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THE CITY PULSE 2015 EAST LANSING/LANSING ELECTION GUIDE pg. 5



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Hirten: The pope's visit offers a local political lesson.

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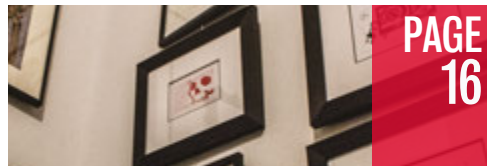
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Kimberly Lavon opens new studio/gallery in East Lansing

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Kristine Thatcher prepares to stage rediscovered script

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By JONATHAN GRIFFITH

CITY PULSE on the AIR NOW AT 10:30 A.M. SATURDAYS on **WDBM IMPACT 88.9FM**

THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW

PART ONE: THINGS RIGHT-WINGERS FEAR

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CITY PULSE LANSING/EAST LANSING ELECTION GUIDE 2015

Third Ward race

More lawsuits surface against Councilwoman Boles

Three more lawsuits have emerged against Lansing City Councilwoman A'Lynne Boles, whose reelection efforts were already being hampered by publicity over two suits filed against her this year.

Boles at first denied knowledge of any other suits, even though her wages were still being garnished as recently as two years ago from one suit. But she then recalled the suits, although not in detail, after being given specifics of the newly discovered litigation.

Court records show creditors sued Boles in

2006, 2010 and 2011.

In the first two cases, the court garnished her wages from her former employer, the Jackson Intermediate School District, and the city. In the third case, filed in 2006, an unspecified lien was issued — most likely against property she owned.

The records reveal she was sued in 2006 by Bloomfield Financial for \$1,105.24. When she did not respond, a default judgment was entered against her. A lien was issued in that case, as well as garnishment of her state of Michigan income tax

return.

In 2009, Jackson Cardiology Associates sued Boles for \$1,626.36. In that case, after she failed to fulfill a payment plan, her wages at the Jackson Intermediate School District were garnished. The case was closed in June 2010 as having been satisfied.

And finally, in 2011, she was sued by Sparrow Hospital for \$3,085.08. In that case her wages at both

See Boles, Page 6

The battle for City Council

With four seats up, candidates work to differentiate themselves

As absentee voters receive their ballots, which were mailed Friday, the candidates for Lansing City Council are working to create clear distinctions among themselves. And while the races for the First Ward and At-Large seats are running quietly under the radar, the race in the Third Ward has heated up — attracting outside, so-called “dark money.”

Topping the races is the battle to fill two At-Large seats.

Running are Emily Dievendorf, Patricia Spitzley, Carol Wood and Harold Leeman Jr. Wood is widely expected to win reelection, after landing 40 percent of the vote in a five-way primary in August. Dievendorf landed nearly 13.5 percent of the vote, Spitzley just over 18.5 percent and Leeman just under 18.5 percent.

Wood, who is seeking her fifth term, is the only incumbent in the race. The other At-Large seat on the ballot Nov. 3 is held by Vincent Delgado, who decided not to seek reelection after being appointed last winter to replace Derrick Quinney, who became Ingham County register of deeds.

In the First Ward, one-term incumbent Jody Washington is squaring off with political newcomer Shelley Mielock Davis. Because there were only two candidates, there was no primary election in August for this spot.

In the Third, two-term incumbent A'Lynne Boles is fighting a challenge from Adam Hussain. In a three-way primary in August, Hussain bested Boles 811 votes to 666 votes. Hussain is a former member of the Lansing Parks Board.

And things in that race are heated. On Thursday last week, southwest Lansing residents found a mailer from the shadowy political group Capitol Region Progress attacking Hussain. It accused him of being a puppet of his mother, Washington. The mailer also knocked him for sending his child to Okemos Public Schools.

On Saturday, voters received a robocall from Capitol Region Progress, which reiterated the attack on Hussain.

Hussain said his daughter is in an Okemos school because his wife works there, while he works as a teacher at Waverly Middle School — creating a “logistical

needs to address public safety, economic development and infrastructure issues. Boles said she has provided “bold leadership” in addressing those issues.

While the Third Ward race is a pitched battle, the other two races are a bit more subdued. The big issues at the doors, the candidates said, is a proposal by Mayor Virg Bernero to study selling the Lansing Board of Water & Light.

In the First Ward, candidates Davis Mielock and Washington had subtle differences in their opinions about the study.

“I don’t support a study of selling it,” Washington said. “I support knowing what are assets are.”

She said such a study was “business 101” and would provide the city with a full understanding of the value of its assets.

“I support the study,” Davis Mielock said.

Both candidates said they would not support selling the public utility at this time.

In the At-Large race, Spitzley and Dievendorf said they supported studies of all the assets of the city, not just the BWL. Wood said she did not support the study at all. Leeman said he supported the study, but noted there were “ways to study things but at a low, low level.”

“I think it’s irresponsible for the mayor to send mixed messages about the financial stability of the city,” Leeman said. Bernero has said the sale of the BWL could provide a one-time influx of cash to be used to pay off the unfunded liabilities in retirement programs. He has indicated that without such a move, the city could face bankruptcy.

This week, City Pulse offers you a look at the candidates and issues in the Nov. 3 general election. We’re doing it now because of the growing importance of absentee voting, ballots for which began being mailed last week. City Pulse wishes to thank the Lansing chapter of the League of Women Voters for its contribution to our coverage.

City Pulse endorsements will be made in October.

nightmare” in getting his children to Lansing classes. Boles’ daughter attends a private religious school in Lansing.

Hussain said the allegation that he will be a puppet — also made by Boles during a taping of the TV show “City Pulse Newsmakers” — is wrong. (The show, which features lively exchanges between the candidates, airs on Lansing Comcast Channel 16 at 7:30 p.m. Friday and on My18 at 10 a.m. Saturday. It can also be seen Friday afternoon on www.lansingcitypulse.com.) He said he is prepared to fight his mother for “limited resources.”

While Boles echoed the language of the mailer, she denied previous knowledge of it.

Hussain said southwest Lansing has been “neglected” by City Hall, while Boles said that’s not true, but that there is more work to be done. Hussain said the Third Ward

Wood called the study and debate about the sale “irresponsible.” Her reasoning? Such talk adversely impacts economic development because the BWL is often touted as a magnet for relocating businesses. She also said the discussion of the city’s possible bankruptcy would give business leaders pause before relocating to Lansing.

As for ward-specific issues, much of the First Ward sits in a massive flood plain. Some areas were literally underwater following a flood event in the ‘70s. As a result, flood insurance has gone up and the Federal Emergency Management Agency has created a program to remove homes from flood-prone areas. The long-term strategy for one part of the ward, located roughly between Aurelius Road on the west, 127 on the North (which includes a piece of Lansing Township), Kalamazoo Street on the north and 496 on the south, is generally planned as green space. Toward this goal the city has received some monies from the federal government to purchase and demolish some of the properties in the area.

Davis Mielock said she supported the long-term strategy

“The floodplain around the Grand River includes neighborhoods throughout the city,” she wrote in response to questions from City Pulse. “The City received a FEMA grant a few years ago to purchase and demolish homes in the floodplain. As a result, some homes in Urbandale and Baker Donora neighborhoods were purchased and demolished. I understand that some people refused the City’s offer and chose to stay in

See Lansing Council, Page 6



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Lansing Council

from page 5

their homes. Because people have emotional attachment to their homes, I view this as a long-term strategy. I support continuing this program as funding becomes available.”

Washington concurred with the strategy, but noted funding would be an issue.

“I support relocating people from the floodplain and demolishing the housing stock or making the homes safe for a floodplain,” she wrote in her response. “Unfortunately, the city does not have the resources at this time to purchase homes or to provide funds to homeowners to make their homes flood safe. This will need to be an ongoing issue and alternative funding should be sought.”

All City Council candidates said they supported a new program announced by Lansing Police Chief Michael Yankowski, and supported by Bernero and Ingham County Prosecutor Stuart Dunning III, to address the heroin problem in Lansing. Under the new program, those struggling with heroin addiction can surrender their drugs and paraphernalia without facing criminal

charges. Moreover, Yankowski said the police will work to get them into drug treatment programs.

Washington disclosed during the show that her brother died from a heroin overdose, “so this is very personal to me.”

They also all said they supported the development of a needle exchange program to prevent the spread of HIV and other blood borne illnesses. Despite having the highest HIV rate outside of Detroit, there is not a needle exchange program in Ingham County. Federal and state HIV prevention dollars are prohibited from being used on such programs.

The candidates also chimed in on the backlog of inspections on rental properties in the city.

“The department is working to fill four vacant positions,” Spitzley said. “I believe that this should be evaluated after the code compliance division is fully staffed. If the job isn’t being done at that time then I would support giving them the resources needed to complete timely inspections including adding more officers.”

“It is critical that we have sufficient staff to reduce the lag times as well as ensuring that landlords are compliant with current registrations,” Wood said.

Dievendorf also called for more staffing. “We need to hire more inspectors while requiring an oversight of the inspection process that ensures that good landlords are being recognized and not micromanaged and deadbeat landlords are held accountable,” she said.

Boles said that city officials should continue to investigate the root issues driving the delays.

“All cities need rental housing, Lansing is no different,” she said. “However it is important to make sure the rental stock is registered, inspected and adheres to the International Property Maintenance Code. Council should continue to work through its Ad Hoc Committee on rental housing and with the Mayor’s committee to collect data regarding the need and ability to pay for additional code compliance and premise officers.”

Hussain concurred with others in the need for more officers.

“Again, I think the answer could be additional funding for code compliance,” he said. “It is very difficult to know for sure, however, as we have had vacancies in Code Compliance for more than 18 months and are not sure what can be accomplished when we are working at full capacity. I would like to see the positions filled, studies conducted, and

determinations made regarding staffing levels.”

For Davis Mielock, the First Ward candidate, the vacancies in the department remain an obstacle to timely rental inspections.

“The division needs to be fully staffed to determine its effectiveness. If lag times on inspections continue after vacancies are filled, I support giving code compliance the resources they need to do the job including more officers.”

Washington said the issue was too urgent to wait.

“This issue needs to be immediately addressed,” she said. “We need to increase funding for Code Compliance. With a third of our housing stock being rentals and the age of our housing stock, we need to have a department that is strong and able to stay on top of the issues. We need to have inspections done in a timely manner to ensure the safety of the individuals that are renting those properties.”

— Todd Heywood



Boles

from page 5

Jackson Intermediate and Lansing City Council were garnished. The file was closed in June 2013 as satisfied.

Boles was asked about the suits on Thursday on the TV show “City Pulse Newsmakers.” The show airs at 7:30 p.m. Friday on Lansing Comcast Channel 16 and at 10 a.m. Saturday on My18. It will also be available Friday after-

noon at www.lansingcitypulse.com.

The media have already reported on the two suits brought against her this year.

When reporter Todd Heywood asked her if there had been any credit-related suits against her, she said, “No, not that I know of.”

“So, you were not aware of a 2006 (Bloomfield) Financial lawsuit in 54A District Court, a lawsuit by Sparrow and a lawsuit by a Jackson cardiologist?” Heywood asked.

That seemed to jog her memory. “I am not,” she replied. “However, those were all on health issues.” She said her ex-husband died of kidney renal failure, and as a household he was on my insurance.”

She added: “if you want me to pay for the sins of my ex-husband, who also paid

with his life, then we can continue to have this discussion.

Her ex-husband, Earl Robinson Jr., passed away in 2014. They had been divorced.

Robinson is not listed as a defendant in the lawsuits.

In March, Grabel and Associates Law filed a lawsuit against Boles alleging conversion. The suit alleges that Boles, who was working as a full-time independent contractor for the criminal defense firm, failed to document her work, converted the payments and acted in fraud. Conversion means taking money under false pretenses, while fraud is an allegation of creating a false pretense.

She would not comment on the case other to say that she looked forward to “justice being served.” That case is slated for trial in December.

In July, Boles was sued by Livonia-based Zeal Credit Union for \$742.48. She said the charges were incurred by Robinson after they separated in April 2012. She denies being responsible.

She called the divorce from Robinson “extremely messy” and alleged he “decide[d] to drain bank accounts and forge checks.”

In the end, she said, the credit troubles and lawsuits are “being taken care of.”

“It doesn’t make me perfect,” she said, “but doggone it, it doesn’t make me the person some of the articles that have been printed paint me to be.”

Boles said the financial struggles have not impacted her work on the Council.

Challenger Adam Hussain said he does believe her financial problems have influenced her decision on the Council. He cited a vote earlier this year on whether to reject a 20 percent pay raise as evidence. Hussain said he heard constituents “unanimously” telling Boles to vote ‘no’ on the pay raise. She ended up supporting it. “Because of her financial troubles, she can no longer exercise the will of the Third Ward constituents,” Hussain said. He said he’d donate the raise if elected. Earlier this year, Boles said she had not decided what to do with her raise, but indicated she was leaning toward donating it to charity. She did not return a call seeking clarification.

Boles has also had problems with campaign finance reports. In her July pre-primary report Boles reported spending \$3,795.73 leading up to the August primary, \$500 of which — or just over 13 percent — was in late filing fees to the county clerk. Those reports are on file with Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum.

Byrum said Boles’ campaign fines were the result of failing to file reports on time, which she said is unusual for candidates.


“It’s not normal to have campaign fines,” Byrum said. “And it’s not normal to pay such a high percentage of funds received in campaign fines.”

Asked whether voters should take her financial issues into account, Boles said, “Voters have to vote their conscience.”

— Todd Heywood



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CITY OF LANSING COUNCIL MEMBER AT-LARGE

Emily Dievendorf
Consultant
Campaign Email:
Emily@emilyforlansing.com



1. I have a long history in service and public policy. I've served as executive director for Equality Michigan where I advocated for LGBT friendly public policies among legislators at every level of government. Prior to Equality Michigan, I worked in the Michigan House for two state legislators. I have worked to achieve justice in many areas including LGBT equality, race relations, women's rights, and HIV/AIDS. I was recognized by Crain's Detroit Business as one of "Ten People to Watch in State Politics" in 2014, and was appointed in 2015 to the Michigan Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

2. I'm focused on economic growth, safety and our neighborhoods. Lansing must become a hub for today's cutting edge industries that can draw on the talents of our residents today while adding skills to make our success sustainable moving forward. Our stability and growth depend on public safety and we can't merely beef up the city's law enforcement budget. We must also work to build trust between our public servants and the citizens that depend on them. The strength of our neighborhoods relies on cooperative ventures between the business sector and the average citizen. Citizens respond in kind when businesses invest.

3. Lansing needs to identify strategies to avoiding future bankruptcy that will allow for continual and high quality support of the basic needs of our citizens and businesses without the application of a band-aid solution. Too often long term planning is left out of a government fix. When shortfalls exist, we should look for areas where there may be wants instead of needs and seek to fill those shortfalls with funds that are part of long term solutions for and investments in our city that don't penalize the citizens and businesses that serve as our strongest assets.

4. The LBWL is a community treasure. While we should be exploring all possible solutions to our budget crisis, we shouldn't be looking to the BWL first to fill holes created by the city's less successful ventures. We need to support the BWL in ways that guarantee its public ownership and relevance for decades to come - which requires that, in addition to not jumping into selling it, we develop a strong strategic plan to gradually move the BWL away from coal



The eight-member Lansing City Council is the legislative and policy-making body for city government. Elections are held in odd-numbered years and four members are elected at-large and four represent wards. They serve staggered four-year terms. The Lansing City Council is the legislative and policy-making body for city government. It sets policies, approves budgets, determines tax rates and adopts ordinances and resolutions to govern the city. The council also confirms citizen volunteers to a number of boards and advisory posts.

Non Partisan. Term: 4 Years. Candidates: Choose 2.

Questions:

1. What special qualifications would you bring to the office of Lansing City Council Member?
2. What issues do you want to address, if you are elected as a City Council Member?
3. Residents are concerned about maintaining city services and balancing the city's budget, what can be done to ensure that city services are maintained?
4. What is your plan for the Lansing Board of Water and Light?

while investing in the training and retention of the workforce it supports so that we can more easily grow toward a cleaner and more energy efficient future.



Harold J Leeman Jr.
 Candidate did not respond to questionnaire.



Patricia Spitzley
Deputy Redevelopment Manager for the RACER Trust
Campaign Email:
Patspitzley4council@gmail.com



1. I am an attorney in good standing with the Michigan Bar Association and I would use my legal training to assist the Council. In my current

position as Deputy Redevelopment Manager for the RACER Trust, my primary duties include working with communities such as Lansing who have been negatively impacted by the closing of GM facilities. I would use my experience of attracting economic development to those communities in Lansing as we work to attract good paying jobs to the community. I have worked with

STATE OF MICHIGAN PROBATE COURT COUNTY OF INGHAM NOTICE TO CREDITORS Decedent's Estate File No. 15-1217-DE

Estate of Eunice DeMyers. Date of birth: 12/11/1934.

TO ALL CREDITORS:*
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Eunice DeMyers, died 05/12/2014. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Bernadette Boglin, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 303 W. Kalamazoo, Lansing, 48933 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: 09/22/2015
 Charles A. Fleck P35401
 208 E. Mt. Hope, Suite 3
 Lansing, MI 48910
 (517) 927-8052

Bernadette Boglin
 2990 Georgian Manor Drive
 Johns Creek, GA 30022
 770-650-0130

CP#15-243

members of the City Council and the Mayor and would use those relationships to improve their working relationship.

2. Stability of our Lansing Budget and the restoration of the City's rainy day fund would be priority for me as City Councilwoman At-Large. This has to include addressing legacy retirement and pension costs which are estimated to be 600 million dollars. A review of City of Lansing assets, including buildings and parks should also occur and surplus lands and buildings put up for sale. I would also want to continue to look at ways to facilitate regionalization of City services. I want to work with LEAP to bring a jobs to this community and also work to ensure thriving neighborhoods.

3. By establishing what are essential city services and preserving those services. Essential city services include pub-

lic safety - fire, police, code enforcement, parks and recreation, and sanitation. The Financial Health Team put forth a number of short and long term recommendations to address the City's budget. As City Councilwoman At-Large, I would move to adopt some if not all of the recommendations of the Financial Health Team.

4. I believe that the Lansing Board of Water and Light is a city asset that is critical in attracting economic development in the City of Lansing. My plan for the Lansing Board of Water and Light is to work with the City Council and the Mayor to continue to hold the utility accountable to implement changes needed as a result of the recommendations from the Citizen's Review Team convened after the 2013 ice storm. At this point I am not in favor of selling the utility. I am in favor of an top down audit of the utility's administratively and financially. Any discussion on selling the LBWL is premature and nonproductive.



Carol Wood
Public Servant & Consultant
Campaign Email: votecarolwood@gmail.com



1. Over 25 years of working to improve the quality of life within neighborhoods. I became active in neighborhood issues working with

See Guide, Page 8

PUBLIC NOTICES

ORDINANCE #2589

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN, PROVIDING FOR THE REZONING OF A PARCEL OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE CITY OF LANSING, MICHIGAN AND FOR THE REVISION OF THE DISTRICT MAPS ADOPTED BY SECTION 1246.02 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES.

The City of Lansing ordains:

Section 1. That the district maps adopted by and incorporated as Section 1246.02 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lansing, Michigan be amended to provide as follows:

To change the zoning classification of the property described as follows:

Case Number: Z-5-2015
 Address: 222 W. Genesee Street
 Parcel Number: PPN: 33-01-01-16-130-066
 Legal Descriptions: The East 83 Feet of the West 149 Feet of Lot 7, Also the West 17 Feet of the East 43 Feet, Lot 8, Block 70, Original Plat, City of Lansing, Ingham County, MI, from "F" Commercial District to "G-2" Wholesale District.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with the provisions hereof are hereby repealed.

Section 3. This ordinance was duly adopted by the Lansing City Council on September 14, 2015, and a copy is available in the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 9th Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect upon the expiration of seven (7) days from the date this notice of adoption is published in a newspaper of general circulation.

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

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

GP#15-242 Ordinance #2589

CP#15-242

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Dark money

Legal, but untraceable political spending hits Third Ward race

Third Ward Council challenger Adam Hussain is being targeted by an outside organization with a mailer and a robocall that are accusing him of being a puppet of his mother — First Ward Council woman Jody Washington — and attacking him for sending his daughter to school in Okemos.

On Saturday, Washington, too, was targeted by a robocall for allegedly voting against grant money for Lansing parks and “standing in the way of Lansing’s progress.” The call accused her of “looking down” on voters.

Hussain is challenging two-term incumbent ALynne Boles, while Washington is being opposed by political newcomer Shelley Davis Mielock.

The political messages may be brutal politics, but they are completely legal and untraceable, experts say.

The organization behind the mailing and robocalls is Capitol Region Progress, which is registered with the IRS as a 501(c)4 “social welfare agency.” It is allowed to solicit and accept individual and corporate contributions but is not required to disclose donors.

Capitol Region Progress was involved in attacks against County Commissioner Deb Nolan last year and former Lansing City Councilman Brian Jeffries in 2013.

All of the targets share one common denominator: They have generally been perceived as being at odds with Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero’s administration.

Bernero has endorsed Davis Mielock and Boles.

Bernero ignored questions emailed to him about whether he is involved in the organization. Instead, he responded with a statement: “Capitol Region Progress has been active in city elections for the past four

years, so it is no surprise they are involved in this cycle. While I may not agree with all their tactics, I appreciate that they support a pro-jobs, pro-growth agenda and they care enough about metro Lansing to oppose candidates who they believe are an obstacle to progress.”

While the political issues in both wards generally focus on public safety and development issues, Boles came out of a three-way primary in August seriously weakened by Hussain. He bested Boles 811 to 666.

“[The mailing] is a nice example of the scourge of American democracy: the old ‘issue ad’ fraud,” said Rich Robinson, executive director of the Michigan Campaign Finance Network. “The clever mechanics who practice political consulting are making a living orchestrating this crap.”

Robinson said that while “I’m sure any focus group you could assemble would tell you this is a campaign flier opposing Adam Hussain,” the mailer is completely legal

“It doesn’t explicitly tell the reader to vote against him, so it is ‘grassroots lobbying’ in the state of Michigan,” Robinson said.

Dark money such as this was protected by the Legislature in 2013, Robinson said.

While the mailer is legal under Michigan law, the group may have run afoul of regulations from the Federal Communications Commission. The FCC requires pre-recorded calls to identify who is paying for the message at the beginning of the call and to include a telephone number to reach to organization responsible. Neither of those happened in either robocall.

Boles declined to condemn the intervention by the shadow group, citing its First Amendment rights. She also declined to call on the group to stop.

Lansing political consultant Joe DiSano said the rise of dark money is bad for politics and transparency.



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Southwest Lansing residents received this mailer from Capitol Region Progress, a so-called dark money group that can spend money to influence elections without having to reveal donors.

“It’s politics at its worst,” he said.

He called for more transparency in spending.

“A whole lot of sunshine would cleanse the political soul,” he said.

Robinson said Democrats and Republicans have a “history of exploiting this technique to provide anonymity for covering donors who, like vampires, are terrified of sunshine.”

“This piece shows that those slithering funder/puppet-masters who fear accountability for their actions want to own nonpartisan municipal elections as well,” Robinson said.

“I think it makes the public’s job more difficult,” said Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum, the county’s top election official. She has no ability to force the organization to disclose its donors. “It’s concerning because we don’t know who paid for these ads. I value transparency in local elections, but 501(c)4s don’t allow for that.”

She said the mailer “looks like campaigning to me.”

Who funds the organization is a secret right now. Moreno Taylor, II, operations director of the Lansing based Grassroots Midwest, is listed as the organization’s president on paperwork filed with the IRS.

Grassroots Midwest is a bipartisan political strategy consulting group based in Lansing.

When reached for comment last week, he said he would call back with more information. He didn’t call back or respond to queries by email and social media.

Adrian Hemond, Taylor’s boss at Grassroots Midwest, was identified by political operatives in the city on the Third Ward robocall (the First Ward call was voiced by an unidentified woman).

He declined to comment on his “company’s business.” He acknowledged that Taylor

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my mother Ruth Hallman, to make a difference in the community. This included changes to the Housing Code as well as helping to implement team policing with the Lansing Police Department. Out of 400 housing units within GNA boundaries documented by the LPD that 137 were involved with drug activities today there are 6. Serving for 15 years on Council as chair of each Committee & President twice. “No Politician in Lansing is better at listening to constituents than Carol Wood-LSJ 01/04/14

2. Stabilization and revitalization of neighborhoods 1) working with many partners (Neighborhood Associations, Unions, Economic Development agencies, etc.) to balance responsible development

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE LANSING AREA

MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

across all four Wards of the city; 2) providing a clear transparent and accountable city government & a government that is inclusive of all residents and listening to their voices as we make decision for Lansing; 3) balancing the city’s annual budget in a manner that does not jeopardize safe neighborhoods, critical public services. Partner with community-based organizations to raise the standard of living for Lansing’s underserved.

3. Securing short and long term financial stability through prudent management of city resources. a. Wise stewardship of financial resources results in the city’s ability to meet and exceed service demands and obligations without compromising the ability of future generations to do the same. b. Pursue and facilitate

shared services regionally that allow for cost savings and revenue enhancement. c. Support initiatives that build the City’s property and income tax base. d. Filling vacant as soon as possible to maintain essential services. e. Development of performance based budget.

4. It is irresponsible to continue the uncertainty of a vital asset which is used to attract businesses to invest in Lansing and the region. BWL increases our economic stability by reducing a community’s reliance on the whims of private businesses. Will businesses feel confident to invest with this drama going on? Council needs to move forward with the recommendations for operational audit to determine if there are additional changes that will help BWL run more efficiently. Council & BWL

Commissioners need to work more closely together for the sustainability of BWL. The public has been clear “Keep BWL public utility.”

CITY OF LANSING COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 1

Shelley Davis Mielock

Small business owner, marketing professional and adjunct faculty member. Campaign Email: voteshelleyforlansing@gmail.com

1. I am a small business owner and seasoned business professional. As a former banking executive, I understand the importance of fiscal management and data driven decision making. I am a consensus builder

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A shorter leash Voters asked to amend Charter to cap contracts

After Board of Water & Light General Manager Peter Lark was fired last winter, residents and leaders of Lansing were appalled by the contract payout provisions approved by the citizen board. Lark's five-year contract had a payout provision requiring he be paid for the remainder of his contract if he was dismissed without cause.

To quell the outrage, the City Council and Mayor Virg Bernero placed a ballot initiative on the Nov. 3 ballot that would limit the length of contracts with at-will employees to one year at a time and also prevent payouts.

The initiative has drawn the approval of citizen watchdog Steve Harry.

"I support it, mainly because it also bans separation payments," he said. "On the other hand, what's the point of even a one year contract if the employer can terminate at will without paying you for the remainder of the contract period?"

But like those who oppose the amendment, he does have concerns the limits could impact the city's ability to draw top talent to public service positions.

"I do think it limits the city's ability to attract top rate talent, but what is considered top rate doesn't always turn out so great," he said. "Just because they have commanded high salaries in the past doesn't mean they are worth it. After all, they are 'in the market.'"

Candidates for the Lansing City Council have differing opinions on the proposal.

Adam Hussain, the challenger in the Third Ward, said he will vote no but supports having placed the issue on the ballot

"for the voters to decide."

The four candidates for the two At-Large Council seats were asked about the ballot proposal on the Sept. 18 edition of "City Pulse Newsmakers" television show.

Carol Wood, the incumbent in the At-Large race, said she approved the measure for the ballot, even though she plans to vote against it. She said Council has already made changes to city ordinances to require one-year contracts and prevent "golden parachutes," which she said the Council addressed at the mayor's request.

Spitzley said she is "not necessarily opposed" to the measure, though she said she was unsure it would address contracts with general managers at the Board of Water & Light.

Dievendorf said she supports a performance review after one year. "I don't think a hard and fast limit is the best idea."

Leeman did not answer the question.

Instead raising concerns about the mayor's "personal agenda" being played out.

— Todd Heywood



City of Lansing Charter Amendment Limitation on Employment Contracts
It is proposed that the Lansing City Charter be amended to add a new section 6.401 that requires all employment contracts for at-will employees, including Mayoral appointees, City department directors, and all agencies, boards and commissions of the City, be limited to a maximum one year term. No such employment contract shall provide separation payments in excess of vested or accrued benefits, or payments required by law. A position may be exempted from one or more of these limitations. These limitations do not apply to contracts established prior to January 1, 2016.

East Lansing blight City Council candidates weigh in on Park District blight

It's hard to miss the massive blighted buildings that take up entire city blocks in East Lansing on the corner of Abbot Road and Grand River Avenue, stretching onto Evergreen Avenue.

The most egregious eyesore, that sprawling, grim structure that was at one time an old bank building, sits vacant and derelict. The East Lansing City Council tried for more than 10 years to advance development projects that ultimately fell through for one reason or another.

But those buildings could see new life with new rules for selling public property and a new cohort of people running for the City Council election this November who have bold ideas and a professed determination to redevelop the area.

For example, Mark Meadows, a former East Lansing mayor and former state representative, said he wants to demolish the blighted buildings until the city determines what to do with the land, an action that en-

tails thorny legal and financial challenges. He said he thinks people would rather look at a field than a row of abandoned buildings. Meadows served on the City Council beginning in 1995 and was elected mayor in 1997. (Mayors are appointed by the Council from its own ranks.) He stepped down in 2006 to run for a House seat in the Legislature, where he served until he was term-limited in 2012.

"I want to tear them down," Meadows said. "I absolutely want to tear them down. And that doesn't impede development; they're gonna come down no matter what.

"This is an issue I hear at literally every door that I knock on," he said. "Nobody skips it; that's their No. 1 issue, so I think it has to be a priority for the new Council."

Meadows said that the company that ends up purchasing the publicly owned portions of the Park District — or repurchasing the privately owned portions, which includes the massive former bank building — would likely have to demolish them anyway.

For the public properties, that developer could end up being DTN Management Co., which resubmitted its plan to transform seven buildings on Evergreen, Albert Avenue and Abbot into a multi-use development

project that would include senior housing, retail space, parking and rental spaces for families after the project failed to garner the necessary 60 percent of favorable public votes to begin development.

Voters rejected the 60 percent rule, lowering the steep requirements for selling public property after DTN Management Co. withdrew its \$70 million proposal in 2014. Now developers would need only a simple majority.

This is just one of the most recent hiccups in a long and complicated legal history that ultimately led the massive former bank building and others near and behind it to share the same fate: a waiting game punctuated by great hopes and squabbles with developers short of needed cash, or in this case, needed votes.

But two other City Council candidates, Erik Altmann and Steve Ross, have also taken bold stands on the future of the much-maligned Park District blight and what some critics consider the easy use of tax incentives to encourage development.

Altmann is critical of the way Council members have dealt with developers. He said he thinks the developer always ends up getting the upper hand in the negotiation,

something he'd like to change

"We have been outmaneuvered there for years," Altmann said.

To change that, Altmann said he wants to consult a panel of experts to review the city's legal options. He also said he wants to publish "as complete a history as we can cobble together of that property," which would include the various mortgages, liens, tax records and anything subject to FOIA law, including emails between developers and city officials, so everyone can get a clear picture of the long and what he calls "tortured" history of the Park District.

"Nobody understands what's happening with that project," Altmann said. "You know, nobody does."

Both Altmann and Meadows say they're also not interested in the plan that DTN resubmitted on June 4. And Ross, like Altmann, also said it should be a priority to publish more city documents to help clear the historical haze and create a more concrete understanding of what went wrong with the city's blighted corner.

"We hear city officials say we have to be patient," Ross said. "I think people's patience is wearing thin at this point. Something

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had received the messages from City Pulse and had told Hemond about them.

At issue, so far, is a mailer sent to Third Ward voters last week accusing Hussain of being controlled by his mother, First Ward Councilwoman Jody Washington. Both Washington and Hussain condemned the mailer.

The robocall received by residents in the Third Ward attacked Hussain for sending his daughter to school in Okemos and for alleged "attacks" on the Lansing schools.

Hussain said his daughter does attend an

Okemos school, but he said it is not because of political differences with the district. Rather, he said it was a practical decision: His wife teaches in Okemos and he teaches at Waverly Middle School. Getting her to school in Lansing was too difficult logistically.

A'Lynne Boles, the two-term incumbent in the Third Ward, has a daughter who attends a private school in Lansing.

Washington refused to comment on allegations made against her in the robocall in the First Ward.

Some are speculating Bernero is behind the organization and attacks.

"I know the mayor is behind it," said Art Luna of the UAW 602. He said he had no

evidence of Bernero's involvement other than "his actions." Luna is heavily involved in union-related politics in Lansing, including participation in selecting candidates for endorsement by organized labor.

At-Large City Council candidate Harold Leeman Jr. said Bernero was the only person "who can raise that kind of money for that kind of group." He called on those behind the attacks and Capitol Region Progress to step forward. "It's just a front," he said of the group. "It's wrong."

DiSano said the expenses for the two robocalls and the one mailer would be between "\$2,000 and \$5,000," depending on how many calls were made and how many mailers were produced.

Campaign finance reports filed with the county clerk show Boles' campaign raised \$5,150 before the August primary, while Hussain had raised \$7,554.

Bernero representatives did not immediately return an email inquiry on what role Bernero may have played. He has previously denied involvement with the group but applauded it for supporting progress in Lansing.

Mielock, who is challenging Washington, called the intervention by the group "unfortunate."

"I'm running a clean campaign," she said. "People should run on their merits."

She declined to call on the group to disclose its donors.

— Todd Heywood



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needs to be done and it needs to be done soon.”

He said he thinks part of the reason there hasn't been development there is because developers think “they can hold us hostage until they get what they want.”

Altmann and Ross said they also want to take a stern look at the amount of tax incentives the city approves for development projects.

From 2005 to 2014, the city reimbursed \$1.4 million in taxes to developers for various projects, according to city documents. City officials approved a total of more than \$49.4 million in tax reimbursements from 2004 to

2014 that will be reimbursed in the coming years. But other candidates in the Council race, like Shanna Draheim, Jermaine Ruffin and East Lansing Mayor Nathan Triplett, seem to take a different approach when it comes to the use of tax incentives for development and the Park District.

Ruffin agrees that the area has been “a blight to our city for over a decade.” But he said it's difficult to determine what will happen with the area until more concrete proposals come forward and until it's clear who the owner of the privately owned portions will be going forward, after an Cleveland-based real estate investment trust called Developers Diversified Realty assumed control of the large bank building in a foreclosure auction in August of 2015.

Ruffin said he does like the DTN plan for the public property pieces of the Park Dis-

trict, however.

“I think DTN has been a good partner with the city,” Ruffin said, adding that he thinks “it could be a major shift for our downtown.”

He also said he's generally supportive of using tax incentives to encourage development because they can be good tools for encouraging a denser downtown area, a portion of the city where it's much more expensive to develop, a point Draheim agreed with, though she said she thinks “we've probably used them more than we need to.”

Triplett, on the other hand, said he stands by the city's decision to encourage development with tax incentives because he said those projects wouldn't have happened otherwise, and the tax money that comes to the city as a result is worth the money spent on reimbursing developers.

As far as the various and failing plans for the Park District goes, Triplett said, “They've only not worked out for one reason: and that's because the key parcel on the corner there is privately owned.”

That it is privately owned means the city is limited in what it can do. Basically, it can watch what happens, or come to the table if developers invite them.

So in the meantime, Triplett said he's been speaking with constituents every day, and while they want to see the area redeveloped, he said they generally understand that the city has to be “cautious and diligent.”

“And with most things in life, if the solution sounds too good to be true, it probably is,” Triplett said.

— Michael Gerstein



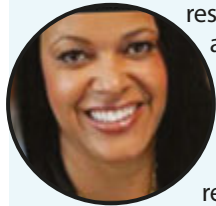
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and problem solver who can bring people together, despite differing views.

2. Public Safety is my top priority. I am a strong advocate of community policing and neighborhood watch programs. I will work to ensure the police have the necessary resources to fight crime

and continue LPD's innovative data-driven approach to law enforcement. I will also promote neighborhood revitalization efforts like the Land Bank and prioritize a crackdown on absentee landlords. As a single mom, full-time employee, and small business owner, I understand the importance of having access to good jobs in the community. I will work to continue the eco-



nomomic resurgence on the Eastside.

3. The budgeting process must be driven by data. In dealing with shortfalls, I would recommend that any cuts be prioritized to have the least impact on neighborhoods and public safety. I would support exploring opportunities for regionalism, cost reduction, and address duplication within the budget.

4. The Board of Water and Light is one of Lansing's treasures. My plan would be to review all of the data before making any recommendations on its future.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Jody Washington

Candidate did not respond to questionnaire.

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CITY OF LANSING COUNCIL MEMBER WARD 3



A'Lynne Boles

Candidate did not respond to questionnaire.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Adam Hussain
Social Studies Teacher

Campaign Email: Hussai17@gmail.com

1. I am a public school teacher with a Master's in Educational Administration. I have been a long-time neighborhood leader, the president of my neighborhood's association for the past several years, a neighborhood watch coordinator, and served on the Lansing Park Board for five years (2010-2015). I was also nominated for the Emerging Leader Award in 2015. I am an involved and passionate Southwest Lansing resident that only wishes to see our part of town move forward. I will be successful in building relationships and leveraging those relationships as a means of moving our part of town forward and embrace the opportunity



that fail to create good, well-paying jobs. Further, we have had next to no investment in our part of town. We need to do a better job at marketing Southwest Lansing aggressively and opening up the economic tool box to bring jobs and investment. Our neighborhoods/residents are feeling unsupported and disconnected as well. We must address code issues, attack public safety concerns, and work to coalesce the community to move forward as a united front.

3. Much has been done to make city government more efficient. City workers have made tremendous sacrifices, we have reduced the size of city government, and we are delivering services in varied ways. As a result, we are expecting to realize two consecutive years of budget surplus. With that said, we need to continue to work with the Financial Health Team, the Mayor's office, and most importantly, our constituents, during budget time to make sure that we are making sound decisions that take into consideration the budget and quality of services being delivered, and reduce appropriations not related to city services.

4. To keep as is. The Board of Water and Light is an asset to our community. People move to Lansing, live in Lansing, and start and expand businesses in Lansing because we have a public utility. Further, the BWL makes decisions based on public good, not profit margin. This means that after a devastating ice storm, like what was experienced in 2013, the community has a platform to air grievances, to be a part of the process moving forward, and that the result is always a stronger, more efficient utility. Further, rates are kept in check and profits that are made are shared with the hardworking employees of the utility.

2. The neglect of Southwest Lansing. Our corridors are crumbling and code issues are extensive, which is causing us to experience a proliferation of disreputable businesses



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CITY OF EAST LANSING COUNCIL MEMBER

The five-member East Lansing City Council is the legislative and policy-making body for city government. Elections are held in odd-numbered years and members are selected at-large. They serve staggered four-year terms. The Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem are appointed by the elected council. They also appoint the City Manager who is responsible for the day-to-day administration of city government.

Non Partisan. Term: 4 years. Candidates: Choose 3.

Questions:

1. What are your qualifications for serving as an East Lansing City Council Member?

2. What are the three biggest challenges or opportunities facing the community of East Lansing?

3. What can or should be done to strengthen the relationship between East Lansing and Michigan State University (MSU)?

4. What could the city council do to strengthen its relationship with neighborhood associations?



Erik Altmann

Professor of Psychology, Michigan State University

Campaign Email: ea48823@gmail.com

Campaign Website: ErikAltmann.com

Education: Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University (Computer Science); Bachelor of Science, University of Alberta (Computer Science)

1. My civic credentials include: East Lansing Planning Commissioner, Master Citizen Planner (through MSU's Land Policy Institute), former East Lansing Historic District Commissioner, alumnus of the



East Lansing "Emerging Leaders" civics training program, and vice-chair of the Bailey Community Association. I'm well versed in the critical issues facing the city, including development strategy, infrastructure renewal, neighborhood preservation, and legacy costs. To become familiar with the work and the workload of a city council member I attended every council



meeting for a year as an observer and occasional speaker.

2. The three biggest challenges are: (1) The blight at the corner of Grand River and Abbot. Bad decisions by city officials over the years have prolonged the problem and actually increased the number of blighted buildings. (2) The decay of our neighborhood infrastructure, including everything from roads and sewers to parks and playgrounds. (3) The city's debt to its retirees, which is over \$100 million and growing, not shrinking. Already this debt is over three times the size of the city budget. Our biggest opportunity is to draw on the East Lansing community brain trust to think creatively about these problems.

3. The city should draw on the expertise of MSU faculty and emeriti in areas such urban planning, economic development, and architecture. Their input would lead to better outcomes for the city and would make the interdependent relationship between MSU and East Lansing more visible to MSU's higher administration. As a large corporate entity that is part of the city, MSU will ultimately have to play a role in addressing the city's fiscal challenges. MSU's obligations will become clearer when city leaders step up and start planning for what it would take to fund infrastructure renewal and pay our debts to city retirees.

4. The city council could strengthen its relationship with neighborhood associations by respecting the work they do in terms of planning and policy oversight. For example, just recently the Red Cedar neighborhood identified significant problems with the parking plan for the Trowbridge Plaza redevelopment. The city council didn't listen, and now the parking there will never work properly. When the city rejects good advice like this it has a chilling effect on dialog that is essential or good government. The city should also offer free monthly meeting space to neighborhood associations, to remove a barrier to growth.



Shanna Draheim

Campaign Email: shannaforcitycouncil@gmail.com

Campaign Website: www.shannadraheimforeastlansing.com

Education: B.A. James Madison College, Michigan State University; MPA, Environmental Studies, Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs

1. I am a public policy consultant with 20 years' experience working for public and private sector organizations on environmental and community planning issues. I conduct

policy research and analysis, manage projects, and facilitate stakeholder groups. I have also been an active member of the East Lansing community.

I served for 7 years on the city's Commission on the Environment, volunteered with East Lansing's public schools and Recycle East Lansing, and served on the East Lansing Relay for Life leadership team. These experiences will enable me to be a thoughtful and bold leader for our community.

2. 1. Continuing to provide exemplary services to residents, such as police, fire, water, library, and recycling, while man-

aging long term legacy costs. 2. Developing our downtown, consistent with our community master plan, to be a vibrant place that offers amenities for all generations of East Lansing residents and visitors. 3. Improving relations between students and permanent residents.

3. The city and university both have a vested interest in East Lansing being a high quality place to live and do business. We must work together on issues of joint concern, such as land use, community planning, public safety, and environmental protection. This will require proactive engagement and building strong relationships between all levels of the city and the university, including city council, MSU trustees, MSU administration, city and university department leadership, and staff.

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62nd Michigan Antiquarian Book & Paper Show

Sunday, October 11
9:30-5:00

Admission \$5.00
children 13 and under free

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Where you find things you always wanted but never knew existed.

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Dealers from the United States and Canada
For information see Michigan book show on or call 517-332-0112

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4. Each of East Lansing's neighborhoods is unique and has particular interests that must be heard and integrated into ongoing city decision-making. The city should proactively engage neighborhood leaders in dialogue on issues that affect their neighborhoods. There is already a city staff liaison for each of the neighborhood associations, but City Council should also play a role in engaging with individual neighborhoods. This might include attending neighborhood association meetings, or designating a city council, as well as staff, liaison to our neighborhoods in order to ensure ongoing communication and partnership.



Mark S. Meadows
Retired Attorney
Campaign Email: mark@meadows-forel.com
Campaign Website: www.Meadows-forEL.com
Education: B.S. Western Michigan University J.D. Detroit College of Law (now Michigan State University College of Law)

1. I have experience in every aspect of Council operation as a former East Lansing Council Member and Mayor of East

Lansing. I also bring experience in policy development and implementation gained during my time as a State Legislator.



2. 1. The development of the corner of Abbot and Grand River 2. Addressing a need for developing an achievable plan to handle the legacy costs the city has an obligation to fulfill. 3. Addressing and developing an achievable plan to replace, upgrade and maintain the city's sewer, water and transportation infrastructure.

3. The City has a much stronger relationship with MSU than this question implies. That being said, every relationship can be strengthened. It is inevitable that the City's interest and the University's interest will diverge at times. When that happens it is critically important to keep the lines of communication open and to re-empathize the mutual efforts that are on going.

4. Neighborhood Associations are a key element in developing city policies. They tend to be better able to take the pulse of the neighborhoods and they should be more involved in performing that function. The City Council has supported the development of Neighborhood Associations for as long as I have lived in East Lansing. The sharing of information by the Council can help gather community support for Council decisions and it seems that this essential two way relationship has been eroded in the last few years. The Council needs to reestablish this two way relationship as a priority.



Steve Ross
Partner at Practical Political Consulting
Campaign Email: steverossforeastlansing@gmail.com
Campaign Website: www.steveross-foreastlansing.com
Education: BA, Political Science, Michigan State University 2008

1. I have lived in our community for over 10 years and have experienced East Lansing as a student, a small business owner, and currently as a homeowner. Because of this, I have a unique view of the city and an understanding of the challenges it faces from varying perspectives. When seeking out solutions to important issues, I will keep the needs of our diverse community in mind and look to build consensus around issues that are beneficial to our community as a whole.



2. We have so much to be proud of in East Lansing, yet like all communities, we face tough challenges, like: 1) Finding ways to invest in our neighborhoods and infrastructure while revenues are down 2) Fixing the blight that has plagued our downtown for over 10 years 3) Funding the legacy costs of retired employees that have accrued These items are real challenges that deserve a frank conversation that should, in my opinion, be led by our residents - not by politicians. In a community like East Lansing, we are fortunate to have some of the best minds and problem solvers in the world. Let's use that brain power!

3. In order to attract top notch faculty from across the world, MSU has a direct interest in supporting stronger neighborhoods and a prosperous downtown. In the competitive environment we live in, MSU needs East Lansing to be an attractive place to call home in order for them to attract top talent. Because of this, the City should work alongside MSU to direct them in ways they can support the community, for their benefit and the city's. Also, finding more ways the City and MSU can partner to provide services to the community while striving to meet MSU's educational goals should be a key focus in future discussions

4. After speaking with many residents while canvassing door-to-door, there seems to be a common perception that the needs of neighborhoods are, at times, being ignored while the needs of developers reserve the spotlight at council. This must change. Our unique

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Guide



from page 12
neighborhoods are what makes our city so special and are the reason most people choose to make East Lansing home. We need to treat them as such and make them our top priority. Our homeowners and neighborhood associations must be given a seat at the table for all discussions pertinent to their quality of life, the spending of tax dollars, and our city's future.



Jermaine Ruffin
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Education: Political Science -Lansing Community College '05, Social Relations and Policy BA Michigan State University-James Madison College '07, Urban and Regional Planning Master Candidate '17-University of Michigan

1. I have been engaged civically for most of my life. I am an alum of the East



Lansing Emerging Leaders program, a former East Lansing Housing Commissioner, and a former Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Advisory Member. I am active professionally with a number of state and national organizations such as the State of Michigan Sense of Place Council, Michigan Economic Developers Association (MEDA), Michigan Community Development Association (MCDA), and the Project for Public Spaces Placemaking Leadership Council. My civic and professional experience would be a great asset to East Lansing City Council.

2. Resolving downtown development issues, identifying resources for neighborhood infrastructure improvements and retaining/attracting talent of all ages are the three major opportunities facing East Lansing. I believe we have an opportunity to create a community wide vision for the future of East Lansing that explicitly addresses these opportunities. By engaging East Lansing citizens and community stakeholders we can begin

to plan for the development "we want", be strategic with limited infrastructure resources and become a community where people from all over the world want to live, work and play.

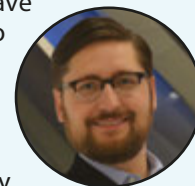
3. Michigan State University, its faculty, staff and students are a tremendous asset to East Lansing. City staff have taken positive steps to enhance its relationship with the University and Students. As an Alum of Michigan State University, I am keenly aware that we can and should take more steps to bridge the gap between East Lansing residents and students. We should continue to seek ways to be collaborative in addressing housing and amenity needs of current/retired faculty and recent graduates who may want to live or start a business in East Lansing. We are all East Lansing and that includes everyone at MSU.

4. I believe as a council we should engage in participatory planning with each of our neighborhood associations to identify the issue most important to its residents. We can no longer have a one size fits all approach to addressing the needs of our neighborhoods. Each of East Lansing's neighborhoods have a unique flavor that attracted our residents to choose them to call home. I believe its important to acknowledge that uniqueness and extend that thought process to how we invest strategically in each of them.



Nathan Triplett
Nonprofit Management Attorney
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Campaign Website: <http://www.votetriplett.com>
Education: J.D., Michigan State University College of Law, 2012. Masters of Public Policy, University of Michigan Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, 2009. Bachelor of Arts, Political Theory, Michigan State University James Madison College, 2006. Bachelor of Arts, Social Relations, Michigan State University James Madison College, 2006.

1. It's been my privilege to serve the people of East Lansing on our City Council since 2007. I have served as Mayor Pro Tem and was elected Mayor in 2013. I have been deeply involved in our community. Prior to serving on City Council, I was a member of the City's Human Relations Commission and Community Development



Block Grant (CDBG) Advisory Committee. I am a Past President of the Rotary Club of East Lansing and serve on the Board of Directors for CATA, LEAP, and Haven House. I am also the current President of the Michigan Municipal League. I am passionate about and committed to building a strong, vibrant East Lansing.

2. 1) Securing our community's financial future. During my tenure, EL's debt is down, our fund balance is up, and we've earned a AAA credit rating. When I was first elected to the City Council, we had \$0 set aside for retiree healthcare. Today, we have over \$12.5 million. We must continue to prioritize strong financial management, careful planning, and disciplined budgeting. 2) Strong neighborhoods and sustainable downtown development. Diverse housing, retail, dining, and entertainment options for all types of residents and families. 3) Smart regional collaboration with neighboring communities and Michigan State.

3. East Lansing's relationship with Michigan State University is stronger today than ever before. I'm proud of the considerable work I've done to build that relationship on Council. It's essential that we maintain this relationship. Communication between City officials and university administrators must remain frequent and frank. Where possible, we should collaborate on issues that impact town and gown. Those issues include downtown revitalization, public transit, lifestyle conflicts between student and permanent residents, and housing policy on and off-campus. Like all good relationships, it requires constant effort.

4. Like our relationship with the university, the relationship between City government and neighborhoods should be based on frank and frequent communication and collaboration. We must continue to support and expand efforts like our City Staff Liaisons, Neighborhood Enhancement Minigrants, and the Council of Neighborhood Presidents (CONP). East Lansing's neighborhood associations play a vital role in identifying community challenges and opportunities, and in developing sensible solutions. Regular consultation and two-way communication through liaisons, CONP, etc. is critical. Genuine partnership with associations is key.



For information on other races and ballot issues in Ingham County, please see the League of Women Voters' website, lansing.mi.lwvnet.org.



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PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Looking for leaders

Pope Francis, John Boehner
and the political process

People in the Lansing area are approaching the November election hoping for — needing, in fact — leaders. The ideal of leadership all too often devolves to hoary clichés: overstated boasts, unrealistic promises, distortions. Think Donald Trump.

Why? Because real leaders — whether in Lansing or Washington or the United Nations — are rare. It isn't easy. Two prominent examples are Pope Francis and House Speaker John Boehner.

The visit by Pope Francis to America offered an extraordinary lesson in leadership. The throngs that filled churches and lined the streets and squares in Washington, New York and Philadelphia to celebrate Francis in America are a testament to the man and his message. Remarkable? Not really. They reflect the longing by so many for moral leadership in a social, political and religious environment that makes it difficult to reconcile who we are with what we've become. Francis preaches the core message of the gospel, outward love and compassion for others. Certainly, it's a path that works for his audiences and is universal enough to satisfy others.

Here is a man who three years ago was virtually unknown to most of the world. Now it is fair to suggest that he is the most popular person on the planet. That's leadership. Smart, savvy and genuine, he preached the message of American to Americans in a way that clearly resonated with Catholics and non-Catholics. In an increasingly polarized nation he bridged competing visions of who we are and what we should be. As a religious leader he set goals for his church and those it serves: Be a better people.

But this is only the beginning. Setting high expectations is the easier edge of leadership. Delivering is what matters and for the pope it will be the challenge.

Wall-to-wall TV coverage of his visit gave discerning viewers a chance to see a clerical landscape that was very different from the energized faithful who cheered Francis. On the altar at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York those in the pews and television viewers saw the real church in America administered by old white men with their crimson sashes (cinctures) and skull caps (zucchettos), most of them appointed by Francis' doctrinaire predecessors. Whereas Francis radiated and basked in joy during his

visit, the princes — cardinals mostly — were taciturn. They are being challenged by the pope to alter their confrontational approach, internally and externally: Francis told them, "Harsh and divisive language does not befit the tongue of a pastor; it has no place in his heart." Be better leaders, he said.

The people inspired by the pope return to their churches expecting changes — or for the skittish conservative wing of the church, fearful of what might change. Can Francis' leadership bridge the divide of an all-male clergy, same-sex marriage, divorce, abortion and clerical abuse? Eventually, leaders need to deliver.

In Washington, soon to be retired House Speaker Boehner couldn't. His surprise announcement last week illustrated well the impossibility of reconciling congressional factions for a common purpose. By falling on his sword, he has gained the political flexibility to avoid a government shutdown in October. It's leadership of sorts and perhaps the most unifying stance he could fashion out of a dysfunctional Congress. But it's a one-time shot.

The uncompromising hardline Republican faction underlying his departure portends a tense and certainly unproductive Congress. Boehner and others in his party, recognizing the need to work together in some fashion at least, have harshly criticized what they contend is a Tea Party nihilist view of government, well articulated by Michigan's own discredited former House Rep. Todd Courser: "We're not here to pass legislation. We're here for the messaging moments and media" is what he told his staff.

Listening to Francis, the devoutly Catholic Boehner had to acknowledge his inability to find what the pope preached. That is, a "spirit of cooperation" to serve the common good, to "respect for our differences and our convictions of conscience." The day after the pope's address to Congress, Boehner announced that he would resign.

So what do we want from leaders? Throughout Michigan in the coming weeks candidates seeking elected office will ask for support. They will ask voters to trust their judgment in shaping cities and townships. And they will promise to blend narrow interests with the common good. Some will succeed.

In Lansing the issues are schools, poverty, debt and safety. Lansing, it seems, is always at a crossroads. In East Lansing, the community wants to rid itself of downtown blight, improve roads, parks and other infrastructure. In Williamston, it's also infrastructure: water, sewers, sidewalks and the cost.

Although this is a small election — a handful of Council seats and a charter amendment — the challenge to politicians framed by Francis applies. We want them to deliver. We want them to lead. We want Francis, not Boehner.



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JUST ADD BEER

LOCAL GROUPS TAP INTO THE POPULARITY OF CRAFT BEER



By SARAH SPOHN

Beer brings people together. Plenty of beer and (fill in the blank) events are popping up all over town, enticing potential participants with the promise of tasty brews.

And while there are plenty of places in town to grab a beverage with friends, a few local galleries are hoping to sneak a little art into your evening.

Lansing Art Gallery's Art & Ale series is a new program spearheaded by Megan Shoup, the gallery's educational coordinator. The series is part of the gallery's ongoing efforts to bring art into the community.

"We definitely see a demand for arts experiences outside of the traditional gallery setting," said Barb Whitney, executive director of the gallery. "That is the motivation for expanding our work outside of the gallery."

The Tuesday night series kicks off next week and continues through Dec. 1 at Midtown Brewing Co. Participants will be led through a painting activity, and all art supplies — and a beer — are included in the \$30 fee. The sessions are designed for learners of all skill levels. At the end of the night, participants will leave with a finished 12-inch-by-12-inch painted canvas.

And over in East Lansing, the Broad Art Museum is adding booze to liven up some of its events.

Its new Hob Nob series was launched this summer, and the first installment quickly sold out. The event invites participants to enjoy food and drinks while perusing the gallery's exhibits and mingling with other guests.

Whitney Stoepel, director of public relations for the museum, said the event is designed to add a community element to the museum's offerings.

"The idea came from a response to a shortage of unique places that young professionals and cultural tastemakers of Lansing could connect," Stoepel said. "The Broad isn't just a space for exhibition and research, but also an inclusive cultural hub that attracts new and diverse audiences."

The event is free, but reservations are required. Appetizers, a cash bar and sweet treats are provided.

Down in REO Town, Reach Studio Art Center is taking a BYOB approach with two art



Courtesy photo

Local astronomy buffs gathered to have a few beers and learn about the cosmos at this month's Astronomy on Tap event.

classes aimed at the 21-and-up crowd: Mud & Mug and Palette to Palate.

The Mud & Mug series, on the third Friday of the month, invites both novices and experts to make clay creations on the center's pottery wheels. Palate to palate, on the second Friday of the month, gives attendees a chance to paint a stretched canvas. A local artist is on hand to guide participants through their art making.

Both events invite participants to bring snacks and drinks to enjoy during the session. October's installments will feature Halloween-themed activities.

"For Mud & Mug, it's hilarious because all the beer bottles and wine glasses are just covered in mud," said Joy Baldwin, program director and volunteer coordinator for REACH. "It's just kind of beautiful."

Adding a few drinks to an art class, Baldwin said, loosens people up and creates social opportunities.

"By the end of the night, everyone's giggly and messy," she said. "It's a really fun night to make art with your friends and to make new friends — and to have something fun to show for it other than just a night out drinking beer."

Even Capital Area District Library is getting in on the act, offering literature with a side of libations. CADL hosts monthly Brew Pub Book Club nights at the Soup Spoon Café.

"I thought patrons might be more likely to attend an event outside the library with food and drinks on site," said Sara Doherty, CADL public services librarian.

Though many book club members do enjoy a beer or two, the focus of the event is the books.

"Folks just like a relaxed evening with fun people who enjoy talking about good books," Doherty said.

For astronomy geeks, craft beers meet the constellations with Astronomy on Tap, a new series of events a little farther down Michigan Avenue at the Beer Grotto. The event is a local manifestation of a grassroots, international effort to bring more science into the public sphere.

"The primary goal is to provide the general public with an opportunity to learn more about astronomy and astrophysics in a

comfortable and informal setting," said Devin Silvia, Lansing Astronomy on Tap coordinator.

The event taps into an otherwise overlooked population, said Silvia, noting that most scientific outreach efforts are focused on K-12 students.

"We don't want to forget about those individuals who have already completed their formal education but are still eager to learn," he said. "Learning about science over a tasty craft beverage also helps to loosen up both our presenters and the audience."

Rounding out this list of beer-supplemented activities are two unlikely beer pairings: babies and Bibles.

Willow Tree Family Center's recently launched Brew and Babies event is a bimonthly men's support group. The event welcomes fathers, fathers-to-be, uncles and grandfathers to discuss their experiences over a brew or two. The event location alternates between the center's office and the Beer Grotto.

Christ Community Church's weekly Bible and Beer event, hosted by the Rev. Mike Dunkelberger, brings the Bible into the bar. Hosted by Midtown Brewing Co., the event's goal is to create a "casual, comfortable time where we try to discover scripture's power to confront the daily news and our lives with hope."

While some may balk at the idea of having a beer over Bible study, Dunkelberger is hoping to serve folks who may never set foot in a church.

"Jesus did the majority of his mighty works in the market place or in the home," he said. "The 'religious places' didn't work well for him."

BEER EVENTS

Art & Ale

6-8 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 6-Dec. 1
\$30 per session/\$25 per session for Lansing Art Gallery or Midtown Brewing Co. mug club members
Midtown Brewing Co.
402 S. Washington Square, Lansing
(517) 374-6400, lansingartgallery.org

The Hob Nob

6-8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9
FREE (reservation required)
Education Wing, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum
547 East Circle Drive, East Lansing
(517) 884-4800, broadmuseum.com

Mud & Mug

7-10 p.m., third Friday of each month
See website for fees and registration
REACH Studio Art Center
1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
(517) 999-3643, reachstudioartcenter.org

Palette to Palate

7-9:30 p.m., second Friday of each month
See website for fees and registration
REACH Studio Art Center
1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
(517) 999-3643, reachstudioartcenter.org

Brew Pub Book Club

7-9 p.m., first Tuesday of each month
FREE
Soup Spoon Café
1419 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(517) 367-6363, cadl.org

Astronomy on Tap

See website for future events
FREE
The Beer Grotto
500 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
facebook.com/aotlansing

Brew and Babies

6 p.m., second Sunday of each month
Willow Tree Family Center
3333 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Suite 101, Lansing
7 p.m., fourth Tuesday of each month
The Beer Grotto
500 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
(586) 806-9832, willowtreefamily.com

Bible and Beer

6 p.m. Tuesdays
FREE
Midtown Brewing Co.
402 S. Washington Square, Lansing
bibleandbeer@ccclansing.org

Rising from the ashes

Kimberly Lavon overcomes tragedy to return to art

By JONATHAN GRIFFITH

Looking back, 2012 was a bit of a scary year. There were hurricanes, mass shootings, the advent of Obamacare and its alleged “death panels” — and all the while the ominous end of days foretold by the ancient Mayans grew closer and closer. We can at least be thankful that the Mayans were wrong and the world didn't end

Kimberly Lavon INK

210 Abbot Road, Suite 50,
East Lansing
11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Monday-
Friday, 1-6 p.m. Saturday-
Sunday
(517) 862-6129
facebook.com/
KimberlyLavonArtist

— except for local artist Kimberly Lavon, in a manner of speaking.

Lavon was having a great year. She was awarded a sizable grant from the Arts Council of Greater Lansing in the summer, which lead to a chain reaction of professional and artistic growth. But tragedy struck later in the year, when an electrical malfunction occurred near her workspace located in Old Town's Devon Storage Facility. A fire erupted and burned several of the units, including Lavon's studio.

“The fire was initially devastating because I was watching my life's work go up in flames,” Lavon said. “Of all the things I thought to go wrong, I never thought that

would be one of them.”

Arising from the ashes is Kimberly Lavon INK, a brand new gallery and art studio in East Lansing. The studio, situated above Conrad's Diner, serves not only as a gallery to view Lavon's work, but also provides an opportunity for guests to see the process of how she makes her work. Lavon's deft mixture of styles runs the gamut from printmaking to graphic design.

The space is divided into two rooms. The first serves as a gallery, while the second houses the workspace where Lavon produces her art. One might wonder if a modest two room suite is enough to house a gallery and the all various tools used in printmaking, but Lavon states that the space is micro on purpose.

“I want to show people that you don't need a cavernous area to have a completely legitimate workspace,” Lavon said.

It wasn't exactly easy for Lavon to get from the incident of her former workspace to Kimberly Lavon INK. In fact, after the fire, Lavon swore off art. She stepped away from her work, confident that she'd never return to the realm of creativity. Her friends and colleagues weren't convinced.

“Nobody believed me! People laughed in my face,” said Lavon. “I kept reiterating that I was seriously done. That I was never going to make art again.”

Unfortunately, it took yet another tragedy to pull Lavon back into the art world. She was inspired to make art once more after the passing of her grandfather. Lavon was close with her grandfather, seeing him as more of a father, and wanted to make something to commemorate the impact he made on her life. Lavon wasn't satisfied with the piece, but everyone else's reactions were just enough to

get the ball rolling once more.

“People loved it, I hated it. I thought (my grandfather) wouldn't be happy with the piece,” said Lavon. “The reaction from people made me feel positive, so it was a domino effect from there.”

Getting back to Lavon's works, her printmaking specializes in human skeleton iconography. But the art is not about death and morbidity, but rather reducing the human to its foundation. It's Lavon's intent to make these figures without any identifiable features so that there can be no discrimination.

The shop will be open for this weekend's First Sunday Gallery Walk. Guests can check out Lavon's new workspace as well as take in her first exhibit in the gallery, “Vintage Pieces from Kimberly Lavon.” The exhibit comprises of a number of pieces from past collections that span all the types of screen printing and other mediums that Lavon practices.

With the opening of Kimberly Lavon INK Friday, one could argue that no other Lansing artist in recent memory has so greatly personified the Phoenix metaphor of death and rebirth from the ashes like Lavon does. But the artist herself would tell you it's



Photos by Carlos Mendoza, courtesy of Zachary Taylor

Top: A collection of screen prints hanging on the wall of the new gallery space. Bottom: Artist Kimberly Lavon stands next to the door of her new gallery/studio, Kimberly Lavon INK.

nothing so mystical. It was through persistence, she said, that she was able to acquire professional representation that has gotten her works into galleries all over the world.

“If you love something, do it and don't stop,” Lavon said. “I'm am so grateful that I now get to share my love of printmaking with this city.”

CURTAIN CALL

Weighed Down

‘The Whale’ takes on heavy subject matter

By PAUL WOZNIAK

At its core, playwright Samuel D. Hunter's “The Whale” is a devastating portrait of a morbidly obese man who sees the good in everyone except himself.

But it's also an uneven script that struggles under the weight of its own ambitions. To its credit, Peppermint Creek Theatre Co. has never shied from producing challenging scripts, especially when they're richly layered with humor and a strong message of tolerance. In this case, the production strives for greatness but frequently stumbles along the way.

Richard Kirkwood (in a fairly convincing fat suit) plays Charlie, the “whale,” a morbidly obese man whose girth leaves a lasting indentation in the couch.

“The Whale”

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.
8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1-Saturday, Oct. 3;
2 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 4
\$15/\$10 student and seniors
Miller Performing Arts Center
6025 Curry Lane, Lansing
(517) 927-3016,
peppermintcreek.org

Charlie seems pretty settled on his daily routine of teaching online writing classes and slowly eating himself to death. He is aided by his concerned friend and home nurse, Liz (Anna Szabo). Charlie is still mourning the death of his late partner, Allan, who starved himself to death. Charlie believes Allan's church — the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints — played a role in Allan's apparent suicide. When a lone Mormon missionary, Elder Thomas (Ben Cassidy), knocks on Charlie's door, Charlie asks him to investigate. Meanwhile, Charlie

reaches out to his estranged daughter, Ellie (Rebecca MacCreery), offering his life's savings if she spends time with him.

If that sounds like a lot to follow, just wait. There's plenty more as the play progresses. For a show about a 600 pound sedentary man, there's a surprising amount of movement in this show. The plot comes to Charlie like light to a black hole, and director Jordan Climie rarely allows his actors to sit for very long.

Kirkwood breathes and moves realistically, portraying a man who gets winded just by standing up. His dry delivery works best when he's speaking to his laptop, lecturing his students — or responding to the discussion boards where they often vent about their teacher.

“Do you realize I can access the class discussion board?” he asks.

Unfortunately, Kirkwood's labored delivery feels more like poorly memorized lines when conversing with his cast mates.

MacCreery and Cassidy provide the shows strongest performances. Ellie is a sharp caricature of the ultimate teenage mean girl who wields her wit like a knife. MacCreery sinks her teeth into the role and doesn't let go. She delivers scathing — and often hilarious — barbs at her father and on

her “hate blog,” where she turns people into targets for intense ridicule. To the audience, she's a monster. But her father's empathetic lens makes him immune to her relentless attacks.

Far less immune is Elder Thomas. Cassidy's Elder Thomas could have walked off the “Book of Mormon” set (sans the ironic wink) with his baby face and earnest delivery. But Cassidy demonstrates his range and astute understanding of his character in Act II as the plot veers down a dark path.

The strongest technical element is the set (designed by Blake Bowen and Chad Swan-Badgero), a disgustingly realistic recreation of a rancid apartment — complete with nasty carpet and dented furniture. You can practically smell the reek of spoiled food.

(Considering all the empty KFC buckets and open bags of chips on stage, it's a small miracle that ants aren't crawling everywhere.)

The show's biggest hurdle is the script itself, which sets up a dramatic indictment of Mormonism and its position on homosexuality. Certainly Hunter has a point to make about injustice and homophobia, but his attacks seem out of place relative to the primary thesis of forgiveness and tolerance personified by his central character.

Recovery and rediscovery

Staged reading fundraiser resurrects forgotten play

By TY FORQUER

Most of us have some old papers rattling around in the bottoms of our desk drawers. Receipts, expired gift certificates, maybe a photo or two — things of little consequence.

Christine Thatcher, a prominent figure in the local theater scene, reached deep into her desk drawer and found something entirely different: a never-produced script with an emotional history. Tuesday evening, the long-neglected script by Thatcher will be mounted at the Robin Theatre.

A Lansing native, Thatcher worked in late '70s and early '80s at Milwaukee Repertory Theatre and was active for many years in the Chicago theater scene. She returned to Lansing in 2005 to serve as director of Boars-Head Theatre. Thatcher was laid off from the theater shortly before it imploded in 2009.

"Waiting for Tina Meyer"

6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 6
\$35
The Robin Theatre
1105 S. Washington Ave.,
Lansing
(800) 838-3006,
waitingfortina.

The Frandor-based theater folded in 2012. As Stormfield was preparing to close its doors for good, Thatcher received some more bad news: She was diagnosed with ovarian cancer.

"She was in dire straits," Mattson said. "She was out of a job and not able to do much work."

Mattson, with a group of friends and colleagues, founded the nonprofit Kristine Thatcher Fund to help Thatcher with medical expenses. The group has raised over \$30,000.

"They're the best people in the world. They just came together," Thatcher, 64, said. "The first time I did chemo, they knew that I would have trouble paying the bills.

I was just so amazed that they all came together and did this for me. They saved my life. They have made it possible for me to keep going when I couldn't work."

Tuesday, the group is mounting a staged reading of "Waiting for Tina Meyer," a long-forgotten one-act comedy co-written by Thatcher. The event is a fundraiser for the Kristine Thatcher Fund.

The play's other co-writer is Larry Shue, a colleague of Thatcher at the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. Shue authored two often-performed farces, "The Nerd and 'The Foreigner.'" He died in a plane crash in 1985 at the age of 39.

"Larry was wonderful. He was the one who got me writing," said Thatcher. "He started writing first. When he would write a new play, we'd do a workshop of it. And I guess I was full of suggestions on how he could improve them, because he finally said to me, 'Put your money where your mouth is and start writing.' And so I did. He's the one responsible for me taking that first step into writing."

The play began life as a television script but took on

new life when the television opportunity evaporated.

Shue's agent "asked him to write a script for (CBS sitcom) 'One Day at a Time,'" Thatcher recalled. "He didn't have a television. He didn't know anything about the show. So he asked me if I would write it with him. A few days after we turned it in, the series was canceled. But we liked this one character in the script that wasn't part of the series. So we decided to turn it into a play. We started writing again, trading it back and forth. And that's how 'Waiting for Tina Meyer' was born."

Plans to stage the play, however, were halted by Shue's untimely death.

"We were just getting it out when Larry was killed in a plane crash. I just stuck it in the bottom drawer for years and years. I didn't do anything with it," Thatcher said. "A friend of mine, Greg Vinkler, who's the artistic director in Door County, Wis., at Peninsula Players (Theatre) — I was telling him about it, and he encouraged me to get it out and look at it again. I'm really happy that I did, because it just brought back Larry and this flood of light."

The staged reading will feature a handful of Lansing theater stalwarts, as well as some guest actors from Thatcher's time in

Chicago.

"The actors are just wonderful," said Thatcher, who will also direct the performance. "We've got John Lepard from Williamston (Theatre), local actress Laura Croff and Andy Callis from LCC (Theatre Program). Two actors that I know from Chicago are coming in, Michael Joseph Mitchell and Barbara Simpson Fuhrman. They're all wonderful actors, and together I think they'll be pretty funny."

Tuesday's production will take advantage of one of Lansing's newest performance outlets, REO Town's Robin Theatre. The space, which opened in July, has already hosted several comedy and music events and has become the venue for Ixion Theatre's productions.

"Robin Theatre turned out to be a great place for us," Mattson said. "We're happy to be able to use it as a venue."

As for Thatcher's health, she is still undergoing treatments for her cancer but is

optimistic about her prospects.

"I have been doing chemo since May. I've got two more to go, one in October and one in November. Hopefully then I'll be done and I can get back to life as usual," she said.

"With this round of chemo I had to give up two jobs — which I hated doing — in Door County and Tennessee. I would have loved to have traveled to those places and directed a couple of things, but the chemo schedule wouldn't let me do. That's one of the things I'm really looking forward to, getting back to work."

But Thatcher has another motivation to get through the treatments — one that is more personal.

"I have a brand new granddaughter. She's in Florida, and I haven't seen her yet. She's 2 months old," Thatcher said. "As soon as the chemo is over, I'm shooting down there as fast as I can."



Photo courtesy of David Rice, First Folio Theatre

Kristine Thatcher performs "Underneath the Lintel," at Chicago's First Folio Theatre.

CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS



HOSTED BY BERL SCHWARTZ



A'LYNNE BOLES
Lansing City Council 3rd Ward Incumbent



ADAM HUSSEIN
Lansing City Council 3rd Ward Challenger

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Preservation station

Great Michigan Read book sparks artifacts discussion

By BILL CASTANIER

The Michigan Humanities Council's selection for this year's Great Michigan Read program should generate discussion about what readers consider important in their daily lives.

2015-2016 Great Michigan Read kick-off event

With Emily St. John Mandel and Steve Luxenberg
6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8
FREE
Michigan Historical Center/Library of Michigan
702 W. Kalamazoo St.,
Lansing
michiganhumanities.org

The selection, post-apocalyptic novel "Station Eleven," by Emily St. John Mandel, is set 20 years after a plague-like flu pandemic has nearly wiped humans from the earth. The survivors still have a hard-

scrabble life, but arts and the humanities have also survived.

The Great Michigan Read program kicks off next week, with Mandel making several stops to discuss her book. At her Oct. 8 stop at the Library of Michigan, Mandel will be interviewed by 2013-2014 Great Michigan Read author Steve Luxenberg. Both authors will be available to sign copies of their books after the event.

"Station Eleven," a National Book Award finalist, is centered on a troupe of actors and musicians who call themselves the Travelling Symphony. Shakespearean plays become the group's forte, providing a link to some of the best literature of the pre-apocalypse world.

As the troupe travels through what Mandel describes as an "archipelago of small towns," one of the company members, Kirsten, carries a Ziploc bag with photographs and other items that link her to a past that is mostly forgotten. A friend calls her an "archaeologist."

At one of the troupe's stops, another survivor has set aside a portion of an airport for what he calls the Museum of Civilization.

"There seemed to be a limitless number of objects in the world that had no practical use, but that people wanted to preserve: cell phones with their delicate buttons, iPads, Tyler's Nintendo console, a selection of laptops," Mandel writes.

The author details other items that no longer have a purpose and have found their way to the museum, such as stiletto shoes, coins, newspapers and stamps. Clark, the self-appointed Museum of Civilization director/curator, displays items salvaged from the repurposed airport or acquired from traders who traverse the Great Lakes region.

The desire to connect with a lost past is not unique to the apocalyptic future.

"There's a strong impulse, even a need to have a shared connection with and understanding of the past," said Lora Helou, acting director of the MSU Museum.

In the U.S., there are over 17,500 museums, which attract 850 million visitors a year, said Helou.

"That underscores the deep, deep desire and need to preserve our past," she said. "It is what has made us what we are."

Valerie Marvin, president of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing, agreed that there is an inner need to preserve the past.

"For individuals, it might be a mortality thing," she said. "They hope a piece of them is going to be preserved forever."

Marvin suggested several items that might be in our generation's version of a Museum of Civilization.

She thinks people would want to preserve sound by saving vinyl records. The

20th century, Marvin said, is the first complete century in which we've had the ability to record and reproduce sound, and it would be important to recognize that.

Viki Spektor-Walker, who runs a private Beatles museum in Dimondale with her husband, couldn't agree more.

"Vinyl, definitely. LPs are making a comeback," she said, adding that she would also include the Associated Press newswire story about John Lennon's death.

Marvin also suggested some items that we take for granted but would have little utility in a post-apocalyptic world: a bra, a hamburger, and a college diploma.

The bra, which Marvin describe as a relatively recent 20th century object, would have little use in a post-apocalyptic world.

"Changes in undergarments completely changed how women dress," she said, noting that modern women's clothing values fashion over function and would have little purpose in a post-apocalyptic world.

William Adcock, executive director of the R.E. Olds Transportation Museum, would definitely include an internal combustion engine in his Museum of Civilization.

"A museum not only tells the history of the past, it tells the history of the future" he said. "We can look forward and see what's possible."

Mandel, while on a tour this year in England, discovered a British bookstore that had created a virtual museum based

on the novel's Museum of Civilization. It encouraged patrons to use the social media hashtag #station11 to suggest items for inclusion.

Portia Vescio, assistant director of MSU's university archives, said museums and archives play an important role in society.

"We don't always appreciate or even understand how important things will be when they happen," she said. "But if we have archives and museums, we can remember them so that in 20 or 50 or 100 years people can still know that what we did mattered."

The archives recently hosted an event about the 1965-1966 MSU football seasons, when the team won back-to-back national championships. People who attended the event, Vescio said, "can now look back and realize they were a part of history, even if at the time it did not seem like a big deal."

Schuler Books & Music

Talk & Signing with WIL HAYGOOD, NYT-bestselling Author of *The Butler*

Tuesday, October 6 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center location



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Changed America, a sweeping epic about the tumultuous events surrounding the heated 1967 appointment of Thurgood Marshall, the first African-American Supreme Court justice.

Talk and Signing with NYT-Bestselling author Scott Westerfeld, Margo Lanagan and Deborah Biancotti

Wednesday, October 7 @ 7pm
Eastwood Towne Center location



We are so excited to welcome internationally bestselling young adult author Scott Westerfeld as he teams up with Margo Lanagan and Deborah Biancotti to create *Zeroes*, a sizzling new series filled with action and adventure.

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OUT ON THE TOWN

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

Wednesday, September 30

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington St., Lansing. (517) 351-5866, lamc.info.

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

Aux Petits Soins: Explorers 3. French immersion for babies/toddlers. 4:30 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother and Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059.

Discover the Root Cause of Your Illness at the Quantum Level. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. LotusVoice Integrative Therapies, 4994 Park Lake Rd. East Lansing. (517) 897-0714.

Docent Group Training Begins. FREE. Michigan Historical Museum, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 373-3559, michigan.gov/museum.

EVENTS

Facebook for Your Business or Organization. Class for social media marketing. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Library, 2078 N. Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351.

Strategy Game Night. Ages 18 and up. 5-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014, dtdl.org.

Practice Your English. Practice listening to and speaking English. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Open Workshop. Bike repair, bike safety and biking as healthy exercise. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Kids Repair Program, 5815 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 755-4174.

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

Lansing Area PrepareAthon! Fair. Fun and disaster preparedness. 5:30-7 p.m. FREE. Elmhurst Elementary School, 2400 Pattengill Ave.,

See Out on the Town, Page 22

Four theater pile-up



Photo by Chris Puchis
John Lepard (left) and Tobin Hissong reprise their roles in "Rounding Third," an encore performance from Williamston Theatre's first season.

Oct. 2- Nov. 1

Greater Lansing theatergoers are treated to a smorgasbord of theater openings this weekend. Four local theater groups will draw the curtains for their latest productions Friday, kicking off one of the most crowded theater weekends in recent memory. Patrons have their pick of a wide variety of performances, from a laugh-out-loud look inside a family's cocktail hour to a solemn reminder that racism continues to roam just outside our doors.

'THE COCKTAIL HOUR' AT RIVERWALK THEATRE

This comedy about family conflict that revolves around parents Bradley and Ann's revered ritual of the pre-dinner cocktail. Their son John, a publishing executive and semi-professional playwright, returns home seeking their permission to produce his newest play. They are not too pleased to discover that they themselves — along with their favorite personal pastime — are the subjects of his latest work. Revelations and recriminations ensue as this booze-loving family bickers over the unsettling prospect of their private lives being aired out on a public stage.

'ROUNDING THIRD' AT WILLIAMSTON THEATRE

Williamston Theatre celebrates its 10th anniversary with an encore

performance of the first production from its first season. "Rounding Third" follows little league baseball coaches Don and Michael on their tumultuous journey from first practice to final game. A weathered baseball coach and war veteran, Don operates under a win-at-all-cost coaching philosophy. Michael, a new corporate executive in town, just wants his team to enjoy the sport without worrying about the pressure of competition. This performance reunites the original cast — Tobin Hissong and John Lepard — and director Tony Caselli from Williamston Theatre's 2005 production of "Rounding Third."

'BALTIMORE' AT

MSU Department of Theatre

MSU's Department of Theatre kicks off its 2015-2016 season with a world premiere production of "Baltimore." Written by Kirsten Greenidge, the play tells the story of a freshman dorm that is rocked by a racist cartoon. "Baltimore" is the second work produced by the Big Ten Playwriting Initiative, which

"Rounding Third"

Williamston Theatre
Oct. 2-Nov. 1
8 p.m. Thursday and
Friday; 3 p.m. and 8
p.m. Saturday; 2 p.m.
Sunday
Tickets start at
\$23/\$10 students/\$2
discount seniors and
military
Williamston Theatre
122 S Putnam St.,
Williamston
(517) 655-7469,
williamstontheatre.org.

commissions scripts with strong female roles from American female playwrights.

The play reflects a similar incident that occurred four years ago on MSU's campus at Akers Hall, where a racist message written on a student's door sparked campuswide discussions about racism. Sunday's performance will feature a pre-show discussion with the director at 1:15 p.m., and the Oct. 8 show will feature a discussion following the performance.

'NEVER SWIM ALONE' AT LCC THEATRE PROGRAM

This razor-sharp satire tells the story of Frank and Bill, two men caught at odds in a competition of vicious undermining and one-upmanship. At first the two businessmen appear very similar, sporting similar suits and identical briefcases. But as the battle escalates, their differences begin to emerge. A mysterious woman, adorned with only a one-piece swimsuit, referees this surreal and egotistical power struggle, which slowly unfolds to reveal a tragic childhood memory involving all three characters. "(Playwright Daniel) Maclvor is an absolute master of language, and this script shows his powers at their greatest," said director Deb Keller.

"Never Swim Alone"

LCC Theatre
Program
Oct. 2-3, 9-10
All shows 8 p.m.
\$10/\$5 students
LCC Blackbox
Theatre, 168 Gannon
Building
411 N. Grand Ave.,
Lansing
(517) 483-1488, lcc.edu

— MCKENZIE HAGERSTROM

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA



FRI. OCT 2ND

Peoples Temple

PEOPLES TEMPLE RETURN TO MAC'S BAR

Friday, Oct. 2 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$10, \$8 adv., 8 p.m.

After a short hiatus from the local scene, Peoples Temple headline Friday at Mac's Bar. Also performing are Hailey Wojcik, Sumarah and the Arrangement. Since 2007, Peoples Temple, a Lansing-based psych/shoegaze rock 'n' roll band, has released several acclaimed LPs and 7-inches on a number of indie labels. Jack White's Third Man Records recorded and released the band's "Never More" single in 2013. That same year, the band had a song featured on an episode of "Californication," a Showtime series starring David Duchovny. The high-energy four-piece outfit, made up of two sets of brothers, is currently supporting two 2014 albums: "Musical Garden" (HoZac Records) and "Weekends Time" (State Capital Records). The band is wrapping up work on a new full-length album and a deluxe edition of its 2011 debut LP, "Sons of Stone." Both records are due out in 2016.

MICHIGAN HIP-HOP SHOW DEBUTS ON LCC'S SWLNZ

Airs Saturday, Oct. 3. Tune in at 89.7 FM or stream it at lcc.edu/radio. Midnight to 1 a.m.



SAT. OCT 3RD

Ward Beard, aka Ward Skillz

LCC Radio 89.7 FM WLNZ debuts "Mitten Mayhem Radio," a new local hip-hop show, Saturday at midnight. The weekly, hour-long program runs from midnight to 1 a.m. Hosted by Ward Beard (aka Ward Skillz), the show features music, freestyle raps, interviews and more. "My show will not only feature songs from Lansing but artists all across the state," said Beard, a Lansing-based rapper and also a DJ at Lansing's Power 96.5 FM. "I'm basically providing a platform for the hardworking, upcoming artists to be heard on the same airwaves as the mainstream artists." Beard, who's performed at Common Ground Music Festival and shared stages with Jadakiss, Slick Rick, Ludacris and Twista, hosts a "Mitten Mayhem Radio" Launch Party Friday at Gregory's Ice and Smoke, 2510 N Martin Luther King Jr Blvd., Lansing, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Admission is \$5.

RACHEL ZYLSTRA AT THE ROBIN THEATRE

Thursday, Oct. 8 @ The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$10, \$7 adv., 7 p.m.



THUR. OCT 8TH

Rachel Zylstra

The latest venue to join the Lansing music scene, the Robin Theatre in REO Town, hosts New York-based pianist/vocalist Rachel Zylstra Oct. 8. The show also features Lansing-based singer/songwriter Abbey Hoffman. Zylstra, a Grand Rapids native, is supporting her upcoming album, "The Tacit Turn," with a fall tour across the country. The new LP is not officially released until Oct. 15, but advance copies are available at the Robin Theatre show. Known for her pop-infused, alt-folk songs, Zylstra pens wordy originals that she describes as "Ben-Folds-meets-smoky-chanteuse-meets-orphan-train-alt-country-gal — with a dash of Sesame Street." Lifestyle website scoutmob.com applauded the classically-trained pianist for her "smoky, sweet, and verbose" songwriting style. Fans of Regina Spektor or Rufus Wainwright might want to check out this show.

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT RICH TUPICA AT RICH@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	The Pluralettes, 9p.m.	The Dark Art of Michigan, 7 p.m.	360 Project Alistar, 8 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 15 Albert Ave			Rob K., 8 p.m. Rush Clement, 8:30 p.m.	
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd.				DJ, 9 p.m.
Capital Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.			
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.		Open Mic w/Pat Zelenka, 9 p.m. ??? Rachel Curtis, 6 p.m.		
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Blvd.		Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m. Jake Stevens, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Copper, 2874 E. Lake Lansing Rd.				Kamikaze Karaoke, 9 p.m. Summer of Sol, 9:30 p.m. ???, 9 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Fusion Shows Presents, 10 p.m.	Skoryoke Live Band Karaoke, 8:30 p.m. Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Blue Haired Bettys, 9:30 p.m. ???, 9 p.m. Darin Lerner Jr., 5:30 p.m.	
Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Rd.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m. Kevin Schaffer, 9 p.m.
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with Jamie, 9p.m. Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 7 p.m. "Johnny D" Jam, 9 p.m.		After Funk, 8 p.m. The Peoples Temple, 8 p.m. Hoopties, 9 p.m. Wise Guys, 8:30 p.m. Dan MacLauchlan, 6 p.m. Wise Guys, 6 p.m. Life Support, 6 p.m.	Lee Corey Oswald, 7 p.m. Dewaynes, 9 p.m. Wise Guys, 8:30 p.m. MSU Football, 6 p.m. Bill Slaghts, 6 p.m. MSU Football, 6 p.m. Kyle Hilton, 9 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.		Joe Hertler and the Rainbow Seekers, 8 p.m.		
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.		Lincoln County Process, 9 p.m.		
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave				
Leroys, 1526 S. Cedar St.				
Log Jam, 110 W. Jefferson St.				
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.				
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.				
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.				
R Club, 6409 Centurion Dr.				
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road	Don Middlebrook, Rush Clement, 6 p.m. Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7:30 p.m. Mark Salai, 6 p.m.			
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27				
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.				
Roadhouse, 70 W. Grand Ledge Hwy.		Karaoke, 9 p.m. DJ Don Black, 9:30 p.m.	Steve Cowles, 8 p.m.	
Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq.	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m. Waterpong, 11 p.m.			
Tin Can West, 644 Migaldi Ln.				
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Fog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	The Bear Band, 8:30 p.m. Joe Wright, 7 p.m. Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	The Bear Band, 8:30 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive				Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m. New Rule, 9:30 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.	Trevor Compton, 7 p.m.	Dan MacLauchlin, 8 p.m.		
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.				

LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS! To get listed just email us at liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-5066. Only submit for the upcoming week's shows.

Out on the town

from page 20

Lansing.
Music Appreciation @ ANC. With Bill Nelton. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.
Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

MUSIC

Fascinator @ Allen Street Farmers Market. 4-6 p.m. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468.
Fusion Shows Presents. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza and Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave. East Lansing. (517) 351-2506.

Thursday, October 1

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363, cadl.org.
Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Community Mental Health Building, Room 214G, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.
Take Off Pounds Sensibly. 5:15 p.m. \$5. New Hope Church, 1340 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 349-9183, newhopehaslett.com.
Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 6 p.m., meeting 6:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal

Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 882-9080, stdavidslansing.org.
Tarot Study Group. FREE. Triple Goddess New Age Bookstore, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 347-2112.
Celebrate Recovery. For all types of habits, hurts and hang-ups. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Trinity Church (Lansing), 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing. (517) 492-1866.

EVENTS

Banned Book Week Film and Discussion. Film being watched is 'Precious Knowledge.' 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Capital Area Audubon Society. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224.
Starlight Dinner Theatre: A Decade of Excellence. Celebration for participants in past Starlight shows.. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Spartan Hall of Fame Cafe, 1601 W. Lake Lansing Road, East Lansing/Waverly East Intermediate, 3131 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 243-6040, starlightdinnertheatre.com.
Spanish Conversation Group. Both English and Spanish spoken. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.
Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.
Baby Storytime. Stories and movement for our youngest readers. Ages 0-2. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Foster Library, 200 N. Foster Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5185, cadl.org. 0550.
Ladies Figure Skating. Lessons and practice. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:20 a.m. \$5/\$2 skate

rental. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 574-4380, ladiessilverblades.com.
Evening Storytime. Stories, songs and crafts. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3, dtld.org.
Euchre. No partner needed. 6-9 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.
South Lansing Farmers Market. Local produce, delicious prepared foods and handmade goodies. 3-7 p.m. FREE. St. Casimir Catholic Church, 800 W.

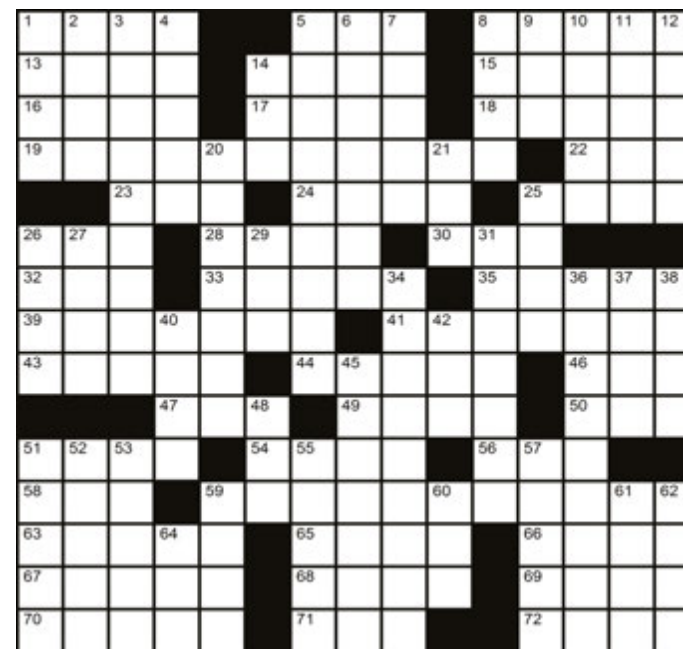
Barnes Ave., Lansing. (517) 374-5700.
8-Ball Tournament. Bring your pool game to the Avenue. Call to confirm. 7 p.m. \$10. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 492-7403.
Capital Area Crisis Men & Women's Rugby Practice. All experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2151 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing.
Harvest Basket Produce Sale. Farmers market with organically grown produce. 3-7 p.m. FREE. Smith Floral and Greenhouses, 1124 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6085.

See Out on the Town, Page 23

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Bill and/or Ted's Excellent Adventure" —fellow travelers.
 Matt Jones



Across

- 1 Pot money
- 5 Granola bit
- 8 "Harold & ___ Go to White Castle"
- 13 Transaction of interest
- 14 "___ oughta..."
- 15 "Fur ___" (Beethoven piece)
- 16 Credit card figure
- 17 "___ silly question..."
- 18 Arrest
- 19 Person using a certain wrench? (Ted/Ted)
- 22 Celebratory poem
- 23 "Before" to poets of old
- 24 Linger in the tub
- 25 Ballooned
- 26 +, on a battery
- 28 "King Kong" actress Fay
- 30 "Baudolino" author Umberto
- 32 Beer menu option
- 33 Dispatches
- 35 All-out
- 39 With 41-Across, what happens when a train worker puts in overtime? (Bill/Bill)
- 41 See 39-Across
- 43 First name in perfumery
- 44 Anxious feeling
- 46 Movie studio locale
- 47 "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" director Lee
- 49 "Believe ___ Not"
- 50 Baton Rouge campus, briefly
- 51 Artificial grass
- 54 In ___ (harmonized)
- 56 "What can Brown

- do for you?" slogan-er
- 58 "Kill Bill" actress Thurman
- 59 Castle entrances reserved only for horsemen? (Ted/Bill)
- 63 Flower's friend
- 65 "Blazing Saddles" actress Madeline
- 66 "A Shot at Love" reality star ___ Tequila
- 67 Add to your site, as a YouTube video
- 68 Emanate
- 69 2015 award for Viola Davis
- 70 Hilarious people
- 71 Board + pieces
- 72 A majority of August births

- 5 Folk song that mentions "with a banjo on my knee"
- 6 Murray's "Ghostbusters" costar
- 7 "The Princess and the Frog" princess
- 8 "An Affair to Remember" costar
- 9 "The Subject Was Roses" director
- 10 Not important
- 11 In a separate place
- 12 Keep the issues coming
- 14 Angkor ___ (Cambodian landmark)
- 20 Stephanopoulos and Brokaw
- 21 ___ out an existence
- 25 Subculture known for wearing black
- 26 Subject of a Magritte painting (or is it?)
- 27 "Bloom County 2015" character
- 29 Stephen of "The

- Crying Game"
- 31 Dance
- 34 Be flexible, in a way
- 36 Does some face recognition?
- 37 Love, deified
- 38 Q followers
- 40 Piece of lettuce
- 42 Lance of the bench
- 45 1978 Cronyn/Tandy play, with "The"
- 48 "Press Your Luck" network
- 51 Edible root
- 52 Taste whose name means "savoriness" in Japanese
- 53 "First Blood" mercenary
- 55 "Uh-oh!"
- 57 "Slumdog Millionaire" actor Dev
- 59 Part of DINK
- 60 Big bang beginner
- 61 Fuzzy red monster
- 62 Recites
- 64 Venture capital?

Down

- 1 "Scientific American Frontiers" host Alan
- 2 Mr. Coward
- 3 Shaker contents
- 4 "C'mon in!"

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 30 >> FASHION 411 SPEAKER SERIES FEATURING JOE CARR

Cutting-edge fashion and technology come together at the Runway's presentation on 3D printing and its uses in the fashion industry. The Fashion 411 Speaker Series aims to support fashion entrepreneurs and local start-ups by offering motivation and inspiration through a series of talks by successful professionals. Joe Carr, East Lansing Public Library technology specialist and co-founder of 3D printing research company Maizena, will discuss the software and tools most useful to fashion designers. Registration is available at runwayfashion411joecarr.eventbrite.com. 5:30-6:30 p.m. \$10. The Runway, 300 S. Washington Square, Suite 100, Lansing. runwaylansing.com.

SUDOKU

ADVANCED

5				7	1		6	
	1	3			9			2
		6						1
	5				6		1	
8			7	3	2			6
			4	8				
		7						
6	9							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 25

Out on the town

from page 22

MUSIC

Karaoke. With Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.

MSU Wind Symphony. At 7:30 p.m. \$10 adults/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Wharton Center, MSU Campus East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON.

THEATER

Rounding Third. Humorous story of Little League Baseball. 8 p.m. \$15. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Street, Williamston. (517) 655-7469,

williamstontheatre.com.

The Whale. Play about healing from the past. 8 p.m. \$15/\$10 students and seniors. Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. (517) 927-3016, peppermintcreek.org.

Friday, October 2

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Our Daily Work/Our Daily Lives. 12:15-1:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum Auditorium, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

Aux Petits Soins: Explorers 1 & 2. French immersion for babies/toddlers. 9:30 a.m. (ages 2-4) & 10:30 a.m. (ages 0-2). \$15/\$12 students. Willow Tree Family Center, 3333 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Suite 101, Lansing. (517) 643-8059.

FRIDAY, OCT. 2 >> THE DARK ART OF MICHIGAN ART OPENING AND HALLOWEEN PARTY

Horror junkies and art lovers looking to get into the Halloween spirit a little early are invited to check out the second annual Dark Art of Michigan art opening and Dead Icons Halloween party. The Dark Art of Michigan is a community of artists from all over the state who come together to share their appreciation for the darker elements of life. The event will feature art pieces and vendors exclusively from Michigan with many pieces available for purchase. Silver Bullet Productions, an independent film company headquartered in Detroit, will also be screening two of its most recent features, "Chubbies" and "Fangboner." Live music for the evening will be provided by Detroit's Wulfhook =, Lansing bands Sauron and Children in Heat and Audiodics, a DJ duo from Indiana. Guests are also encouraged to participate in the "Dead Icons" costume contest. 7 p.m.-2 a.m. \$10. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 492 - 7403, avenuecafelansing.com.

FRIDAY, OCT. 2-4, 9-11 >> 'NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD! THE MUSICAL' AT MICHIGAN THEATRE OF JACKSON

It is the zombie apocalypse and none other than undead Michael Jackson is attempting to break down the cabin door in order to gnaw on fresh human flesh. This Halloween season, the Michigan Theatre of Jackson is producing a re-telling of the classic George A. Romero film, "Night of the Living Dead" — this time, however, with a musical twist. Rewritten for the stage by Kevin Frei, the story follows a group of strangers trying to survive a zombie apocalypse in an abandoned country cabin. But in this version, the zombies are deceased celebrities at the heart of an entertainment industry conspiracy. 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday. \$10/ \$5 children. 124 N. Mechanic St., Jackson. (517) 783-0962, michigantheatre.org

FRIDAY, OCT. 2-4 >> SOLDAN'S PET SUPPLIES CELEBRATES 60 YEARS OF BUSINESS

Soldan's Pet Supplies has been a Lansing staple since opening its doors in 1955, and this Friday, the Soldan family wants to give something back. To commemorate 60 years in the pet supply industry, Soldan's is throwing an anniversary bash and holding its largest sale ever. The celebration will kick off Friday with cake and a prize wheel at each of Soldan's eight locations. Festivities will continue through the weekend, including Potter Park Zoo demonstrations, bobbing for tennis balls, face painting, hamster races and much more. Soldan's will also be offering 20 percent off storewide for the entire weekend. Events will be held at all eight Soldan's locations, see web for details and times. FREE. (517) 882-1611, soldanspet.com/events.

EVENTS

Mitten Mayhem Radio Official Launch Party. Sounds by DJ Leeky and DJ Eclipse. Ages 21 and up. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. \$5. Gregory's Ice & Smoke, 2510 N. MLK Blvd. Lansing.

Two Small Pieces of Glass. Program on the history of the telescope. 8-9 p.m. \$4. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

The Dark Art of Michigan Art Opening and Halloween Party. Costumes encouraged. 7 p.m.-2 a.m. \$10. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 492-7403, avenuecafelansing.com.

MUSIC

MSU Symphony Orchestra. 8 p.m. \$10 adults/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center MSU Campus, East Lansing. 1-800-WHARTON.

Bill Staines @ Ten Pound Fiddle. Live folk music. 8 p.m. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Jazz in Beal Garden. Music from MSU students. Noon-1 p.m. W.J. Beal Botanical Garden, 412 Olds Hall Road, East Lansing. facebook.com/bealgarden.msu.

THEATRE

Night Of The Living Dead! The Musical. Comedy about zombies in the music industry. 8-10 p.m. \$10/\$5 kids. Michigan Theatre of Jackson, 124 N. Mechanic Street, Jackson. michigantheatre.org.

Rounding Third. Humorous story of Little League Baseball. 8 p.m. \$35. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Street, Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

The Whale. Play about healing from the past. 8 p.m. \$15/\$10 students and seniors. Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. (517) 927-3016, peppermintcreek.org.

Baltimore. Thought-provoking play on the repercussions of a racially-charged occurrence in college dorms. 8 p.m. \$15/\$10 students. MSU Auditorium, East Lansing.

Never Swim Alone. Satire about swimmers. 8 p.m. \$10/\$5 students. Black Box Theatre, Gannon Bldg, Room 168, 411 Grand Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1546, lcc.edu/cma/events.

Saturday, October 3

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Tai Chi in the Park. Instruction in Qigong, meditation and Yang style tai chi forms. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Hunter Park, 1400 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

Domestic Violence Support Group. Noon-1:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163, womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

Aux Petits Soins. French immersion class for babies. 9:30 a.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother & Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

Making Homemade and Natural Cleaning Supplies. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021, cadl.org.

Microsoft PowerPoint Basics. Course on slideshow software. 10-11:30 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Library, 401 South Capitol Avenue Lansing. cadl.org.

EVENT

Soldan's 60th Anniversary Party. Games, face painting, raffles, vendors and more. Soldan's Feed and Pet Supplies, 1802 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. soldanspet.com.

Zombie Walk. For the benefit of the Greater Lansing Food Bank. Noon. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-6074, facebook.

See Out on the Town, Page 24

SATURDAY, OCT. 3 >> LANSING ZOMBIE WALK AND HOW-TO HALLOWEEN

If you see hordes of the undead stalking the streets of downtown Lansing Saturday, don't be afraid. They don't want your brains, they just want your non-perishable food products. Lansing's sixth annual Zombie Walk is collecting donations for the Greater Lansing Food Bank, as well as offering make-up tutorials and t-shirts with proceeds benefitting the Lansing Parks and Recreation Youth Scholarship Fund. The walk is a precursor to the How-to Halloween event, a convention for do-it-yourself festive crafts and interactive demonstrations. Costumes are encouraged. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. \$6 (Zombie Walk is FREE). Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. how-tohalloween.com

SUNDAY, OCT. 4 >> 'LIFE, THE UNIVERSE AND EVERYTHING' OPENING RECEPTION

Local artist Jonathan Griffith — creative director for City Pulse — presents his artistic take on "robots, animals and nerd stuff" with his art exhibit, "Life, the Universe and Everything," opening Sunday at East Lansing's Public Art Gallery. The show will feature a variety of Griffith's illustrations and digital paintings, including art from his upcoming web comic/graphic novel, "3031: An Ongoing Exploration of the Familiarly Unknown," and album art from Oh Hello's 2012 album, "Through the Deep, Dark Valley." The exhibit runs through Oct. 28. 1-2 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Art Gallery, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 894-2166, cityofeastlansing.com/353/public-art-gallery.

Out on the town

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com/Lansingzombiewalk.

Family Day at the Broad. Activities and tours for all ages. Noon-4 p.m. \$6. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing, MI.

How-to Halloween. Do-it-yourself Halloween projects. Costumes encouraged. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Lansing Center, 333 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. how-tohalloween.com.

Charcoal Drawing. 2-4 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi Library, 2078 Aurelius Road Holt. (517) 694-9351. cadl.org.

15 Amazing Science — Superhero Edition. "Shocking" hands-on experiments. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Haslett Library, 5670 School St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324. cadl.org.

Lansing Solar and Sustainable Tour. Self-guided tour of eco-friendly fixtures. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. FREE. Greater Lansing Area, Lansing. lansingsolartour.org.

Broad Museum Tours. Free public tours every Sat. and Sun. 1 and 3 p.m. FREE. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Karaoke. With Atomic D. 9 p.m. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 482-0184.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Paddling and Pastimes with Doc Fletcher. Canoeist shares stories from his book. 10-11:30 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Library, 401 South Capitol Avenue Lansing. cadl.org.

MUSIC

Matt LoRusso Trio at Troppo. FREE. Troppo, 101 S. Washington Sq. Lansing. (517) 371-4000.

THEATER

The Whale. Play about healing from the past. 8 p.m.

\$15/\$10 students and seniors. Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. (517) 927-3016, peppermintcreek.org.

Rounding Third. Humorous story of Little League Baseball. 3 and 8 p.m. \$25 matinee/\$28 evening. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Street, Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

Baltimore. Thought-provoking play on the repercussions of a racially-charged occurrence in college dorms. 8 p.m. \$15/\$10 students. MSU Auditorium, East Lansing.

Never Swim Alone. Satire about swimmers. 8 p.m. \$10/\$5 students. Black Box Theatre, Gannon Bldg, Room 168, 411 Grand Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-1546, lcc.edu/cma/events.

Sunday, October 4

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. Third floor meeting room. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, cadl.org.

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

Parents of LGBTQ kids. Weekly support group. All faiths are welcome. 3-4:30 p.m. FREE. Diversity Psychological Services, 1310 Turner St., Lansing. (720) 401-4214.

Spiritual Talk, Pure Meditation and Silent Prayer. 7 p.m. FREE. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201, selfrealizationcentremichigan.org.

EVENTS

Opening Reception at ELPAG. Digital paintings and illustrations by Jonathan Griffith. 1-2 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Art Gallery, 819 Abbot Road,

See Out on the Town, Page 25

SUNDAY, OCT. 4 >> 2015 DINOSAUR DASH

For Lansing area runners looking for a 5K with a prehistoric twist, the MSU Museum and MSU Federal Credit Union are gearing up to host the 30th annual Dinosaur Dash. One of the oldest 5Ks in the area, the Dinosaur Dash is open to runners and walkers of all ages. Participants ages 12 and under have the option of participating in the Museum Mile, a one mile loop through campus, and dashers ages 6 and under can participate in the Mini-Dash, a 200-yard sprint. Each participant will receive a Dinosaur Dash t-shirt and post race refreshments. Youth participants will also receive a Dinosaur Dash medal. A portion of registration fees benefits the MSU Museum's educational programs. 10 a.m. \$12/\$25. 409 W. Circle Dr., East Lansing. (517) 355 - 2370. museum.msu.edu

SUNDAY, OCT. 4 >> SYCAMORE CREEK CHURCH UNVEILS CONNECTIONS CAFE

Sycamore Creek Church, which describes itself as "stained glass on the outside, party on the inside," is gearing up to host a fall block party to open its new Connections Cafe community space. Opening festivities will include hip-hop dance demonstrations, a speed basketball tournament and a bounce house for children. Partygoers will have dining options such as Big Daddy's Big Dawgs, Back Yard BBQ, and an open snack bar. First time guests will also receive a \$5 coupon towards the purchase of food. Entertainment for the event will be provided by the East Side Fire Tribe, MC Ozay Moore with students from the All of the Above Hip Hop Academy and a live DJ. Noon-2 p.m. Free. 1919 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 394 - 6100, sycamorecreekchurch.org

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsny

Sep 30- Oct 6

ARIES (March 21-April 19): If I warned you not to trust anyone, I hope you would reject my simplistic fear-mongering. If I suggested that you trust everyone unconditionally, I hope you would dismiss my delusional naiveté. But it's important to acknowledge that the smart approach is far more difficult than those two extremes. You've got to evaluate each person and even each situation on a case-by-case basis. There may be unpredictable folks who are trustworthy some of the time, but not always. Can you be both affably open-hearted and slyly discerning? It's especially important that you do so in the next 16 days.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): As I meditated on your astrological aspects, I had an intuition that I should go to a gem fair I'd heard about. It was at an event center near my home. When I arrived, I was dazzled to find a vast spread of minerals, fossils, gemstones, and beads. Within a few minutes, two stones had commanded my attention, as if they'd reached out to me telepathically: chrysoprase, a green gemstone, and petrified wood, a mineralized fossil streaked with earth tones. The explanatory note next to the chrysoprase said that if you keep this gem close to you, it "helps make conscious what has been unconscious." Ownership of the petrified wood was described as conferring "the power to remove obstacles." I knew these were the exact oracles you needed. I bought both stones, took them home, and put them on an altar dedicated to your success in the coming weeks.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): George R. R. Martin has written a series of fantasy novels collectively called 'A Song of Ice and Fire.' They have sold 60 million copies and been adapted for the TV series 'Game of Thrones.' Martin says the inspiration for his master work originated with the pet turtles he owned as a kid. The creatures lived in a toy castle in his bedroom, and he pretended they were knights and kings and other royal characters. "I made up stories about how they killed each other and betrayed each other and fought for the kingdom," he has testified. I think the next seven months will be a perfect time for you to make a comparable leap, Gemini. What's your version of Martin's turtles? And what valuable asset can you turn it into?

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The editors of the Urban Dictionary provide a unique definition of the word "outside." They say it's a vast, uncomfortable place that surrounds your home. It has no ceiling or walls or carpets, and contains annoying insects and random loud noises. There's a big yellow ball in the sky that's always moving around and changing the temperature in inconvenient ways. Even worse, the "outside" is filled with strange people that are constantly doing deranged and confusing things. Does this description match your current sense of what "outside" means, Cancerian? If so, that's OK. For now, enjoy the hell out of being inside.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): We all go through phases when we are tempted to believe in the factuality of every hostile, judgmental, and random thought that our monkey mind generates. I am not predicting that this is such a time for you. But I do want to ask you to be extra skeptical toward your monkey mind's fabrications. Right now it's especially important that you think as coolly and objectively as possible. You can't afford to be duped by anyone's crazy talk, including your own. Be extra vigilant in your quest for the raw truth.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Do you know about the ancient Greek general Pyrrhus? At the Battle of Asculum in 279 BCE, his army technically defeated Roman forces, but his casualties were so substantial that he ultimately lost the war. You can and you must avoid a comparable scenario. Fighting for your cause is good only if it doesn't wreak turmoil and bewilderment. If you want to avoid an outcome in which both sides lose, you've got to engineer a result in which both sides win. Be a cagey compromiser.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): If I could give you a birthday present, it would be a map to your future treasure. Do you know which treasure I'm referring to? Think about it as you fall asleep on the next eight nights. I'm sorry I can't simply provide you with the instructions you'd need to locate it. The cosmic powers tell me you have not yet earned that right. The second-best gift I can offer, then, will be clues about how to earn it. Clue #1. Meditate on the differences between what your ego wants and what your soul needs. #2. Ask yourself, "What is the most unripe part of me?" and then devise a plan to ripen it. #3. Invite your deep mind to give you insights you haven't been brave enough to work with until now. #4. Take one medium-sized bold action every day.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Galway Kinnell's poem "Middle of the Way" is about his solo trek through the snow on Oregon's Mount Gaudy. As he wanders in the wilderness, he remembers an important truth about himself: "I love the day, the sun . . . But I know [that] half my life belongs to the wild darkness." According to my reading of the astrological omens, Scorpio, now is a good time for you, too, to refresh your awe and reverence for the wild darkness -- and to recall that half your life belongs to it. Doing so will bring you another experience Kinnell describes: "an inexplicable sense of joy, as if some happy news had been transmitted to me directly, by-passing the brain."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The last time I walked into a McDonald's and ordered a meal was 1984. Nothing that the restaurant chain serves up is appealing to my taste or morality. I do admire its adaptability, however. In cow-loving India, McDonald's only serves vegetarian fare that includes deep-fried cheese and potato patties. In Israel, kosher McFalafels are available. Mexicans order their McMuffins with refried beans and 'pico de gallo.' At a McDonald's in Singapore, you can order McRice burgers. This is the type of approach I advise for you right now, Sagittarius. Adjust your offerings for your audience.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You have been flirting with your "alone at the top" reveries. I won't be surprised if one night you have a dream of riding on a Ferris wheel that malfunctions, leaving you stranded at the highest point. What's going on? Here's what I suspect: In one sense you are zesty and farseeing. Your competence and confidence are waxing. At the same time, you may be out of touch with what's going on at ground level. Your connection to the depths is not as intimate as your relationship with the heights. The moral of the story might be to get in closer contact with your roots. Or be more attentive to your support system. Or buy new shoes and underwear.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I haven't planted a garden for years. My workload is too intense to devote enough time to that pleasure. So eight weeks ago I was surprised when a renegade sunflower began blooming in the dirt next to my porch. How did the seed get there? Via the wind? A passing bird that dropped a potential meal? The gorgeous interloper eventually grew to a height of four feet and produced a boisterous yellow flower head. Every day I muttered a prayer of thanks for its guerrilla blessing. I predict a comparable phenomenon for you in the coming days, Aquarius.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The coming days will be a favorable time to dig up what has been buried. You can, if you choose, discover hidden agendas, expose deceptions, see beneath the masks, and dissolve delusions. But it's my duty to ask you this: Is that really something you want to do? It would be fun and sexy to liberate so much trapped emotion and suppressed energy, but it could also stir up a mind-bending ruckus that propels you on a healing quest. I hope you decide to go for the gusto, but I'll understand if you prefer to play it safe.

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

from page 24

East Lansing. (517) 894-2166.

Christopher Cantin, Photography. Art Reception. 5-7 p.m. FREE. EagleMonk Pub and Brewery, 4906 West Mount Hope Hwy, Lansing

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.

East Lansing Farmers Market. Essential food items and much more. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Court, East Lansing. (517) 319-6888, cityofeastlansing.com/farmersmarket.

Broad Museum Tours. Free public tours every Sat. and Sun. 1 and 3 p.m. FREE. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Family Sports Challenge. Fitness activities, food and giveaways. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Court One Athletic Club, 1609 Lake Lansing Road Lansing. (517) 372-9531.

Featured Artist. Artist Meg Breiter shows felted pieces featuring fall themes. Noon-4 p.m. Great Lakes Art Works, 306 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

First Sunday Gallery Walk Reception. Quilt exhibition with artist Linda Kuhlman. 2-4 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

Perfect Little Planet. Presentation on the planets. 2:30-3:30 p.m. \$4. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4672.

Vistas of Michigan - The Oil Paintings of Lou Heiser. Opening reception for show that lasts through December. 1-4 p.m. FREE. Saper Galleries and Custom Framing, 433 Albert Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-0815.

Soldan's 60th Anniversary Party. Games, face painting, raffles, vendors and more. Soldan's Feed and Pet Supplies, 1802 W. Grand River Ave., Okemos. soldanspet.com.

MUSIC

Acoustic Lunch with Jon Dee Graham. 12:30 p.m. FREE. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing.

MSU Faculty Recital: I-Fu Wang and Ralph Votapek. 3 p.m. \$10 adults/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing.

MSU Faculty Recital: Marc Embree, bass-baritone. 7 p.m. \$10 adults/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building, 333 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing.

THEATER

The Whale. Play about healing from the past. 2 p.m. \$15/\$10 students and seniors. Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. (517) 927-3016, peppermintcreek.org.

Rounding Third. Humorous story of Little League Baseball. 2 p.m. \$25. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam Street, Williamston. (517) 655-7469, williamstontheatre.com.

Baltimore. Thought-provoking play on the repercussions of a racially-charged occurrence in college dorms. 2 p.m. \$15/\$10 students. MSU Auditorium, East Lansing.

Monday, October 5

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Adult Rape Survivor Support Group. Registration preferred. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163.

Job Seekers Support Group. Finding the right career. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 372-9163, womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.

Support Group. For the divorced, separated & widowed. 7:30 p.m. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272, stdavidslansing.org.

Learn to Meditate. Donations. C. Weaver Physical Therapy Exercise Studio, 1720 Abbey Road East Lansing.

EVENT

Family Magic Show with Baffling Bill. Magic and comedy. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

Club Shakespeare. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6300.

Mac's Monday Comedy Night. Hosted by Mark Roebuck and Dan Currie. 9:30 p.m. FREE. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, macsbar.com.

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.

BabyTime. 0-24 months. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

French Club. French listening and speaking practice. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 26

September 24 - November 1, 2015



Pay-What-You-Can Preview
Thursday, Sept. 24 @ 8PM
\$15 Previews
Sept. 25 @ 8PM, Sept. 26 @ 8PM
Sept. 27 @ 2PM, Oct. 1 @ 8PM

Williamston Theatre
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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 22

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From Pg. 22

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Out on the town

from page 25

org.

MUSIC

MSU School of Music: Music of Antonin Dvorak. Bohemian folk music. 7:30 p.m. \$15/\$12 seniors/\$5 students. Fairchild Theater, MSU Auditorium, East Lansing.

Tuesday, October 6

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Making Homemade & Natural Cleaning Supplies. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Haslett Library, 5670 School St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324. cadl.org.
Starting an Etsy Shop. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Foster Library, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185. cadl.org.

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Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 5:45-6:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

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. 7 p.m. FREE to visit. Eaton Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. (517) 543-0786.

Not So Happy Endings Support Group. For women ending relationships. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. Women's Center of Greater Lansing, 1710 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 896-3311.

Hopeful Hearts Grief Group. Learn, grow and heal together. 10-11 a.m. FREE. The Marquette Activity Room, 5968 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. (517) 381-4866.

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

Overeaters Anonymous. Support for weight loss efforts. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 290-5163.

EVENT

Bible and Beer. Discussion of Scripture's power in daily events. 6 p.m. Midtown Brewing Co. 402 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 482-0600, bibleandbeer@ccclansing.org.

Lecture Recital: 'J.S. Bach: Historic Interpretation on a Modern Instrument'. Presented by Zorica Cetkovic. 9:30-11 a.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700.

Sporcle Live! Trivia. Team based. Win Crunchy's gift certificates. 7 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza & Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

Capital Area Crisis Men & Women's Rugby Practice. Weather permitting. All experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2151 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing.

ToddlerTime. Ages 18-36 months listen to stories and music. 10:15-10:45 a.m./11-11:30 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

MUSIC

MSU School of Music: Concert Band and

Campus Band. Bohemian folk music. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

THEATER

Baltimore. Thought-provoking play on the repercussions of a racially-charged occurrence in college dorms. 7:30 p.m. \$15/\$10 students. MSU Auditorium, East Lansing.

Wednesday, October 7

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

BroadPop Studio. Workshop on science and photography. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Homework Help. MSU students help with younger student's homework. 5-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

Story Art Time. Art and story time for preschoolers. 10-10:45 a.m. FREE. Donations appreciated. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

Walk-In Wednesdays. Art activities for ages 5 and up. 4-5:30 p.m. FREE. Donations appreciated. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

Business Plan Basics. Course on finance, marketing, legal issues, and more. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Dr., Lansing. (517) 321-4014. sdbdcmichigan.org.

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 367-6363.

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington St., Lansing. (517) 351-5866, lamc.info.

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

Aux Petits Soins: Explorers 3. French immersion for babies/toddlers. 4:30 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother and Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059.

Strategy Game Night. Ages 18 and up. 5-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014, dtdl.org.

Practice Your English. Practice listening to and speaking English. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Open Workshop. Bike repair, bike safety and biking as healthy exercise. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Kids Repair Program, 5815 Wise Road, Lansing. (517) 755-4174.

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

Saudi Arabia Customs @ ANC. With Yakub Mahnashi from MSU ISPEAK. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Teens After School. Programming for teens in 6th-12th grades. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

MUSIC

Deacon Earl at Allen Street Farmers Market. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468. facebook.com/allenstreetfarmersmarket.

Marshall Music Open Jam. All ages and levels welcome. Instruments and PA provided. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700, marshallmusic.com.

MUSIC

MSU School of Music: Edward Parmentier, Harpsichord. Keyboard music of 17th-century composers. 7:30 p.m. \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, free for students. Cook Recital Hall, Music Building, MSU Campus. 333 W Circle Dr., East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Together, Let's Jam. Capital Area Down Syndrome Association hosts fun music workshop for all ages. 6:30-7:30 p.m. \$5 non-members. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Rd., East Lansing. (517) 355-7661, cms.msu.edu.

THEATER

Baltimore. Thought-provoking play on the repercussions of a racially-charged occurrence in college dorms. 7:30 p.m. \$15/\$10 students. MSU Auditorium, East Lansing.

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LANSING CITY MARKET RETAIL MARKET

Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

Igor Jurković, former owner of Restaurant Mediteran and the two Leaf restaurants, plans to open an as-yet unnamed retail shop in the Lansing City Market.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Since it opened in 2010, the new incarnation of the **Lansing City Market** has slowly transitioned from a farmers market that just so happened to also have a bar into a home for the ever-expanding **Waterfront Bar & Grill** ... and a few other shops. **Hill's Home-Cured Cheese, MaMa C's, For Crêpe Sake, Red's Smokehouse** and **Dublin Jerky** have been all but eclipsed as Waterfront has spread its footprint, growing from a glorified tasting room tucked into the southwest corner of the building into a 90-seat urban tavern with a kickass downtown view.

But starting this week, work will begin on a new business coming to the City Market that will return the focus to produce and Michigan-made retail goods. The as-yet-unnamed venture is spearheaded by entrepreneur Igor Jurković.

"This is the most prime property in the city, and no one's doing anything with it," said Jurković, standing in the empty corner that was formerly home to a massive produce stand. "What I'm doing will bring new life to the market."

Jurković said his convenience store will carry Michigan-made produce, wines, beers, liquor and canned products, such as salsa and pickles. He also plans to stock light groceries, including some everyday items. Jurković said the spike in downtown denizens has refueled a need for basic necessities.

"I know people who live in the (adjacent) Marketplace Apartments, and they tell me there's nowhere to buy milk or eggs downtown," Jurković says. "There are a lot of people moving down here right now. I saw a gap that needed to be filled and I'm filling it."

Jurković also owns **Mediteran Café and Catering** in the atrium of the Capital National Building several blocks over. It is a spinoff of the now-closed **Restaurant Mediteran**, which he owned and his parents operated until they decided to retire earlier this year.

"I could have kept the restaurant going, but I wouldn't have been able to dedicate as much time to it as my parents did," Jurković says. "And a lot of people loved it. I just didn't want to be (regarded as) the person who ruined (it)."

Jurković also opened the two **Leaf** salad

bars in East Lansing and Okemos. He sold them to his business partner last spring, around the same time he opened the café. He said he just wanted to be able to focus on "his own thing," a nebulous concept that coalesced into the City Market retail space. Over the years, Jurković has made a science of driving to Eastern Market in Detroit every week to buy the ingredients that went into his parents' dishes and the items that stocked his salad bars. He also began supplying Waterfront with fresh produce after the nearby fruit and vegetable stands started to disappear, which was the genesis for his idea to move into the City Market.

"This fits into our goal of making the Lansing City Market a destination place," said Scott Keith, president and CEO of the Lansing Entertainment and Public Facilities Authority, which manages the City Market. "This isn't seen as a farmers market anymore, which is why the (**River Town Adventures**) kayaking works and the live music works. It's becoming more of a hangout spot. And Igor's continuing to help it evolve."

Waterfront owner Scott Simmons, meanwhile, said he plans to move the bar's kitchen out into the middle of the market, creating an open-air kitchen with fryers and allowing the actual bar to expand all the way to the market's southern entrance. He also intends to move the dining area all the way up to the market's eastern entrance, which bisects the building. Together, Simmons' and Jurković's businesses will share half of the building, about 2,500 square feet.

"The concept has really changed since the City Market was developed," Jurković said. "There are a lot of farmers markets around Lansing that provided some good competition, and it was hard (for the City Market) to keep up. I think by adding the (convenience store) and switching the focus to entertainment, it's going to start bringing people back in. And I think if it does well, we may be able to re-attract (produce) vendors as well."

Jurković's store has a projected opening date of Nov. 1, so a name will be picked out sooner than later.

"I like the name Iggy's, but I'm still deciding," Jurković said. "I've got a month to think about it."

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