're playing for a spot in the championship tournament," Wardell said. "It's a pretty high level."

The chance to see these skaters in person is especially helpful for the junior teams, which don't get to travel or compete as much as the adult teams.

"It's an excellent opportunity for them to see some of these high level skaters," Wardell said. "To see it firsthand is a much different experience than watching a video online."

One Book, One Community

Presents... Faces of Migration: The Human Experience



ENRIQUE'S JOURNEY

Author Sonia Nazario

KICK-OFF EVENT

Sunday, August 28, 2016 • 7 p.m.
East Lansing Hannah Community Center
819 Abbot Road • FREE

MSU ACADEMIC WELCOME

Monday, August 29, 2016 • 9 a.m.
Jack Breslin Student Events Center • FREE



CITY OF THORNS

Author Ben Rawlence

COMMUNITY EVENT

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 • 7 p.m.
East Lansing Public Library
950 Abbot Road • FREE

Presented by:



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UNIVERSITY

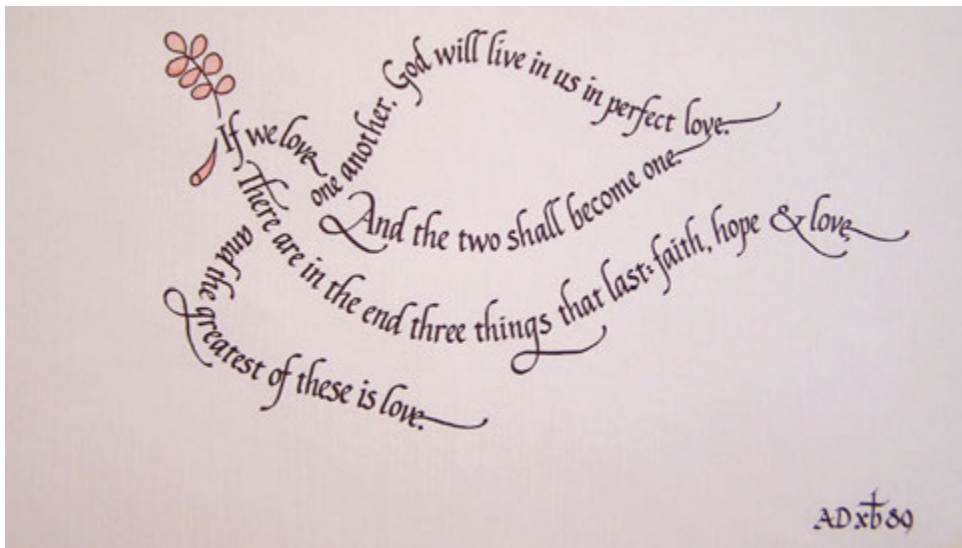
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Our Stories, Our Lives



www.onebookeastlansing.com



Courtesy Photo

William Rowan discovered calligraphy through his interest in composing and arranging music.

Meet the Artist

William Rowan on his journey to photography

By CALLIE OPPER

William Rowan, this week's Summer of Art artist, came to visual art through music. Rowan holds degrees in piano, organ and harpsichord performance from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, and the University of Michigan. His interest in composing led to an interest in calligraphy, which was his gateway to visual art.

"Great art and music has always been my source of inspiration," Rowan said.

Rowan, 64, picked up a digital SLR camera for about four years ago.

"Thanks to the digital format, one is able to progress much faster in photography than was possible in the days of film," he said.

For Rowan, photography is a way to capture fleeting moments of beauty.

"We often experience extraordinary moments in our lives, yet they rush by, buried in the avalanche of time, and quickly grow dim in our memories," Rowan said. "Photography helps us capture the spirit and feel of those cherished experiences, and, just as important, enables us to share them with others."

While Rowan enjoys nature photography, he tries to open up his experience and try different things.

"I dabble at everything from macro (photos of very small things) to wildlife to people photography," he said.

While photography has gotten more accessible with digital cameras and smartphones, Rowan feels that the accessibility allows people to take photography for granted. He argues people should have a greater appreciation for the power of photos.

"Photography, especially good photography, is the single best way to preserve the memory, spirit and essence of what we cherish," Rowan said.

The key, he said, is to take these resources and work to improve your art.

"Talent exists," Rowan said. "And though

few people believe this, anyone can learn to do almost anything well, given a good attitude and concerted effort."

Rowan was music director for 17 years at Lansing's St. Mary Cathedral but now works as a departmental analyst for the Michigan Department of Education. He still carves out time for creative pursuits.

"Being creative is profoundly rewarding," Rowan said. "And no matter what your age, it's never too late to take up or cultivate your passion."

Rowan encourages aspiring artists to watch "I Will What I Want," a video available on YouTube starring African-American ballet star Misty Copeland.

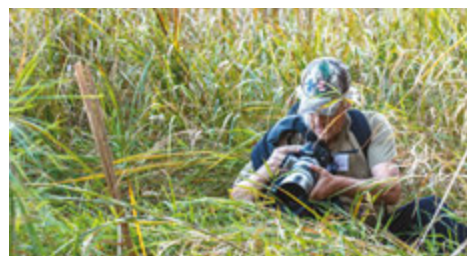
"It features her dancing while she reads a devastating rejection letter from a ballet school listing all the reasons she will never succeed," Rowan said. "It's the finest example of an artist transcending discouragement and believing in herself I've ever seen."

Rowan is currently working on an ambitious Lansing-focused project.

"We have a wonderful, diverse community, and I am planning a 'Faces of Lansing' project," he said. "How marvelous it would be to record a sampling of our city — the homeless, children, immigrants, artists, educators, workers, City Pulse reporters, etc."

Great art, Rowan said, helps us make sense of the world around us.

"Creativity and art helps us hold onto our birthright ability to experience beauty and mystery, Rowan said. "It helps give meaning in a world of chaos."



Courtesy Photo

William Rowan, this week's Summer of Art Artist, is seen here capturing images in the wild.

CROWDSOURCING

A GUIDE TO LANSING-AREA ONLINE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS

Crowdsourcing highlights local crowdsourcing campaigns. To find the events, go to the designated website and search by title.



Courtesy Photo

Joshua Davis, former Steppin' In It guitarist/singer and finalist on NBC's "The Voice," is crowdfunding his latest recording project.

New studio album from Michigan roots-rocker Joshua Davis

kickstarter.com/projects/1063105731/new-studio-album-from-michigan-roots-rocker-joshua

Joshua Davis is in town to record his next album, and he's reaching out to his fans for help. The singer/songwriter launched a Kickstarter campaign Aug. 5 to help fund the effort.

"I've decided to come to my community like I've always done instead of courting a big record label," Davis writes on the Kickstarter page. "I want to make the album I hear in my head instead of the album someone else wants me to make."

Davis, former singer/guitarist for local folk group Steppin' In It, was a finalist on the last season of NBC's "The Voice." His appearance on the reality singing competition opened up opportunities for touring around the U.S. and beyond.

"I was equally surprised by the incredible support not only from my community, but from so many people all around the world," Davis writes. "The past year has been a whirlwind of incredible tours, working with wonderful people and trying to harness this momentum in the best and most genuine way I know how."

Davis, who lives in Traverse City, is back in the Lansing area to record with local recording guru Glenn Brown. For the new album, Davis is reuniting with former Steppin' In It bassist Dominic Davis and keyboardist Mike Lynch. He has also recruited southeast Michigan-based percussionist Mike Shimmin. Brown is engineering the album and Steve Berlin of Los Lobos is producing. A veteran session musician and producer, Ber-

lin has worked with John Lee Hooker, Faith No More, R.E.M., the Replacements and more. Davis describes Berlin as "one of my heroes and a roots-rock pioneer."

"I can't tell you how excited I am to work with him," Davis continues. "Most of my recorded work has been self-produced, so it's going to be a big change to work with another set of ears at the helm, but I can't think of a more perfect producer for this record."

The campaign ends Sept. 4. So far, Davis has raised nearly \$19,000 of his \$30,000 goal. Rewards for donors range from early release digital downloads of the album and signed 7-inch vinyl records to Skype music lessons and private house concerts. Funds raised by the Kickstarter campaign will go toward recording costs and manufacturing CDs and vinyl albums. ("No 8-tracks on this run," Davis jokes.) The funds will also be used to promote and market the album.

"In the past, I've made albums that I'm very proud of but haven't put much weight behind promotion. I want this project to be different," Davis writes. "I feel like we're on the cusp of something really incredible, and I want to harness that momentum and really push this album. That means Americana and AAA radio promoters, a top-shelf album publicist, social media strategists, graphic designers and then some."

Davis' grassroots approach hopes to show there's a path for independent musicians to succeed without compromising for the sake of radio play or mass marketing.

"I hope you'll join in to support independent music and help us carry the torch and create something we can all get behind," Davis writes. "We can't wait to share this project with the world!"

— TY FORQUER

If you have a crowdsourcing event to promote, send a link and short description to ty@lansingcitypulse.com.

Perilous path

'Enrique's Journey' puts human face on illegal immigration
By BILL CASTANIER

In 2000, Sonia Nazario, a seasoned news reporter for the Los Angeles Times, had been in contention for a Pulitzer Prize but had never won. But she had no idea that her next big story, the one that would finally earn her the coveted award, was as close as her morning coffee.

"I was in my kitchen one morning with Carmen, the woman who cleans my house," Nazario recalled. "I knew she had one child, and I asked her if she had any other children. She just started sobbing, telling me she left four children behind in Guatemala."

That story led Nazario on a perilous journey of discovery, stretching thousands of miles and leading to a six-part, 33,000 word piece in the Los Angeles Times that would

One Book, One Community events

Kick-off

7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 28
FREE
Hannah Community Center
819 Abbot Road, East Lansing

MSU Academic Welcome

9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 29
FREE
Breslin Student Events Center
534 Birch Road, East Lansing

onebookeastlansing.com

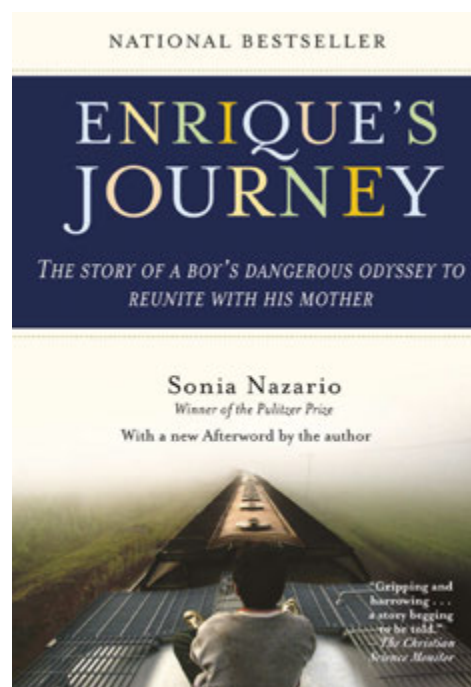
earn her a coveted Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing in 2003. She detailed the practice of Latin American mothers leaving their children and coming to the U.S. in hopes of creating a better life, then sending for their children. Nazario faced danger and death as she recreated the travels of Enrique, a young Honduran boy in search of a mother who had left him

and his sister to work in the U.S.

The author recounts both her and Enrique's troubles in her book, "Enrique's Journey," which was selected by MSU and East Lansing for this year's One Book, One Community program. The community reading program, now in its 15th year, selects an author or authors who reflect a specific theme. This year's theme is "Faces of Migration: the Human Face".

The selection committee couldn't have known when they decided on the book earlier this year that refugees and immigration would become some of the most contentious topics of the 2016 presidential election cycle or that "build that wall" would become a rallying cry for Republican nominee Donald Trump and his supporters.

But readers of "Enrique's Journey" quickly discover that immigration is a complex is-



Courtesy Photo

"Enrique's Journey," by Sonia Nazario, was selected by MSU and East Lansing for this year's One Book, One Community program.

sue. Single mothers leaving their families — and the children left behind leaving to find their mothers — is commonplace in Central America. The drug business that has taken hold in the region brought with it violence, rape and death, and families are desperate to escape.

As Nazario details in "Enrique's Journey," the children left behind face violent drug gangs, extortion and a life of crime and brutality. It also becomes increasingly obvious

that much of this horror is directly related to U.S. drug policy.

Nazario wanted to put a human face on the issue. She settled on the story of Enrique and his eight attempts to find his mother. It is an anguishing story that Nazario retraced with a photographer. (The photographer, Don Bartletti, also won a Pulitzer for documenting the journey.) Nazario followed Enrique's path as closely as she could, including riding "the beast" — the train — by sitting or lying on top of the train's roof. One of those trips came close to killing her.

"I was riding on the top of a train when a branch almost knocked me off," she said. "The branch swiped a kid off behind me."

Her journeys added up to 1,600 miles and took over three months. She also reconstructed scenes that Enrique had told her about in interviews. Nazario said the story probably couldn't be written today, referring to the decline of the American publishing industry.

"It cost too much and took too long," she said.

Nazario said today's immigrants risk the dangers of illegal immigration because the conditions where they live are much worse.

"More often than not, it is children fleeing the most dangerous situations," she said. "If they are sent back, they will be killed."

Today, Nazario uses her book to foster intelligent discussion on immigration policy. Since its publication in 2014, "Enrique's Journey" has been selected by 87 universities and 20 cities for community reading programs.

"It's rare for a university and a city to jointly select a book," she said of the One Book, One Community program.

While in East Lansing, Nazario, will address incoming students and talk with students in MSU's College of Law with the hopes of recruiting lawyers for Kids in Need of Defense, which provides lawyers for children who are facing deportation. The organization's goal is to avoid situations where children have to stand in front of judge without representation, knowing they face extreme danger or death back home.

As for Trump's proposed solution, Nazario cautions that there are no quick fixes.

"Walls don't work," she said. "Smugglers will find ways to go around."

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reviews in Publishers Weekly, Kirkus Reviews, Booklist and Library Journal!

MSU Prof. of Journalism, AMY HAIMERL, presents her memoir, *Detroit Hustle*

Wednesday, Sept. 14 @ 7pm
Meridian Mall location

Meet MSU professor and journalist Amy Haimerl as she talks about her acclaimed memoir *Detroit Hustle*. *Detroit Hustle* has been recognized as so much more than a standard memoir; Rob Fournier, columnist for the Atlantic, declared "It's America's story. Amy Haimerl's memoir is as gritty and gripping as Detroit itself."

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City Pulse LGBTQ Inclusion Awards to honor 8

Close to 30 people, businesses and organizations were nominated to receive the first-ever City Pulse LGBTQ Inclusion Awards this Friday. The nominations committee selected eight. See who they are in on pages 16-17.

Then come join the party at Spiral Dance Bar as we launch what we expect will become an important part of the Gay Pride weekend lineup. Honor your friends or just be part of the fun in giving recognition to those who have gone above and beyond on behalf of the Lansing area's gay community.

The awards event begins with a cocktail party at 7 p.m. inside Spiral, with

plenty of heavy appetizers provided by Eastside Fish Fry, Zaytoon Mediterranean, Waterfront Bar & Grill, Midtown Brewing Co. and Whipped bakery.

Then at 8 p.m., Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum emcees the presentation ceremony.

Tickets (\$20 in advance, \$25 at door) include the White Party (a \$10 value), two drinks and all the food you can eat.

Stick around for the annual White Party at Spiral beginning at 9.

Much thanks to our food sponsors; Jena McShane Photography and photographers Alex Jackson and Sergei Kvitko, Capital Imaging and Absolute

Gallery for helping create the awards; Plant Professionals for decorations; and above all Sammy Courtney and the crew at Spiral.

And thanks as well to the nominations committee: Rob Mathis, Shelly Olson, Jeff Wood, Lorenzo Lopez, the Rev. P.J. Anderson, Cindee Alwood and Emily Dievendorf.

City Pulse LGBTQ Inclusion Awards Party and Ceremony

7 p.m.-9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26

Cocktail party 7 p.m.;

awards ceremony 8 p.m..

Spiral Dance Bar,
1247 Center St., Lansing
\$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. Includes White Party wristband (\$10 value), two drinks and food.

In advance: visit lansingcitypulse.com or call Suzi at (517) 999-6704

"City Pulse Newsmakers" TV Show on Michigan Pride airs at 6 a.m. Thursday and 10:30 a.m. Saturday on MY18 TV. Also available at www.lansingcitypulse.com.

HIDDEN, THEN AND NOW

The ghosts of Olsen's Bar whisper Lansing's gay history

By **TODD HEYWOOD**

Lansing Community College faculty and staff park their cars in a nondescript parking lot on Washington Square near Shiawassee Street.

What they probably don't know is that this was once home to Olsen's, which during the 1950s was one the few Lansing bars serving the region's persecuted and underground homosexual community.

It's a footnote in a slice of Lansing culture largely lost in time, though slowly being resurrected by Tim Retzloff, an assistant professor of history and LGBTQ studies at MSU.

Retzloff, working with archive staff at the MSU Archives, uncovered a Feb 25, 1957, "sex deviation" report compiled by Ralph Ryal with the Michigan State University Police Department. The report reveals the oldest reference to a bar — Olsen's — where gay men gathered to socialize.

"He (the unidentified student) stated that most of his contacts had been made at Olsen's Bar, 325 N. Washington Ave. Lansing," Ryal wrote in a police report forwarded to the Office of the Dean of Students and command staff in the MSU

Department of Public Safety nearly 60 years ago.

The unnamed student was being investigated after another student secretly recorded him discussing his own homosexuality as well as that of other MSU students. The recording was turned over the MSU Police and led to the investigation.

The two-page report is shedding light on early LGBTQ experiences in Lansing, particularly gathering places like gay bars. Retzloff has helped City Pulse identify 16 locations in Lansing, East Lansing and Meridian Township that served as gay bars. The list was compiled from various gay publications and archival research.

Some of those bars are long gone now like Olsen's and Town Pump, which was located across the street from Olsen's and was a hot spot in the '60s. The first gay owned bar, Trammpp's Disco, and Joe Covello's, which opened in the '70s, were demolished in the '90s to make way for the baseball stadium. Stober's, which was known as Rustic Village in the late '60s, was listed in gay travel guides as a gay bar.

Despite Lansing's history as a hotbed of lesbian activism and thought, and its nationally recognized women's community, no bar catering to lesbians and bisexual women in the area has been identified before the 1990s opening of Club 505, at the corner of Shiawassee and Cedar streets. That bar closed years ago when developer Pat Gillespie purchased the location. The bar sits empty today.

"Part of why it's hidden is it was forced to be hidden," Retzloff said of the uncovered history. "This shows that as hard as they tried to eradicate homosexual establishments from society, they couldn't even erase them. Granted, it's fragmented, but it's very telling."

Retzloff said the uncovered report reflects the 1950s, when law enforcement launched "savage, savage, savage crack-downs" on gays. It was a time when men at the University of Michigan were arrested in sting operations and paraded before the media. It remains unclear if the gay MSU student in the police report was ever prosecuted, or if his story was ever revealed publicly.

"But it shows that there was this interrogation. This push to name names," Retzloff said, was "frightening."

Indeed, the report shows Ryal hauled

the student into an interview and pressed him for the identity of other homosexuals. He said this was at the end of the McCarthy' era's witchhunt for Communists, which historians call the Lavender Scare. U.S. Sen. Joseph McCarthy and his allies often used the sexuality of opponents to target them for investigation, firing and harassment.

Until 1979 it was illegal for a bar to be "frequented by or to become the meeting place, hangout, or rendezvous for known... homosexuals," Retzloff wrote in the introduction to a 2010 historical directory of gay and lesbian bars in metro Detroit.

"It wasn't until after the war that we saw bars specifically catering to the gay community," Retzloff said. "Before that there were places, but it was not commercialized."

But even then, gay bars were owned by



Retzloff



Photo Courtesy of the Capital Area District Libraries

An archival image of the Palador Cafe, 325 N. Washington Ave., in the late '30s or early '40s. This location turned into Olsen's Bar in the mid-'50s and by the end of the decade had become the Clique Lounge, according to Heidi Butler, local history librarian at the Capital Area District Library.



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Bars

from page 11

straight people and in larger cities often times organized crime.

"Some of those owners did not want to be known as a gay bar, they didn't like it all, but it was lucrative," Retzloff said.

Bill Castanier, president of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing, called the discovery "important."

"It gives legitimacy to a different culture that people didn't even want to admit to existing," he said by phone. "It's an incredibly important project."

He said the discovery and the list of bars reveals an "amazing story" about a hidden culture.

"I don't think a lot of straight people knew that there were so many gay bars," he said.



Photo Courtesy Tim Retzloff

This 1975 image from the personal collection of Tim Retzloff shows the exterior of Stober's bar in Lansing. The location was listed in the late '60s as a gay bar in gay travel guides. It was owned by Rudy Stober but was named the Rustic Village Inn.

LANSING
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MICHIGAN PRIDE

AUGUST 26 & 27

FRIDAY 8/26 @ 7:00 P.M.

White Party Kick-off Fundraiser in Old Town, Lansing
\$10 Wrist band covers Esquire, Sir Pizza and Spiral!

SATURDAY 8/27 @ 12:00 Noon

Rally at the State Capitol followed by Pride Festival 1pm-10 pm in
Reo Town, S. Washington Ave. Lansing, MI 48910



PRIDE ALL OVER

Weekend festivities expand to three neighborhoods

Service of Remembrance for our Friends & Family in the LGBT Community

A time for us to remember all of our brothers and sisters in the LGBT Community who have died from violence, AIDS, suicide, and all of our beloved dead.



Across from the State Capitol

Friday, August 26 at 5:30 pm

The Episcopal Church welcomes & loves all people!

Convenient parking is located in the structure behind the church.

By CITY PULSE STAFF

This year, MI Pride weekend, once held entirely within the friendly confines of Old Town, will expand to include three neighborhoods: Old Town, downtown and REO Town. The festivities begin Friday in Old Town, including City Pulse's first-ever LGBTQ Inclusion Awards.

The 7 p.m. party and awards ceremony will honor this year's LGBTQ Inclusion Award winners. (See p. 16 for profiles of this year's winners.) For \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door, you'll get a heavy appetizer buffet provided by Zaytoon's, Eastside Fish Fry, Whipped and more, two drink tickets and a wristband for that night's White Party festivities in Old Town. Cocktail party

starts at 7 p.m. followed by an 8 p.m. award ceremony.

Before the inclusion awards, Spiral Dance Bar will host its first-ever Kid's Day, an event for LGBTQ kids, parents and allies.

"We're excited to do a family-oriented event," said Sammy Courtney, manager of Spiral. "We bought 144 backpacks full of school supplies to give away to kids in need."

The event, which runs from 4 to 8 p.m., also includes hot dogs, face painting, dancing and games.

Also on Friday, St. Paul's Episcopal Church offers a remembrance service for LGBTQ people who died this year by violence, suicide and HIV/AIDS, including the victims of the Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando. The service includes scripture readings, litanies, candle lighting and music from the Taizé Community.

After the LGBTQ Inclusion Awards, the annual multi-site White Party kicks off in Old Town. A \$10 wristband — available at Esquire Bar, Sir Pizza Grand Café and Spiral — is good for entrance to all three locations.

Saturday kicks off with a noon rally at the Michigan Capitol Building. Emily Dievendorf, president of the Lansing Association for Human Rights and organizer of the rally, said this year's theme is "intersectionality."

"We are black, we are women, we are Muslim, we are both genderqueer and gay, we are Latino, we are HIV+, we are undocumented immigrants — to look at LGBTQ issues one-dimensionally is to deny our reality," Dievendorf explained. "We are LGBTQ, but we are also a demographic within every demographic. When we experience discrimination, we are often experiencing it two- and three-fold."

Speakers at the rally include Penny Gardner, former president of the Lansing Association for Human Rights; trans/genderqueer advocates Amanda Niven and Zoe Steinfield; LaShawn Erby, a straight ally who will be representing Black Lives Matter Lansing; the Rev. Nicolette Siragusa, pastor with First Con-

See Pride, Page 15

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- October 5** Silent Auction Benefit at Capital City Grille

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Building Dreams Together



Pride

from page 14

gregational UCC in Grand Ledge; LG-BTQ Latino leader Philip Herrera and openly gay state Rep. Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo).

MI Pride Festival kicks off 1 p.m. in REO Town. For the past two years, the festival has been held at Adado Riverfront Park, but the organizers made the decision to move to the south Lansing neighborhood.

“We had a great opportunity to partner with the REO Town Commercial Association,” said Ryan Sebolt, a chairman for MI Pride. “We’ve been really happy with the way that partnership has worked out.”

The festival will be held on Washington Avenue between Elm and South streets. The entertainment lineup features a variety of acts, including live music, DJs, drag performers and comedians. Several food vendors will be on hand, and beverages will be available from the REO Town Pub, Barefoot Wine and the MI Pride beer tent.

The festival wraps up at 10 p.m., but attendees are encouraged to head to Old Town for after-parties at Spiral, Esquire and Sir Pizza Grand Café.

With activities stretching from REO Town to Old Town, MI Pride is offering

help to get attendees to each location. Free shuttle service is available 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. to take attendees from the rally to the festival and from 8:30 to 11 p.m. to take attendees from the festival to Old Town.

“We’ve expanded our tent to 40 by 80 (feet), which is twice the size we had last year,” Courtney said. “More DJs, more entertainment, more food — we’re really excited for that.”

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First Annual City Pulse LGBTQ Inclusion Award Honorees

Profiles by Lawrence Cosentino

Selection Committee:

Cindee Alwood
The Rev. P.J. Anderson
Sammy Courtney
Emily Dievendorf
Lorenzo Lopez

Robert Mathis
Shelly Olson
Berl Schwartz
Jeff Wood



James McClurken: Coming out — as a Christian

Six years ago, James McClurken became an elder at Lansing's First Presbyterian Church. It brought on a coming-out crisis — but not the one you think.

"It was harder to come out as a Christian than as a gay man," he cracked. "All of my friends were gay people who had the same attitude toward the church as I do, and most still have good reason."

After suffering through a Baptist upbringing, McClurken, 62, didn't have much use for any church. But his then-partner, pianist and recording engineer, Sergei Kvitko, has been deeply involved at "First Pres" for 20 years as organist and music director. They wanted to share that part of their life. "We were the first queer couple to have our church directory picture taken together," McClurken said. "We held hands."

That was 15 years ago. Last year, McClurken and Kvitko were married at First Presbyterian. The couple invited all 300 church members, figuring about 50 would come, but 150 members showed up, with about 300 guests in all.

The Potter House, the historic mansion where Kvitko and McClurken live, ran out of food for the first time, if only after three hours of epic grazing.

McClurken and Kvitko make their house and grounds available for hundreds of benefit events, including events benefiting LGBTQ groups.

After McClurken became an elder, First Pres engaged directly with the community, reaching out with food, clothing, counseling, "all the things churches are supposed to do," targeting the gay community in particular.

At First Pres and other affirming and welcoming churches, people who thought they could never be part of a spiritual community feel included.

"It brought a lot of people who grew up like me, in a church, and made it a place to go where they're safe," McClurken said. It might even make it easier for gay people to come out as Christian.



Roxanne Frith: Just being authentic

In the 40-plus years since artist/activist Roxanne Frith came out as bisexual, and later as a lesbian, being gay has gradually become less of a big deal. But after the June 12 massacre at Orlando's Pulse nightclub, she felt like a target all over again.

"I had a sense of, 'Wow, I haven't felt unsafe since I ran away from home as a teenager,'" she said. "The current climate, those hatreds and biases, the fever of fear has been stirred up, and to me, that's a call for even more action."

As a precocious 16-year-old photographer growing up in rural Nashville, Mich., Frith grabbed the chance to take classes at Lansing Community College, where she still teaches photography.

"Being interested in girls in a small town wasn't safe," she said. "That was part of it."

Lansing was a revelation to her. Gay and lesbian-owned galleries, businesses and organizations thrived in Old Town in the 1980s and '90s.

"Between the gay community and the women's community here, my goodness, 48912 was a code in lesbian music," she said.

She transferred to Tuscon in 1982 to finish a bachelor's degree, then plunged into activism in the mid-1980s.

"We were losing our friends and Reagan hadn't even said the word AIDS yet," she said. "I took care of a friend and helped him to die. That instilled in me that it was really important, being aware and being active."

In Lansing, Frith, 58, has supported LGBTQ causes in hundreds of ways, from serving as a Michigan Pride photographer for 10 years to "just living out, not flagrantly, not wearing a big L on my arm, but just being who I am, just being authentic."

After several rounds of serious illness, including a kidney transplant, she's still on the scene as artist and activist. She's planning a new exhibit of photographs and a new round of LGBTQ outreach to area schools.

"I'm not one of the front-end people, but I'm there," she said.



Frank Vaca: 'Hate is hiding'

Lansing prides itself on being welcoming to LGBTQ community, but activist Frank Vaca is content living in the nearby, semi-rural town of Potterville, amid grain silos, fried gizzards and frequent train derailments. He called Potterville a "do not ask, do not tell" place, but he likes to keep it real.

"I find it comfy to live in a place where you can get your scenic views," he said.

Vaca volunteers for several Lansing-based organizations and avidly tracks the image of LGBTQ life presented in the media. Lately he's been caught up in a "best of times, worst of times" mood following the Supreme Court's same-sex marriage ruling and the Pulse nightclub massacre in Orlando.

"It's a perplexing issue," he said. "You can get married one day, and fired the next, or harassed or killed," he said.

When Vaca, 34, came out at 18, his family's reaction was divided. His mother's family was supportive, but his father's was "a totally different story."

"I hated myself and questioned whether I fit in," he said.

In 2005, he took a course on diversity in the workplace at Lansing Community College and met older Lansing-area activists such as Penny Gardner and "the great Todd Heywood," Vaca's epithet for the City Pulse reporter and fellow Inclusion Award recipient.

"Todd made me settle down, get a drink now and then and be comfortable in my own skin," he said.

Before long, Vaca himself became a mentor in his "baby project," LCC's Gay-Straight Alliance.

In the fight for LGBTQ equality, thousands of small local victories go along with the big national ones. In 2010, LCC started cleaning its bathrooms, keeping track via maintenance sheets, thanks in part to pressure from Vaca, who was appalled by the anti-gay graffiti he saw.

"I didn't realize how much hate is hiding until I really looked on those walls," he said.

He has run into a couple of students who tried to "convert" him. "It makes for great conversation," he cracked.

As he works toward a bachelor's degree in business administration at Davenport College, Vaca plans to keep on being an activist "and just enjoying life and finding out exactly where I do belong."



Erik Wert: Fighting health care disparity

People talk loosely about how violence, injustice, hate and ignorance make them sick.

To Erik Wert, medical director of the Ingham Community Health Center, that's not just a figure of speech. The legalization of same-sex marriage, widely touted as the endpoint of the fight for equality, has barely put a dent in the health problems that plague the LGBTQ community.

"People don't realize that there are still so many structural barriers that are there," said Wert, 43. "You can marry your partner one day and be fired from your job the next."

Transgendered people, "a minority within a minority," are of special concern to Wert. He was shocked by studies showing that 19 percent of transgender people have been denied health care because of who they are.

"Until that changes, there's going to be stress, which leads to anxiety, which leads to health care disparity," Wert said.

Under Wert's leadership, the Ingham County Health Clinic provides a ground-breaking Pre-Exposure Prophylactics, or PrEP, program. The clinic, one of the few providers of PrEP in Ingham County, takes referrals from many private offices and organizations, including the Lansing Area AIDS Network.

To Wert, medication and treatment programs go hand in hand with intangibles such as making clinics welcoming for LGBTQ people.

Training in culturally competent care is mandatory for everyone at the Forest Hills clinic on South Cedar Street. Front office workers learn how to sensitively collect sexual orientation and gender identity data. The office is designed so nobody can tell which doctor a patient is seeing.

Wert and his team even created work-arounds in rigid computer programs to better serve transgender patients. "If my medical assistant walks out to talk to a patient, a warning pops up so they know the name, the pronouns they want to go by," Wert said. "That's a big step for medicine. When I went to med school, there was no information on transgender health, and their health outcomes are horrible."



Kathy Taskey: The Rainmaker

Do super-organized, hyper-motivated people rub you the wrong way? The aptly named Kathy Taskey, a longtime supporter of Michigan Pride and other LGBT groups, might be the first of her ilk to win you over.

"God, she's tireless," fellow Michigan Pride volunteer Michelle Taylor said. "Everything she does comes off well. She is the pre-planner, with spreadsheets. She'll plan an event a year ahead of time."

A golf outing that Taskey, 58, started six years ago with nine teams has grown to 36 teams swarming over a 27-hole course. Three years of euchre tournaments, four each winter, at Harry's Place, have often filled the bar to overflowing.

"She makes it exciting and fun for people," Taylor said. "She's got sponsors to the point where they come to her and ask what's going on and if they can sponsor it the next year. She's a rainmaker."

Taskey's newest event, a bowling tournament, raised over \$3,000 in its first go-round last year.

Robert Mathis, a Michigan Pride board member for four years, called her a "powerhouse."

"She spent countless hours planning these events, getting sponsorships, items for silent auctions," Mathis said. "What's incredible is she wasn't on the board of Michigan Pride. She worked behind the scenes and didn't expect any recognition."

Taskey said she considers her Inclusion Award a group award, not hers alone.

She still has a lot on her agenda. She sees a crying need for a community center where LGBT teens and the children of LGBT parents can hang out, recreate themselves and get counseling. Recent advances in LGBT legal status, culminating in the Supreme Court's same-sex marriage ruling, haven't changed daily reality for many LGBT teens.

"Bullying didn't go away because things changed," Taskey said. "We still need to be able to fund community-spirited events and things to help those kids, to get schools to understand. Just because it's gotten a little bit easier, doesn't mean any of that work goes away."



Todd Heywood: Truth teller

It may raise an eyebrow or two that City Pulse is bestowing one of the first annual Inclusion Awards on one of its own, reporter Todd Heywood.

Can we help it if a local, state, and national treasure happens to hang out in our own backyard? Heywood's relentless truth telling and activism, in the face of several ugly and life-threatening experiences, is well known in Lansing's LGBTQ community and beyond. Don't take our word for it. Last week, the national online magazine HIVPlus named Heywood, 46, No. 12 of its 75 Most Amazing HIV-positive People of 2016. The field is pretty large — about 1.2 million people.

The crimson thread that runs through Heywood's many endeavors — as activist, journalist and award-winning theater actor — is truth telling.

Heywood tracks the cultural, legislative and medical dimensions of LGBTQ life in City Pulse, Between the Lines and other publications with a relentless eye for hypocrisy and injustice. His passionate personal accounts of a recent hate-crime assault and his reaction to the Supreme Court's same-sex marriage ruling are must-reads.

Several times a year, Heywood gives popular talks about HIV at campuses and to groups around the state.

He's been told, even by the board of Michigan Pride, that it's too "depressing" to talk about HIV, but his message is one of promise. His biggest concern is access to preventive drugs, referred to as PrEP, that many young gay men don't even know about.

"Between treatment and prevention, we have the tools in our hand to end this epidemic within a decade," he said.

Heywood isn't known for dancing around sensitive subjects. His incisive talks bluntly confront gay men's sex lives, with names like "Raw Deal: Barebacking in America." It's a never-ending battle for basic equality. We've been hearing in exquisite detail about heterosexual couples' sex lives for decades already.

"The average American's understanding of HIV is still at the 1987 level," he said. "People still think you can get HIV from a swimming pool."



Old Town Commercial Association: A safe place

The Old Town Commercial Association can't enforce tolerance. It's up to property owners in Lansing's burgeoning historic district whether they want to sign a lease with someone.

Fortunately, no enforcer is needed — but a drum beater comes in handy. OTCA promotes the area's welcoming vibe right along with its nuts-and-bolts support programs for fledgling and established businesses.

From the pioneering galleries and bookstores of the 1970s to the boutiques and foodie-friendly eateries and bars of today, the welcome mat has been out for LGBT-owned and gay-friendly businesses for a long time.

"The arts community and the LGBT community are what started Old Town," Jamie Schriener-Hooper said. "They were one and the same."

Schriener-Hooper is president of the OTCA board and served as OTCA director for five years.

"It's been a safe place for the community to gather," Schriener-Hooper said. "That's what attracted me to it and what's attracted so many other people."

Vanessa Shafer, named OTCA's newest director in July, said that welcoming attitude "radiates from everyone here."

"It's one of the biggest things that drew me to this job," Shafer said.

A quick walk up and down Turner Street and Grand River Avenue takes you past a variety of gay-owned businesses, including Tony Sump's Leopold Bloom & Co. resale shop, Dannie and Ted Stewart's Metro Retro, Doug Meeks of the Cataldo & Meeks law firm, Brad Rakowski's Bradly's Home and Garden, Terry Grant's accounting offices, Matthew Ryan's salon and the two focal points for LGBT life in greater Lansing, Spiral Dance Bar and the Esquire Bar.

Far from being a public service, Old Town's well-known embrace of the LGBTQ community is a selling point for businesses and their clients.

Summer Schriener, owner of Grace Boutique, pointed out the exodus of businesses from Southern states where legislatures enact laws hostile to the LGBTQ community.

"Frankly, I'm glad to see that happen," Schriener said. "That's tied to the success of Old Town. When you discriminate against people, you not only lose their friendship, but you lose their business."



'Rent': A thousand sweet kisses

Last June, Director Kelly Stuitable-Clark brought cast members from Riverwalk's Theatre's production of "Rent" to perform four songs from the show at a Sunday service at the First Congregational UCC Church in Grand Ledge. Hearing lyrics such as "I'll cover you with a thousand sweet kisses" smack the church walls on a Sunday was only one of the morning's delights. By the time the collection plate went around, about \$500 were raised for the Lansing Area Aids Network.

"Nobody blinked an eye about us bringing this show that was a little bit taboo, a little bit risqué, to a church service," Stuitable-Clark said. "I was impressed."

On June 8, Riverwalk mounted a tearful benefit performance of "Rent" for the Lansing Area AIDS Network. That benefit, along with nightly donations accepted in the lobby and the church benefit, raised about \$5,000.

Numerous friends and family of people who died of AIDS were in the audience. Several cast members had lost loved ones as well.

"The cast felt it," Stuitable-Clark said. "They were all in tears at the end."

A few days later, the cast finished its matinee performance at Riverwalk then performed again at a 6 p.m. vigil for the victims of the Orlando shooting.

Community support for the show was impressive. Two decades after "Rent" caused a sensation on Broadway, its message of affirmation still resonated with Lansing audiences.

"It's a celebration, recognizing there are same-sex couples among your friends, your family," Stuitable-Clark said. "A few older people would leave at intermission, but that just could be because it was a loud rock musical."

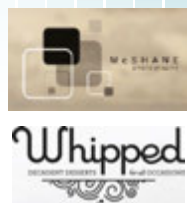
City Pulse LGBTQ Inclusion Awards Party and Ceremony

7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26
Cocktail party 7 to 8; awards ceremony 8 to 9.

Spiral Dance Bar, 1247 Center St., Lansing

Tickets, \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Includes White Party wristband (\$10 value), two drinks and food.

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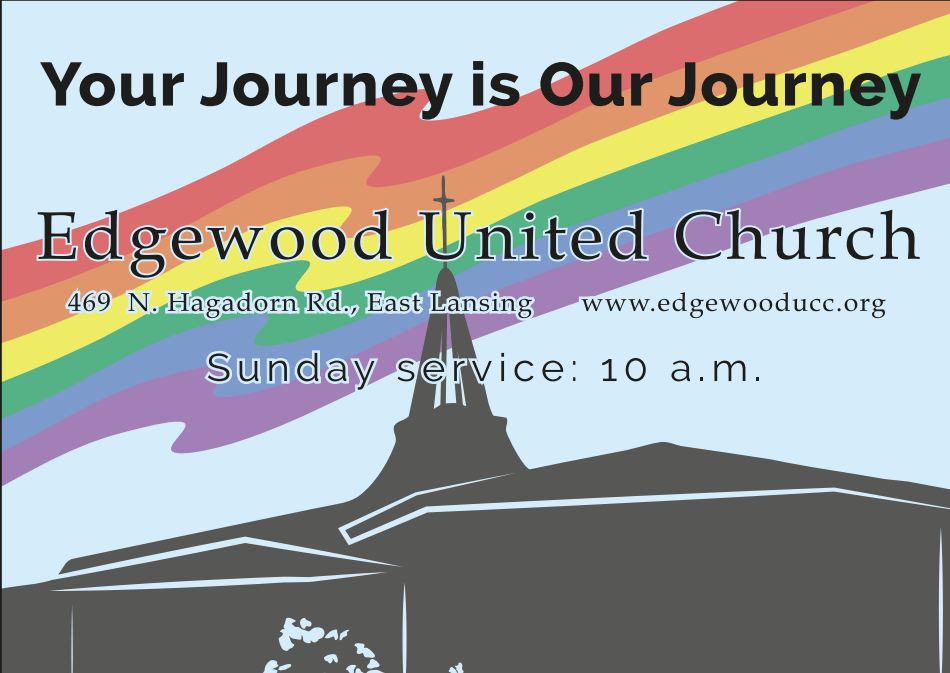
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MICHIGAN PRIDE WEEKEND EVENTS:

FRIDAY, AUG. 26

Pride Weekend Remembrance Service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

5:30-6:15 p.m.

FREE

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

218 W. Ottawa St., Lansing

(517) 482-9454, stpaulslansing.org

St. Paul's Episcopal Church holds a special Pride Weekend Remembrance Service to honor LGBTQ friends and family members who have died by violence, suicide, HIV/AIDS and especially those who were murdered this summer at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando. The service includes scripture readings, litanies, candle lighting and music from the Taizé community. All are welcome. Parking is available in the structure on Seymour Street behind the church.

Kid's Day

4 p.m.-8 p.m.

FREE

Spiral Dance Bar

1247 Center St., Lansing

(517) 371-3221, spiraldancebar.com

Spiral Dance Bar offers its first-ever Kids Day, featuring hot dogs, face painting, dancing, games and more. The bar will also hand out over 140 backpacks stocked with school supplies.

City Pulse LGBTQ Inclusion Awards

7-9 p.m.

\$25/\$20 adv.

Spiral Dance Bar

(517) 999-6704, lansingcitypulse.com

City Pulse honors the winners of our first-ever LGBTQ Inclusion Awards with a

Friday night party at Spiral Dance Bar. For \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door, you'll get a heavy appetizer buffet provided by Zaytoon's, Eastside Fish Fry, Whipped and more, two drink tickets and a wristband for that night's White Party in Old Town. Cocktail party starts at 7 p.m. followed by an 8 p.m. award ceremony.

White Party Kick-off Fundraiser

7 p.m.

\$10 wristband covers all three locations

Spiral Dance Bar

1247 Center St., Lansing

(517) 371-3221, spiraldancebar.com

Sir Pizza Grand Café

201 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing

(517) 484-9197

Esquire Bar

1250 Turner St., Lansing

(517) 487-5338

SATURDAY, AUG. 27

Rally at the Capitol

Noon

FREE

Michigan Capitol Building

100 N. Capitol Ave.

michiganpride.org

This year's rally focuses on the intersection of the fight for LGBTQ rights with other civil and human rights struggles. Speakers include Penny Gardner, former president of the Lansing Association for Human Rights; trans/genderqueer advocates Amanda Niven and Zoe Steinfield; LaShawn Erby, a straight ally who will be representing Black Lives Matter Lansing; the Rev. Nicolette Siragusa, pastor with First Congressional UCC in Grand Ledge; LGBTQ Latino leader Philip Herrera and openly gay state Rep. Jon Hoadley (D-Kalamazoo).

See Events, Page 19

In Support of the 2016 Michigan Pride Festival and the LGBT Community



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EVENTS

from page 18

Pride Festival

1 p.m.-10 p.m.
FREE

REO Town, Lansing
(On Washington Avenue between Elm and South streets)
michiganpride.org

This year's Pride Festival, hosted for the first time by Lansing's REO Town district, includes live entertainment by Cheetah Jameson, Maria Mirelez, Jeremy Sprague, Alise King, THUMPER, DJ Rachael, Ne Lovelife, Mimi Fisher, and Comedy Coven. The REO Town pub will be slinging drinks all day, and food vendors Good Truckin' Food, Saddleback BBQ, Gumps BBQ, Pie Hole Pizza Truck, Sir Pizza Grand Cafe Old Town and Mark's Hot Diggity Dog Stand will be on site serving up tasty treats.

True Colors

6 p.m.-3 p.m.
\$10 for 21 and up/\$15 for 18-20

Spiral Dance Bar
1247 Center St., Lansing
(517) 371-3221, spiraldancebar.com

AFTER PARTIES:

Sir Pizza Grand Café

7 p.m.-2 a.m.
FREE
201 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
(517) 484-9197

Esquire Bar

7 p.m.-2 a.m.
FREE
1250 Turner St., Lansing
(517) 487-5338

FREE shuttle service is available 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. to take attendees from the rally to the festival and from 8:30 to 11 p.m. to take attendees from the festival to the after-parties in Old Town.

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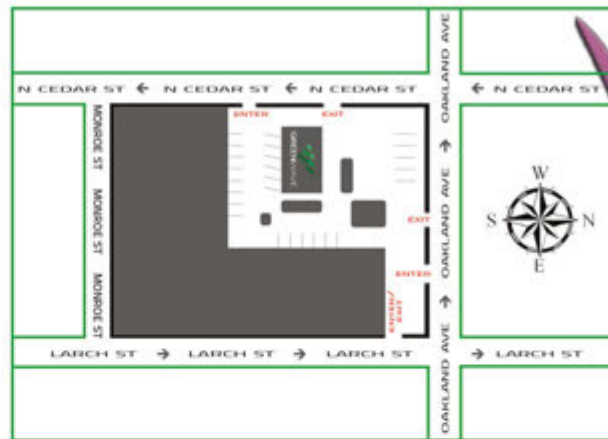
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WHITE PARTY

FRIDAY 26 AUG

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BIG ROOM: NICK FURY
PATIO: MARC COLOR // SARAH KRISTOFF
CHRIS HODDY // LINDSEY SEAL
DRAG QUEENS: RAMPAGE // SABIN
ASIO AVIANCE // KARIMA VUITTON // ELEKTRA

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ALL AGES!
FRIDAY, AUGUST 26TH 4-8PM

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KIDS DAY!

A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT FOR THE
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FREE SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR KIDS!

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SATURDAY 27 AUG

TENT
JASON CROSBY
KLEES
DJ SKITZO
PATIO
JAY ARTHUR
WSG

BIG ROOM
MONICA PARKER

DRAG QUEENS
DESTINY DEVILLE
DELICIOUS JACKSON
CAJ MONET
JUSTIN CIDER

STARTS @ 6PM
21+ \$10
18+ \$15

THE ONLY 18+ NIGHTCLUB IN LANSING

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f i t v





Lansing's LGBT Connection!

Lansing Association for Human Rights

The LGBT News

Michigan's oldest community based organization

August 2016 : Published Monthly

LAHR PAC Mid-Campaign Season Update

By Joe Marutiak

August 2nd was a pretty good day politically for the LGBTQ community in mid-Michigan. That was the day of the Democratic and Republican primaries. Candidates were selected to run for those parties in November. Many candidates ran unopposed but in almost every instance, when there were 2 candidates and 1 was rated higher by LAHR PAC, the better candidate won.

Very Positive State Representatives **Tom Cochran** and **Andy Schor** won the right to be on the ballot over challengers with lower ratings. **Carol Siemon**, the only Very Posi-

tive candidate for Ingham County Prosecutor, will be the Democratic candidate and almost certainly the next prosecutor. Siemon prominently displayed her Very Positive rating in her campaign literature. **Brian McGrain** and **Joseph Brehler** prevailed over lower rated candidates to retain their slots as county commissioner candidates. **Guy Sweet** won the right to be on the ballot for Delhi Township supervisor over a candidate that ignored the LGBTQ community. Very Positive **Ronald Styka** prevailed against a negative candidate with a bad voting record on the ballot for Meridian Township supervisor.



Cochran



Schor



Styka



Siemon

Sherry Crank and **Denise McCrimmon** won and 2 other positive candidates did not.

The only races where no higher rated candidates went forward were in Eaton and

The results for Township Trustee positions were a little more complicated. There were 4 slots to be filled for each party. In Meridian township 2 Very Positive candidates, **Brett DeGroff** and **Dan Opsommer** went forward while 1 did not. In Delta township 2 Positive candidates, **Andrea Cascarilla** and **Deana Newman** and 1 Very Positive candidate, **Dennis Fedewa** went forward while 1 positive candidate did not. In Bath township 2 Positive candidates, **Brett DeGroff** and **Dan Opsommer** went forward while 1 positive candidate did not.



McGrain



DeGroff

Clinton counties. Neither Positive rated **Reid Felsing** nor **John Finn** was able to get more votes for Eaton County Commissioner over the incumbent who has a Mixed rating. Bath Township supervisor candidate **Ryan Fewins-Bliss** was rated Positive but did not prevail over a candidate that ignored the LGBTQ community. Positive rated Bath Township treasurer candidate **Leon Puttler** also did not prevail over a candidate that ignored the LGBTQ community.

Getting Positive candidates on the ballot is the first step. The next will be getting them in office at the November 8th election.

Our Wish for Michigan

By: Nicolette Siragusa and Reg Calcagno
"Where are you from?"

"We just moved from Chicago, but grew up on the east coast."

"How'd you end up in Michigan?"

We moved here in the summer of 2008. Young LGBT people were moving out of mid-Michigan in droves. A constitutional amendment banning same sex marriage had passed a few years prior. So naturally, people were curious about why we moved here.

The short answer was that Nicolette got a job. Yet, we were both employed in Chicago, with good job prospects if we stayed. Something else was at play.

We both felt called to Michigan - there was good work to be done, but it took us a while to become a part of that work. Yes, we had church life, and that was great. However it took us a few years and a few false starts before we really felt like we were a part of the Lansing community.

Roller derby helped. Regina (aka Lil Italy) was one of the founding members of the Lansing Derby Vixens, the city's WFTDA affiliated and nationally ranked league.

Showing up helped. Networking events. Protests. Parades. Festivals. Hearings.

Working helped. First Congregational

Welcome to LAHR's New Board Members!

LAHR is pleased to announce our new Board Members! Please welcome Erica Spitzfaden, Amanda Panda, Zoe Steinfield, Ana Wolken, Lydia Weiss, Angélica De Jesús, Becky Silva, and Jen Anderson! We are thrilled to add these compassionate movers and shakers to the Board. Together, LAHR Board Members, members, and our mid-Michigan community, will keep progress coming for LGBTQ people and in the process help build a better and more inclusive world. Thanks for stepping up, friends.

United Church of Christ (Grand Ledge). Tobacco Free Michigan. The Michigan Department of Civil Rights. One Capital Region. Michigan for Marriage.

We met more and more people, and were invited to share in making Michigan a place where all people are treated fairly and justly.

It's hard to leave this state that we've grown to love, knowing that there is more work to be done. It was here that on the 10th anniversary of our first Domestic Partnership we proved that "fifth time's the charm" and were legally wed in front of the Capitol. Yet, even in the afterglow of marriage equality, we see the writing on the wall and know there are threats to our community. Threats directed especially at our transgender and gender non-conforming kin, especially at our Black and Latinx kin.

We see different groups and organizations in Lansing and across the state who are struggling to honor the diversity of our community while also lifting up those common threads that unite us. The LGBTQ move-

ment was always about more than marriage. At its core, it is about our right to exist. Life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The LGBTQ community is as fraught with sexism, racism, and classism as the rest of society - but we are also a place that breaks down those barriers. We embrace the ability to question gender roles and the status quo. We celebrate beauty in all its forms. We give generously, especially to the organizations that support our homeless teens, so that they might not be stuck in a life of poverty. We partner together and find our work at the intersections, believing, in the words of Dr. King, that "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

When we moved here, we became part of the #lovelansing community we've grown to adore. The community and all its good works existed before us, and we know that the amazing work you all have done will continue long after we're gone. The Greater Lansing area has plenty to offer, but its greatest treasure is its people.

As we prepare to depart, our wish for

An Acknowledgement

Now that the City Pulse is printing and distributing our newsletter, for which LAHR is extremely grateful, there is a long-time individual vendor for which we are equally grateful; FocusMedia, for over six years a reliable and highly skilled vendor for LAHR. Melissa Cogswell is the owner and primary provider of services to her clients. Some of her work for LAHR included creating and maintaining our website, making it easy to find and easy to use. Further she produced the LAHR newsletter working closely with our late publisher, Bill Beachler.

In producing the newsletter, FocusMedia designed the masthead, effectively laid out the stories, and achieved final editing, before working with the printer. Cogswell never missed a deadline insuring mailing and distribution were always on schedule.

Melissa Cogswell goes above and beyond being a business woman. She is there for all of us with her expertise and connection; her concern and generosity, as we work together to advance equality for all.

We wish her well and highly recommend her to others.

Sincerely,

Penny Gardner, past president and continued supporter of LAHR

Michigan is that you keep working together. That you fight against legislation that seeks to further marginalize or disenfranchise.

See Wish, Page 22

A Call To Action That Never Went Away

By: Jennifer Anderson

We like to think that “love won” when the U.S. Supreme Court issued its landmark ruling on marriage equality. But over the past two years, opponents to equality have introduced more than 115 bills that would make discrimination legal.

Sadly, Michigan is no exception to this trend.

There’s a real opportunity to draft policy that would make our state a better place to live, love, work and raise a family. Instead, conservatives have focused on limiting access to marriage-related services, adoption, civil rights and bathrooms for LGBTQ people. And they’re doing it under the guise of protecting religious freedom and personal privacy.

For opponents to equality, weakening the Supreme Court’s ruling has been paramount. That’s why a series of “pastor protection” bills (HB 4732, HB 4733, HB 4855 and HB 4858) were introduced to make marriage solely a religious privilege. Gone would be civil ceremonies, making it harder for LGBTQ folks — never mind nonbelievers — to get married. Curiously, these bills also let churches refuse couples based on their religious beliefs, a right already protected under the first amendment. Adding that

provision seeks to convince the public that religious freedom still needs protecting.

Conservatives capitalized on that very idea to make it more challenging for many LGBTQ families to adopt, even though there are more than 3,000 foster kids who need homes. In a particularly despicable move, last year Gov. Rick Snyder signed a three-bill package that let taxpayer-funded adoption agencies refuse to place children with same-sex parents if they objected based on religious grounds. In short, anti-equality legislators sacrificed loving homes on the altar of their own intolerance.

Since then, expanding religious exemptions to discriminate have taken center stage.

Republicans introduced SB 4, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), to let people opt out of state or local laws that “substantially burden” religious practices. While religious liberty is essential to a diverse and progressive society, the “religious freedom” afforded by RFRA is a dog whistle for “freedom to discriminate.” In Michigan, only lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people aren’t protected by the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act. That means faith can be used as an excuse to deny services, employment, housing or medical care to a member of the LGBTQ community. Lives will be in jeopardy.

But some conservatives have been perfectly willing to endanger our citizens for political gain. That drive is especially evident when it comes to discrimination against transgender Michiganders. Despite the dramatic social, legal and economic backlash

against North Carolina’s, HB 2, conservatives introduced two bathroom bills of their own. And like HB 2, both HB 5717 and SB 993 would put already vulnerable individuals directly in harm’s way.

HB 5717 would restrict the use of public bathrooms and facilities based on biological sex, and SB 993 would extend those restrictions to schools. Transgender kids would have the option to use a single-occupancy restroom, but only if their parents request it. That’s massively problematic when not every LGBTQ child has a supportive family.

LGBTQ youth are 41 percent more likely to report being bullied and are 4.5 times more likely to attempt suicide. We can expect those statistics to worsen when dangerous legislation puts using the restroom at the center of a humiliating national conversation. Friends, we cannot put children at risk because a vocal minority is needlessly afraid.

But there are voices in the Michigan House and Senate who are fighting for change. Progressive lawmakers have introduced bills (SB 315, HB 4538) that would amend the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act to protect sexual orientation and gender identity. They haven’t passed yet, but with your help, they could. The stakes have never been higher. For some of us, the political arena is a struggle for representation and consensus. It’s our safety, our lives and our bodies.

This September, the Michigan Legislature will be back in session. If opponents to equality have their way, many of these discriminatory bills could end up on the House

and Senate floors. So unless you’re willing to continue living in a state where LGBTQ people are treated as second-class citizens, you need to act. You need to make yourself heard by writing, calling and organizing with all the tools you have at your disposal. Remember: your legislators work for you.

Conservatives nationwide are on the wrong side of history. They’re fighting against a majority of Michiganders and Americans who believe that all people are created equal, regardless of who they love.

It’s on you to remind them.

Wish

from page 21

chise your fellow Michiganders. That you get to know your legislators - even (especially) the ones you don’t agree with - so that they remember that their votes impact you and the people you care about. That you deepen your spiritual roots - whether in a church, a yoga class, a silent retreat - so that you remember that you are a beloved child of God. That you work towards inclusion. Diversity is imperative in all levels of every organization. The question must always be ‘who is at the table, who is missing, how can we do better?’

We’ll miss this adopted state of ours. We know that we are better people for having been here. We hope that we have done the same for Michigan.



First Presbyterian Church of Lansing
Reformed and Always Reforming

Welcomes and Affirms the LGBTQ Community

Worship Service: Sunday at 10:00 am

510 W Ottawa St, Lansing, Michigan 48933
 (517) 482-0668 info@lansingfirstpres.org
 www.lansingfirstpres.org
 Facebook: LansingFirstPresbyterian

OUT ON THE TOWN

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

Pagans in Valhalla



Courtesy Photo
Pagan Pride Day, an event that celebrates a variety of nature-based religions, comes to Valhalla Park in Holt Saturday.

• • • • • Saturday, Aug. 27 • • • • •

Wednesday, August 24

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

MUSIC

St. Johns Concert in the Park. Capital City Brass Band. 7-9 p.m. FREE, donations welcome. William E. Tennant Performance Shell, 805 W. Park St., Saint Johns. (989) 224-2429, clintoncountyarts.org.

Sit in with the Band. 8-11 p.m. Reno's East, 1310 Abbott Road, East Lansing. (517) 881-8125, kathyfordband.com.

EVENTS

Emergency Response Dinner. Meal to benefit the hungry featuring guest speaker. 6 p.m. \$20. Congregation Shaarey Zedek, 1924 Coolidge Road, East Lansing. (517) 332-1916.

Habibi at Allen Farmers Market. 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

Summer Reading Party. Celebrate reading with fun, games and a book sale. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Aurelius, 1939 S. Aurelius Road, Mason. (517) 628-3743, cadl.org.

How to Deal with Neighborhood Problems. City Attorney Jim Smiertka addresses common neighborhood conflicts. 6-8 p.m. FREE Grace Lutheran Church, 528 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 394-3996, lansingneighborhoods.org

Allen Farmers Market. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

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

ICACS Whisker Wednesday. Pet adoptions. All animals spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Noon-6 p.m. Ingham County Animal Control, 600 Curtis St., Mason. (517) 676-8370.

Practice Your English. All skill levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950

This weekend, LGBTQ people and allies will take part in Pride weekend in Lansing, celebrating their sexual identities. But down at Valhalla Park, another group will gather to celebrate their unique religious identity. Lansing Pagan Pride Day, which comes to the park Saturday, welcomes anyone who believes in a nature-based, non-traditional religion.

Carrie Zay, one of the founders of the Pagan Pride Day and president of the Mid-Michigan Pagan Council, describes Paganism as an “umbrella term” for many nature-centric religions. Lansing Pagan Pride Day, now in its sixth year, was created to bring together a variety of religious practitioners. This year’s festival centers around a theme of spiritual transformation.

“We started the theme idea three years ago, because we wanted the event to be different each year,” Zay said. “We started it with ‘finding your dark side.’ We focused on the practices that people shy away from. We had voodoo and hoodoo practitioners and Goth-like music and a feeling of ‘It’s OK to tap into that side, because you can learn from your shadow side.’ It felt right.”

This year, the theme is drawn from an ancient symbol called eiwhaz (pronounced “yew-was”),

which represents change or transformation. Starting this year, the event will use such ancient symbols to come up with themes.

The event includes several rituals in which attendees are encouraged to participate. The opening ceremony will be conducted by the Mid-Michigan Pagan Council, and Pagan Pride Day co-founder Nichole Ellwanger will lead a children’s ritual. Rhea Lur, a local coven from Owosso, will conduct a ritual based on the spiritual transformation theme.

The event also includes 17 vendors, offering goods from a variety of religions and traditions. Teachers from several different nature-based practices are available for those interested in learning about new traditions. There will also be a food tent that will cater to “carnivores” and vegans alike, Zay said.

“We’ve been doing this for six years, and one of the big things that me and Nichole both wanted was to be able to have an event group that can draw people into the community more,” Zay added. “We want to give those who have children or people who just don’t know any other Pagans a chance to come somewhere and meet new people.”

Ellwanger thinks the event is a great resource for spiritually curious people.

“The more you learn and educate yourself (about other religions), the more your religion is personal,” Ellwanger said. “You’re able to make your religion fit you as a person.”

Zay and Ellwanger have been practicing Paganism for 22 and 17 years, respectively, and they hope that Lansing Pagan Pride Day will help grow the local Pagan community. Over the past six years, the attendance has increased from 50 attendees the first year to 150 last year. This year’s goal is to shatter that attendance record.

“Over the six years, we’ve definitely grown,” Zay said. “We have a lot more people coming and from out of town. We’re pulling people in from Jackson and Detroit to come to our Pagan Pride Day event — it’s really awesome we’re getting other communities to come.”

Pagan Pride Day

10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday,
Aug. 27
FREE
Valhalla Park
4000 Keller Road, Holt
paganpride.org/where/
united-states/michigan-lansing

— EVE KUCHARSKI

See Out on the Town, Page 25

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE
BY RICHTUPICA

SHOTO AT MAC'S BAR

Friday, Aug. 26 @ Mac's Bar, 2600 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$8, 9 p.m.




Since Shoto formed in the summer of 2013, the experimental sludge/doom band has steadily honed its psychedelic-noise sound. The Kalamazoo-based trio, which headlines Mac's Bar Friday, comprises bassist Brok Leshman, drummer Mark Warm and guitarist Josh Miller. The guys have put out a string of digital releases, including the five-song "Cosmic Tortoise" EP, which dropped in April. The tracks were recorded earlier this year with Mike Schuur at Sun Spot Recording in Kalamazoo. Opening the show is Mike Mare, aka Mike Manteca. The New York based producer is part of industrial-metal rap group däleK. Local heavy hitters Hordes and Cavalcade also share the bill.

FRI. AUG. 26TH

Shoto

THE TROUBLE WITH NICK AT THE AVENUE CAFE

Friday, Aug. 26 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$5 suggested donation, 8 p.m.




Lansing-based acoustic-rock band The Trouble With Nick performs Friday at the Avenue Café. The trio is led by singer/songwriter Nick Krzywonos (guitar/vocals), who's backed by drummer Tyler Jenson and bassist Joey Lindstrom. According to Krzywonos' bio, his polished Americana sound is "hopeful, mournful, realistic, even whimsical but always brimming with emotion." The Trouble With Nick's poppy indie-folk sound is showcased on its single, "Casualties." The nearly-five-minute track is streamed at thetroublewithnick.com. Fans of The Goo Goo Dolls might want to check it out. Also performing on the acoustic-heavy show are Chesaning-based folk acts Zachary James and the Ruppel Brothers & Company. Rounding out the evening is Lansing-based folk outfit Clem & Alex and the Owosso-based blues-punk band Green River Company.

THU. AUG. 18TH

The Trouble With Nick

ALLAN CRAIG AT TEQUILA COWBOY

Friday, Aug. 26 and Saturday, Aug. 27 @ Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. FREE. 7:30 p.m.



Nashville-based country singer Allan Craig headlines Friday and Saturday at Tequila Cowboy, on the north side of the Lansing Mall. Craig, who's released summer-time anthems like "Let's Get Gone," has toured all over America, performing in more than 40 states. The seasoned touring artist has been singing since he performed Ronnie Milsap's "Happy Birthday Baby" in front of his second-grade classmates during show-and-tell. Since launching his country music career, the Indiana native has shared bills with big names like Randy Travis, Eric Church, Florida Georgia Line and the Zac Brown Band. Craig also opened for the late George Jones on the iconic vocalist's final tour.

FRI. AUG. 26TH

Allan Craig

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT ALLISON@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Dani's Y2K Dance Party (FREE), 8 p.m.	Ruppel Brothers, 8 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.		DJ Don Black, 9:30 p.m.		Darrin Lerner, 8 p.m.
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Road				The Tenants, 5 p.m.
Brookshire, 205 W. Church St.			Mike Cooley, 6 p.m.	
Buddies - Holt, 2040 N. Aurelius Road	Bill Strickler, 5:30 p.m.	Greg Smith, 5:30 p.m.		Alistair, 5:30 p.m.
Champions, 2440 N. Cedar St.	Karaoke, 8 p.m.	Lee Groove, 7 p.m.		Lee Groove, 8 p.m.
Classic Pub & Grill, 16219 Old US 27			Lee Groove, 8 p.m.	
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.		Retro Joe, 6 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.
Crafty Palate, 333 S. Washington Square		Team Trivia, 7 p.m.		
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	The Centerlawn Trio, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m.		White Party, 9 p.m.	
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 7 p.m.	Mike Skory & Friends, 8:30 p.m.	The Hot Mess, 9:30 p.m.	The Rotations, 9:30 p.m.
Fieldhouse, 213 Ann St.		Reggae Lou, 6 p.m.		
Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.			Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m.	Stan Budzynski & the 3rd Degree, 9:30 p.m.
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave.,			Mark Sala, 5:30 p.m.	
Harper's, 131 Albert Ave.		Alistair, 6:30 p.m.	Chris Laskos, 6:30 p.m.	Rush Clement, 6:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.				Captain Boom, 8 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Big Hoodoo, 8 p.m.	Hordes, 9 p.m.	M.O.A.N., 9 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	DJ Trivia, 7 p.m.	3rd Degree, 9 p.m.	D-Spel, 9 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road	Don Middlebrook, 7 p.m.	Rob K., 7 p.m.	Bobby Standall, 7 p.m.	Reggae Lou, 7 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Jacob Ford, 7 p.m.	Life Support, 7 p.m.	Oxymorons, 7 p.m.	Bobby Standall, 7 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.	Steve Cowles, 7 p.m.	Mark Sala, 7 p.m.	New Rule, 7 p.m.	New Rule, 7 p.m.
Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.			
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Allan Craig, 7:30 p.m.	Allan Craig, 7:30 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.	Trevor Compton, 7 p.m.	Dan MacLachlan, 8 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr.	Mike Skory Patio Blues, 6 p.m.	Oxymorons, 8 p.m.	Joe Wright, 6 p.m.	

Out on the town

from page 23

Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.
Free TruGolf Simulator Sessions. Weekly indoor golf simulator sessions. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. FREE. Leading Edge Golf, 2805 Jolly Road, Suite 260, Okemos. (517) 253-0960, leadingedgegolf.com.

THEATER

Ernie. Play about Ernie Harwell by Mitch Albom. 7:30 p.m. \$35. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON, whartoncenter.com.

Thursday, August 25

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Lunch at the Senior Center. Call day before to order meal. Noon-1 p.m. \$5.75/\$3 suggested donation for ages 60 and up. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

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

Celebrate Recovery. For all hurts and hang-ups. 6 p.m. Donations welcome. Trinity Church (Lansing), 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing. (517) 492-1866.

Free Culinary Class: Grilling/Gourmet Burgers. Course on recipes with simple

ingredients. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Cutco Kitchen, 1863 W. Grand River Ave. Okemos. (517) 481-2137, cutco.com/stores.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 5:15 p.m., meeting 6 p.m. First meeting FREE. Haslett Community Education Center, 1090 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 927-4307.

ARTS

Adult Coloring Club. Low key and calming coloring. Supplies provided. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014, dtdl.org.

Drop-In Coloring Group. Supplies provided for adults to color. 6-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

MUSIC

Open Mic @ The Colonial Bar & Grill. Weekly bring-your-own-instrument open mic. 9 p.m.-1 a.m. FREE. The Colonial Bar & Grille, 3425 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 882-6132.

Summer Concerts on the Square. Weekly concert at historic site. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. 1885 Eaton County Courthouse Square, 100 West Lawrence Ave., Charlotte. charlottemi.org.

Thursday Night Live! Featuring Twilight Memories. 6 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Courthouse, 341 S. Jefferson St., Mason. (517) 676-1046, masonchamber.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 26

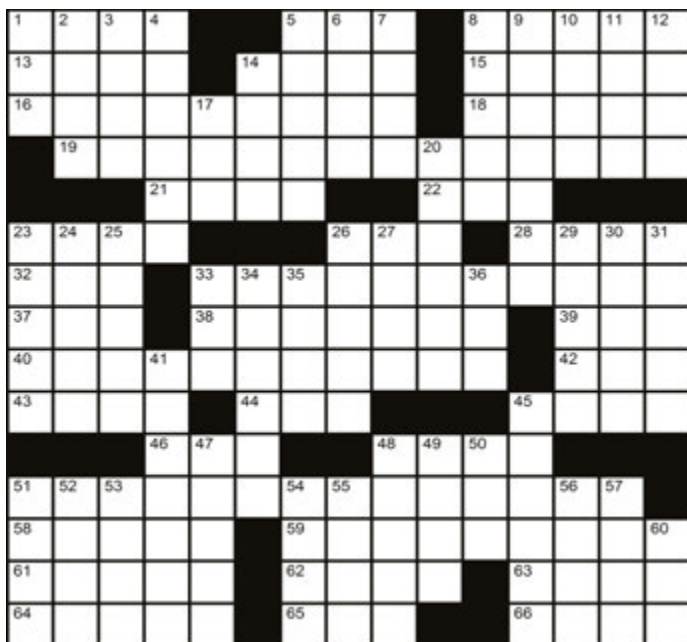
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"What Happens?" — stay tuned for where!
 Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Fruit on some slot machines
- 5 Stewart who did an August 2016 stint in Vegas
- 8 Start of many sequel titles
- 13 Vegas money
- 14 Arrange in a cabinet
- 15 Military academy freshman
- 16 Basses and altos, in choral music
- 18 Dickens's "The Mystery of ___ Drood"
- 19 1985 New Order song covered by Iron and Wine
- 21 Paradise paradigm
- 22 "What ___ the odds?"
- 23 Lose traction at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway
- 26 Painter Gerard ___ Borch
- 28 "Casino ___" (National Geographic documentary)
- 32 Maxwell Anderson's "High ___"
- 33 Ocular superpower that can cut metal
- 37 Lofty poem
- 38 In a perfect world?
- 39 Old card game, or U.K. bathroom
- 40 Train or automobile, but not plane
- 42 Philips who has played Vegas
- 43 Retail furniture giant (which has a location in Vegas)
- 44 Silent assent to the dealer, e.g.
- 45 Casino aid, for short
- 46 ___-pitch softball
- 48 "___ Flux" (1990s MTV series)
- 51 "Power of Love/Love



- Power" R&B singer
- 58 With good speed
- 59 The "a" in "Shake" (but not "Shack")
- 61 Back biter?
- 62 "The Grapes of Wrath" migrant
- 63 Grey who wrote about the Old West
- 64 Video game bad guy
- 65 Give, to Burns
- 66 James who sang the ballad "At Last"

Down

- 1 "___ Joey" (Frank Sinatra film)
- 2 Organic compound
- 3 "It's ___-way street!"
- 4 Gunned the motor
- 5 Poisonous protein in castor beans
- 6 Kennedy couturier Cassini
- 7 Bandleader at the Tropicana Club, on TV
- 8 Serving of asparagus
- 9 Most of you have already heard it
- 10 GOP luminary Gingrich
- 11 New York theater

- award
- 12 Marshy area of England, with "the"
- 14 Low roll in craps
- 17 Ref. which added "starter marriage" and "starchitect" in 2016
- 20 In early metamorphosis
- 23 Russian vodka brand, for short
- 24 Maker of Advantix cameras
- 25 Actress Cara of "Fame"
- 26 Lukewarm
- 27 Drache of the Poker Hall of Fame
- 29 Alvin of the American Dance Theater
- 30 Luxor or Excalibur offerings
- 31 Condescending type
- 33 Stock symbol for Southwest Airlines (based on their logo)
- 34 "Lend Me ___" (Broadway play about an opera company)
- 35 "From ___ down to Brighton I must have played them all" ("Pinball Wizard")
- 36 Finish for opal or saturn
- 41 Recorder attached to a windshield
- 45 You might hit it if you're tired
- 47 Distrustful
- 48 Professional poker player ___ Duke
- 49 Scoring advantage
- 50 Hot Topic founder ___ Madden
- 51 Like some excuses
- 52 Second word of "The Raven"
- 53 Story of your trip, perhaps
- 54 Recurring YouTube journal
- 55 Vegas-frequenting electro-house musician Steve, or golfer Isao
- 56 Acronym on some LVMPD jackets
- 57 Launched into cyberspace
- 60 "Glee" actress ___ Michele

THURSDAY, AUG. 25 >> "WHATCHA GOT?" EVENING OF ANTIQUES FUNDRAISER

Ever wonder how much that antique watch might be worth? Or how much you could get for that vintage necklace? Friday at Wonder Women Estate Sales' new outlet store, the Gallery in Old Town, author and antiques expert Harry L. Rinker presents a live version of his syndicated call-in radio show, "Whatcha Got?" The event, a fundraiser for the Historical Society of Greater Lansing, also includes a talk by Rinker on what's hot in antiques. As for the live version of his radio show, attendees can bring a small antique — it must be small enough to fit in one's hand — and find out what it is and what it's worth. Representatives from the Historical Society of Greater Lansing and Wonder Women Estate Sales are also available to discuss selected antiques that will be available for purchase during the fundraiser. 7-9 p.m. \$20. The Gallery in Old Town, 108 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 282-0671, lansinghistory.org

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 24 >> MICHIGAN OLD US 27 MOTOR TOUR

Hundreds of classic cars trek from Waterloo, Ind., to Cheboygan this week for the 10th annual Old U.S. 27. The tour makes several stops on its way up the classic highway, including a stop tonight in DeWitt. The vintage automobiles will be on display from 5 to 8 p.m. tonight, and the stop also includes a live band and food vendors. Classic car owners are invited to join any part of the tour for a \$15 registration. 5-8 p.m. FREE. Downtown DeWitt. (517) 881-2329, old27tour.com.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 24 >> EMERGENCY RESPONSE DINNER

In response to the suffering of elderly Jewish people in the Ukraine, the Greater Lansing Jewish Welfare Federation hosts a fundraising event tonight. Around 122,000 elderly Jewish people, many of them Holocaust survivors, are suffering and near starvation because of the turmoil in the Ukraine. The event will include a buffet-style meal of Russian foods prepared by congregation members, as well as a guest speaker from Russia who will speak on the current political struggles in the region. 6 p.m. \$20. Congregation Shaarey Zedek, 1924 Coolidge Road, East Lansing. (517) 332-1916.

AUG. 24-25 >> GRAND CONCERT SERIES AT LANSING CITY MARKET

With only a couple weeks left in summer, your chances to catch outdoor concerts are dwindling. Lansing City Market continues its Grand Concert Series this week with back-to-back nights of jazz and blues. Wednesday's Jazz on the Grand features local bassist and bandleader Orrick Ewing. A former member of Parliament-Funkadelic, Ewing has also performed with R&B singer/producer Babyface. The Lansing Community College Jazz Band will open the show. Thursday's Blues on the Grand features Detroit native David Gerald and his band. Guests should bring lawn chairs. Vendors in the market stay open late both nights to sell food and beverages. 6 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460, lansingcitymarket.com.

Out on the town

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THEATER

Ernie. Play about Ernie Harwell by Mitch Albom. 7:30 p.m. \$35. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON, whartoncenter.com.

EVENTS

Build-Your-Own-Taco Bar Fundraiser. Proceeds support the eighth grade government trip to Washington, D.C. 4-7 p.m. St. Casimir Catholic Church, 800 W. Barnes Ave., Lansing. (517) 374-5700.
Whatcha Got? Antique appraisal fundraiser with Harry Rinker. 7-9 p.m. \$20. The Gallery in Old Town 108 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 449-8771, lansinghistory.blogspot.com.
Lansing Reiki Share. For those who have completed level Reiki II and higher. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Donation suggested. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515

W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3, Lansing. (517) 402-6727, willowstickceremonies.com.
LifeTime Meditation and Yoga. Register online. 9 a.m. FREE for LifeTime members. Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club, Wimbledon Room, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (800) 772-7769, ow.ly/6s4c302Hg9mp.
Mason Codependents Anonymous. A fellowship to develop healthy relationships. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Mason First Church of the Nazarene, 415 E. Maple St., Mason. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.
Spanish Conversation. All levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.
Tabletop RPG Night. Pen and paper role-playing games. All are welcome. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351, cadl.org.

Friday, August 26
CLASSES AND SEMINARS
Gentle Yoga. Relaxing pace class suitable for

AUG. 25-28, SEPT. 1-4 >> 'LORD OF THE FLIES' AT PEPPERMINT CREEK THEATRE CO.

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co. selects a theme each year, and this season it will investigate what it means to be "Ladylike." It may throw audiences to see the name of the season opener: an adaptation of the classic novel "Lord of the Flies." In case you've forgotten your high school freshmen lit class work, this is the story of a group of young British schoolboys stranded on an island who lose their sense of society and humanity. It will be fascinating to see how directors Devin Faught and Sally Hecksel present the sweeping story on a small stage with a big twist: an all-female cast. 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 2p.m. Sunday. \$15/\$10 students and seniors. Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. (517) 927-3016, peppermintcreek.org.

FRIDAY, AUG. 26 >> "FIRE WITHIN" OPENING RECEPTION AT THE BROAD ART MUSEUM

The Broad Art Museum's latest exhibit, "Fire Within: A New Generation of Chinese Women Artists," takes a look at 28 artists who are challenging cultural ideas in Chinese society. The exhibit focuses on a wide-range of issues and sociopolitical dynamics in Chinese culture and beyond, including the status of women, cultural and gender identity and interpersonal relationships. An opening reception 6 p.m. Saturday includes performances by Hu Jiayi and Lin Ran. Earlier in the day, attendees can meet some of the artists on a 1 p.m. guided tour and/or take in a 3 p.m. panel discussion featuring curator Dr. Wang Chunchen and selected artists from the exhibition. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 884-4800, broadmuseum.msu.edu.

AUG. 26-27 >> BLAT! NIGHT OUT AT THE ROBIN THEATRE

Lansing hip-hop collective BLAT! Pack presents two nights of film and music at REO Town's Robin Theatre. Friday's event features a screening of "BLAT! Pack Live," a behind-the-scenes documentary filmed during the group's 2015 Common Ground Music Festival appearance. A Q&A with the artists follows the screening. The group returns to the theater Saturday for a night of live music featuring Jahshua Smith & the Race Card, Yellowkake and James Gardin. 7:30 p.m. \$10 per night/\$15 for both nights. The Robin Theatre, 1106 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. therobintheatre.com.

FRIDAY, AUG. 26 >> "JAWS" ON THE GRAND

I bet you feel pretty brave watching "Jaws" from the comfort of your coach. Why not try watching it on the open water? River Town Adventures' "Jaws" on the Grand event allows attendees to kayak or canoe on the dark waters of the Grand River while watching the classic shark thriller. The movie is free; boat rentals are \$10 for single kayaks and \$20 for canoes or double kayaks. Attendees are welcome to bring their own kayaks or canoes, and those who prefer the comfort of dry land can bring a chair. 9:30-11:30 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 253-7523, rivertownadventures.com.

beginners. 11 a.m.-noon. First class FREE/\$5/\$3 members. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston.

351-2420, elpl.org.
Jaws on the River. Watch classic shark movie from a kayak or canoe. 9:30 p.m. \$10 single/\$20 tandem/FREE with own kayak or chair. 325 City Market Dr., Lansing. lansingcitymarket.com.

MUSIC

The Scratch Pilots Present: Get Busy Fridays. Featuring DJs McCoy, Don Black and Eduardo Scizzahandz. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. FREE. The RIV, 231 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing.

EVENTS

2016 TrackMan Long Drive Contest. Drop by to win cash and a Full Bag TrackMan Club Fitting. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. \$5. Leading Edge Golf, 2805 Jolly Road, Suite 260, Okemos. leadingedgegolf.com.
Edible Park Collection Days. Course on culinary uses for plants. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, 1400 block of E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3918, ow.ly/tg6f302wqOE.
Teen Make and Take. Make and take backpack plushies. Grades 7-12. 4-5 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517)

ARTS

Fire Within. Opening reception for exhibition of Chinese women artists. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 884-4800, broadmuseum.msu.edu.

THEATER

Ernie. Play about Ernie Harwell by Mitch Albom. 8 p.m. \$35. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON, whartoncenter.com.

Saturday, August 27

CLASSES AND SEMINARS
Lean In Lansing. Professional development

See Out on the Town, Page 27

AUCTIONS 36 Properties with Low Reserves!

By order of the County Treasurer of Eaton County

Thursday, September 8, 2016 - 33 Properties

Registration: 5:00 PM - Auction: 6:00 PM

AUCTION LOCATION: Board of Commissioners Room, 1045 Independence Blvd, Charlotte, MI 48813

- 13799 Dow Rd. Sunfield - 49± Acres
- 9848 Nashville Hwy. Vermontville - 1.85± Acres
- 6592 Griffin Hwy. Bellevue
- W Grand Ledge Hwy. Sunfield
- 11940 Burke Hwy. Dimondale - 5± Acres
- S Ionia Rd. Bellevue
- (3 Lots) Gates Rd. Mulliken
- 7099 Pats Dr. Dimondale
- 606 N Main St. Bellevue
- 4430 Old Lansing Rd. Lansing
- S Ionia Rd. Vermontville
- 232 N Adams St. Bellevue
- 528 S Waverly Rd. Lansing
- W Broadway Hwy. Charlotte
- 5320 Wilcox Rd. Eaton Rapids
- 526 S Waverly Rd. Lansing
- Gregory Ln. Charlotte
- 313 N Washington St. Charlotte
- Trenton Ln. Lansing
- 8829 Kingsland Hwy. Eaton Rapids - 8.8± Acres
- Packard Hwy. Charlotte - 18± Acres
- 7784 Round Lake Rd. Vermontville
- 1230 S Canal Rd. Eaton Rapids - 1.73± Acres
- Plus Many Other Properties!

2 ON-SITE AUCTIONS
Friday, September 9, 2016

- 11:00am - 2392 Hartel Rd. Charlotte - Home & 34± Acres
- 12:30pm - 4738 N Michigan Rd. Dimondale - Home & 4± Acres
- 12:30pm - Dimondale - 10± Acres
- 12:30pm - Parcels Offered Together or Separately

4 OPEN HOUSES
August 24 & 25, 2016

- Aug. 24, 3:30 - 5:30pm at 638 Prairie St. Charlotte
- Aug. 24, 6:00 - 8:00pm at 606 N Main St. Bellevue
- Aug. 25, 3:30 - 5:30pm at 2392 Hartel Rd. Charlotte
- Aug. 25, 6:00 - 8:00pm at 4738 N Michigan Rd. Dimondale

BippusUSA.com
 John Bippus AARE CAI CES GRI Broker/Auctioneer

Detailed Info with Terms & Conditions
 888-481-5108 or BippusUSA.com

SUDOKU

BEGINNER

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3					2		4	9
4	2	8	5			1		7

TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 28

Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsny

Aug 24-30

ARIES (March 21-April 19): In the coming weeks, I hope you won't scream curses at the rain, demanding that it stop falling on you. Similarly, I suggest you refrain from punching walls that seem to be hemming you in, and I beg you not to spit into the wind when it's blowing in your face. Here's an oracle about how to avoid counterproductive behavior like that: The near future will bring you useful challenges and uncanny blessings if you're willing to consider the possibility that everything coming your way will in some sense be an opportunity.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Oh how I wish you might receive the grace of being pampered and nurtured and entertained and prayed for. I'd love for you to assemble a throng of no-strings-attached caretakers who would devote themselves to stoking your healing and delight. Maybe they'd sing to you as they gave you a manicure and massaged your feet and paid your bills. Or perhaps they would cook you a gourmet meal and clean your house as they told you stories about how beautiful you are and all the great things you're going to do in the future. Is it possible to arrange something like that even on a modest scale, Taurus? You're in a phase of your astrological cycle when you most need this kind of dotting attention — and when you have the greatest power to make it happen.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): I invite you to dream about your true home . . . your sweet, energizing, love-strong home . . . the home where you can be high and deep, robust and tender, flexible and rigorous . . . the home where you are the person that you promised yourself you could be. To stimulate and enhance your brainstorming about your true home, experiment with the following activities: Feed your roots . . . do maintenance work on your power spot . . . cherish and foster your sources . . . and refine the magic that makes you feel free. Can you handle one more set of tasks designed to enhance your domestic bliss? Tend to your web of close allies . . . take care of what takes care of you . . . and adore the intimate connections that serve as your foundation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): It'll be one of those rapid-fire, adjust-on-the-fly, think-on-your-feet, go-with-your-gut times for you — a head-spinning, endorphin-generating, eye-pleasing, intelligence-boosting phase when you will have opportunities to relinquish your attachments to status quos that don't serve you. Got all that, Cancerian? There'll be a lot of stimuli to absorb and integrate — and luckily for you, absorbing and integrating a lot of stimuli will be your specialty. I'm confident of your ability to get the most of upcoming encounters with cute provocations, pleasant agitation, and useful unpredictability. One more tip: Be vigilant and amused as you follow the ever-shifting sweet spot.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): At the risk of asking too much and pushing too hard, my Guerrilla Prayer Warriors have been begging God to send you some major financial mojo. These fierce supplicants have even gone so far as to suggest to the Supreme Being that maybe She could help you win the lottery or find a roll of big bills lying in the gutter or be granted a magic wish by an unexpected benefactor. "Whatever works!" is their mantra. Looking at the astrological omens, I'm not sure that the Prayer Warriors' extreme attempts will be effective. But the possibility that they will be is definitely greater than usual. To boost your odds, I suggest you get more organized and better educated about your money matters. Set a clear intention about the changes you'd like to put in motion during the next ten months.

VIRO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Suggested experiments: 1. Take a vow that from now on you won't hide your beauty. 2. Strike a deal with your inner king or inner queen, guaranteeing that this regal part of gets regular free expression. 3. Converse with your Future Self about how the two of you might collaborate to fully unleash the refined potency of your emotional intel-

ligence. 4. In meditations and dreams, ask your ancestors how you can more completely access and activate your dormant potentials.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I hope you are not forlorn, shivery, puzzled, or obsessive right now -- unless being in such a state will mobilize you to instigate the overdue transformations you have been evading. If that's the case, I hope you are forlorn, shivery, puzzled, and obsessive. Feelings like those may be the perfect fuel — the high-octane motivation that will launch your personal renaissance. I don't often offer this counsel, Libra, so I advise you to take full advantage: Now is one of the rare times when your so-called negative emotions can catalyze redemption.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): From what I can tell, your vigor is peaking. In recent weeks, you have been sturdy, hearty, stout, and substantial. I expect this surge of strength to intensify in the near future -- even as it becomes more fluid and supple. In fact, I expect that your waxing power will teach you new secrets about how to wield your power intelligently. You may break your previous records for compassionate courage and sensitive toughness. Here's the best news of all: You're likely to be dynamic about bestowing practical love on the people and animal and things that are important to you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The odds are higher than usual that you will be offered a boost or promotion in the coming weeks. This development is especially likely to occur in the job you're doing or the career plans you've been pursuing. It could also be a factor at work in your spiritual life. You may discover a new teacher or teaching that could lift you to the next phase of your inner quest. There's even a chance that you'll get an upgrade on both fronts. So it's probably a good time to check on whether you're harboring any obstacles to success. If you find that you are, DESTROY THOSE RANCID OLD MENTAL BLOCKS WITH A BOLT OF PSYCHIC LIGHTNING.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The cosmos seems to be warming up to your charms. The stinginess it displayed toward you for a while is giving way to a more generous approach. To take advantage of this welcome development, you should shed any fear-based beliefs you may have adopted during the recent shrinkage. For instance, it's possible you've begun to entertain the theory that the game of life is rigged against you, or that it is inherently hard to play. Get rid of those ideas. They're not true, and clinging to them would limit the game of life's power to bring you new invitations. Open yourself up wherever you have closed down.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Are any of your allies acting like they've forgotten their true purpose? If so, you have the power to gently awaken them from their trances and help them re-focus. Is it possible you have become a bit too susceptible to the influences of people whose opinions shouldn't really matter that much to you? If so, now is a good time to correct that aberration. Are you aware of having fallen under the sway of trendy ideas or faddish emotions that are distorting your relationship with your primal sources? If so, you are hereby authorized to free yourself from their hold on you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Now would be a favorable time to reveal that you are in fact a gay socialist witch who believes good poetry provides a more reliable way to understand reality than the opinions of media pundits — unless, of course, you are not a gay socialist witch, etc., in which case you shouldn't say you are. But I do advise you to consider disclosing as much as possible of your true nature to anyone with whom you plan to be intimately linked in the future and who is missing important information about you. It's high time to experiment with being more completely yourself.

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

Out on the town

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group for women. 9-11 a.m. FREE. Sign up online for location. leaninlansing.com.

Tai Chi at the Park. Instruction in Qigong, meditation and Yang style tai chi forms. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park, 400 S. Holmes St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

THEATER

Ernie. Play about Ernie Harwell by Mitch Albom. 2 and 8 p.m. \$35. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON, whartoncenter.com.

Freakshow Film Festival. Horror movie screenings and entertainment. 9 p.m. FREE. Windwalker Gallery, 125 S. Cochran St., Charlotte. facebook.com/FreakshowFilmFest.

EVENTS

Pagan Pride Day. Vendors, workshops, rituals and more. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Valhalla Park, 4000 Keller Road, Holt. ow.ly/t5VX303sZZD.

Harvest Party. Enjoy food from library garden, plus stories and activities. 11 a.m.-noon. FREE. CADL Dansville, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511.

ARTS

Fire Within: Meet the Artists. Guests meet currently featured artists. 1-2 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 884-4800, broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Yoga at the Broad MSU. Monthly meetup in Sculpture Garden. 11 a.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 884-4800, broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Sunday, August 28 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Charlotte Yoga Club. Beginner to intermediate levels. 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$5 annually. ALIVE, 800 W. Lawrence Road, Charlotte. (517) 285-0138, charlottesyoga.net.

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

MUSIC

The Further Adventures of FatBoy and JiveTurkey. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. FREE. Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

EVENTS

Church in the Park. Special worship service with picnic, fun and music. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Valhalla

See Out on the Town, Page 28

DANCE CLASSES NOW FORMING!

FALL CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 12TH!

TAP-JAZZ-BALLET-LATIN-BALLROOM
TODDLERS-PROFESSIONALS
REGISTER BEFORE AUGUST 31ST AND
RECEIVE \$20 OFF TUITION!



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THE GALLERY IN OLD TOWN WONDER WOMEN ESTATE SALES

SALE OF THE MONTH IN THE GALLERY
108 E. GRAND RIVER, OLD TOWN, LANSING

FRIDAY, SEPT. 2, 10-8 pm
SATURDAY, SEPT. 3, 10-7 pm

50% OFF BLOWOUT SALE OF LAST WEEKS 4 ESTATE
SALES! . Go to wonderwomen.biz for more info and pics.

ARTS NIGHT OUT

FOR YOUR LISTENING PLEASURE WE ARE SPONSORING CHRIS CARL AND JIM JERSEY,
FOLK, ORIGINAL MUSIC, AND MORE ON ACOUSTIC GUITAR.

Out on the town

from page 27

Park, 4000 Keller Road, Holt. (517) 646-0089, obclansing.org.
Free Public Tours. 1 and 3 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Dr., MSU Campus, East Lansing.
Atheists and Humanists Meeting. Showing of

Michael Moore's "Where to Invade Next." 5 p.m. \$3. Old Great Wall Restaurant, 4832 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. (517) 914-2278, atheists.meetup.com/453.
East Lansing Farmer's Market. Growers-only market with produce, meat, cheese and more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Court, East Lansing. ow.ly/h4zp30329Of.
Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance. Lessons 6-6:45 p.m., dance 6:45. \$8 dance/\$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 490-7838.

ARTS

60, A Conceptual Art Exhibit by Marek Radke. Mixed media art. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. micagallery.org.
Dance In The Gallery. Performance by DANCE Lansing followed by discussion. 1-1:30 p.m. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600.
True Colors of an Unlimited Palette Art Series. Course: Pastels, Painting and Possibilities for all ages and all abilities. Call to RSVP. 2-4 p.m. \$15. Studio Retreat and Art Gallery, 316 N. Clinton Ave., Saint Johns. (517) 381-1410, disabilitiesministries.org.

Monday, August 29

CLASSES AND SEMINARS
Downloading CADL eBooks, Magazines & Music. Course on CADL's free digital collection. Call or register online. 5-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351, cadl.org.
Support Group. For the divorced, separated and widowed. 7:30 p.m. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272,

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

EVENTS

Cards Against Humanity Tournament. Earn discounts by winning games. 7-10 p.m. FREE. American Fifth Spirits, 112 N. Larch St., Lansing. (517) 999-2631.
Social Bridge. Play bridge and meet new people. No partner needed. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.
Walking Club. Weekly group walk. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014, dtdl.org.

Tuesday, August 30

CLASSES AND SEMINARS
Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 775-2697, cadl.org.
Connections: Teen Girls Group. For girls in grades 9-12 to meet and form connections. 5:45-7 p.m. \$10. Come As You Are Counseling and Consulting, 3815 W. St. Joseph St., Suite B301, Lansing. (517) 803-3125, cayalansing.com.
Course in Miracles. Relaxed and friendly study group. 7 p.m. FREE. Call for location. (517) 482-1908.
Hopeful Hearts Grief Group. Learn and heal. 10-11 a.m. FREE. The Marquette Activity Room, 5968 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. (517) 381-4866.
Lansing Area Co-Dependents Anonymous. 5:45-6:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900, coda.org.
Overeaters Anonymous. Support for weight loss efforts. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 819-3294.
Speakeasies Toastmasters. Improve listening, analysis, leadership and presentation skills. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (616) 841-5176.
Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. Wheelchair accessible. Weigh-in 6:30, meeting 7 p.m. FREE first visit. St. Therese Church, 102 W. Randolph St., Lansing. tops.org.
Yawn Patrol Toastmasters. Learn public speaking. 7-8:30 a.m. Studio 1210 Place, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. (989) 859-2086, yawnpatrol.com.

MUSIC

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.
Jennifer Lewis with Family & Friends. 10 p.m.-

2 a.m. FREE. Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.
The Scratch Pilots Present: Turntable Tuesdays. Featuring DJ's McCoy & Mr. Needlez, Ruckus, Butcher, Edurado Scizzahandz and Natural Absentee. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. FREE. The Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing

EVENTS

LCC West Toastmasters. Public speaking group. 5-6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. 517-483-1314, lccwest.toastmastersclubs.org
Rat Pack Tuesday. Frank Sinatra party with \$5 classic cocktails. 4-11 p.m. FREE. American Fifth Spirits, 112 N. Larch St., Lansing. (517) 999-2631. ow.ly/lrwV3021VBG.
Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2125 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing. crisisrfc.com.

Wednesday, August 31

MUSIC
Mike Skory at Allen Farmers Market. 5:30-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.
St. Johns Concert in the Park. Elvis impersonator Matt King. 7-9 p.m. FREE, donations welcome. William E. Tennant Performance Shell, 805 W. Park St., Saint Johns. (989) 224-2429, clintoncountyarts.org.
Sit in with the Band. 8-11 p.m. Reno's East, 1310 Abbott Road, East Lansing. (517) 881-8125, kathyfordband.com.

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

EVENTS

Allen Farmers Market. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.
Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed step meeting. 6 p.m. Donations. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 899-3215.
ICACS Whisker Wednesday. Pet adoptions. All animals spayed/neutered, vaccinated and microchipped. Noon-6 p.m. Ingham County Animal Control, 600 Curtis St., Mason. (517) 676-8370.
Practice Your English. All skill levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 25

PEAR	ROD	SONOF
ANTE	FILE	PLEBE
LOW	VOICES	EDWIN
LOVE	VIGIL	ANTES
EDEN	ARE	
SKID	TER	WARS
TOR	LASER	VISION
ODE	UTOPIAN	LOO
LAND	VEHICLE	EMO
IKEA	NOD	SYST
	SLO	AEON
LUTHER	VANDROSS	
APACE	LONGVOWEL	
MOLAR	OKIE	ZANE
ENEMY	GIE	ETTA

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 26

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

REAL ESTATE AUCTION

By order of the County Treasurer of Ingham County

Tuesday, August 30, 2016 Auction: 10:00 am
Registration: 8:30 am

AUCTION LOCATION: Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave, Lansing, MI

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1901 Willam St, Lansing



5230 Crocus Ave, Lansing ***



2113 S Rundle Ave, Lansing ***



1024 Mccullough St, Lansing



1800 W. St. Joseph, Lansing



515 W Oakland Ave, Lansing



2523 Eaton Rd, Lansing ***



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1318 W Michigan Ave, Lansing



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Ingham County Treasurer,
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(517.676.7220)

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HENRY'S PLACE / BEAGLE'S CAFÉ AND BAKERY

Allan I. Ross/City Pulse

Henry's Place, a new gastropub that features creative/eclectic appetizers and dishes and a full menu of craft beers, opened last week in Okemos.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Metro Lansing has an ample supply of specialty boutiques and artisan clothing and jewelry shops, but sometimes you don't have all day to peruse Old Town's eclectic wares or take a day trip to downtown Williamston for that perfect whatever. Maybe you've realized that you don't fit into any of your dress pants for the wedding you're attending this weekend, or perhaps you just need to grab a last-minute gift on your way to the office for your coworker's going away party. The mall is every shopper's guilty — or not-so-guilty — fallback. And even though it's August, you'd better believe those shops are already counting down the shopping days to Christmas, every mall's *raison d'être*.

And with shoppers come appetites that can't necessarily be sated in food courts. Retail districts beget restaurant districts, and the environs of **Meridian Mall** are fertile noshing grounds. More than two dozen eateries can be found within a half-mile, including **Asian Buffet**, which has undergone some big changes in the last three years. The latest change is also the one that will probably get it added to the list of must-stops for many frustrated souls come December: the addition of a liquor license and a brand new adjacent gastropub, **Henry's Place**.

"A good restaurant is always growing, always doing something to try to stay ahead," said Asian Buffet owner/operator Henry Kwok. "I don't have a restaurant background — my degree's in supply chain management — but I understand that having the best food isn't enough. You have to be the kind

of place that people will seek out. That's all I'm trying to do."

Asian Buffet is a family business that employs many members of Kwok's clan. His mother opened the restaurant in 1998 in the strip mall adjacent to **Marshall's**, in the **Target** complex.

"Back then, it was only a two-and-half-table buffet, but we've since grown it to 16 tables," Kwok said. "People want variety nowadays, and we've done our best to keep up with what the other restaurants in the area are doing, not limiting it to (Asian cuisine). I think we're more well-rounded and better because of it."

In addition to Chinese buffet staples like General Tso's chicken and wonton soup, Asian Buffet added a sushi station and a Mongolian barbecue station in 2013. There are also decidedly non-Asian items, including meatloaf, baked chicken and hand-dipped ice cream. But last year, Kwok decided that beer, wine and mixed drinks were the future.

"My goal has always been to take this restaurant to the next level," Kwok said. "And adding a liquor license was a central part of that. I wanted to make a destination for people who aren't necessarily (mall shoppers) but also take advantage of the (foot traffic) this area brings."

It's taken the better part of a year for Kwok, 31, to secure the liquor license, execute the build out for Henry's Place, formerly the site of a Christian bookstore, and plan a specialty menu. By definition, gastropubs tend to skew a little more creative, food-wise, than typical bars.

"We're still working on the final

menu, but we're definitely going to be featuring things like mussels, poutine and oysters Rockefeller," Kwok said. "Any restaurant can add craft beer, and many of them are lately, but I think by adding interesting food items, we're really going to stand out."

Asian Buffet will also reap the benefits of the liquor license, allowing diners to see how well a Screaming Pumpkin Ale goes with sesame chicken and fried rice. (My best guess: quite nicely.) The expansion allowed Kwok to grow that dining room floor to over 3,600 square feet, with Henry's Place taking up the front half of the new storefront.

The name, originally announced as Pub Meridian, underwent an 11th hour change when a Meridian Township agreement with the nearby big box stores dictated that a name with "pub" or "bar" wouldn't jive with the commercial district.

"I sort of had to come up with a name on the fly, and Henry's Place was it," Kwok said. "I think it sounds like a welcoming, friendly place. I never dreamed of having my name on a bar, but it's nice."

Year-old Beagle

Beagle's Café and Bakery, named after owner Charles Beagle, celebrates one year of business next week. The Grand Ledge eatery offers freebies and in-store specials every day next week, starting Monday. Located in a storefront formerly occupied by Sweet Linda's Café, Beagle's Café and Bakery specializes in sandwiches, salads and baked goods made from scratch.

"I wanted the cafe to feel like a second home for our customers," Beagle said. "Delicious food and affordable prices has always been the goal from the get go, but so has creating a comfortable environment and welcoming atmosphere that keeps those customers coming back."

Beagle also sells his baked goods at Horrocks and at five local farmers markets.

"It keeps me busy, but to see my cafe full with baked goods and then to hear the compliments from customers after its all sold is the best feeling," Beagle said. "It's truly a labor of love."

Henry's Place
4926 Marsh Road, Okemos
4 p.m.-midnight Monday-Thursday;
4 p.m.-2 a.m. Friday; 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Saturday; 11 a.m.-midnight Sunday
(517) 580-3075,
pubmeridian.com

Beagle's Café and Bakery
214B S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge
7 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday; 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday
(517) 622-4600,
facebook.com/beaglescafeandbakery

TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

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

TOP 5 CRAFT BEER SELECTION

#1 HOPCAT

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300 Grove St, East Lansing
(517) 816-4300
hopcat.com
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#2 LANSING BREWING CO.

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518 E Shiawassee St, Lansing
(517) 371-2600
lansingbrewingco.com
11 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Friday-Saturday; Noon-10 p.m. Sunday

#3 CRUNCHY'S

Known for burgers and karaoke, this East Lansing bar's craft beer selection was not forgotten by voters
254 W Grand River Ave, East Lansing
(517) 351-2506
crunchyseastlansing.com
11 a.m.-1 a.m. Monday-Wednesday; 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Thursday-Sunday

#4 BEER GROTTTO

Industrial-chic bar featuring craft beer & wine on tap, plus a retail setup selling bottles to go.
8059 Main St, Dexter, MI
(734) 253-2356
beergrotto.com
3-11 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 11 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday; noon-11 p.m. Sunday

#5 ZOOBIE'S

Tavern in Old Town that offers both classic and unique cocktails and beers
611 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing
(517) 483-2737
zoobiesoldtowntavern.com
3 p.m.-midnight Sunday-Thursday; 3 p.m.-2 a.m. Friday-Saturday



Chocolate-covered sour cream doughnut — Quality Dairy

When I was growing up, my family went on a lot of road trips. We'd go to Harrison to see Grandma and swim in Arnold Lake. Or to Kalamazoo to see my other grandparents — and stop at Sweetwater's Donut Mill as a reward if we were quiet during mass. While I had little understanding of the highway system, I always knew that we were getting close to home when I spotted the first Quality Dairy.

The Lansing-based chain of stores not only has a strong nostalgic pull for me, it's also dead convenient on mornings when we are out of milk or my half and half has turned. And whenever I set foot inside a QD, I treat myself to a chocolate-covered sour cream doughnut. It's a cakey doughnut, as opposed to a billowy

Quality Dairy

30 Greater Lansing locations
qualitydairy.com

yeasted doughnut, which means that you can easily break off a piece and dunk it into a

hot cup of coffee. There are no sprinkles, no strips of bacon, no other bells and whistles, which is exactly how I like my doughnuts. Simple, straightforward flavors — nothing overwhelming that early in the morning — and delicious enough to melt in your mouth and make you happy to be home again.

— Gabrielle Johnson Lawrence



What's your favorite dish/drink?

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



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THE PULSIFIEDS

BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

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If you prefer, please e-mail myarnoff@kehoelawfirm.com; info@kehoelawfirm.com or visit kehoelawfirm.com



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