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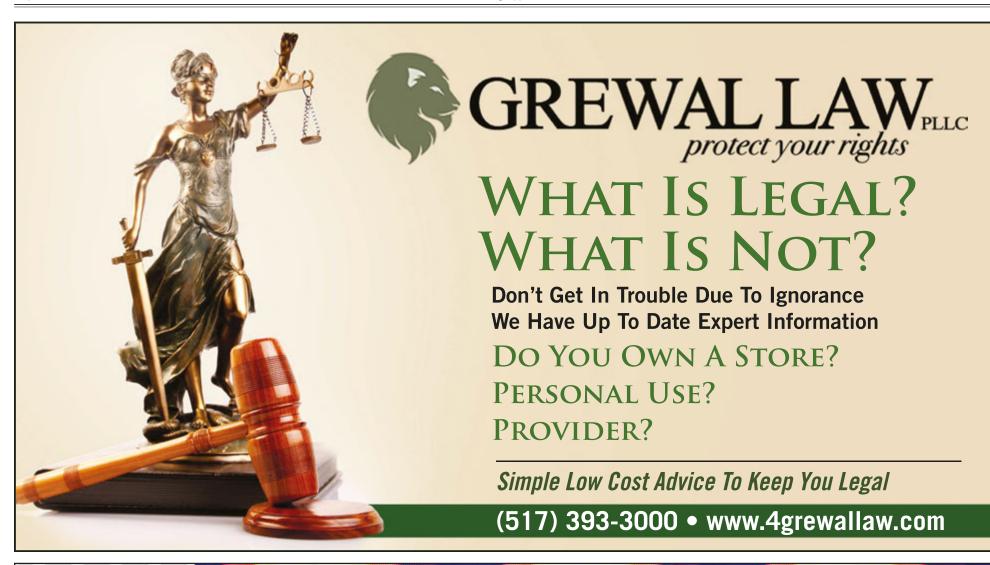
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'Hacksaw Ridge' producer visits MSU



Owosso native returns with 'Wicked'



Doughnut truck rolls into downtown Lansing



by Brandon Hankins

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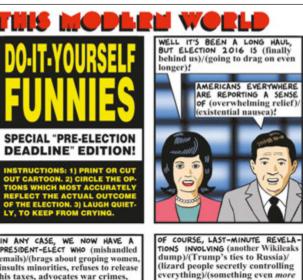
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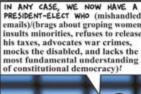
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NEWS & OPINION PULSE

BWL substation blamed

Developer cancels hotel project at DeLuxe Inn site

The developer who planned to build an extended stay hotel on the former Deluxe Inn site in downtown Lansing has withdrawn the offer, blaming the proposed Lansing Board of Water & Light substation and other concerns.

"The Electric SubStation to be built across the street is not conducive to having a 4 story (40' tall) zero lot line hotel building adjacent to 50' high electric towers and lines, " the developer said in an Oct. 13 email to Eric Schertzing, chairman of the Ingham County Land Bank.

The developer, M2M2 LLC of Grand Rapids, optioned the property with the Land Bank in February. The City Council approved the substation in late September.

Schertzing, who is also the county treasurer, said despite the set back, he beof Washington Avenue across the street from the site, Huszti said the developer withdrew because property taxes would be higher than expected, development rules increased the cost of the project and a market study had downgraded the property as an acceptable location for an extended stay hotel.

Karl Dorshimer, director of business development for the Lansing Economic Area Partnership, said that the "City Planning Dept requested that the Developer modify their normal suburban design into a more urban design, using high quality materials. As a gateway property it is very important that the Development meets the vision the City, and REO Town have for the site."

He said that despite the project's fail-

ure, the property "has generated a lot of

A rendering from 2010 of a vision by the Ingham County Land Bank for the old Deluxe Inn site. A Grand Rapids developer optioned the land for a hotel but pulled out in part because of the BWL substation to be built across the street.

lieves the property can still be developed to the benefit of the community. He said he met last week with "another broker and developer" who "was very excited about the possibilities for the property."

He said he was "always concerned" about an extended stay development on that location. "I think that is more a suburban thing."

He also discounted the claim the substation played a role in the withdrawal of the offer, noting that it had "never been an issue" prior to the Oct. 13 email.

Mike Huszti, a broker handling the deal for the developer, cited four reasons for withdrawing.

In addition to the controversial Central Substation project slated for the Scott Center and Park, on the west side interest from multiple developers." He said as additional developments come to downtown and REO Town, the property will become "more and more appealing."

Despite the citation of the Central Substation as a reason for the withdrawal, Dorshimer said LEAP was unaware of concerns from the developer about the electrical infrastructure until the Oct. 13 letter to the Land Bank.

Community activists are pointing at the failed development as evidence the Central Substation project will harm the

"Preservation Lansing has been saying all along that replacing a park with a substation would not fit into the surrounding area and that it does not meet the conditions of the special land use permit," said

Dale Schrader, president of the group.

Activists had suggested the Deluxe Inn site as a potential for the Central Substation multiple times. However, because it was under an option at the time, it was ruled out, city and BWL officials said. BWL officials also said even if the property were available, the 2.2-acre site was too small to house the substation. They said it would require purchasing additional property, including apartments on the eastern side of the property. Those apartments would have to be demolished.

The collapse of the hotel project is the latest entry in the storied history on this property. The Land Bank purchased the property from foreclosure in 2009. Before that, the hotel on the site was the source of drugs, violence and commercial sex work, city officials said at the time. The hotel was demolished in 2010 and the property has sat empty since.

Ryan Wert, executive director of the commercial association for nearby REO Town, said the group was "disappointed" but looked forward to new possibilities on the site.

We hope that this creates an opportunity for other interested developers to pursue the property, and would love to see an iconic mixed use structure on the site in the future," Wert said.

Such an "iconic" development was envisioned in 2010 by the Land Bank and others: a \$30 million, seven-story and four-story building complex that form an L-shape along Washington Avenue and the Grand River. It included a mixed-use" development with permanent condos and rental apartments as well as commercial and retail space at the lower levels.

The rendering does not show it, but there is a design for a 20-foot deck that extends beyond the riverbank that is about 30 feet above the water level.

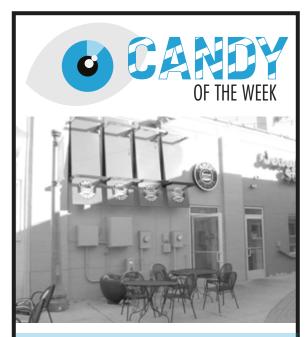
There would be roughly 153,000 square feet set aside for residential use (rentals, condominiums, townhomes and storage) with another 32,000 square feet for office and retail use. About 480 parking spaces would fit on ground level and below ground.

The housing would be divided between 132 studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments, nine or 10 condos and a couple of two-story town homes with decks and patios on the river.

Schertzing said that project was a way to "provide a vision" for the property. "It was trying to get a conversation going."

- Todd Heywood





Property: Division Street Allev East Lansing

Running north from Grand River, this week's feature departs from the usual focus on object buildings. In contrast to the typical utilitarian, avoidable alleys, this place is an assembly of individual elements, including one particularly clever background building, that are combined to make a greater whole. In total, the composition makes for great urbanism.

The alley, which is located between Bailey and Division streets, has long been embellished with a winding brick path, plus a kinetic water sculpture that anchors the north end of the lane. Recent additional flourishes have transformed the site. What would otherwise be an ill-defined, transitional space, now serves as a delightful, attractive place. A new mosaic mural depicting East Lansing landmarks was installed along the walls this past summer. Crowdfunding sources were employed to raise monies for the mural, which was created by the East Lansing Seniors Program and students from MacDonald Middle School. Board game tables, an incongruous piano and strings of overhead lights complete the scene.

The most recent addition is to the building pictured above. While not particularly notable on its own, this burger joint measures approximately 12 feet wide inside, occupying the narrow, otherwise overlooked space between two other restaurants.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

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

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Cloudy, cooler 655 for Bernero

Mayoral forecast: Unsettled conditions as three fronts collide By Kyle Melinn

The answer is, yes. The presidential election is over and, yes, we're already moving on to the 2017 mayoral race.

Consider this your political forecast for the city of Lansing. Today, the sun is hopefully shining because Hillary Clinton's text messages and talk of Donald Trump groping women have blown over.

But like the weather, Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero is a topic we can't help talking about because he can't help himself from being a topic of conversation.

The good, the bad, the ugly. For Bernero, it's all been on display since he put his hand on the bible in 2006. Nearly 11 years later, the question Lansing residents have started asking themselves, now more than ever, is one that Lansities likely will talk about until Nov. 7, 2017.

Are we tired of him?

"America's angriest mayor," whose epic verbal thrashing of a FOX News anchor earned him a Lansing Brewing Co. label?

The seemingly untouchable incumbent whose prior three mayoral runs yielded 22, 24 and 43-point blowouts and a proclamation from a City Pulse columnist that Bernero would be "Mayor for Life"?

Supporters, opponents and those yet making up their minds don't really know, yet.

"People love Virg's passion, and there's no doubt that he loves this city, but there is a feeling that I'm hearing from people that it's time for a change," said Jonathan Lum, president of the Allen Neighborhood Center.

The word is out. Union leaders started gauging state Rep. Andy Schor's interest in the job months ago. Judi Brown Clarke's meteoric elevation to Lansing City Council president after taking office in 2014 has her being mentioned as a more formidable challenger to Bernero than past City Council presidents Harold Leeman or Carol Wood.

A City Pulse poll conducted Oct. 18-20 by Practical Political Consultants bears that out. In a hypothetical three-person race, Schor topped Bernero 46 to 34 percent with Brown Clarke at 19 percent.

The 134-voter sample size is admittedly small, generating an 8 percent margin of error, but the PPC researchers shared two takeaways:

— The response rate of the 2,000-person robo-poll was "reasonably high" considering a new four-year mayoral term isn't being decided for another year.

— While the results are far from definitive, they are illustrative of what would appear to be a competitive race going into 2017.

DiSano Strategies' Sept. 6-7 survey of 363 Lansing voters showed Bernero at 36.5 percent, Schor at 35.5 percent and Clarke at 28. But when put in a head-to-head with Schor, Bernero loses 59 to 41 percent. He's only up 53.5 to 47.6 percent in a head to head with Brown Clarke. The city's nonpsrtisan August 2017 primary election would winnow down the field to two finalists in the November General.

To an outsider, the poll results may be shocking. Come January's swearing-in, only Ralph Crego, who served 18 years, will have sat in the mayor's chair longer. That's a notable accomplishment for a politician whose knock against him when taking office was that he was a lily pad jumper —county commissioner, state representative, state senator and mayor all within five years.

So what is happening?

The mysterious Feb. 25 departure of former City Attorney Janene McIntrye and her \$160,000 payout had tongues wagging. Several missing documents related to her em-

ployment fueled further skepticism. A split Lansing City Council wanted an independent attorney to sniff around, but the necessary five "yes" votes couldn't be found.

The Lansing State Journal paid for volumes of Bernero and McIntrye's emails, but it couldn't find anything conclusive. McIntrye's attorney privately used the specter of sexual harassment as part of some legal strategy, but nothing came of that.

"It was a dirty cloud and we couldn't get to the bottom of it," said Councilwoman Jodi Washington. "That whole episode cost the city a quarter of a million dollars. A quarter of a million dollars. That's taxpayer money and we don't have that to throw around."

Bernero's defenders questioned whether the prolonged McIntrye episode was nothing but exaggerated theater kicked up by longtime or recent Bernero adversaries looking at making political hay over the firing of a city official who maybe wasn't up to the job.

They questioned whether City Council had the authority to launch an investigation into a matter in which any public information already showed no evidence of nefarious behavior. In the public and private sector, sometimes high-ranking officials don't work out and there is often a financial price to pay when it doesn't to prevent costly, prolonged litigation.

Take the sudden firing of Board of Water & Light General Manager J. Peter Lark and his \$650,000 settlement roughly a year prior as another example. Bernero's handpicked BWL Board claimed Lark's handling of the nearly two-week Christmas 2013 blackout spurred his firing.

The reason was suspicious considering the mayor's feet were planted in Lark's corner for months after the ice-caked trim limbs fell on power lines. Why was Bernero Mr. Lark's most strident defender one day and allowing his BWL board to pay Lark for four years to sit home the next?

All we know is Lark's pocket was sufficiently padded. The agreement is confidential and the city doesn't do five-year contracts anymore. Again, a lot of smoke, but no fire, if anything was burning in the first place.

Still, there is plenty for Bernero to run on. He orchestrated the massive revamp of the hulking downtown BWL power plant into the Accident Fund's glittery headquarters as well as the gradual rebirth of downtown, Old Town and REO.

It's not about how violent crime is down in Lansing or how the city is balancing its budget without noticeable drops in service despite the housing market crash and falling state revenue, which is something his supporters would like to hear more about.

"I think he's done an excellent job during very challenging conditions," said Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar. Asked if she felt Bernero deserved another four years, she responded, "Yes."

Bernero hasn't announced his intentions to run for a fourth four-year term, but he's certainly positioning himself for one. Whether it's the opening of Hillary Clinton's downtown Lansing headquarters, the annual Allen Street Farmer's Market fundraiser or the grand opening of a REO Town business, Bernero is there ... with Schor nearby.

Bernero held an Oct. 13 fundraiser in the Outfield Lofts at Cooley Law School Stadium, a "Grand Slam" ticket costing \$1,000. He's already got \$150,000 in the bank. Even in conversation, Bernero conceded he's





Clarke



Bernero



Schor

Mayor

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heard the chatter about Schor and Clarke and said he's confident, regardless.

But numerous neighborhood leaders conceded that even though they support Bernero, he's in political trouble next year, and for various reasons.

Kat Tyler, president of the Northtown Neighborhood Association, was a Bernero fan in his first few years. He often stopped by gatherings, became more acquainted with members and their issues. But that's faded over time, she said.

His on-again, off-again approach to personal relationships has gotten old, as has the decline in the city's police and fire presence, Tyler said. She said she understands there's only so much money to go around, but she's sore about the visible decline in programs and still agitated that her power was out nine days in the last cold days of 2013.

"When he started off, he was making changes and improvement. I just think he got sidetracked about what was better for Lansing. That's unfortunate," Tyler said. "Now, I think everyone is over him."

The loss in city revenue has Lansing streets deteriorating faster than they can be repaired. Michigan Avenue devolved into a moonscape until upset business owners pushed for immediate action, which Bernero & Co. took.

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Yet, Sharon Rodocker, a leader of the East Battenfield Neighborhood Association, said "our city streets are horrendous," and she's sore that the Scott Sunken Gardens is slated to be moved to make room for a BWL substation.

While generally happy with Bernero, she's not sold on the mayor's strategy of opening the door to the medical marijuana shops peppering Cedar Street, among numerous other neighborhoods in town.

Bernero claims the medical marijuana businesses have filled vacant storefronts and reduced violent crime because patients no longer need to feed a shady black market for their medication. But residents question why these loosely regulated shops are selling "medicine" to questionable-looking clients at seemingly all hours of the night.

The "pot shops" may emerge as an issue next year. Bernero's open-mindedness to considering selling the BWL likely will come up, as will Lansing massive unfunded health care costs and pension.

But Bernero's personality may become the largest issue.

Mike Redding, president of the Churchill Downs Community Association, said he understands the public is frustrated that the lower tax base has equaled "crummy sidewalks and roads." City voters pushed through five-year, 4-mill property tax in 2011 increase to keep police levels from dropping further.

The BWL took a proactive approach with its lead service lines so the city isn't a "disaster" like Flint. So all and all, Bernero "has done a fair to good job."

That said, "As an individual, in Mike's opinion, I believe he's vulnerable. I think there's a hint of bullysness that I don't feel should be there."

And therein lies what Schor said he hears more about from community leaders and regular Lansing residents.

"There are people who feel that he has been a bully," Schor said. "That's what they're telling me. I've heard a lot of stories. It's not

just the stories that people are telling me, but what I read in the City Pulse."

Stories of Bernero's blowing up at other community leaders in and around Lansing are a dime a dozen, which can be interpreted as being a take-charge leader who doesn't take guff from anyone. His wild, gregarious personality can be attracting and endearing ... until you've angered him, for reasons you may or may not know, at which point he becomes non-responsive and personally chilly.

He's never gotten along with Wood or Washington on the City Council. Rather, he's gone out of his way to build relationships around them as opposed to with them, which gives Washington the freedom to share how she really feels.

Washington cites the federal housing discrimination complaint against her and some other Council members that was orchestrated by the Bernero administration, which

See Mayor, Page 8



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Mayor

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is is limiting what Lansing can do with federal low-income housing units in Lansing.

"People are just tired of Virg's antics," she said. "This 'angry mayor' bit is old. His reputation of throwing tantrums for not getting his way, threatening people. I think the man has lost any vision, moral compass, statesmanship. It's just time to move on."

Given numerous opportunities to share her opinions of Bernero, Clarke declined to go there. The former Olympic track star and wife of Judge Hugh Clarke would only say she's had a "tremendous number of people who have come up to me" about not seeking a second Council term and running for mayor instead.

"The things I have heard is that people are looking for leadership that is collaborative, that is listening, that works in partnership with Council, that works with others," Clarke

said. "We need someone who is looking for partnerships as a way to move forward and right now that is not happening.

"The ability to leverage and relationship build has been strained for years and we can't afford that."

Bernero defenders, however, say his takecharge, my way-or-the-highway approach is a reason Lansing has seen more than \$2 billion in private investment under his watch, that he's plowed the way for developers to revamp dilapidated or ugly vacant land.

How many other cities or mayors can claim the creation or retention of 12,500 jobs at a time when \$80 million in city budget deficits needed to be erased — and during a deep recession? Bernero's spokesman, Randy Hannan, rightly boasts that the mayor has led Lansing "through the toughest times since the Great Depression."

That said, new questions emerged earlier this autumn about whether he's taken things too far. In September a federal lawsuit was filed over the city's handling of the Red Cedar project near Frandor. While the Mayor's office claims Christopher and Leo Jerome's suit charing Bernero with being complicit in some racketeering scheme with winning bidder Joel Ferguson is "sour grapes," that may not be hashed out before Nov. 7, 2017.

Such headlines are not stopping Clarke or Schor from being approached about running for mayor next year. For her part, Clarke said she won't make decide until after she discusses it more with family and friends.

"I'm certainly intrigued and I have a lot of primarily support, but will that translate into money and bodies?" she said. "I'll be doing my due diligence and hope to have a response after the holidays."

Schor isn't denying his interest in the post. But he has been keeping focused on helping other Demorats get elected statewide as finance chairman of the House Democratic Fund as well as winning his own third term.

Interestingly, Schor found himself with a pair of nominal primary challengers this spring, giving him a reason to campaign and dot Lansing with his yard signs for much of the year. Bernero supporters grumbled that Schor used the opportunity to position himself for mayor, considering every stitch of Lansing north of Interstate 496 and huge swaths of south Lansing are in Schor's state House district.

Making Schor's ascent more real is the odd fact that Schor's political resume looks strikingly similar as Bernero's before he beat Tony Benavides in 2005: Multiple years as a legislative staffer, 10 years on the county commission and what will amount to five years in the Legislature, all five in a Democratic minority.

As Bernero had to leave before his legislative term was up, so would Schor.

Bernero took office as mayor at age 41 —

Schor's age now.

The city's major players know the score. Possibly the city's biggest municipal election in decades is coming, as signalled by the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, a longtime Bernero backer.

"There is a perception out there that the Chamber of Commerce is automatically going to endorse the mayor, but we will be taking a serious look at Andy, Judi or any other candidate who decides to run," said Steve Japinga, the chamber's government affairs executive. "It will be a very fair process using our criteria and guiding principles about who is best to continue to serve or to serve the residents of Lansing."

The labor unions, some of which are in city negotiations, hesitate to say much now. Sources claim their leaders have reached out to Schor, but whether that is concrete support that will move Schor to the roughly \$250,000 he'll need to wage a winning campaign or a way to leverage something from the city as part of contract talks is yet to be seen.

Bernero was the champion of organized labor during the 2010 gubernatorial election, when he was the Democratic nominee (losing by a lopsided margin to Republican Rick Snyder).

Either way, the political forecast for Lansing next year has a 75 percent chance of being stormy, 100 percent if either Schor and Clarke or both challenge the sitting mayor.

As for what the city's political landscape will look like a year from today, that's anybody's guess.

"Between now and Election Day, he has a lot to show us," said Melissa Jeffries of the Coachlight Commons Neighborhood Association. "He'll need to prove that we can trust him for another four years."

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On November 2, 2016, the following minutes of the proceedings of the Meridian Township Board were sent for posting in the following locations:

Meridian Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road
Meridian Township Service Center, 2100 Gaylord C. Smith Court
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Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road
Snell Towar Recreation Center, 6146 Porter Ave.
and the Township Web Site www.meridian.mi.us.

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ARTS & GULTURE

Big-time producer goes indie

Bill Mechanic returns to MSU to talk film industry, 'Hacksaw Ridge' and 'real movies'

By ERIC BAYLEY

Producer Bill Mechanic oversaw the creation of some of the biggest movies of the mid-'90s as head of 20th Century Fox's film division. But you wouldn't know it from the way he talks about his

"I feel like a failure half the time," he said during a Q&A at Michigan State University last week. "You make a movie and you think, 'I could have done better.' If you become self-satisfied, then stop doing what you're doing."

An MSU graduate, Mechanic returned to his alma mater Tuesday to screen his new film, "Hacksaw Ridge," which opened nationwide last week, and talk about the movie industry with students from MSU's College of Arts and Letters. The visit, he explained, was a way to give back to the community that helped shape

Directed by Mel Gibson and starring Andrew Garfield, "Hacksaw Ridge" tells the story of American World War II soldier Desmond Doss, the first conscientious objector to win a Congressional Medal of Honor. A Seventh-day

Adventist, Doss refused to even carry a weapon. Mechanic was drawn in by the pacifist angle, but it took 15 years to turn the story into a film.

"I thought it would make a great idea for a movie," he told City Pulse in an interview before the screening. "I didn't think it would take me forever to make

Mechanic first heard Doss' story in 2001. Co-producer Terry Benedict, who was finishing up a documentary on the soldier, came to Hollywood to sell the life rights for a narrative feature on Doss' experiences. Mechanic was fascinated by the story of a man who "believes the war is just, but killing is wrong" and bought the life rights immediately.

Mechanic guided the film through the entire production process. He brought on Gibson to direct, which was no easy task. He first offered the film to the Oscar-winner back in 2002 and again in 2010, but Gibson turned it down both times. Mechanic was persistent though. He thought Gibson was perfect for the project, citing his interest in religious themes and reputation for shooting acttion practically, using CGI only when necessary.

When Mechanic made the offer a third time in 2014, Gibson finally agreed.

"I think this was the first time he actually read it," Mechanic said. "He was the only one I ever offered it to."

While he was waiting on Gibson, Mechanic oversaw development of the script with writers Andrew Knight and Robert Schenkkan. He also secured funding through government subsidies from Australia, where the film was shot.

"If it wasn't for the Aussies, this is not a movie," Mechanic said. "Anything that's independent, you cannot make a movie without some form of subsidy."

While government subsidies are



ART•BOOKS•FILM•MUSIC•THEATER

MSU alum Bill Mechanic oversaw some of the biggest movies of the '90s as head of 20th Century Fox's film division. He returned to campus last week to screen his latest film, "Hacksaw Ridge." See Bill Mechanic, Page 10 Photo Courtesy MSU College of Arts & Letters

Shoot to thrill

Gibson's 'Hacksaw Ridge' excels at action, lacks everything else

By ERIC BAYLEY

Mel Gibson is the greatest strength and detriment to any film he directs, including his latest, "Hacksaw Ridge." Whatever problems one may have with him — on or off the film set — there is no denying that he is a formidable director of action and violence. But when there is none to indulge in and he's forced into exposition and contextualization of that action, his films are sluggish, clichéd and eye-rollingly heavy-handed.

But boy, is that action incredible, especially in "Hacksaw Ridge." This is one of a handful of films released this year that I would urge viewers to see in theaters.

Its war scenes are a sensory overload — especially in their sound design, an overwhelming, chaotic flurry of explosions, gunfire and anguished human voices that bring the hell of war to visceral, horrifying life. While Gibson seems to enjoy the violence a bit too much, it is thrilling. But it takes about half of the movie's 131-minute run time to actually get there. And before and after that action, the film is a slog of maudlin set-up and

See Hacksaw Ridge, Page 10



"Hacksaw Ridge," the latest effort from director Mel Gibson, follows the story of Desmond Doss (Andrew Garfield), the first conscientious objector to receive a Congressional Medal of Honor.

Bill Mechanic

from page 9

increasingly important in the movie industry, it does create challenges for historical films.

"Sometimes it's a trap," Mechanic explained. "It's really hard to find Lynchburg, Va., in Sydney, Australia."

So far, it seems like the challenges were worth it. The film pulled in \$14.75 million opening weekend, and it earned an 87 percent on Rotten Tomatoes' Tomatometer, which aggregates film critic reviews. It gets an impressive 96 percent from the site's audience reviews.

"It's a real movie," Mechanic said. "If I had nothing to do with it, I would still think it's a good movie."

The idea of "real movies" was a recurring point in Mechanic's Tuesday Q&A. He candidly discussed his frustration with the film industry and its disinterest in making quality films.

A native of Detroit, Mechanic graduated from MSU in 1973 with an English degree and went on to attend graduate school at the University of Southern California. He worked his way up the studio ladder, becoming a senior creative executive at Paramount Pictures and

then an executive at Disney from 1984 to 1994. During his decade at Disney, he built the company's home video business into one of the biggest in the world. In 1994, he became chairman and CEO of 20th Century Fox's film division, where he green-lit and co-produced blockbusters like "Titanic," "Fight Club," and "Independence Day." Mechanic left 20th Century Fox in 2000. While he officially resigned, it was widely reported that Mechanic was under intense pressure from News Corp., the studio's parent company. Chairman Rupert Murdoch openly loathed the graphic violence of movies like "Fight Club."

"I got fired for making those movies," Mechanic told his MSU audience, which laughed at the irony.

Since then, Mechanic started his own production company, Pandemonium Films, which had a hand in making "Hacksaw Ridge." While his career has been marked with both critical and commercial success, his frustration with the direction of the film industry often boiled to the surface during his MSU talk. When asked by a student what advice he would give to an aspiring filmmaker, Mechanic was less than encouraging.

"Find another job," he said. "Only do it because you have to."

Hacksaw Ridge

from page 9

indulges in Gibson's most egregious flaw: his lionization of boringly un-flawed, often deeply religious men and the exaltation of their heroic deeds and fortitude.

The film follows World War II soldier Desmond Doss, played with nice-boy charm and innocence by Andrew Garfield. A Seventh-day Adventist, Doss enlists in the U.S. army and becomes a conscientious objector. He wishes to serve his country but refuses to carry a weapon. He becomes a combat medic and single-handedly saves 75 men in the battle of Okinawa.

The film's subject puts "Hacksaw Ridge" in the same company as recent films like

"Sully" and "The Birth of a Nation," hagiographic biopics made by problematic directors, designed to instill a sense of virtue in its audience. The approach of "Hacksaw Ridge" doesn't result in a film as problematic, troubling or contradictory as "Sully" and "The Birth of a Nation" — unless you're deeply offended by overt pro-Christian messages — but it does makes the proceedings duller than they need to be.

While these stories are worthy of some level of valorization, making these men utterly perfect and thus utterly unrecognizable as human beings destroys any chance to create truly compelling figures. An audience needs to recognize themselves in these figures. Without that, the characters become just another infallible saint that mere mortals can't hope to imitate — or really care about.



Owosso to Oz Kristen Martin returns to mid-Michigan with 'Wicked' By TY FOR QUER

For some, pursuing a career in performing arts seems like a long shot. But for Owosso native and Broadway actor Kristen Mar-

"Wicked"

Nov. 9-27 (Call or see web for dates and show times) Tickets start at \$45 Wharton Center 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com tin, there was no other option.

"It was always a part of my life," she said, "And I never considered that it wouldn't be."

Martin returns to mid-Michigan this week with the touring produc-

tion of "Wicked," the self-proclaimed "untold true story of the witches of Oz," which opens tonight at the Wharton Center. Her character, the wheelchair-bound Nessarose, is the sister of Elphaba, aka the Wicked Witch of the West.

While Martin, 30, already has several Broadway credits and national tours under

her belt, performing in a wheelchair presented new challenges

"There are three different chairs, and they're not modern chairs that are easier to maneuver. They're older and kind of fidgety," she said. "And then on top of that, you're singing and saying your lines and trying to get to the right spots on stage."

But Martin's difficulty with the wheelchairs actually created a sense of empathy for Nessarose.

"I'm a dancer, so I am used to emoting with my body. Being limited by being in the chair was frustrating to me; I felt like I couldn't do enough," she said. "Then I realized that that's the character. Everything that I was feeling was what this character is feeling. So I took that and used it. I've really been learning a lot from it."

Growing up in Owosso, Martin studied dance at the Bohaty School of Dance, where her mother taught ballet, and performed with the Owosso Community Players. After graduating from Owosso High School in 2004, she moved to New York and enrolled in the American Music and Dramatic Academy, a two-year performing arts conservatory that focuses on singing, acting and dancing.

"It helps orient you with the audition pro-

cess and get your foot in the door," she said. "That helped me get used to the city. It was a little overwhelming going from Owosso to Manhattan."

Martin's theater resume includes national tours with "A Chorus Line" and "Cats," and she was an understudy for Broadway's "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark." While Broadway is her first love, she's also looking to expand into other outlets.

"I feel very thankful to have the career I've had so far, but I'm definitely curious to do some TV and film and to explore that world," she said. "It's a nice break for your voice and your body after doing eight shows a week for so many years."

Martin performed at the Wharton Center with "A Chorus Line" in 2010, but she describes "Wicked" as "this whole other beast of a show."

"The following that comes with the show and the outpouring of love surrounding the show is something I've never experienced before," she said. "So to bring something like this to Wharton, to be a part of it, is so overwhelming."



Courtesy Photo

Owosso native Kristen Martin plays Nessarose, the wheelchair-bound sister of the Wicked Witch of the West, in the touring production of "Wicked." The musical opens at the Wharton Center tonight.

Pre-ironic

Lansing Symphony wipes varnish and graffiti off Beethoven's Ninth

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Review

In my imagination, a cynic poked his head into the Wharton Center late Friday night

just to scoff at the happy, wall-to-wall buzz that followed the Lansing Symphony Orchestra's big choral concert. The night was warm and the lobby was stuffed with people, but nobody seemed anxious to leave.

"What's the big deal?" my phantom skeptic asked. "You'd think nobody ever played Beethoven's Ninth Symphony before."

Bingo. That's just how it felt.

Maestro Timothy Muffitt and the orchestra have stripped the varnish from plenty of old warhorses in their time, but the Ninth, with its "Ode to Joy" finale, was a unique logistical and cultural challenge.

Fresh? It smelled like the wood had just been cut. In fact, timpani man Andrew Spencer seemed to be hewing it before our eyes.

Making the first movement strange again, as it must have sounded in 1824, Muffitt and the orchestra rolled out raw slabs of sound, inchoate and faceless, then carved them into human shape with shocking force and unexpected delicacy.

And so it went, through the massive tunnel excavation of the first movement, the bustling, chugging construction work of the second and the restful idyll of the slow movement, all the way to the promised land — a Utopian choral finale that went far beyond a reassuring group hug. The "Ode to Joy" was meant to give all seven billion human beings on Earth a simultaneous orgasm.

Maybe someday we won't need to buy tickets.

Three massive MSU choirs joined to give sublime voice to the climactic choral movement. Drawing, perhaps, on the cyclotron across the street for reserve energy, they sent relentless waves of high and loud notes into the ether with admirable control and horizon-spanning power.

But Beethoven's Ninth doesn't stand or fall on big gestures.

Despite an exhausting salvo of Olympian brass declamations, serpentine writhing in the string section, ominous brow-furrowing in the basses and bludgeoning lightning from Spencer, hundreds of tiny details could be heard threading vividly through the ever-shifting panorama. There was bassoonist Michael Kroth curling like a purple streamer in a sonic wind tunnel. More than once, oboist Jan Eberle danced delicately on the thunderheads.

It was a special thrill when the music

grew hushed and Spencer hit the skins softly, like a Viking putting a fine finish on a child's doll with his broad axe.

It's no mean feat to freshen up music this famous. Over the years, the Ninth has been appropriated, repurposed and kidnapped by artists and ideologues of every stripe.

It has been embraced by Communists and Catholics, German nationalists and French republicans, American liberals and conservatives. ("Beethoven's Ninth," a 1999 study by Esteban Buch, follows the bouncing football in fascinating detail.)

The Ninth is so powerful — and malleable — that prisoners in Nazi concentration camps played it for consolation and Hitler celebrated his birthdays with it. Stanley Kubrick ushered in the Ninth's ironic phase, spray-painting it with punk cruelty in "A Clockwork Orange." Leonard Bernstein conducted a famous post-ironic performance near the newly shattered Berlin Wall, replacing the word "joy" with "freedom."

Can music so prone to appropriation by everybody and his Führer mean anything at all anymore?

Muffitt's approach was to leave all of that baggage in the cargo hold and party like it's 1824 — a simple yet powerful solution.

The maestro has long been out of the closet as a proponent of Beethoven's underappreciated teacher, Franz Joseph Haydn. That makes him ideally suited to show how Beethoven disrupted Haydn's orderly

dance movements and classical decorum with a new, raw, bursting-at-the-seams experience. And yet, despite the music's drastic extremes, you could still feel the inner dance moves, the candle-lit minuets and gavottes of the world Beethoven inherited.

Never mind Kubrick, the Nazis, the Berlin Wall and all that. Friday's performance was firmly rooted in the horse manure, splinters, dripping wax and noble parchments and proclamations of the early 19th century.

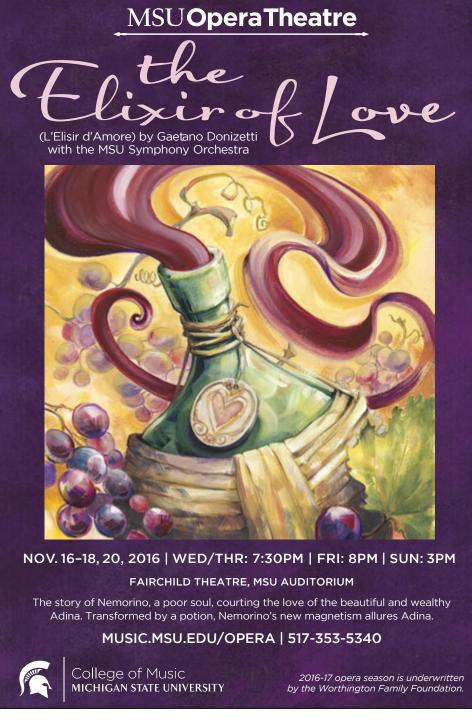
Far from post-ironic, Friday's Ninth was pre-ironic. It takes a lot of work to strip the distracting layers, but Beethoven's Ninth still matters. It even gave a jaded November 2016 audience license to yearn for peace, brotherhood and joy, straight up and without shame.

In the midst of the finale's choral tumult, the whole shebang stopped for a silly, drunken procession, with dings from the triangle and oom-pahs from the cellos. The precision of Friday's performance only added to the fun. That's where Beethoven pulled the sublime nimbus from the "Ode to Joy" anthem and revealed it as a simple drinking ditty. No wonder everybody wants a piece of the Ninth.

Humor wasn't Beethoven's strongest suit — nor is it Muffitt's — but that moment stood out among many Friday night, like the wine spill or tuxedo rip at a wedding you end up remembering more fondly than the most earnest exchange of vows.







Darkness over the ocean

Ixion Theatre premieres new work by British playwright By PAUL WOZNIAK and TY FORQUER

Ixion Theatre, the 3-year-old theater company based in Lansing's REO Town district, is looking to make waves this year with a season comprised entirely of new works. And its latest production, "Every Breath You Take," is an international collaboration that was formed across the waves of the Atlantic Ocean.

"Every Breath You Take"

Ixion Theatre
8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12; 7
p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13; 8 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 19; 7 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 20
\$15/\$10 adv.
The Robin Theatre
1105 S. Washington Ave.,
Lansing
(517) 775-4246,
ixiontheatre.com

The dark drama, which opens
Saturday, is
penned by British playwright
Graham Farrow.
The transatlantic relationship
between Farrow
and Ixion Theatre founder Jeff
Croff began over
a decade ago

when Croff was artistic director for Icarus Falling theater company.

"I remember coming across this company called Icarus Falling, and their output and raison d'être really appealed to me," Farrow recalled. "I sent a message introducing myself and asking if they would be interested in taking a look at a script or two. Some 16 years later, Jeff is a good friend of mine and this is the third time we've worked together."

When Croff contacted Farrow, the playwright had already worked through most of the story in his head.

"I'd been playing around with a germ of an idea, which had been gnawing at me for some time," Farrow said. "(Croff) asked me what I had, and I said I had a piece where two families who are going through issues come together over an 'event' and the drama unfolds from that.

I wanted to see what would happen when I put the knife in the woman's hand instead of the man's."

With the story mostly worked out, Farrow was able to turn out the script in about a month.

"Once I have an idea, I think it out for quite some time, let it grow in my head," Farrow said. "I live with the characters. I don't write anything until I get the whole piece. So, in that sense, the time is taken by the thinking and working it out in my head, as opposed to actually writing the piece."

Farrow admits he is drawn to the darker areas of the human psyche. "Every Breath You Take" is, at its core, about tragedy, desperation and revenge.

"I find the dark side to be interesting — what makes a person do something irrational when they're a rational person to begin with, that sort of thinking," he said. "It's what I like to see on screen and stage. I want to be moved, scared, made to think. I love comedy but it doesn't interest me like (drama)."

Farrow is inspired by dark, modern, sometime surrealist playwrights like Edward Albee, David Mamet and Tracy Letts.

"He tends toward visceral and driven shows that have very Hitchcock-like twists or reveals," Croff said. "He tries to find something extremely vibrant in the pain or the frustration of the characters. It's very compelling. When I look at his scripts, all of them take you to a darker place, a place that puts you on edge a bit."

"Gritty doesn't even describe it," added director Michael Hays. "It's not a comedy of manners. There are very few jokes in this script. I think it will disturb some people."

But Farrow, taking his cues from storytellers like Hitchcock, isn't interested in outright gore.

"It is violent, but the violence is implicit and used sparingly," he said. "Its more psychological then anything. But I think there is a little blood spilled — only a little."

History for sale

Gillespie Group selling Clara's lamps, giving away other items By CITY PULSE STAFF

The Gillespie Group announced on Facebook Sunday that it will be selling over 30 lamps and giving away dishware, utensils, furniture and other items from Clara's Lansing Station.

The sale, which started yesterday, runs 1 to 3 p.m. today and 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday at the former Clara's Lansing Station, 637 E. Michigan Ave. Over 30 of the restaurant's Tiffany-style lamps are available for \$150 each, and other items will be given away for

free. Sales are cash only and first come, first served.

The Gillespie Group has not announced any plans for the former train depot, which it acquired in July after the retirement of Clara's Lansing Station co-owners Cindy and Scott Jubek. The restaurant, co-founded by their father in 1979, closed its doors in June.

Several commenters on Facebook expressed concerns about the future of the building, but a representative from the Gillespie Group said the company is sensitive to the building's history.

"Our intent from the beginning has always been to preserve and protect the history of Clara's," the post says. "We will only be giving away tables, booths, plates and glassware that can be upgraded in the future."

CURTAIN CALL

Culture shock

Peppermint Creek takes on racial tensions in 'Disgraced'

After observing the emotionally charged "Disgraced," I asked one of its flushed and sweaty actors if the cast felt drained.

4

"Yes, but in a good way" replied Zach Riley. "An artistic

high."

That mostly sums up how I felt after seeing the Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.'s

"Disgraced"

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co. 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 10-Saturday, Nov. 12; 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13 \$15/\$10 seniors and students Miller Performing Arts Center 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing (517) 927-3016, peppermintcreek.org latest production.
The 2013 Pulitzer Prize-winning
"Disgraced," by
Ayad Akhtar,
was an emotionally taxing show
to endure, but it
came with gratifying stimulation.
Riley con-

vincingly played

Isaac, a Jewish-American curator. Ja'Nay Duncan skillfully inhabited the character of his African-American lawyer wife, Jory. Isaac and Jory are friends of Caucasian artist Emily — masterfully portrayed by Sarah Lynn — and her Muslim lawyer husband, Amir —in a commanding performance by Zuwaib Razzaq. Brennan Hattaway completed the ensemble as Amir's anguished nephew, turning in an impressive presence that was remarkably dissimilar from his notable performances in "The Little Mermaid," "Rent" and "Rock of Ages."

The racially driven storyline of "Disgraced" was full of shocks and surprises that sometimes made me bolt upright in my chair. Physical and verbal vio-

lence, relationship twists and didn't-see-that-coming admissions made for a volatile show that kept me engaged, and the talented cast made unlikeable characters fascinating. Some minor opening night stumbles weren't enough to mask the abilities of the actors, who reflected character frictions and abrasions like a well-oiled machine. They relayed authentic emotions around race, stereotypes, religion and collisions of cultures.

Not all of "Disgraced" will be agreeable to everyone. It is a sophisticated play with frequent profanity and artistic and literary references meant for an open-minded and well-read audience.

Written in 2012, "Disgraced" hasn't lost any relevance in terms of American attitudes towards Muslims. If anything, it has become more relevant as the presidential race has stoked racial tensions. But don't go in expecting clear answers or arguments to refute unfairness. "Disgraced" offers more questions than comforting solutions.

The aptly titled "Disgraced" provoked thought about the Americanizing of different ethnicities. It revealed the torment Muslims might endure in the process. The play is filled with honest dialogue that, honestly, wasn't always easy to swallow, though it did manage to add lighthearted moments to its dark themes.

The extensive, two-level, lifelike set by Khamil Hendrickson put the audience inside Amir and Emily's intimate apartment. The "fourth wall" almost felt behind me in a second row seat. Inharmonious art — hung in an artist's home — that looked like bargain prints, a cheese tray never touched by guests and a candle that never stopped burning during the 100-minute, no intermission play were forgivable distractions.

It was easy to imagine director Gabriel Francisco precisely conducting the powerful and perfectly paced outpourings and spoken percolations like an impassioned maestro. His blood-boiling experiences with injustices in college, described in the program notes, obviously spilled into the tone of the production. I was certainly disturbed, jostled, surprised and drained by "Disgraced" — but in a good way.

Case dismissed Owosso's 'Inherit the Wind' misses opportunity By PAUL WOZNIAK

Owosso Community Player's latest production, "Inherit the Wind," is easily the

Review

most relevant production running this election season. It's based on a court case from

1925, but the show's themes of tolerance and free thought feel like a timely balm to

"Inherit the Wind"

Owosso Community Players 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 11-Saturday, Nov. 12; 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13 \$15/\$13.50 seniors and students/\$7.50 children The Lebowsky Center 114 E. Main St., Owosso (989) 723-4003, owossoplayers.com

soothe the ache of the most divisive presidential campaign in recent history. Sadly, lackluster performances from nearly every member of the cast makes this play feel like a

missed opportunity. Jerome Lawrence and Robert Edwin Lee's timeless script is certainly worth revisiting, but Owosso's staging of this classic trial play does not do the show justice.

"Inherit the Wind" is inspired by the State of Tennessee v. John Thomas Scopes, better known as the Scopes Monkey Trial, regarding whether Charles Darwin's theory of evolution could be taught in public schools. Based on the legendary show-

See Curtain Call, Page 14

Please Join the Lansing Area ACLU for a screening of



Winner: Best Documentary, Tribeca Film Festival

"The parameters of homeland security are chillingly assessed in "Do Not Resist," a troubling documentary examining the escalating militarization of the nation's police forces" - Michael Rechtshaffen, LA Times

"In this new and vital documentary, Craig Atkinson interrogates what is happening in American police departments and why cops' presence on the streets looks more and more like war." - Diana Clarke, Village Voice

Tuesday, November 15, 6-8:15 p.m.

(Light refreshments from 6-6:30)

South Washington Armory 2500 S. Washington, Lansing

Free and open to the Public





Curtain Call

from page 13

down between William Jennings Bryan and Clarence Darrow, "Inherit the Wind" features Matthew Harrison Brady (Steve Shelton) and Henry Drummond (John Liskey) as charismatic, eloquent figures battling with words like prize fighters. The arguments for and against the teaching of Biblical literalism versus science are eerily relevant today, and the sparring dialogue is just as sharp as when the play debuted in 1955. But Shelton and Liskey do little more than recite their lines — and at times struggle even to do that. There should be sparks during the courtroom scene in Act Two, when Drummond cross-examines Brady as an expert on the Bible. Here, Brady shows his confidence is merely hubris as he crumbles under a series of simple questions from Drummond. Instead of sparks, Sunday's audience got a lukewarm exchange with all the intensity of a space

Owosso's last production, "Rock of Ages," showed the company's potential when the effort is made to cast and direct with vigor. But this production feels under-rehearsed at best, with actors speaking their lines without any sense of subtext or meaning beyond the literal words.

That spirit of literalism even affects the

costumes and props. In an effort to make the play feel timeless, directors Linda Keenan and Anna Owens took the author's notes — "It might have been yesterday. It could be tomorrow" — to mean removing any sense of historical context. Most actors wear contemporary clothes and carry cell phones and laptops while dialogue refers to an unprecedented radio broadcast of the trial. The result is a confusing and unnecessarily distracting series of anachronisms.

One of the strongest aspects of the production has nothing to do with the script. Musicians Rachael Cupples and Jeff Deason performed acoustic church hymns before each scene, setting a musical backdrop for the small Bible Belt town. The actual set, designed by Charlie Keenan, also works with a small town theme, creating a Main Street elevated over a cozy courtroom.

For all its flaws, "Inherit the Wind" still features a strong script. Much of Sunday's audience gave the production a standing ovation and reacted positively throughout. But as the author's notes say, this play is "not history (...) does not pretend to be journalism. It is theatre." And the value of theater, of course, is in the eye of the viewer.

Altar of wealth

LCC's 'Serious Money' takes on greed and capitalism By TOM HELMA

While the U.S. presidential election was (hopefully) decided Tuesday night, the Lansing Community College Theatre

Review

Program's latest production, "Serious Money," will keep Lansing audiences thinking about capitalism and politics

for at least one more weekend.

The play mostly takes place in 1086

The play mostly takes place in 1980s



London, immersing the audience in the world of international stockbrokers, futures traders, bankers, corporate raiders and industrial spies.

The show features a large ensemble, but there are some standouts. Connor Kelly is Zackerman, a banker who bears a remarkable resemblance to one of the obsequious sons of the blowhard real estate mogul running for president. Not to be outdone, Jessie Frawley, in the role of a devious corporate raider, has lines remarkably similar to those spouted by the Donald on the

'Serious Money'

LCC Theatre Program

11-Saturday, Nov. 12; 2 p.m.

\$15/\$10 seniors and LCC

faculty or staff/\$5 students

Dart Auditorium

500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing

8 p.m. Friday, Nov.

Sunday, Nov. 13

(517) 483-1488,

lcc.edu/showinfo

campaign trail.

Kelly is energetic, to say the least, imbuing his character with an exuberance suggesting several sniffles of cocaine. Frawley matches with highspeed bluster,

marching off in faux rage many times during the production.

This duo is matched in intensity by Alexsandria Clift in the role of Jacinta Condor, a Peruvian business woman who unabashedly charms and seduces to get whatever she wants. Hannah Feuka, in the role of futures trader Scilla Todd, brings a more intimate — yet equally sinister — touch.

Tobin Bates is all over the place on stage, but in a delightful way. He tackles three different roles, including a thick accented Scotch-Irishman.

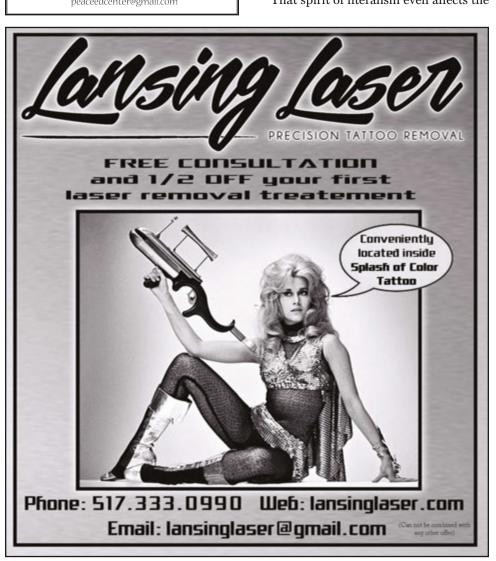
At times, this production seems to be going nowhere in particular. The chirpy British accents were difficult to understand at first, but as actors become a bit breathless they — thank God — slow down a bit.

Overall, there are 25 different roles in this play split among 16 actors. The ensemble shines best in two unexpected song-and-dance numbers, one at the end of Act One, and a second at the end of the play. The songs, featuring choreography by Vickie Diebold and vocal harmonies arranged by Kelly Stuible-Clark, are jarringly different in style than the rest of the play, and yet it works.

Bartley Bauer's abstract Aztec Temple set occupies the entire expanse of the Dart Auditorium stage, with its steps and stairways suggesting that certain characters might rise up to the highest level of power, sacrificing their humanity on the altar of money.

Scenes where there is overlapping stock market chatter recreate what an actual stock market floor might sound like, and Joe Dickson's facile use of spotlighting is here and there and everywhere.

Kudos to director Mary Job for finding and presenting this British take on greed and how the search for power corrupts and ultimately ruins the human spirit.



Fishing for answers

East Lansing native reflects on life on the water By BILL CASTANIER



Even though Chris Dombrowski grew up in East Lansing, in the county with the fewest lakes in Michigan,

he still found a way to fish. In his early teens, Dombrowski and his pals would fish the Red Cedar — or as they referred

2016 Fall Writing Series presents Chris Dombrowski

Hosted by the MSU Center for Poetry

Afternoon Talk 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16 LookOut! Gallery, Snyder

362 Bogue St., East Lansing

Reading

Hall

7 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 16 RCAH Theatre, Snyder Hall 362 Bogue St., East Lansing

(517) 884-1932, poetry.rcah. msu.edu to it, "Red Sewer."

Dombrowski's latest book, "Body of Water: A Sage, a Seeker and the World's Most Alluring Fish," beautifully details his love of fishing, including conversations with legendary Grand Bahama Island bonefishing guide David Pinder.

Dombrowksi, 40, talked with City Pulse from

his home in Missoula, Mont., which is in the heart of one of the nation's top fly fishing regions. Anglers from all over the world come to Missoula to fish the Blackfoot and Bitterroot rivers. Dombrowski, a 1994 graduate of East Lansing High School, discovered his love for fishing in the Greater Lansing area.

"We would pretty religiously fish the Red Cedar a couple of times a week, from the golf course in Okemos to the baseball fields on campus and near Municipal Park in Lansing," he said. "We were vaguely trespassing, but no one is afraid of kids carrying fishing poles."

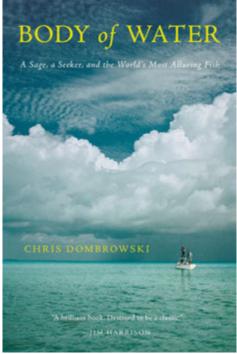
Dombrowski worked 18 years as a fishing guide, leading up to 120 trips per year. He has also published several works of poetry and has spent time teaching college literature. But it took a while be-

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Ountoou Dhote

"Body of Water," by East Lansing native Chris Dombrowski, reflects on a life of fishing and writing.

fore he put his two passions together.

"I was hesitant for a long time to write about fishing," he said, noting the strong tradition of American fishing literature. "I was a little intimidated."

Dombrowski recalled his first exposure to the genre of nature writing.

"The first book that inspired me was Norman Maclean's 'A River Runs Through It," Dombrowski said. "My high school teacher, Jim Colando, gave me the book. Before I got home from school, I was 60 pages into it. It was the first book I read cover to cover."

It proved to be a gateway into other nature literature.

"The book seemed to illustrate what's happening in the natural world and the sensations surrounding it," he said, adding that soon after he began reading Michigan writers Tom McGuane and Jim Harrison.

Harrison, who died last March, provided this blurb, likely his last, for Dombrowski's book: "A brilliant book. Destined to be a classic."

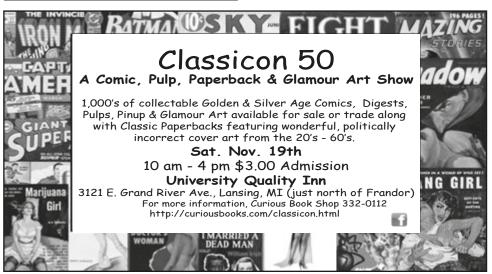
A large portion of the book is dedicated to Dombrowski's meeting with David Pinder, which came about by happenstance. An impoverished Dombrowski was given a spot on a trip to the Grand Bahamas to fish for bonefish, where he met the legendary guide. Pinder, whose failing vision ended a career of hunting the elusive bonefish, became something like a fishing guru for Dombrowski.

"We don't always know what we are after," Dombroski said of the unexpected connection

Dombrowski, who was initially more interested in fishing than talking, soon became entranced by Pinder's story. An unassuming figure, Pinder's history in the fishing industry goes back to the mid-1950s, when he was employed as a laborer building the Bahamas' Deep Water Cay fishing resort. He helped to establish the islands' bonefishing tourism industry, which can pull over \$7,000 for a weeklong trip.







The bonefish is noted for both its wariness and its ability to hit speeds of 25 miles per hour. The fish is relatively small and not much to look at, but those who seek the bonefish see it as a glistening trophy.

But Dombrowski also laments one of the ironies of the Bahamian fishing industry. Fishing has become so popular that moneyed fishermen, who got their start in the island's lodges and camps, are now buying up these properties for private use, threating the sport fishing industry.

While the two sides of his life — fishing and writing — are quite different, Dombrowski sees some overlap.

"Both fishing and reading ask us to immerse ourselves in a world and get to know it," he said. "The people who seek a deeper engagement with fishing are the same as those who write and read."

Schuler Books ——&Music——

The LCC Science Department Presents Café Scientifique

Tuesday, Nov. 15 @ 7pm Eastwood Towne Center location

This month's subject is: Shaken Baby Syndrome: Facts and Fiction. Dr. Robert M. Reece, retired clinical professor of Pediatrics at Tufts Medical Center in Boston and author of the novel To Tell the Truth, will discuss this form of abusive head trauma. Learn the kinds of injuries these infants sustain, how they occur, the effect of these injuries on the victims, the outcomes of the injuries, and some proposals about how these injuries might be prevented.

Lansing Storytellers Meeting

Monday, Nov. 21 from 7-9pm Eastwood Towne Center location

The Lansing Storytellers are a group of mid-Michigan storytellers and story lovers, both amateur and professional, dedicated to keeping the tradition of oral storytelling alive. Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Magic: Commander Night

Tuesday, Nov. 22, 6-8pm Meridian Mall location

Bring a Commander deck and play a grand, multi-player game in this Magic rules variant. If you don't have a deck, extras are usually available to borrow and are available for sale. All Magic and related products will be 20% off for those attending the event.

for more information visit www.SchulerBooks.com

OUTOWN 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.

Turner-Dodge House call for holiday trees

The Friends of Turner-Dodge House is looking for businesses, organizations and individuals to decorate holiday trees for the annual Festival of Trees at Turner-Dodge House. If interested, please call (517) 483-4220 for more information or see the online submission form at: ow.ly/B3Qs305wv99.

Wednesday, November 9 EVENTS

Allen Farmers Market — Indoor Season. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911, ow.ly/Bol 1303O4VE.

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

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

PJ Storytime. For ages 3 and up and families. 7-7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. Post-Polio Support Group. Share

information, ideas, and support. 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 339-1039.

Southeast Lansing Community
Roundtable. RSVP to 2ndwardintern@gmail.
com. 5:30-7 p.m. FREE. Cristo Rey Church, 201
W. Miller Road, Lansing. ow.ly/WC1HY.

Thanksgiving at Cristo Rey Community Center. Volunteers needed for meal for those in need. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing. (517) 881-9181, ow.ly/ejcq305OBT8.

MUSIC

Acoustic Lunch: Dave Boutette. American roots musician in concert. 12:30-1:30 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 884-4800,

See Out on the Town, Page 18



The term "chamber music" often brings to mind images of string quartets playing music by long-dead composers in church sanctuaries or library auditoriums. But M.I. Concerts, a new chamber music series launching next week, is trying to change that reputation.

The series, which debuts at Lansing Brewing Co. Nov. 17, features chamber music written by living composers with Michigan connections.

"A lot of the music is written by classically trained composers, but there are influences of jazz and rock that you can hear," said M.I. Concerts founder Tia Harvey. "It is contemporary classical music in that we're playing classical instrument and the composers have written out the music, but it's not something that would be out of place in a bar."

Harvey, a Ferndale resident and Michigan State University doctoral student, lined up the musicians and selected the repertoire for concert. The program includes two works written specifically for the concert: "US 2" by Philip Rice and "Petoskey Stones" by Ashlee Busch. Both composers are Michigan natives and alums of Michigan State University's graduate composition program. Other works on the program include

"Original Blend" by Grand Valley State University professor Bill Ryan and "Lost Lines" by MSU doctoral student Justin Rito.

The concert features six musicians — including Harvey on percussion — all MSU College of Music students or recent graduates. For flutist Chelsea Koziatek, the chance to work with living composers is a valuable experience.

"I found that it's very rewarding to be able to talk to those composers and have them give me feedback," she said. "You can't get that from Mozart."

The program also features reworked version of pop songs with Michigan connections, including Aretha Franklin's "Respect" and a pair of songs from Sufjan Stevens' "Michigan" album.

"The whole point of it is to nourish and create contemporary chamber music here in Michigan, music that is by Michigan composers and inspired by the culture here," Harvey said.

The offbeat venue is also a key part of the series. Like many university music programs, MSU's College of Music is often an insulated community, rarely venturing off campus.

"It's really easy for the work that we do as musicians

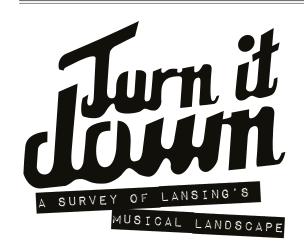
to get stuck in this feedback loop of academic institutions," Harvey said. "They are wonderful and they provide so much training and

7:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17 FREE Lansing Brewing Co. 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing facebook.com/

encouragement, but music needs to be part of the community it exists in."

The launch of this series is funded through the College of Music's Running Start Competition, which encourages entrepreneurship and outreach activities. While there are challenges ahead — like securing funding for future concerts — Harvey thinks it has potential to grow into a statewide series.

"I'd like for it to continue and become a regular event, not just in Lansing," she said. "I'd like to curate events throughout the state, to have it be Michigan-centric. I'm looking to do collaborations with other artists — poets, visual artists, dancers — I really want it to be community."





TELL YO MAMA ALBUM RELEASE AT THE AVENUE CAFE

Saturday, Nov. 12 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$5, 8 p.m.

Formed two years ago, soulful funk-rock band Tell Yo Mama releases its first proper full-length LP, "Good Thang," Saturday at the Avenue Café. The seven-piece local band comprises Eric Kloeckner (keys, vocoder, harmonica), Jacque Baldori (vocals), Lucas Holliday (vocals, percussion), Michael Loomis (guitar), Adrian Bryant (bass guitar), Marty McClean (saxophone, keys, vocals) and Ray Crane (drums, vocals). Baldori, who describes the band as a "high octane, relentlessly funky jam machine" and a "spectacle of jam goodness," said the group frequents the Green Door but also plays cover sets in Lansing and across the state. "We have a ton of influences," Baldori said. "A lot of older, soulful, funky music like Rick James, Parliament, James Brown, Sly & the Family Stone, Prince, Michael Jackson — the list goes on." Opening the release show are Speak Easy, Off the Ledge and Bigfoot Buffalo.



FACE TO FACE AT THE LOFT

Friday, Nov. II @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$25/\$22 adv., 7 p.m.

Southern California-based punk band Face to Face is on the road promoting its latest album, "Protection." The disc, released on Fat Wreck Chords, is the group's ninth LP. The tour stops at the Loft Friday for an all-ages show; openers are City Mouse and Head. Formed in 1991, Face to Face is led by vocalist Trever Keith and features bassist Scott Shiflett, guitarist Chad Yaro and drummer Danny Thompson. In 1995, the band gained national exposure after it scored a hit with "Disconnected." The track appeared on soundtracks for "National Lampoon's Senior Trip" and "Tank Girl." Starting in 2004, the band went on a four year hiatus. During that time, the members spent time in other bands, including Me First and the Gimme Gimmes, the Offspring and Saves the Day.



BY RICHTUPICA

MARY GAUTHIER AT THE PUMP HOUSE

Sunday, Nov. 13 @ Pump House Concerts, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing, \$20 suggested donation, 7 p.m.

Americana songwriter Mary Gauthier makes a rare Michigan appearance Sunday at the Pump House Concerts series. The Nashville-based troubadour has earned critical praise since her folk career took off back in the '90s. The Wall Street Journal called her "one of Americana music's most admired artists," and Rolling Stone magazine wrote: "Every tune is a rough gem of melody, misery and economy," adding: "Gauthier excavates romantic wreckage like an archaeologist telling the story of a fossilized love." Gauthier, 54, is a New Orleans native with 10 albums under her belt, including 1999's "Drag Queens in Limousines," which garnered international attention and press. Her latest is 2014's "Trouble and Love." Fans of Kris Kristofferson, Lucinda Williams or John Prine might want to check out this intimate show.



UPCOMING SHOW? contact allison@lansingcitypulse.com

LIVE & LUCAL	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Vesperteen, 8 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Tell Yo Mama album release, 8 p.m.
Black Cat, 115 Albert Ave	V 0 ,	' '	Alistair, 8 p.m.	, i
Brookshire, 205 Church St.				
Buddies - Okemos, 1937 W Grand River Ave			Rush Clement, 7:30 p.m.	
Classic Bar & Grill, 16219 Old US 27			Lee Groove, 9 p.m.	
Champions, 2440 N. Cedar St.		Lee Groove, 7 p.m.		
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.		Unlimited, 8 p.m.	Jammin' DJ, 8 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S Martin Luther King Jr Blvd		Open Mic w/ Pat Zelenka, 9 p.m.	Homespun, 9 p.m.	Homespun, 9 p.m.
Crafty Palate, 333 S. Washington Square		Team Trivia, 7 p.m.		
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.		Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Rd				
Eaton Rapids Craft Co., 204 N Main St.		Steve Cowles, 5 p.m.	Darrin Larner, 5 p.m.	
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m.		Karaoke, 9 p.m.	DJ Brendan, 10 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 7 p.m.	Mike Skory & Friends, 8:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m.
Gallery Brewery, 142 Kent St.		Open Mic, 7 p.m.	Hatchet Man & the Frog, 7 p.m.	Kelly & Victor, 7 p.m.
Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.			Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.		
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave.,			Taylor Taylor, 5:30 p.m.	
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.		Discovery Series, 8 p.m.	Face To Face, 7 p.m.	Fallout Music Festival, 5 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Sorority Noise, 7 p.m.			Inebriated, 9 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Electrocats, 9 p.m.	Hoopties, 9 p.m.	Big Willy, 9 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road			The New Rule, 9 p.m.	The New Rule, 8 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27			Life Support, 8 p.m.	Life Support, 8 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Wise Guys, 8 p.m.	Wise Guys, 8 p.m.
Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.			
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.		Miranda & the M80's, 8:15 p.m.	Hoosier Highway, 8:15 p.m.	Hoosier Highway, 8:15 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	Samantha & the Cool Cats, 9 p.m.	Samantha & the Cool Cats, 9 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.	Trevor Compton, 7 p.m.	Dan MacLachlan, 8 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr.	Mike Skory Patio Blues, 6 p.m.	Oxymorons, 8 p.m.	Joe Wright, 6 p.m.	

Out on the town

from page 16

broadmuseum.msu.edu.

THEATER

Wicked. Story of the Wicked Witch of the West. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$45. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.

Thursday, November 10 **CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

(TOPS) Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 5:15 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m. First meeting FREE. Room 207, Haslett Middle School, 1535 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 927-4307.

A Course in Miracles. Four-week workshop on peace and forgiveness. 7-9 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Road, Lansing. (517) 371-3010, unitylansing.org.

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

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

H.E.R.O: Door Knobs & Deadbolts. Learn to do it yourself. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980,

Ingham Co Genealogical Society Meeting. Liz Homer speaks on Ingham County Women. 7-9 p.m. Sam Corey Senior Center, 2108 Cedar St., Holt. (517) 676-7140, icgsweb.org.

IT Career Networking Event. Meet with employers. RSVP online. Noon-1:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area Michigan Works, 2110 S. Cedar St., Lansing. itcareernetworking.eventbrite.com Need Market Research? Ask a Business Librarian. Learn about market research tools. Call or register online. 10-11:30 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110 Lansing. (517) 483-1921,

Wreath Making Workshop. Learn to make evergreen wreath. Registration required. 5:30-7 p.m. \$5. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-7014, grandledge.lib.mi.us.

ow.lv/1cJr302Hhhb.

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

Wicked. Story of the Wicked Witch of the West. 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$45. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

Disgraced. Play about Islamophobia and Muslim-American identity. 8-10 p.m. \$15/\$10 students and seniors. Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. (517) 927-3016, peppermintcreek.org. The Tempest. Shakespearean tale of magic and mutiny. 7:30 p.m. \$17/\$12 MSU students. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, theatre.msu.edu.

A Little Princess. Classic story of kind-hearted girl-turned-servant. 7 p.m. \$7/\$5 kids. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. allofusexpress.org.

EVENTS

Thanksgiving at Cristo Rey Community Center. Volunteers needed for meal for those in need. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing. (517) 881-9181, ow.ly/ ejcq305OBT8.

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

Brew Your Own Kombucha. Learn to make fermented tea drink. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Williamston, 201 School St., Williamston. English Country Dance Lessons. No experience needed and you do not need to bring a partner. 7-9:30 p.m. \$6/\$4 students/MSU students FREE. Snyder-Phillips Hall, C20, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing. (517) 321-3070, people.albion.edu/ram/lecd. Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club. All skill levels welcome. Lessons, practice and fun. 9:30-11:20 a.m. \$5. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 881-2517, ladiessilverblades.com.

Mason Codependents Anonymous. A fellowship to develop healthy relationships. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Mason First Church of the Nazarene, 415 E. Maple St., Mason. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Minecraft Game Night. Ages 8-15 game together. Call to register. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 589-9400.

Tinkering with Raspberry Pi. Ages 8-15 use programming computer. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing,

Friday, November 11 **CLASSES AND SEMINARS**

French Playtime. Playgroup ages 1-6 encouraging French language education. 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. FREE. Aux Petits Soins, 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 999-7277, apsfrenchclass.com. Palatte to Palate. Paint with a palette of color while treating your palate to refreshments you bring! 7-9:30 p.m. \$28/\$50 pairs. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, ow.ly/XUOtR.

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

MUSIC

Dar Williams Concert. Headliner for the Women in the Arts Festival. 7:30-10:30 p.m. \$15. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 484-1712, witafestival.com.

Jazz Octets. With Michigan jazz icon Walt Szymanski, trumpet. 8 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/students FREE. Cook Recital Hall, MSU Music Building, 333 West Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, music.msu.edu/event-listing.

EVENTS

Thanksgiving at Cristo Rey Community Center. Volunteers needed for meal for those in need. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing. (517) 881-9181, ow.ly/ eica3050BT8.

Howl at the Moon: Guided Night Walk. Dogs on non-retractable leashes welcome. 7-8 p.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

Veteran's Memorial Induction Ceremony. Local veterans added to LCC Veterans Memorial. 12-2 p.m. Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. lcc.edu/veteransmemorial.

Women in the Arts Festival. Celebration of regional women artists. 5-9:30 p.m. Edgewood

THURSDAY, NOV. 10 >> PAUL HOLMES MORTON, ARNIE TANIMOTO AND MARILYN **FUNG AT THE TURNER-DODGE HOUSE**

Ever heard of a theorbo? It's a large, lute-like instrument with a long neck — longer than the theorbist is tall. Paul Holmes Morton shows off the uncommon instrument Thursday in the latest installment of the Turner-Dodge House's Music at the Mansion concert series. Joining Morton are Arnie Tanimoto and Marilyn Fung, who both play another lesser-known instrument, the viola da gamba. Tanimoto performed at the mansion last year and invited Morton and Fung, fellow graduates of the Juilliard School, to join him on his latest visit. Funds raised by the chamber music series go toward the preservation and restoration of the historic venue. 7 p.m. \$10. Turner-Dodge House, 100 E. North St., Lansing. (517) 483-4220, lansingmi.gov/938/turner-dodge-house.

United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. witafestival.com.

and mutiny. 8 p.m. \$17/\$12 MSU students. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing, (517) 432-2000, theatre.msu.edu.

Wicked. Story of the Wicked Witch of the West. 8

See Out on the Town, Page 19

THEATER

The Tempest. Shakespearean tale of magic

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Oh, Be Serious!" — they're seriously in there. Matt Jones

Across 1 Collapsible game?

6 Chris of the "Fantastic Four" series 11 Agcy. of the Department of Health and **Human Services** 14 Stress, cigarettes, handing car keys to your teen, e.g. 15 1976 Olympics star Comaneci 16 Letters on a tomb-

17 Comedian Mandel, shaped like an oval? 19 Mentalist's claim 20 "The BFG" author Roald

21 Word on some campaign signs 23 Station posting,

briefly 26 Japanese buckwheat noodle

28 Also

29 Barbecue needs 31 Noted streak enders of 2016

's Irish Rose" 36 "Who's the Boss?" role 38 Like some news days 40 Actor Max 41 Good bud

42 Indecent, or a description of this puzzle theme?

44 Abbr. at the bottom of a business letter 45 Linguistic suffix with morph or phon

47 "All in the Family" daughter 49 "New Look" designer

46 Vehicle with its own

Christian 51 Person of the Year awarder

Wedding" ("Simp- 4 Pancake cooking

sons" episode involving a fortune-teller) 54 Place walked into, in classic jokes 56 Cash register part 58 Aloha State goose 59 Winter product also known as rock salt 62 Lacking much flavor G. Biv" (They Might Be Giants tune) 65 Look inward? 70 Crater Lake's st.

71 "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" refrain 72 Geometrical findings 73 "Game of Thrones" patriarch Stark 74 Hit with a stun gun 75 Justin Timberlake's

Down

former group

1 God, to a Rastafarian 2 I trouble? 3 Unaware of office politics, maybe

surface 5 On the blue 6 As a group, in French 7 "Top Gun" actor Kilmer 8 Too cute for words 9 The yellow striped ball 10 Bob of "Fuller House" 11 Side of the coin that comes at no cost? 19 Platter shape 13 Abbr. in an organizer 18 Exclamations of surprise 22 Mauna 23 Suffix after land or man 24 Video game company with a famous cheat code 25 Philadelphia NFLer followed his coach's

ordersp 27 Steve who played Mr. Pink like one of 69 "Exit full screen" 30 "Just a us" (Joan Osborne line) 32 Word with bird or

34 Sea off Sicily 35 Prepare for shipping 37 "This won't hurt 39 Water source 43 "Taste the Rainbow" candy 48 Pigs, slangily 50 Aries beast 52 Jake's brother in blues 55 Prepare for another take 57 Country with a tree on its flag: Abbr. 59 Flatten out 60 Feature of some Ben & Jerry's pints 61 "Return of the Jedi" princess o5 "____example ..." 66 "Bah!" 67 "Curious George"

author H.A. ____68 Singer Morrison

button

©2016 Jonesin' Crosswords • For answers to this puzzle, call: 1-900-226-2800, 99 cents per minute. Must be 18+. Or to bill to your credit card, call: 1-800-655-6548. Answers Page 20

Out on the town

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p.m. Tickets from \$45. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter. com.

Saturday, November 12 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

A Day with Blaine Bettinger. Genealogical seminar with DNA expert. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. \$55. Michigan Historical Center, 702 W Kalamazoo St., Lansing. mimgc.org.

Tai Chi at the Park. Free class for beginning and experienced tai chi players. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

Webelos Cub Scouts: Into the Woods Workshop. Chance to earn belt loop and pin. 10 a.m.-noon \$5. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/

French Playtime. Playgroup ages 1-6 encouraging French language education. 9:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. Aux Petits Soins, 1824 E. Michigan Ave. Suite F, Lansing. (517) 999-7277, apsfrenchclass.com. French Club for Kids. Activity group for ages 6-12 encouraging French language use. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Aux Petits Soins, 1824 E. Michigan Ave. Suite F, Lansing. (517) 999-7277, apsfrenchclass.com.

MUSIC

Dave Bennett In Concert. 7-8 p.m. \$15-25. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 218 W. Ottawa St. Lansing. davebennettconcert.eventbrite.com.

THEATER

Wicked. Story of the Wicked Witch of the West. 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets from \$45. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

Every Breath You Take by Graham Farrow. Two families deal with their dark connections. 8-10 p.m. \$15. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington, Lansing, (517) 775-4246. ixiontheatre.com.

The Tempest. Shakespearean tale of magic and mutiny. 8 p.m. \$17/\$12 MSU students. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, theatre.msu.edu.

A Little Princess. Classic story of kind-hearted girl-turned-servant. 2 and 4:30 p.m. \$7/\$5 kids. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. allofusexpress.org.

EVENTS

Craft and Bake Sale. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Alano Club East, 220 Howard St., Lansing.

Thanksgiving at Cristo Rey Community Center. Volunteers needed for meal for those in need. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing. (517) 881-9181, ow.ly/ ejcq305OBT8.

Women in the Arts Festival. Celebration of regional women artists. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. witafestival.com.

All Winter Sports Swap. Equipment and apparel for all winter sports sold. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Okemos

NOV. 11-12 >> WOMEN IN THE ARTS FESTIVAL

Pop-folk singer/songwriter Dar Williams headlines this year's Women in the Arts festival in East Lansing, an annual volunteer-run event that celebrates "women-centered creativity and community." The festival offers two days of music, as well as an artist market that features artworks, crafts and services from women creators. Though Friday night's concert by Williams is already sold out, Saturday's day stage presents a lineup of female performers including Lansing women's chorus Sistrum and progressive indie-country artist Michaela Anne. When they aren't singing, members of Sistrum also staff a café stocked with diverse meal options like autumn sweet potato and spinach stew, spanakopita and pulled pork sandwiches. Sliding scale admission, \$5 recommended. 5-9:30 p.m. Friday; 10-9 p.m. Saturday. Edgewood United Church, 469 N. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. witafestival.com.

NOV. 11-12 >> 'A LITTLE PRINCESS' AT ALL-OF-US EXPRESS CHILDREN'S THEATRE

Some princesses are draped in glitter and jewels, but All-of-us Express Children's Theatre presents the story of a girl who is a princess more for her heart than for her sparkle. "A Little Princess," based on the 1905 children's book, is the story of a young girl named Sara who works in servitude after the death of her father. Although her surroundings are bleak, Sara stays positive, always improving the world for those around her and making discoveries that might just lead to a better future. 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Friday; 2 and 4:30 p.m. Saturday. \$7/\$5 children. Hannah Community Center, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 333-2580, allofusexpress.org.

NOV. 10-20 >> 'THE TEMPEST' AT MSU DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

Four centuries after his death, theater companies are still finding ways to keep Shakespeare fresh. MSU's Department of Theatre dresses up "The Tempest" this season, using digital projection, animation and green screen acting to bring the play's magical elements into the digital age. While most productions of this play are set in the tropics, MSU's production takes place on an iceberg, with lighting and costumes inspired by the Northern Lights. Undergrad students, graduate students and faculty mix to form the cast and crew, including professor Christina Traister as the sorceress Prospera and grad student Matt Greenbaum as half-man, half-monster Caliban. To complete the atmosphere, the play brings in original music and choreography by MSU faculty. See web or call for times and dates. \$20/\$18 seniors and faculty/\$15 students. Pasant Theater, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, theatre.msu.edu.

High School, 2500 Jolly Road, Okemos. (517) 282-1111.

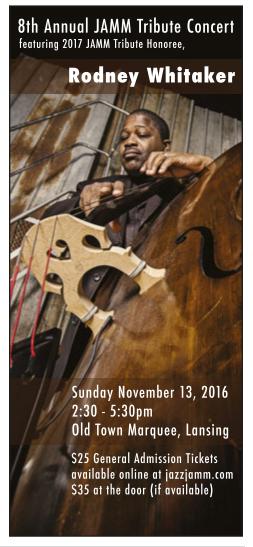
Ann's School of Dance Vendor and Craft
Show. With baked goods, kid crafts and a photo
booth. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Whitehills Elementary
School, 621 Pebblebrook Lane, East Lansing.

Cutting the Cord. Presentation on replacing TV
with alternative content providers. 11 a.m.-noon
FREE. CADL South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St.,
Lansing.

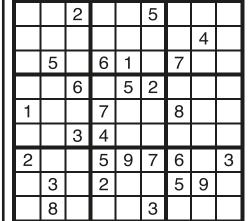
Girl Rising Film & Program. Screening of documentary about girls throughout the world. 4-6 p.m. St. Stephens Church, 1007 Kimberly Drive, Lansing. (517) 484-2180, twitter.com/SSCC_UCC. Minecraft Game Night. Ages 8-15 game together. Call to register. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 623-6511.

Pillows for a Purpose. Pillow-making for children

See Out on the Town, Page 20



SUDOKU ADVANCED



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 20



Out on the town

from page 19

in the hospital. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lansing Community College, 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing.

Science of Slimy Things. Ages 4 and up enjoy activities and experiments. 11 a.m.-noon. FREE.

Capital Area District Libraries Dansville Branch, 1379

E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511.

Second Saturday Supper. Baked chicken dinner.

All are welcome. 5-6:15 p.m. \$9/\$5 kids. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-3139, mayflowerchurch.com.

ARTS

Holiday Season Art Collection Showing.
Paintings, birdhouses, fabric, jewelry and photography. 2-6 p.m. FREE. World Harvest Outreach, 232 N. Verlinden Ave., Lansing.
Small Wonders Miniature Art Show. Tiny paintings and drawings for sale. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE. Keller's Plaza Upstairs, 107 S. Putnam St., Williamston. (517) 485-6277.

Sunday, November 13 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Charlotte Yoga Club. Beginner to intermediate. 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. \$5 annually. AL!VE, 800 W. Lawrence, Charlotte. (517) 285-0138, charlotteyoga.net Intro to Filmmaking, Part 2. Ages 8 and up learn about film production. Call to register. 2-4 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088.

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

LITERATURE AND POETRY

NaNoWriMo - Nearly Halfway. Novel writing meetup with prompts and encouragements. Noon-2 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. grandledge.lib.mi.us.

MUSIC

Eighth Annual JAMM Tribute Concert Honoring Rodney Whitaker. 2:30-5:30 p.m. \$35/\$25 adv. Old Town Marquee, 319 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 242-1126, jazzjamm.com. Circulo Trio Concert. Ensemble performs lesserknown works to new audiences. Noon. Donations welcome. Unitarian Universalist Church, 5509 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing.

Contempus Quartet. Concert showcasing Lansing Symphony musicians. 3-5 p.m. \$15/\$10 students. First Presbyterian Church, 510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. (517) 487-5001, lansingsymphony.org.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION From Pg. 18														
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THEATRE

Wicked. Story of the Wicked Witch of the West. 1 and 6:30 p.m. Tickets from \$45. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

Every Breath You Take by Graham Farrow. Two families deal with their dark connections. 7-9 p.m. \$15. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington, Lansing. (517) 775-4246, ixiontheatre.com.

The Tempest. Shakespearean tale of magic and mutiny. 2 p.m. \$17/\$12 MSU students. Pasant Theatre, Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, theatre.msu.edu.

FVFNT9

Alliance Française Film Series: Dheepan.
Screening of "Dheepan," story of refugee family from Sri Lanka. 3:30 p.m. Studio C!, 1999 Central Park Drive, Okemos. (517) 703-4919, ow.ly/wHSK305Nf0o. Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance. 6 p.m. \$8 dance/\$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 490-7838. Lansing Train Show and Sale. Over 500 tables of model trains, artwork, books and more. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. \$6/FREE for ages under 6 and uniformed Scouts. MSU Pavilion, 4301 Farm Lane, East Lansing. (517) 281-2544, Imrc.org.

One World One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure. Big Bird and Elmo take imaginary trip to the moon. 2:30-3:30 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing. (517) 355-4672, ow.ly/2VGl304fahD.

Winterguard Experience Day. Indoor color guard for ages 13-20. 1-5 p.m. South Lansing Christian Church, 6300 Aurelius Road, Lansing.

Monday, November 14 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

A Course in Love. Weekly group dedicated to the study of the spiritual pyschology. 1-2 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes Road, Lansing. (517) 371-3010.

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

An Evening of Origami. Beginners and experienced folders learn gift box origami. 7-9 p.m. Snyder/Phillips Hall, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing. (517) 884-1932.

Marketing Mondays: The Next Best Thing in Marketing. Panel on digital marketing trends and techniques. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org. Support Group. For the divorced, separated and widowed. 7:30 p.m. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272,

SUDOKU SOLUTION From Pg. 19										
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SUNDAY, NOV. 13 >> EIGHTH ANNUAL JAMM TRIBUTE CONCERT FEATURING RODNEY WHITAKER

A Michigan State University professor and major contributor to mid-Michigan's jazz community is honored Sunday for his years of educating, directing and performing in the area. Rodney Whitaker, director of jazz studies at MSU, is an in-demand bassist who also serves as artistic director of MSU's Professors of Jazz and as director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's Civic Jazz Orchestra. Whitaker has toured the world, backing up world renowned artists and leading his own groups for over twenty-five years. Sunday he plays at the Jazz Alliance of Mid Michigan's annual tribute concert, where he is honored as its 2017 tribute honoree. 2:30-5:30 p.m. \$25. Old Town Marquee, 319 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing, Jazzjamm.com.

TUESDAY, NOV. 15 >> COMEDY COVEN XXI: WORSHIP ME(AT)

Lansing's trio of comedy witches returns to the Robin Theatre Tuesday for the latest installment of their monthly comedy show. The ladies of Comedy Coven promise an evening of improv, skits and standup comedy "inspired by both their love for themselves and holiday feasting." In addition to the trio — Emily Syrja, Tricia Chamberlain and Stephanie Onderchanin — the evening features guest performers Yasmine Hill, Joey Derderian and Mimi Fisher. 8 p.m. \$10/\$7 adv. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. comedycoven.com

stdavidslansing.org.

EVENTS

Thanksgiving at Cristo Rey Community Center. Volunteers needed for meal for those in need. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing. (517) 881-9181, ow.ly/ ejcq3050BT8.

Fall into Cooking. Cooking basics, food safety and time-saving dinner ideas. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Williamston, 201 School St., Williamston.

Finger Knitting. Ages 6 and up learn to knit using fingers and yarn. Call to register. 4-5 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351.

Social Bridge. Come 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.

Tuesday, November 15 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

French Playtime. Playgroup ages 1-6 encouraging French language education. 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. FREE. Aux Petits Soins, 1824 E. Michigan Ave. Suite F, Lansing. (517) 999-7277, apsfrenchclass.com. Bible and Beer Study. 6 p.m. Buy your own beer. Kelly's Downtown, 220 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 482-0600.

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 775-2697, 639.toastmastersclubs.org. Course in Miracles. Very relaxed, kind and happy group. 7 p.m. FREE. Call for location, (517) 482-1908. Grow It, Cook It, Eat It Pumpkins and Their Kin. Course on growing and preparing veggies. 6-8 p.m. \$20/SNAP scholarships. Livingston County MSU Extension Office, 2300 East Grand River Ave., Howell. (517) 676-7207. ow.ly/nwE0305WpvM. H.E.R.O: DIY Electrical Projects. Replace plugs,

light switches and more. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org. Hopeful Hearts Grief Group. 10-11 a.m. FREE.

Hopeful Hearts Grief Group. 10-11 a.m. FREE. The Marquette Activity room, 5968 Park Lake Road, East Lansing. Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 5:45 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads Books and Stuff, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Overeaters Anonymous. You are not alone. Get support in your weight loss. 7 p.m. FREE. Presbyterian Church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 819-3294.

Speakeasies Toastmasters. Improve listening, analysis, leadership and presentation skills. Noon-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Bldg., 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (616) 841-5176.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. Wheelchair accessible. 6 p.m. FREE first visit. St. Therese Church, 102 W. Randolph St., Lansing. tops.org.

Writing a Business Plan. Course on market research. 9-11:30 a.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Yawn Patrol Toastmasters. Hone speaking and leadership skills. 7-8:30 a.m. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 337-7551, yawnpatrol.com.

MUSIC

Jazz Tuesdays at Moriarty's. 7-10 p.m. FREE. Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. Jennifer Lewis with Family & Friends. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. FREE. Stober's Bar, 812 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

EVENTS

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

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

DIY Gifting with Christina Morris. Learn to create homemade gifts for almost any occasion. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. LCC West Toastmasters. Public speaking group. 5-6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-1314, Iccwest. toastmastersclubs.org.

Free Will Astrology By Rob Brezsny

Nov. 9-15

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Now and then you display an excessive egotism that pushes people away. But during the next six weeks you will have an excellent chance to shed some of that tendency, even as you build more of the healthy pride that attracts help and support. So be alert for a steady flow of intuitions that will instruct you on how to elude overconfidence and instead cultivate more of the warm, radiant charisma that is your birthright. You came here to planet Earth not just to show off your bright beauty, but also to wield it as a source of inspiration and motivation for those whose lives you touch.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): "How often I found where I should be going only by setting out for somewhere else," said inventor Buckminster Fuller. I don't fully endorse that perspective. For example, when I said goodbye to North Carolina with the intention to make Northern California my new home, Northern California is exactly where I ended up and stayed. Having said that, however, I suspect that the coming months could be one of those times when Fuller's formula applies to you. Your ultimate destination may turn out to be different from your original plan. But here's the tricky part: If you do want to eventually be led to the situation that's right for you, you have to be specific about setting a goal that seems right for now.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): If you were an obscenely rich plutocrat, you might have a pool table on your super yacht. And to ensure that you and your buddies could play pool even in a storm that rocked your boat, you would have a special gyroscopic instrument installed to keep your pool table steady and stable. But I doubt you have such luxury at your disposal. You're just not that wealthy or decadent. You could have something even better, however: metaphorical gyroscopes that will keep you steady and stable as you navigate your way through unusual weather. Do you know what I'm referring to? If not, meditate on the three people or influences that might best help you stay grounded. Then make sure you snuggle up close to those people and influences during the next two weeks.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The coming weeks will be a good time to fill your bed with rose petals and sleep with their aroma caressing your dreams. You should also consider the following acts of intimate revolution: listening to sexy spiritual flute music while carrying on scintillating conversations with interesting allies . . . sharing gourmet meals in which you and your sensual companions use your fingers to slowly devour your delectable food . . . dancing naked in semi-darkness as you imagine your happiest possible future. Do you catch my drift, Cancerian? You're due for a series of appointments with savvy bliss and wild splendor.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "I have always wanted . . . my mouth full of strange sunlight," writes Leo poet Michael Dickman in his poem "My Honeybee." In another piece, while describing an outdoor scene from childhood, he innocently asks, "What kind of light is that?" Elsewhere he confesses, "What I want more than anything is to get down on paper what the shining looks like." In accordance with the astrological omens, Leo, I suggest you follow Dickman's lead in the coming weeks. You will receive soulful teachings if you pay special attention to both the qualities of the light you see with your eyes and the inner light that wells up in your heart.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): The Passage du Gois is a 2.8-mile causeway that runs between the western French town of Beauvoir-sur-Mer and the island of Noirmoutier in the Atlantic Ocean. It's only usable twice a day when the tide goes out, and even then for just an hour or two. The rest of the time it's under water. If you hope to walk or bike or drive across, you must accommodate yourself to nature's rhythms. I suspect there's a metaphorically similar phenomenon in your life, Virgo. To get to where you want to go next, you can't neces-

sarily travel exactly when you feel like it. The path will be open and available for brief periods. But it will be open and available.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Modern toilet paper appeared in 1901, when a company in Green Bay, Wisconsin began to market "sanitary tissue" to the public. The product had a small problem, however. Since the manufacturing process wasn't perfect, wood chips sometimes remained embedded in the paper. It was not until 1934 that the product was offered as officially "splinter-free." I mention this, Libra, because I suspect that you are not yet in the splinter-free phase of the promising possibility you're working on. Keep at it. Hold steady. Eventually you'll purge the glitches.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "Don't be someone that searches, finds, and then runs away," advises novelist Paulo Coelho. I'm tempted to add this caveat: "Don't be someone that searches, finds, and then runs away — unless you really do need to run away for a while to get better prepared for the reward you have summoned . . . and then return to fully embrace it." After studying the astrological omens, Scorpio, I'm guessing you can benefit from hearing this information.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Go ahead and howl a celebratory "goodbye!" to any triviality that has distracted you from your worthy goals, to any mean little ghost that has shadowed your good intentions, and to any faded fantasy that has clogged up the flow of your psychic energy. I also recommend that you whisper "welcome!" to open secrets that have somehow remained hidden from you, to simple lessons you haven't been simple enough to learn before now, and to breathtaking escapes you have only recently earned. P.S.: You are authorized to refer to the coming weeks as a watershed.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Musician and visual artist Brian Eno loves to dream up innovative products. In 2006, he published a DVD called 77 Million Paintings, which uses technological trickery to generate 77 million different series of images. To watch the entire thing would take 9,000 years. In my opinion, it's an interesting but gimmicky novelty — not particularly deep or meaningful. During the next nine months, Capricorn, I suggest that you attempt a far more impressive feat: a richly complex creation that will provide you with growthinducing value for years to come.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do you know about the Lords of Shouting? According to Christian and Jewish mythology, they're a gang of 15.5 million angels that greet each day with vigorous songs of praise and blessing. Most people are too preoccupied with their own mind chatter to pay attention to them, let alone hear their melodious offerings. But I suspect you may be an exception to that rule in the coming weeks. According to my reading of the astrological omens, you'll be exceptionally alert for and receptive to glad tidings. You may be able to spot opportunities that others are blind to, including the chants of the Lords of Shouting and many other potential blessings. Take advantage of your aptitude!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Greenland sharks live a long time — up to 400 years, according to researchers at the University of Copenhagen. The females of the species don't reach sexual maturity until they're 150. I wouldn't normally compare you Pisceans to these creatures, but my reading of the astrological omens suggests that the coming months will be a time when at long last you will reach your full sexual ripeness. It's true that you've been capable of generating new human beings for quite some time. But your erotic wisdom has lagged behind. Now that's going to change. Your ability to harness your libidinous power will soon start to increase. As it does, you'll gain new access to primal creativity.

Out on the town

from page 20

Rat Pack Tuesday. \$5 classic cocktails and Frank Sinatra party. 4-11 p.m. FREE. American Fifth Spirits, 112 N. Larch St., Lansing. (517) 999-2631, ow.ly/5d31305pMUM.

Rock Your Mocs | Indigistory Native Film Festival. Young native filmmakers share their stories. 5:30-8 p.m. FREE. Michigan History Center, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 241-6852, ow.lv/6UHO305wEmF.

YogaFit Basics. Beginner class emphasizing strength, balance and flexibility. 1:30-2:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos.

THFATFR

Wicked. Story of the Wicked Witch of the West. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$45. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter. com.

Wednesday, November 16 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Tax Time: How to Avoid Business Tax Panic. Course on making business and tax decisions. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

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

French Playtime. Playgroup ages 1-6 encouraging French language education. 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. FREE. Aux Petits Soins, 1824 E. Michigan Ave. Suite F, Lansing. (517) 999-7277, apsfrenchclass.com.

EVENTS

Thanksgiving at Cristo Rey Community Center. Volunteers needed for meal for those in need. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Cristo Rey Community Center, 1717 N. High St., Lansing. (517) 881-9181, ow.ly/ eica3050BT8.

Preschool Thanksgiving Storytime. Ages 3-6 enjoy holiday stories and craft. 9:30-10 a.m. FREE.

CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Chris Dombrowski. Conversation at 3 p.m. Gallery reading at 7 p.m. RCAH Auditorium in Snyder-Phillips Hall, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing. (517) 884-1932.

MUSIC

MSU Opera Theatre: The Elixir of Love. Opera about Nemorino, who loves the wealthy Adina. 7:30 p.m. \$20/\$18 seniors/\$5 students. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340. music.msu.edu/event-listing.

EVENTS

Mid-MI Genealogical Society. Topic: "Little Known Facts About Census Records." 6:30-9 p.m. FREE. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. mmgs.wordpress.com. Minecraft Game Night. Ages 8-15 game together. Call to register. 5-6:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Dansville, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511.

Remember When Reminiscers: The Armistice Day Storm. Historian presents underwater research into maritime tragedy. Call to register. 10-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400, cadl.org.

The Peace Corps Adventure: Living, Learning, and Working Overseas. General info session about the Peace Corps. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. International Center, 427 N. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. ow.ly/nhxM304f4Ro.

Toddler Thanksgiving. Toddler Thanksgiving. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing.

Allen Farmers Market — Indoor Season. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 2:30-7 p.m. FREE. Allen Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911, ow.ly/Bol1303O4VE.

THEATER

Wicked. Story of the Wicked Witch of the West. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$45. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.

THURSDAY, NOV. 17 >> DOOR JAM!

Local artists take interior design to a new level Thursday, unleashing their creativity on entryway doors, cabinet doors, closet doors and more. Capital Region Habitat Young Professionals, an offshoot of Habitat for Humanity, presents Door Jam!, a fundraiser where local creatives decorate doors with art that celebrates the Greater Lansing community. The evening also includes a silent auction, raffle drawings, refreshments and live music. Admission includes a raffle ticket and an electrical outlet cover decorated by a budding artist from nearby elementary schools. 6-9 p.m. \$10. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. tinyurl.com/doorjam.

THURSDAY, NOV. 17 >> ROCK, REBELLION AND BROWNIES

A popular saying states: "If you remember the '60s, you weren't really there." But Bill Castanier and Bob Pearson, the two presenters in the Historical Society of Greater Lansing's latest presentation, remember and share their experiences Thursday — and they certainly were there. Castanier was a staffer at the State News during the tumultuous decade, and Pearson was a DJ at Lansing rock station WILS. The two draw on their experiences to share what Greater Lansing was really like during the decade of rock 'n' roll and flower children. 6:30 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 282-0671, lansinghistory.blogspot.com.



Courtesy Prior

Big Daddy's lil Donuts food truck opened in downtown Lansing last week, focusing on made-to-order donuts. The truck also features coffee and cider.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

When Igor Jurkovic told us last week that he was shutting down Iggy's In Convenience, his grocery store inside Lansing City Market, to concentrate on "other projects," he wasn't quite ready to announce what those ventures might be. But just one week later, the downtown Lansing restaurateur/entrepreneur has already unveiled one of them: **Big Daddy's lil Donuts**, a food truck serving freshly made mini-doughnuts, coffee and cider. The mobile donut shop started slinging its goods near the South Grand Parking Ramp Saturday. And now Jurkovic is ready to dish on his new café, Kavana Nitro Coffee House, which will be opening downtown just after the holidays.

"Honestly, they both happened a whole lot faster than I thought they would," Jurkovic said. "I'd been waiting for approval from the health department for the food truck, and that happened very quickly. With the coffeehouse, we just need to finalize a few things as far as the location, and then that will be ready to go. Sometimes things just come together."

The two new businesses will join the region's growing number of highend, fast-casual breakfast options.
Pastry lovers already have two options in downtown Lansing — Whipped, 216 S. Washington Square and Glazed and Confused, 107 S. Washington Square — and Williamston residents can get their morning sugar fix at Groovy Donuts, 313 E. Grand River Ave., which also supplies sweets for Bloom Coffee Roasters, 1236 Turner St. in Old Town.

"The difference with our doughnuts is that they're made to order, so you really get that freshness," Jurkovic said. "And being a food truck gives us a lot more options of where we can be. One day we can set up downtown, the next day out on the west side. We plan to experiment to see where we're most needed, and we'll always be updating our Facebook page with our location."

Craft coffee brewer **Strange Matter**

Coffee Co., 2001 E. Michigan Ave. in Lansing's Eastside Neighborhood, also recently threw its hat in the confectionery ring. It crowdsourced over \$40,000 to launch a scratch bakery for craft doughnuts when it moves into its new East Town digs across the street next year. Last summer, it introduced Lansing to the concept of nitro coffee — also featured on Blue Owl Coffee Co.'s coffee bike — an idea that Jurkovic is expanding into an entire café with Kavana.

"Nitro coffee is creamy and a little sweet, served cold out of a tap, just like beer," Jurkovic said. "It's also got a lot more caffeine in each serving from the way that the (nitrous oxide) interacts with the beans. When you pour it, it cascades, just like Guinness, and it has a foamy top. It's incredible to see and has an amazing flavor."

Jurkovic will get his beans from Old

Jurkovic will get his beans from Old Town's **Rust Belt Roastery**, which uses a vintage wood-fired roaster. When it opens early next year, Kavana — the name comes from the Croatian word for coffeehouse — will feature five coffee taps as well as a sixth tap for cold-brewed black tea. Jurkovic is still finalizing the location, but it will be within walking distance for downtown workers.

"I want it to be the kind of place where people can stop by on their way to work in the morning but also sit and hang around in the afternoon," Jurkovic said. "This will be the only (downtown bar) where you won't have to think about having a designated driver when you leave."

Creating a Ruckus

Last year, Steve Swart was one of the co-organizers of **Supu Sugoi**, a series of sold-out pop-up ramen events hosted by restaurants around Metro Lansing. Next week at the Avenue Café, the longtime foodie goes solo with his new pop-up, **Ruckus Ramen**.

"I love ramen and find that it's a fun medium for lots of different ideas," Swart said. "The levels of preparation that go into making all the components are a work of art."

Swart is known to many local revelers as DJ Ruckus, a stage name he adopted in 1994. Last year, he attended some pop-up dinners in Detroit, which gave him the idea to start his own ramen-themed series here in Metro Lansing. After he put some feelers out, he found Lansing Public Media Center Director Dominic Cochran — who had worked with Swart on some local arts-related projects— was already planning a ramen pop-up with his wife, Mai.

"(They) had a clear, traditional concept in mind of what they wanted to do," Swart said. "We collaborated, and were overwhelmed with the response."

Swart plans to keep the set-up similar to the Supu Sugoi events but will be introducing some new appetizer courses. He will also be adding a seafood course, under the guidance of new collaborator, Chef Jesse Sweet.

"(Jesse) has a strong seafood background and is seriously upping the presentation of our cooking," Swart said. "We also have Chef Rico Carlos and Chef James Cheskaty assisting us. James was our secret weapon in the kitchen for all the Supu Sugoi pop-ups."

The first Ruckus Ramen event will be held Nov. 20 at the **Avenue Café**, 2120 E. Michigan Avenue in Lansing. Tickets are \$25 and are available through online service Brown Paper Tickets. The event features two seatings, 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Dinner will consist of a bowl of seafood, pork or chicken ramen and three or four small plates. Swart said another pop-up next month will focus on vegetarian options, and he said he's "working out the details" for a permanent restaurant, with an announcement expected early next year.

"The great thing about pop-ups is you don't have to have much of a business plan," Swart said. "I'm just someone who likes to cook." TOP 5

DINING GUIDE

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

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

TOP 5 ITALIAN

#1 DELUCA'S RESTAURANT AND PIZZERIA

#1 Deluca's Restaurant and Pizzeria Family-owned Italian restaurant famous for its pizza 2006 W. Willow St., Lansing (517) 487-6087 delucaspizza.com 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Friday & Saturday; closed Sunday

#2 CUGINO'S

Grand Ledge eatery known for its classic Italian cuisine and generous portions 306 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge (517) 627-4048 cuginosmenu.com 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday

#3 BRAVO! CUCINA ITALIANA

Upscale-casual chain restaurant known for its modern take on Italian classics 2970 Towne Center Blvd., Lansing (517) 485-3779 bravoitalian.com 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m. Monday–Thursday; 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m. Friday–Saturday; 11:30 a.m.–9 p.m. Sunday

#4 CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILLI

Casual dining chain known for it's classic Italian fare 6540 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing (517) 323-8055 carrabbas.com 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday

#5 OLIVE GARDEN

Family-friendly chain with Italian standards and a full bar. 5015 Marsh Road, Okemos (517) 349-0330 olivegarden.com 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday

Low End Theory — **Bridge Street Social**

By TY FORQUER

Wine is clearly the star at Bridge Street Social, which offers a staggering 150 wines



by the glass, but don't sleep on the cocktail menu. Under the direction of Nick "Dr. Drinks" Marcy, Bridge Street Social's bar offers a creative array of mixed drinks.

I recently was turned on to a drink on the bar's fall cocktail menu that features a collision of two of my favorite things: bourbon and '90s hip-hop references.

Low End Theory mixes New Holland Beer Barrel Bourbon, Domaine de Canton ginger liqueur, McClary Bros. Michigan Apple Pie Drinking Vinegar and fresh cinnamon. The result is a delightful autumn drink that mixes the comfort of apple pie, the warmth of bourbon and a healthy cinnamon kick.

Bridge Street Social

4 p.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 4 p.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 4 p.m.-9 p.m. Sunday 107 S. Bridge St., DeWitt (517) 668-1837, bridgestreetsocial.com

So why the name? Marcy, like me, enjoys a good obscure culture pop reference. The flavor apple brought to mind the A Tribe

Called Quest classic, "Bonita Applebum." That seemed a little on the nose, so he went with the name of the group's 1991 album.

At this point, I must point out that "Bonita Applebum" was not on "Low End Theo-

What's your favorite dish/drink?

Do you have a go-to dish or drink at your favorite local restaurant? We want to know about it. Email your favorite dish/drink and a short explanation about why you love it to food@lansingcitypulse.com, and it may be featured in a future issue. If possible, please send a photo along with your description — a ry." But it's a much better cocktail name than the more accurate "People's Instinctive Travels and the Paths of Rhythm."

- TY FORQUER







nice smartphone photo is fine. Cheers!







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