

FREE

City PULSE

a newspaper

www.lansingcitypulse.com

January 18-24, 2017



HOPE

FEAR



BLACK VIOLIN

Friday, February 17 AT 8PM

Classical meets hip-hop with pop, rock, soul, jazz and funk in between! Wilner Wil B Baptiste (viola) and Kevin Kev Marcus Sylvester (violin) create a unique generation-defying, groundbreaking sound that will surprise and delight!

Variety Series Sponsor: THE DOCTORS COMPANY

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January 26 - February 26, 2017

WORLD PREMIERE

A Painted Window By Christy Hall

A beautifully crafted play about family, loss, regret and the staggering power of fear.

But ultimately, at its center, this is a play about love.

Pay-What-You-Can Preview

Thursday, Jan. 26 @ 8PM

\$15 Previews

Jan. 27 @ 8PM

Jan. 28 @ 8PM

Jan. 29 @ 2PM

Feb. 2 @ 8PM

Directed by
Frannie Shepherd-Bates
Featuring: Ruth Crawford
Dominique Lowell, Lynch Travis

Williamston Theatre
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517-655-7469
www.williamstontheatre.org



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CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS



HOSTED BY BERL SCHWARTZ



JIM MCCLURKEN
Lansing City Council Candidate



LINDA VAIL
Ingham County Health Officer



MY18TV!

NEW TIME 10:30 a.m. EVERY SATURDAY

COMCAST CHANNEL 16 LANSING

7:30 P.M. EVERY FRIDAY

CityPULSE 2017 TOP OF THE TOWN AWARDS ARE COMING SOON!



It's almost time for Greater Lansing residents to vote for their favorite businesses, places and people in City Pulse's annual Top of the Town Awards. This year, City Pulse is taking reader submissions for contest categories. The best suggestions will be added to this year's contest.

To see a list of last year's categories and to submit your own idea, visit lansingcitypulse.com/totcat

After 41 years as the Lansing area's first locally-owned organic grocery store, the East Lansing Food Co-op will be closing its doors.

Our future is uncertain. The Board of Directors, together with ELFCO owners, will determine our co-op's next steps.

We will be open for business during regular store hours until Saturday, February 4th, 2017.

Zingerman's, Otto's Chicken, Calder Dairy, MooVille, and Hilhof Dairy will continue to be available!

*excluded from clearance sale



4960 Northwind Dr.
East Lansing, MI 48823
517.337.1266
elfco.coop
Mon-Sat: 10am-8pm
Sun: 10am-7pm

starting 1/11/17

CLEARANCE SALE

20% off

ALL GROCERY / FROZEN /
PRODUCE / BEAUTY CARE
& WELLNESS / BEER &
WINE / BULK

*Fresh milk, Otto's chicken, and Zingerman's excluded from sale

Feedback

Mid-Michigan should embrace sanctuary cities

I was surprised to read in Lawrence Cosentino's article "Should Lansing Become a Sanctuary City?" that the Lansing City Council has taken over 7 years for the "legal review" of the initial proposal that was originally submitted to them in 2009. It is not now nor has it ever been the jurisdiction of local police to enforce immigration law. The local police are not deputized to do immigration law. Chief Yankowski correctly assures that LPD will apprehend violent felons, but not police someone's immigration status. LPD is on solid ground legally to join many other cities in adopting Sanctuary City status. Why the hold up?

It was also surprising to learn that the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion has formally ended. Now is certainly not the time to end such a committee!

It is not certain that the federal government can withhold funds to cities who adopt a "Sanctuary City" status,

but either way, I think Lansing and East Lansing should join many other cities nationwide who want to send a message to our immigrant neighbors "we value you, you are welcome here, you are safe!" As American history demonstrates, embracing diversity in our cities makes us stronger and better.

— Anna Fisher

Blame game

Judy Hood of Bath blamed gerrymandering for Donald Trump's victory.

V.L. Pentel of Lansing blamed Russia. Now Shelley Centeno blames FBI Director Cuomo.

Why does no one blame the Democratic Party for choosing Hillary Clinton over the more reasonable, rational, likable Bernie Sanders.

As far as a course, vulgar man being elected President, have we forgotten Bill Clinton?

— Earl L. Ruhf
Lansing

Have something to say about a local issue or an item that appeared in our pages?

Now you have two ways to sound off:

- 1.) Write a letter to the editor:
 - E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
 - Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
 - Fax: (517) 371-5800
 - Online at lansingcitypulse.com

- 2.) Write a guest column:

Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061

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

Correction

Due to a reporting error, the Jan. 11 New in Town column incorrectly stated the number of years Rendezvous on the Grand was open at 226 E. Grand River Ave. The business operated for three years, from 2005 to 2008.

PUBLIC NOTICES

City of Lansing Notice of Public Hearing

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 30, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, MI, for the purpose stated below:

To afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, City Assessor, other interested persons and ad valorem taxing units to appear and be heard on the approval of an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Certificate (the "Certificate"), pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act, Public Act 146 of 2000, for property located at 506 South Hosmer Street, Lansing, Michigan, but more particularly described as follows:

LOT 5 ASSESSORS PLAT NO 24 REC L 10 P 29, Ingham County, Michigan -- Parcel Number: 33-01-01-15-351-051, and

Approval of this Certificate will provide the owner or potentially the developer of property an abatement of certain property taxes for the improvements to the property noted above. Further information regarding this issue may be obtained from Karl Dorshimer, Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP), 1000 S. Washington Ave., Suite 201, Lansing, MI 48910, 517-702-3387.

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

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

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#17-010

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Love thy neighbor — but not his pot smell



Local arts communities react to Trump's inauguration



Michael Dease explores the cradles and colors of jazz



Artwork courtesy of METRO CREATIVE GRAPHICS

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THIS MODERN WORLD
by TOM TOMORROW

IN A GILDED PENTHOUSE HIGH ABOVE FIFTH AVENUE...IT'S--
THE UNBELIEVABLE BABY-MAN!
I WANT WHAT I WANT--AND I WANT IT NOW!
A.K.A. THE MAN WITHOUT SHAME!

BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE TODDLER, HE GAINED THE PROPORTIONATE TEMPERAMENT OF AN OBSTINATE TWO-YEAR-OLD!
WITH GREAT POWER COMES A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY--
--TO BE THE CENTER OF ATTENTION AT ALL TIMES!

HIS SUPERHUMAN SOLIPSISM WOULD EVENTUALLY CARRY HIM FURTHER THAN ANYONE THOUGHT POSSIBLE!
THEY LEAKED THE "PUSSY-GRABBER" TAPE! YOU HAVE TO DROP OUT--OR FACE UTTER HUMILIATION!
DON'T BE AN IDIOT, REINCE! I'M BABY-MAN! I HAVE NO SHAME!

HE'S PROVEN IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN--THE NORMAL RULES SIMPLY DON'T APPLY TO BABY-MAN!
SIR--SHOULDN'T YOU RELEASE YOUR TAXES AND FULLY DIVEST YOUR HOLDINGS--LIKE EVERY OTHER MODERN PRESIDENT?
LA LA LA LA I CAN'T HEARRRR YOOOOUUU!

SERIOUSLY, THEY REALLY DON'T. HOW'S MY LITTLE TRUMPCHKA? HE'S A GOOD BOY WHO DOES WHAT HE SHOULD, IS HE NOT?
TEE HEE! HE SAYS NICE THINGS ABOUT ME--I'LL SAY NICE THINGS ABOUT HIM!

BUT HIS POWERS DID COME WITH A BUILT-IN WEAKNESS: THE PROPORTIONATELY FRAGILE EGO OF A SELF-CENTERED TODDLER.
MERYL STREEP CRITICIZED ME? WELL SHE'S A BIG OVERRATED DUMMY! UNFAIR!
AND WHO DOES JOHN LEWIS THINK HE IS? SUCH A LOSER! SAD!
I'M PRESIDENT! YOU HAVE TO LOVE ME--OR ELSE!

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Opioid crisis

New maps show where overdose crisis is worse

“Scanner — 30-year-old male overdose victim, not breathing, needles on floor nearby, 3600 block of Lathrop.”

This Jan. 2 sentence is a typical post on neighborhood activist Loretta Stanaway’s Facebook page. Late into the night, she sits at her computer doing work, listening to Lansing scanner traffic. She plucks the ongoing happenings off the airwaves and publishes them on her social media.

And her feed reveals the secret and ongoing deadly opioid overdose crisis washing over Lansing.

Now, Ingham County has created a map that documents where those overdoses occur.

Seeking to bring attention to the epidemic and reveal details of where it impacts the city specifically, county health officials have released a new report and map that drills down on the numbers. It’s the first time health officials have been able to identify geographic “hot spots” for opioid-related.

Her information mirrors new data from the Ingham County Health Department that shows that while deaths from overdoses may be leveling off, rescue efforts are ramping up.

Preliminary data for Ingham County shows 56 people died from opioid overdoses in 2016. That’s virtually level with the 55 deaths reported in 2014, but below the 68 deaths reported in 2015.

The average age of those who died from an overdose last year was 42. But Linda Vail, the county’s health officer, said that statistic obscures the true depth of the epidemic.

Data from the Lansing Fire Department use of Narcan, a powerful drug that stops the effects of opioid overdoses, shows that 88 cases of overdose where the drug was used were in individuals ages 24 to 34. Vail said those who are older likely have been using longer and are already in poorer health at the time of an overdose, accounting for the increased report of deaths in an older demographic.

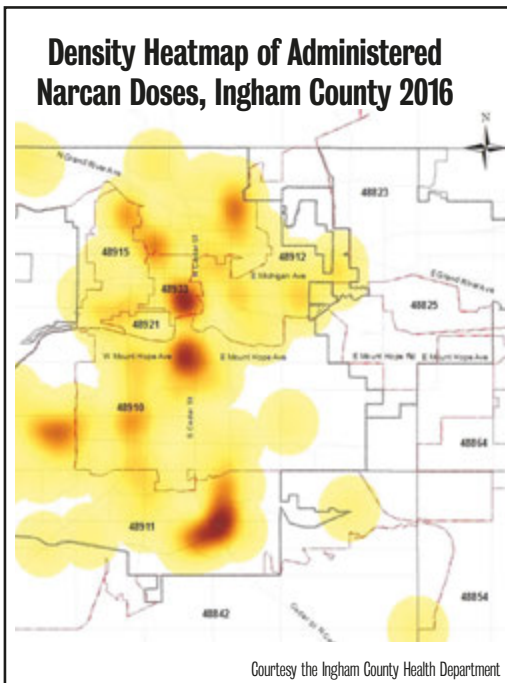
Data from the Lansing Fire Department shows that between September and December, Lansing Fire Department staffers were administering at least one dose of Narcan daily. Overall, from Jan. 1 to Dec. 15 last year, Lansing Fire officials administered Narcan 243 times in the city.

While the LFD reported using the drug 242 times in 2015, where those doses were administered remains a fuzzy detail. In addition, 2015 was the first year in which emergency medical first responders were required to carry the drug. That’s because in 2014 the legislature passed a law making that possible

and giving medical first responders a year to implement the new policy. In 2015 lawmakers expanded the access to the drug to law enforcement responders. And last year, they cleared the way to allow the drug to be available in schools throughout Michigan.

“Deaths have quadrupled in the last 10 to 12 years, which is the national trend, and that’s true for Ingham County,” Vail said. “We would consider that an epidemic just like nationally we’re calling it an epidemic.”

Being a public health leader, Vail is accustomed to using data to track down epidemic disease outbreaks, from the flu to sexually



transmitted infections. But she’s now using that technology and know-how to dig down into the data on the opioid epidemic.

Using mapping technology, Vail and the Ingham County Health Department have created a “Heat Map” showing where Narcan has been administered in the last year in the city of Lansing. It’s visually stunning, showing three areas of hot spots and two slightly less active, albeit just as concerning, areas.

All three key areas of overdoses spread out from Cedar Street. One is located in Lansing’s downtown. Another spreads out from the intersection of Mt. Hope Avenue and Cedar Street. The third spreads east from Cedar across southeast Lansing. The two areas of concern are in North Lansing and central Southwest Lansing.

The location of overdoses is a key piece of information. Many users report using heroin immediately after securing it, often locking

themselves in the nearest public bathroom to do it. Vail pointed out that Sparrow sees a significant number of overdoses in its bathrooms in part because it offers the cheapest sterile needle price in the region.

Officials are still trying to get their arms around the data and how exactly to use it to fight the opioid epidemic in the city.

“Right now we’re doing a lot of information gathering in order to analyze the information in order to make wise decisions about what to do with it,” Vail said. “And we’re fairly early on in that process.”

That process, she said, would include comparing social issues such as crime reports in the hot spot zones to see if there is a correlation.

“So, when we do GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping from a health perspective, we’re looking at how do we target with the right prevention activities, treatment activities, intervention activities — is there a way to identify it geographically?” Vail said of her efforts.

A review of online crime mapping data available from the Lansing Police Department does not appear to show a correlation between the hot spots and petty crime reports, such as breaking and entering or drug enforcement activity.

Carol Siemon, Ingham County’s newly elected prosecutor, said she is eager to see what correlation is found between low-level criminal activity and the hot spots, as well as economic factors.

“It certainly would be something that would help us look at what are the demographics and how do they match up with what we know to be the criminal activity and what are we looking at are these people the same people,” she said. “Why are the patterns not matching up if they’re not?”

But finding those patterns may be difficult.

Lansing Police Chief Michael Yankowski said the department has not yet completed the initial 2016 data analysis for crimes. He also said identifying where arrests for heroin are being made in Lansing is not something the city’s computer systems can easily accomplish.

He had not seen the heat map from the county until City Pulse shared it with him. He said the department will review that to see if there are any correlation between the hot spots and crime incidents in the city.

Addressing the crisis is going to require one key response those interviewed for this story said: education.

Said Vail, “A big part of it right now is education and awareness so that people realize that this really is, you know, happening right here in River City.”

— Todd Heywood



Property: 1100 North Washington Ave. (Elderly Instruments), Lansing

While not as obviously eye-catching as its Old Town neighbors (or the delightful mural on its northern wing), this building exhibits a simple elegance and authentic details. The main front facade is divided into the classical tripartite organization, and the center bay is articulated with a slightly raised pediment. Pilasters divide the elevations, with stepped corner details that are echoed in the wing connecting the main building to the north annex.

Quoins line the window jambs and are topped with authentic jack arches, currently hidden under brightly striped awnings. A formal Doric aedicule frames the main entrance at the top of a discreetly constructed barrier free ramp.

Originally, the building served as the local home to the Independent Order of the Odd Fellows, evidenced by the contrasting bricks spelling out the organization’s initials above the corbelled entablature. The building switched to its current retail use in 1984 and has served as the local center of local music culture ever since.

Naturally, the building carries a broad collection of stringed instrument on the sales floor, plus an extensive repair shop and smaller classrooms. Visitors should step inside for the chance to enjoy some ‘Ear Candy’ provided by other eager patrons.

— 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.

New pot law Landlords can regulate use in their properties

It's been a recurring problem. Over the last several months, Donald Cuthbert has awakened to the smell of marijuana

permeating his home from his neighbor's property.

"Every morning when I get up — I'm getting really tired of smelling it. It's like a coal-generating plant. There are ways to filter the air. These people don't want to spend any money on it apparently," said Cuthbert, a concerned Lansing citizen.

Cuthbert, who owns a few rental properties, might find solace in the fact that Gov. Rick Snyder signed Grand Ledge Sen. Rick Jones' bill that allows landlords to ban the growing and smoking of marijuana in their properties.

"Two homes that were worth approximately \$150,000 each were totally destroyed by marijuana growing operations," said Jones. "These were rental units. The owners contacted me and told me they were very upset because their insurance might not cover it."

According to Jones, the effect of the potentially offensive smell was one of the primary reasons the bill was set into action.

"Many people are very allergic to smoke," Jones said. "They get a lease in a non-smoking apartment and they expect that to include marijuana."

Jones' bill does not ban the consumption of edible and topical marijuana products for those who are licensed as patients with the Michigan Medical Marijuana Program, or MMMP. Jones argues that patients who require the medical benefits of the drug can still receive it this way.

"It may be an inconvenience to them, but they're sickening other renters by smoking. They can get their same THC with cookies and brownies," Jones said.

A.J. O'Brien, a landlord from Grand Ledge and registered patient, is not opposed to his tenants' smoking marijuana.

"If I thought it was going to negate the value of my property, I wouldn't have rented it to them," O'Brien said. "If somebody is bothered by it, I can understand that, and the landlord should be aware of what's going on and make the judgment."

The implications of the law also make it more difficult for individuals to gain access to their medicine. If they have fewer places to grow it, they may have to drive long distances if they are in a part of the state without access to dispensaries. O'Brien agrees that edible products can have beneficial effects but argues that there is a marked difference between smoking and consuming the product.

"It's a totally different experience from smoking. I have trouble with my throat so I do edibles. I can replace sleeping pills with lemon poppy muffins," O'Brien said. "You don't get the euphoria from edibles that you do from smoking."

Mitch Earleywine, a professor of psychology at the State University of New York at Albany and author of "Understanding Marijuana," said that the effects of the drug can be different, depending on how marijuana is consumed.

"Eaten cannabis gets metabolized by the liver, so delta-9 THC becomes 11-hydroxy-THC, which passes the blood-brain barrier more rapidly and has more of a psychedelic effect than standard THC. Smoked or vaporized cannabis bypasses the liver and doesn't create the same 11-hydroxy-THC," Earleywine was quoted as saying in *The Daily Beast*.

Still, even with the new law in place,

people like Cuthbert may yet have an issue. After all, individuals who own their own homes and are registered to smoke and grow the plant for medicinal use might still be producing an odor that offends their neighbors. Just growing the plant requires ventilation.

"You really have to exchange carbon dioxide and oxygen," said Sam Johnson, operator of Lansing's Capitol City Seed Bank. "A plant sweats off a certain amount of moisture and in a confined environment you sometimes have to purge that moisture. With moisture sometimes it comes with an odor."

Johnson said that there are ways to greatly diminish the smell from both grow operations and smoking such as purchasing a carbon filter or ozone generators. Robin Schneider, executive director of the Lansing-based National Patient's Rights Association, said that though it is the legal right of patients and caregivers to cultivate and use their plants, they must be mindful of their effect on the community.

"Typically, my experience has been sometimes the homeowner doesn't realize that the people next door can smell it. I think the first thing that needs to be done is a communication to the homeowner, and if somebody were to call the City Attorney's Office, the office does a really great job of relaying that concern to the resident," Schneider said.

According to Scott Sanford of the City Attorney's Office, there haven't been many of these complaints since he has worked there.

"In the last year I would say there have been 10 or 12 that have made their way to the City Attorney's Office," Sanford said.

A report to the city can result in an investigation of the site and in an extreme case could result in the shutdown of a grow operation. Joshua M. Covert, a Nichols Law Firm attorney in East Lansing who focuses on marijuana-related criminal law, said that sometimes reporting a neighbor for a marijuana smell might be too drastic and might not hold up in court.

"I think they would have a hard time proving that it in fact impacts their life in a negative way. I think it's going to be somewhat of a subjective complaint, which may make it hard to quantify the harm," Covert said. "We're talking about someone saying they don't like an odor."

Johnson said for those individuals who dislike the smell, it all comes down to being neighborly.

"There is courtesy that I think should be extended on both sides," Johnson said. "If it was me and I had the offending odor and someone dropped off the information in a nice way, I think that would go a long way for me realizing I had a problem. But if you send a police officer over, that would go another route."

— Eve Kucharski



PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE REVENUE BONDS AND NOTICE OF RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

TO THE ELECTORS AND TAXPAYERS OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING AND CUSTOMERS AND USERS OF THE TOWNSHIP'S PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Township Board of the Charter Township of Lansing, Ingham County, Michigan (the "Township"), intends to authorize the issuance of NOT TO EXCEED Three Million Dollars (\$3,000,000) Charter Township of Lansing Water System Improvement Revenue Bonds (the "Bonds") pursuant to the Revenue Bond Act, Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended, for the purpose of defraying all or a portion of the cost of certain improvements to the Township's public water distribution system, including, but not limited to (A) replacing approximately 8,500 linear feet of existing water main and related appurtenances, (B) acquiring necessary easements and rights in land, and (C) making other necessary and related improvements and acquiring related equipment, and financing engineering and financing costs (the "Project"). The Bonds may be issued by the Township in one or more series, the aggregate principal amount of which will not exceed \$3,000,000.

The Bonds will be payable primarily from revenues derived from rates and charges received from users and customers of the Township's public water distribution system, and will be payable in not more than forty (40) annual installments at a rate of interest to be determined upon sale of the Bonds not to exceed four percent (4.0%) per annum, payable on the unpaid principal balance from time to time remaining outstanding on the Bonds.

The total cost of the Project is estimated to be \$3,000,000, all or a portion of which cost is to be paid from the proceeds of the Bonds.

SOURCE OF FUNDING

The United States of America, through its Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, makes funds available for water supply and distribution system improvements at below-market interest rates. Currently the effective interest rate through that loan program is estimated to be 1.875% for a thirty (30) year loan term. The Township will seek to finance all or a portion of the entire Project cost through bonds issued through the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development's loan program.

SOURCE OF PAYMENT OF BONDS

THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON THE BONDS shall be payable primarily from the net revenues derived from the operation of the Township's public water distribution system remaining after payment of operation and maintenance expenses. Said revenues consist of rates and charges for services, including connection fees, which rates and charges are required to be maintained and increased from time to time in order to provide sufficient revenues to meet expenses for operating and maintaining the water distribution system, anticipated principal of and interest on bonds, and to provide reserves for payment thereof. A schedule of the rates and charges is on file in the office of the Manager of the Charter Township of Lansing's West Side Water Department, 3209 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48917.

ADDITIONAL SECURITY – FULL FAITH AND CREDIT PLEDGE

In the event that (1) the Bonds are sold to the Michigan Finance Authority, (2) the bonds are sold to the United States of America, through its Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, and/or (3) certain state or federal financing is received for the project costs, the Township would be authorized pursuant to the Revenue Bond Act to pledge, and may determine to pledge, its full faith and credit for the repayment of the Bonds. In this event, the Township would be authorized within its constitutional, statutory and charter tax rate limitations to levy such taxes or advance such funds from the general funds of the Township as may be necessary to prevent or cure any default in the repayment of the Bonds resulting from an insufficiency of revenue derived from the operation of the Township's public water distribution system. Although it is not anticipated that the Township will ever be required to advance funds, the Township would, in the event of an advance, be entitled to be repaid from the next water system revenues available after correction of any deficiency or default.

NOTICE OF RIGHT OF REFERENDUM

THIS NOTICE is given pursuant to the requirements of Section 33 of the Revenue Bond Act, Act 94, Public Acts of Michigan, 1933, as amended. If within forty-five (45) days from the publication of this NOTICE OF INTENT to issue Bonds a PETITION signed by not less than TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS residing within the limits of the Charter Township of Lansing shall have been filed with the Township Clerk requesting a REFERENDUM on the question of the issuance of the Bonds, then the same shall not be issued until approved by the vote of the majority of the electors of the Township qualified to vote and voting thereon at a general or special election. The current number of registered electors in the Township is 6430.

Further information regarding the Project and the Bonds described herein is available at the office of the Manager of the Charter Township of Lansing's West Side Water Department, 3209 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, Michigan 48917 (phone 517-485-5470).

Dated: January 11, 2017

Susan L. Aten, Clerk
Charter Township of Lansing



Photo by McShane Photography

Stephanie Banghart said she is marching in Washington to protest Donald Trump in order to teach her daughter that "you have to stand up for what you believe in."



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Builder Sam Hardy, left, seen here with fellow Trump supporter Pat Granger, hopes Trump will lower the small business tax.

Fear and loathing and action

Trump era brings protests both large scale and personal

By **TODD HEYWOOD**

A morning phone call last week is still gnawing at Aubrey Marron's conscience.

Marron, of East Lansing, is the local contact for the Jane Doe Fund, a private group that helps connect low-income women with abortion services. On the other end of the phone was a young mother of four. She was pregnant again and desperate to terminate. But she could not afford the \$605 to pay for the procedure, and her medical care, pro-

vided by the state in which she lived, was prohibited by federal law from paying.

With four young children at home, she was "overwhelmed financially and emotionally," Marron said.

The mother was trying a home remedy — pennyroyal. It's a plant used for mosquito repellent for animals. It is known to induce abortions when it is consumed. The problem? To achieve that side effect, a woman has to con-

See Fear, Page 8

Hope and change and gizzards

Trump supporters keep their fingers crossed

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

Get out there and see what Donald Trump supporters are thinking. It's already a journalism cliché.

Shocked by Trump's election, some reporters have taken up the task with genuine curiosity, others with mockery in their hearts. As Trump's star lifted like a rogue blimp in 2016, David Brooks of The New York Times turned his humble search for the soul of middle America into a public rite of penance.

With Inauguration Day at hand, other reporters in this issue are writing about the fears Trump has aroused, along with other Inauguration Day thoughts. I set out to learn what Trump voters are hoping for.

My editor gave me the assignment, but it took the words of Abraham Lincoln, as spoken by Arnold Schwarzenegger, to get me in the mood.

"Ve are not enemiece, but frientz,"

See Hope, Page 8

Fear

from page 7

sume enough of the plant to risk liver and kidney damage, even death.

"She had already taken the pennyroyal for several days," Marron said via Facebook messenger. "I mean, she could have died! She is so desperate. And I don't know the 'right' dose of pennyroyal to suggest."

Of course, there is not a 'right' dose. It's a poison.

Marron hears from 80 to 100 women a month desperate to terminate an unplanned pregnancy, but trapped by inadequate insurance options, or none at all. But she's noticed something in the last two months. The callers are increasingly panicked about their options. That panic is driving the women, she said, to extremes. Another woman was considering abortion by pennyroyal. One woman wanted to know how to use a coat hanger to clear her womb. And yet another announced that her boyfriend was going to hit her in the stomach to cause a spontaneous miscarriage.

Now that the GOP is taking full control of two of the three branches of the federal government, Marron fears that women's health care services are at increased risk.

The Congress, in its first days of session this year, has already made moves to end federal funding for Planned Parenthood programs and clinics.

She said she fears women will die trying to find and access care.

Marron's fears were mirrored over and over again as America prepares to transition to the 45th president in its history. It's a time of turmoil fed by a reality television star turned politician and his Twitter fits. It was a bizarre campaign — bitter and divisive in ways not seen in modern politics — tinged with the scandal of Russian hacking and interference on behalf of Trump. That disease over Trump has spilled over into anxiety and fear as his inauguration nears.

That fear is fed, at least in part, by Trump's unpredictability. He campaigned on a complete repeal of the Affordable Care Act, but has since softened that stance, calling for the controversial health care law to be repealed and replaced. Over the weekend he said he wants health care for everyone, but was unclear how his plan would deliver that. He also campaigned on building a wall on the Mexican border and making Mexico pay for it. Now, while still promising the wall, he is expecting Congress to foot the bill and chase Mexico down like a creditor

See Fear, Page 9

PUBLIC NOTICES

City of Lansing Notice of Public Hearing

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 30, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, MI, for the purpose stated below:

To afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, other interested persons and ad valorem taxing units to appear and be heard on the establishment of an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District (the "District"), pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act, Public Act 146 of 2000, for the property located at 506 South Hosmer Street, Lansing, Michigan, legally described as follows:

LOT 5 ASSESSORS PLAT NO 24 REC L 10 P 29, Ingham County, Michigan -- Parcel Number: 33-01-01-15-351-051

Creation of this District will enable the owner or potentially the developer of property within the District to apply for an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate which would result in the abatement of certain property taxes. Further information regarding this issue may be obtained from Karl Dorshimer, Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP), 1000 S. Washington Ave., Suite 201, Lansing, MI 48910, 517-702-3387.

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

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

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#17-009

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

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

A public hearing will be held to consider an application from JRS Properties, LLC, for a Special Use Modification approval for the property at 1310 Abbot Road. The applicant is proposing to convert the open space patio to an enclosed patio thereby increasing the occupancy by approximately 20 persons. This property is zoned B2, Retail Sales Business.

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

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-013

Hope

from page 7

Shwarzenegger said, quoting Lincoln in an online video last week. (He made fun of his Austrian accent first, so it's OK.) "We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break argrhh bonds of affection."

Lincoln, of course, was talking about the Civil War. Shwarzenegger was reacting to the president-elect's tweet on Jan. 5, crowing over Shwarzenegger's poor ratings on Trump's old show, "The Apprentice."

Pumped up by the all-American triple play of Lincoln to Trump to Shwarzenegger, I trundled off to Potterville, about 20 minutes' drive southwest of Lansing, past shining Lake Interstate.

Differences and quirks

At the heart of Main Street in Potterville is Joe's Gizzard City, a local institution, famous for its deep-fried chicken gizzards.

I ran into a woman outside the place, but she didn't want to talk about the election.

"I have to work in this town," she said. Potterville went for Trump, 654 to 452, as did surrounding Eaton County, 27,609 to 24,938.

At about noon last Friday, Joe Bristol, the owner, was in the kitchen, pressing a hissing chicken breast into the grill with a spatula. He declined to say whom he voted for, but he threw me a bite of philosophy.

"We need to be willing to accept each other's differences," he said. Bristol is also vice president of the local Chamber of Commerce.

Bristol was happy to talk about anything but politics. This spring, he is rolling out a new dish: a hot-dog-shaped tube of hamburger, nestled with a strip of pre-cooked bacon into a peanut-butter-covered bun, coated in batter, deep-fried, impaled on a

stick and slathered in chocolate sauce.

Bristol agreed that the Peanut Butter Not Dog was a story for another day. He kindly gave me the go-ahead to pester his customers about Trump.

In the dining room, Jerry Kramarz, a genial, self-described "lazy Polack" and his wife of 18 years, Katherine, were soaking up the atmosphere. They drove to Potterville from Dearborn, drawn by the restaurant's national TV exposure.

"We go to Hamtramck for pizza, Frankenmuth for chicken," Jerry Kramarz said. "I thought, what the hell, let's go have some gizzards."

Both are enthusiastic Trump supporters.

"I do look forward to the next four years, and hopefully it will be a whole lot better than what we had in the past eight years," Kramarz said.

He and his wife held hands as they talked.

"I lost \$30,000 a year in wages because of some of the policies Obama had," he said. "I finally just said, 'The hell with it' and I retired."

Before his retirement, Kramarz was a construction supervisor based in Monroe County. "[Obama] got in, I got laid off and the work dried up," he said.

What does he hope will happen in the next four years?

"Getting rid of Obamacare, which I thought was a total disaster," he said. "An increase in our place in the world, rather than kowtowing to every —"

His wife picked up the thought. "Back to being the power we should be, and that our fathers and grandfathers fought for," she said.

A server arrived with a generous platter of gizzards for him and cheesy French fries for her.

"Wow, is that what they look like?" she said, looking at her husband's gizzards

See Hope, Page 9



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Jerry and Katherine Kramarz of Dearborn visited Joe's Gizzard City in Potterville last week. Both hope Trump will put an end to the United States' "kowtowing" to other countries.

Fear

from page 8

to have them pay for it.

Adding concern for many was the Trump campaign's promise to deport millions of undocumented workers, ban people from certain countries who adhere to the Muslim faith from the country, and the potential creation of a registry of Muslims. He's also promised to end same-sex marriage.

Add on top of this his open flirtation and political nods to the rising right wing, white nationalist movement known as the Alt-Right, and the recipe for fear and anxiety is sown.

"One day after the election, my visceral reaction was that so many people decided recognizing the safety of so many of our population was not important," said Emily Dievendorf, an LGBT activist in Lansing. "Suddenly I had to confront the idea of who — you know in the grocery store or what not — didn't consider me to be an equal human being. That they were willing to harm or not protect myself or those people that I love."

That fear for the safety of the community is not without basis. From Nov. 9 to Nov. 16 last year, The Southern Poverty Law Center identified nearly 900 bias incidents. Over 32 percent of those were anti-immigrant driven incidents, the group reported, while nearly 22 percent were anti-black, over 11 percent were anti-Semitic and nearly 11 percent were anti-LGBT. The Lansing area saw some of this as well. Lansing Police identified two acts of vandalism it tied to the election. Middle school students in DeWitt reportedly blocked lockers by link-



Dievendorf

ing arms and chanting "build the wall." In Okemos, a female student was harassed for protesting Trump's election.

As a transgender activist heavily involved in politics, Amy Hunter faced the prospect of a Trump presidency with great anxiety at first. The shock of the election upset, combined with his cabinet appointments generated even more concerns. But as Trump raises his right hand and swears the oath of office Friday— the what-ifs and imagining the worst-case scenarios are over



Courtesy Photo

Sarah Eisenberg is one of the organizers for the March on Lansing to protest GOP control in the state and federal governments.

— at least in Hunter's mind.

"The rubber will have to meet the road," she said. "It provides a line of demarcation for those of us working in advocacy. It becomes more of where we are now; that's when we will begin to have real conversation. And we know, we either need to protect, or fight for, or guard against. In a way that just makes it a little more concrete for me. And I think that will help us focus our energies."

The anxiety of Trump's election also sent Sarah Eisenberg down a path of active engagement.

She said she called established progressive political groups seeking ways to engage her fears and frustrations. "Hey," she recalled saying to various groups, "I am an individual who's terrified about what's just happened; what can I do?" There were few answers for her and others. Through social media she connected with others and helped planned a major statewide rally the day after the inauguration.

Like Eisenberg, many Americans are not waiting until Trump and his allies on Capitol Hill have a chance to start taking concrete action — they're already organizing. Tens of thousands of women and their supporters will descend on Washington to protest Trump's inaugural. Tens of thousands more will rally in cities across the country, including here in Lansing. Two events are slated for the capitol over the inaugural weekend.

On Friday, from noon to 1 p.m. a rally will be held on the east steps of the Capitol. That rally will feature speakers like Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Gretchen Whitmer; Sarah Anthony, chairwoman of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners; and Lansing City Councilwoman Judi

See Fear, Page 10

Hope

from page 8

At the other occupied table, three women were digging into three salads. One of them, a stern 50-ish woman, was angry about Obamacare, complaining that her premiums tripled in the past year.

"Hers too," she said, pointing at the woman on her right.

"I would have voted for any other Democrat but Hillary, but Hillary — no way," the stern woman said. The trio declined to talk any further.

Potterville's Main Street has a relaxed, off-the-beaten-track feeling. There just weren't many folks around, even at noon. Along faster-paced Lansing Road, with its fast food and strip malls, Charlie's Bar and Grill was bustling with lunch customers.

Behind the counter was Trump supporter Ashlyn Coates of Charlotte, in her early 20s. (Charlotte, too, went for Trump, by a margin of 1,948 to 1,584.)

"I'd like to see strides in health care, and I don't know how to word this, but I'd like us to work on the race war we have going on right now," she said. "Those are big ones for me."

At a nearby table, two young women chatted as they waited for lunch. Both were Trump voters.

Andrea Pakkala of Charlotte, 25, didn't consider Trump the lesser of two evils.

"I was hopeful when I voted," she said. "I'm glad it happened. I hope he gets rid of Obamacare. Better border control." She politely pointed to her beer with a smile, as if to excuse the brevity of her answers.

Across the table, Breanne Place of Charlotte, 21, said jobs were her main concern.

"That will help us out in the long run, for sure," Place said. "That's what I really hope



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Longtime Williamston barber and Trump supporter Rahn H. Wright said all his customers were shocked that Trump won, and so was he.

for. I voted for Trump and let's hope."

A deep dish pizza arrived.

"That's yummy," Place said.

Before digging in, she admitted it bothered her a little to vote for Trump.

"I guess you can't have everything in one person," Place said. "I kind of just went for my gut on that one and voted for who I thought would be better. Don't get me wrong. He has his quirks."

Riled up

A few miles from Potterville, near the blinker light at the heart of Dimondale and two blocks from a second Charlie's Bar and Grill, two men in overalls were working at a sawhorse. Sawdust sprinkled onto the ice at their feet.

Smiling, red-cheeked Sam Hardy and a crusty-but-friendly co-worker, Pat Granger, were building a ramp for the disabled next to a new business that is due to open in the spring.

Both men voted for Trump.

They asked me not to name their client. They feared that an association with Trump wouldn't please the building's owners, who are Democrats.

Last November was the first time Hardy voted. He is 29.

"I wasn't informed enough [before], and they say an uninformed voter is worse than not voting at all," Hardy said. "I tried to follow it, not on mainstream media, because we are citizens, and —"

"It is a right," Granger cut in.

"Yeah."

The church bell rang 1 o'clock.

In the next four years, Hardy is hoping most of all for a cut in the small business tax. "And I hope health insurance gets straightened out," he added. "I haven't been on any insurance because the premiums skyrocketed. Being self-employed, either you make too much money or not enough, and it takes six months to sign up. It's just been a headache. It used to be affordable but now it's gone through the roof."

He paused.

"Now you got us riled up," he said, still smiling. "You're pretty brave to go around asking these questions."

Granger looked up from the sawhorse. "You can get all worked up. What's it gonna do?" he shrugged while measuring and marking a board. "It just raises your blood pressure."

Hardy handed him the circular saw.

"Now you can take a picture of me cutting my finger off," Granger said. He lopped off another board.

Hardy didn't mind Trump's inflammatory rhetoric.

"Some of it, I think the media blows it out of proportion," he said. "He does say some stuff he probably shouldn't, but we need somebody to stand up. I put my foot in my mouth every day."

"Me too," Granger said, bending over the walkway, which was growing board by board. "Don't we all do that? Although not

See Hope, Page 11

Fear

from page 9

Brown Clarke.

The following day, from 1 to 3 p.m., thousands of women and their supporters are expected to descend on the Capitol for another rally and protest organized by progressive women across the state. Eisenberg, one of its organizers, said while Trump and his cabinet are concerns for organizers, they were focusing their energy on changing Michigan policies. The trained social worker said the organizers and protesters support an agenda of amending the Michigan Civil Rights Act to include the LGBT community; encouraging and welcoming immigrants; and addressing voting issues, including “partisan gerrymandering.”

Listening to the children at the East Lansing elementary school where her 9-year-old daughter, Alice, attended, Stephanie Banghart was certain the bullying tactics of Trump were a losing strategy. The kids, she said, were talking about “how terrible Donald Trump was.”

But on Nov. 9, the mother of two had to comfort her sobbing daughter who could not understand how Trump had won the presidency. Banghart herself was unsure and absolutely taken aback by the rhetoric that had fueled his win.

She will be in Washington when Trump swears his oath of office, protesting with tens of thousands of others. It’s the first time in her three decades of life she’s felt it necessary to take concrete action to address a political concern.

“I want my daughter to know that you

have to stand up for what you believe in,” she said. “I want her to understand that you have to stand up.”

Snaking around underneath the fear and anxiety is a threat of the rise of white nationalism and its legitimization by the Trump administration. Concerns exacerbated over the weekend when Trump tweeted an attack against U.S. Rep. John Lewis, the civil rights icon. During the campaign, Trump was endorsed by various white nationalist and supremacist groups including the Ku Klux Klan. And he appointed Steve Bannon, the former editor of Breitbart News, a website that traffics in so-called “Alt-right” theories and news stories.

But for Bishop David Maxwell, of Lansing, it is important to note that while the Trump administration is laced with nationalists, Trump himself, Maxwell said, is not “fundamentally unmoveable or alterable on any philosophical or political position. I think at the very core Donald Trump is self-serving and narcissistic.”

The underbelly of the administration — the Bannon wing if you will, is troublesome — but not insurmountable, he said.

“When faced with intolerance and bigotry, we band together to do whatever is possible,” he said. “To minimize it whenever it rears its ugly head.”

For him, that’s the promise of the great experiment of the American democracy. But he acknowledges as well that there were many mis-steps by the Clinton campaign in the election this past fall, including a failure to spend more time in Michigan, where Trump’s win could have been deflated if Democrats had flipped just 5,000 voters from Trump’s column. Part of that mismanagement, he said, was a failure by the Clin-



Courtesy Photo

Amy Hunter lectures students at Delta College about transgender experiences. She’s worried about what a Trump presidency could mean for advancements under the Obama administration for transgender Americans.

ton camp and Democrats to fully engage in the street by street, block by block, church by church — a strategy Democrats used to stimulate the African American vote before Barack Obama’s candidacy.

Obama, Maxwell said, was an “anomaly.” Organizers should have recognized that the African American community would fall back into its historic role of low voter turnout. They turned out for Obama, he said, because it was an historic moment for the community, one that won’t happen again.

Dievendorf said that while the white nationalism and Alt-Right influences on the Trump win and administration were troubling, she saw them more as class-related issues. A battle for limited resources at a time when systematic racism and white privilege is being undermined.

“It’s a fight between classes for relevance and for resources,” she said.

Banghart said she feels obligated to engage in the political protests not just for her daughter.

“Up until now, I lived in somewhat of a bubble,” she said. “I surround myself with open and likeminded people, for the most part. I, like so many other people I know and love, thought there was no way a man who spoke about women, immigrants and minorities the way Trump does would win the presidency. His win was a huge wake up call for me personally. Up until now, as much as I’ve used my vote to support equal rights across the board, I’ve never been one to speak out. Maybe because I’m scared of conflict, maybe because I didn’t think my voice was that important. It’s really become clear to me that to remain silent is, in many ways, the same as accepting Trump’s platform of bigotry and intolerance, and I just couldn’t in good conscience do that.”

PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY OF INGHAM	PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF HEARING	FILE NO. 16-493-CZ
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In the case entitled City of Lansing v Whalen re: Holdings of Lansing d/b/a Life O’Riley and Approximately 80 Mobile Home Units Located at 6726 S. Washington Ave, Lansing, MI 48911; Ingham County Circuit Court File #16-493-CZ

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS, including;

Any and all owners of one or more mobile home units located at 6726 S. Washington Ave, Lansing, MI 48911

Whose addresses are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be affected by the following:

An order of abatement or demolition;

TAKE NOTICE: A hearing will be held on **January 18, 2017** at **2:15 p.m.** at **Ingham County Circuit Court, 303 W. Kalamazoo St, Lansing, MI 48933** before **Judge Clinton Canady III** for the following purpose:

To allow any and all potential affected owners of one or more mobile home units located at 6726 S. Washington Ave, Lansing MI 48911 to show cause as to why the unit, being a dangerous and unsafe building or structure, should not be abated by demolition.

December 27, 2016
Date

James D. Smiertka **P20608**
Attorney name Bar no.

City of Lansing
Petitioner name

124 W. Michigan Ave, 5th floor
Address

124 W. Michigan Ave, 5th floor
Address

Lansing, MI 48933 (517)483-4200
City, state, zip Telephone no.

Lansing, MI 48933 (517)483-4200
City, state, zip Telephone no.

CP#17-004

PUBLIC NOTICES

JANUARY 16, 2017

NOTICE OF A SCOPE HEARING

SCOPE HEARING ON THE MONTGOMERY DRAINAGE DISTRICT PROJECT

The Ingham County Drain Commissioner, Patrick E. Lindemann, is holding a scope hearing for the proposed reconstruction and drainage improvements of the Montgomery Drain Drainage District on **Thursday, January 19, 2017, 7:00 PM at the City of Lansing’s Foster Community Center, Room 213, 200 North Foster Avenue, Lansing, Michigan, 48912.** The proposed project is located in the City of Lansing, East Lansing and Charter Township of Lansing in Ingham County, Michigan.

The proposed scope of the project includes reconstruction/repair and replacement of storm sewers in the Montgomery Drain Drainage District. The project will create surface water features such as ponds, wetland areas and streams, together with vegetated walls (vertical rain gardens) and other plantings, along with repairs of existing drains.

In addition, the project will create public access by adding connecting walkways to the current 16-mile long Lansing River Trail at the southern end and the municipal sidewalk systems to the north.

Questions may be referred to:

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner
P.O. Box 220
707 Buhl Avenue
Mason, Michigan 48854-0220
(517) 676-8395

CP#17-008

Hope

from page 9

on the political stage," he added, thinking out loud. "But you're right, somebody who stands up."

"Hopefully he cleans house and switches it around," Hardy said.

Jerkwads

Back in Lansing, I called Trump supporter Kevin Schoen, founder and CEO of Lansing-based Internet provider ACD, for a white-collar perspective.

"I hope for prosperity, mostly," Schoen said.

Schoen called himself "extremely liberal" socially but fiscally conservative.

He had some blunt words about Trump.

"You take a classic developer, a large percentage of them have traits like Trump — they're basically jerkwads," he said. "He's a caricature version of one. I've built a lot of vibrant buildings in developments and every single one of them have traits like Trump."

But Schoen likes that.

"Real estate people know how to invest in infrastructure," he said. "That's what I'm optimistic about with Trump. The best thing you can do with people with money is force them to invest in hard assets rather than stocks and bonds."

Schoen was sanguine about Trump's beligerent rhetoric.

"Unfortunately, a more combative atmosphere may be necessary in order to get things done," he said. "What we've been doing for a long time hasn't worked."

A big thing on Schoen's policy wish list is decreased emphasis on the university system and more investment in primary and vocational education.

"In our industry, IT and broadband, almost nobody we employ has degrees in those fields of study. It's mostly self-trained and self-taught. We really need more people being better trained in high school and middle school.

We should rebuild inner city schools."

Overall, Schoen said he's optimistic about the future.

"I voted for Obama eight years ago because the theory was change," he said. "That's what I bought into but it didn't happen."

God and country

The small town of Williamston is home to a historic movie theater, a drama troupe, antique shops and an interesting mix of boutiques and red-meat businesses, owing to its proximity to both MSU and the surrounding farmland. Along with meat-and-potatoes work clothes, the local Carhartt store has a big display of the pricy flannels and Stormy Kromer caps favored by hipsters. Williamston narrowly gave the edge to Hillary Clinton, by about 50 votes, but almost everyone I ran into on my sojourn

voted for Trump.

At Cash-Way Lumber on the outskirts of town, Dave, who didn't want to give his last name, was working hard behind the counter.

"Finished pine?" he asked a customer.

"Clear, No. 2."

"Ready-mix mortar?"

"Yeah."

"That gonna do ya?"

"I hope so."

Dave waited until there were no customers to help and began to muse aloud.

"I'd like the next four years to be better than the last four years," he said.

In what way?

"If it's better in any way, it will be better, for every human being in this country," he said.

"I sure did support Trump," he continued. "I know things I sometimes I wish I didn't know. We'll just leave it at that."

He could tell I was baffled and took mercy on me, explaining that he was recently back from nine years in the Michigan National Guard.

"I survived two tours overseas, in Iraq and Afghanistan," he said. "I find it hard, now that I've been able to grow this back" — he touched his beard — "to keep my mouth shut. For one who's seen the other side of the fence, the grass isn't always greener there. There's people here who need to see that."

A co-worker interrupted him with a correction for an order. When that was straightened out, Dave finished his thought.

"There's two things I enjoy about someone like him," he said. "He's not afraid to tell you how he feels and he's a businessman. You and I don't get to write bad checks. The government does."

Closer to downtown, across from the Williamston Sun Theatre, Alexis Scott was shampooing a client, Jamie Raymond of Fowlerville. Both women voted for Trump.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Williamston salon owner Alexis Scott and her sister-in-law, Anna Musolf, hope Trump will bring the country back to God.

Scott runs a month-old salon with a stable and livery theme, Alexis Grace Lash & Hair Gallery.

"I just opened my business here, and I'm a fan of small business," Scott said. "That's something I'm excited about changing."

"Trump's already changing it," Raymond said. "He's threatening big fines for to companies that ship jobs overseas."

"She Thinks My Tractor's Sexy" was playing on Trace Atkins' Y2Kcountry Throwback program.

Last summer, Scott rehabbed the small space with the help of her husband and some relatives. The interior roof is a shiny sheet of corrugated metal meant to go on top of a barn. The sign hanging outside the

door cites Proverbs 31:25. ("Strength and honor are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.")

"It's time for a little bit more God in America, whether it comes from Trump or the people he selects," Scott said.

"I feel the same way she does," Raymond said. "We need someone who will put God back into things instead of taking God out of everything."

Webberville, where Scott lives, is Trump country. Leroy Township, home to Webberville, went for Trump by a whopping 1,108 to 576. Scott said all of her family and friends backed Trump in November.

"I can't support someone who supports

See Hope, Page 13

PUBLIC NOTICES

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS EIFERT ROAD FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Sealed proposals for the construction of the Eifert Road Lift Station Force Main Replacement Project will be received by Delhi Charter Township at the Township Hall located at 2074 Aurelius Road, Holt, Michigan 48842, until 2:00 p.m., Local Time on Thursday, February 9, 2017, at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bidders shall review and comply with the Instructions to Bidders, which are incorporated by reference, and carefully review all Contract Documents, as defined in the Instructions to Bidders. Bids submitted after the exact time specified for, receipt will not be considered.

The Contracts will consist of the following principal items of work and appurtenances as specified herein and shown on the Contract Drawings.

Description of Work

Furnishing and installation of 4,610 L.F. of 10" diameter PVC open cut force main, 1,820 L.F. of 12" diameter HDPE HDD force main, four (4) air release valves and structures along the force main, one (1) carbon canister odor control vessel, two (2) low pressure sewer service connections including road crossings and check/isolation valves in pits, one (1) 10" diameter PVC connection to existing sanitary sewer manhole located in road right-of-way, and associated valves, fittings, restoration, testing and miscellaneous appurtenances.

Plans and Specifications and Bid Proposal Forms are only available online. In order to obtain access to bidding documents, bidders must register by sending an email including the following information to: Bid-20130633@hrcenr.com Company Name; Contact Name; Contact Email; Contact Phone No.; Complete Postal Address. Once the registration information is entered, instructions for site access will then be emailed to the requestor from basecamphq.com or 37signals.com with hyperlinks used to activate a user account on <https://hrcenr.basecamphq.com> where the bidding documents for this project are located.

Plan Rooms, Subcontractors and Suppliers are also required to register, obtain and print their own information using this site. All bidders will be required to register as plan holders. Failure to register may result in the Bidder not being informed of an Addendum, and lack of acknowledgement may result in the bid being rejected as nonresponsive. Registered Bidders shall be responsible for checking the bidding site for addenda prior to the time of receipt of bids.

Questions regarding this project should be addressed to: Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., 801 Broadway NW, Suite 215; Grand Rapids, MI 49504, via email at: Bid-20130633@hrcenr.com.

A **MANDATORY** pre-bid meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 1:00 pm at the Delhi Charter Township Maintenance Facility, 1492 Aurelius Road, Holt, Michigan 48842.

Proposals submitted by Bidders who have been debarred, suspended, or made ineligible by any Federal Agency will be rejected.

Each bidder agrees to waive any claim it has or may have against the Owner, the Architect/Engineer, and their respective employees, arising out of or in connection with the administration, evaluation, or recommendation of any bid.

Each bid proposal shall be submitted on the proposal forms provided and shall be accompanied by a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond, executed by the bidder and Surety Company, payable to Delhi Charter Township in the amount of Five Percent (5%) of the accompanying bid. Proposal Guarantee shall provide assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute the necessary Contract with the Township. No bid may be withdrawn for 90 days after scheduled closing time for receiving bids.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish satisfactory Performance, Labor and Material, and Maintenance and Guarantee Bonds, and Insurance Certificates

Delhi Charter Township reserves the right to reject all bids and to waive irregularities in bidding.

No Proposal will be received unless made on blanks furnished and delivered to the Delhi Charter Township Clerk on or before 2:00 p.m., Local time, February 9, 2017.

DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP

CP#17-007

Trump's tax cuts are great for the rich, but not for nation

By CHARLES L. BALLARD

The phenomenal increase of income inequality is the biggest economic story of our time. As recently as 1978, the most affluent 1 percent of American households received less than 9 percent of all of the income in the country. In recent years, the top 1 percent have received more than 20 percent of total income.



That's a massive redistribution of more than one trillion dollars per year. Judging from his tax plan, Donald Trump thinks that income inequality is too low, that more inequality is a good thing, and that those at the top deserve a big tax break.

I disagree.

Of course, we can't be absolutely sure

about what the U.S. tax system will look like a year from now. Trump has been known to change his mind about things, and any proposals he puts forth will only become law if they get through the House and Senate. But let's focus on the set of proposals that he used during most of the campaign, which have been analyzed in detail by the highly respected Tax Policy Center.

The centerpiece of the Trump plan is a set of cuts in tax rates. Most taxpayers would receive a tax cut, but the biggest reductions are for the most affluent. The tax rate for those at the top of the income scale would decrease from 39.6 percent to 33 percent. As a result, the top 1 percent would get an average tax cut of more than \$200,000 per year, and the top one-tenth of 1 percent would see their taxes slashed by about \$1.1 million per year, on average.

Meanwhile, taxpayers in the middle fifth of the income distribution would receive a tax cut of about \$1,000, and those in the bottom fifth would get a tax cut of about \$100.

At the same time that the distribu-

tion of income has become more unequal, there has also been an increase in the inequality of wealth (ownership of stocks, bonds, homes, etc.). The estate tax was established in 1916 with the goal of reducing the concentration of wealth. Donald Trump's tax plan would eliminate the estate tax.

Just as Trump appears to believe that income needs to be more unequal, his plan to eliminate the estate tax suggests that he also believes that wealth should be more unequal.

If you think that the most affluent among us need huge tax breaks, the Trump plan is for you. On the other hand, if you share my concern that the distributions of income and wealth in the United States are more unequal than they should be, the Trump plan scores very badly.

Beyond the plan's huge tilt in favor of the most affluent, there is a big question about whether we should be cutting taxes at all. It made sense to cut taxes in 2009, at the depths of the Great Recession. Those tax cuts helped to reduce the severity of the worst economic downturn since the 1930s. When the economic engine is sputtering, it makes sense to step on the gas.

But the economy has now been expanding for more than seven years, and the unemployment rate is lower than it

has been since 2007. If we step on the accelerator now, by enacting tax cuts, we aren't likely to get much extra economic growth, because the economy is already growing about as fast as it can.

We are not likely to get much economic growth from these proposed tax cuts, but we will certainly get a lot of debt. The total national debt has grown to about \$19 trillion. About \$5 trillion of that is held in government accounts, but that still leaves \$14 trillion that is owed to individuals and governments, at home and abroad. That's a lot of money. If enacted, the tax cuts will increase the national debt by an estimated \$6.2 trillion over the next 10 years. I question whether it makes sense to be adding so much to the national debt at a time like this.

The tax plan on which Trump campaigned has many features, and there isn't space here to discuss all of them in detail. But the broad outline of the plan is to give fabulous tax cuts to those at the top of the income and wealth scales (that is, to people like Trump), while ballooning the national debt. In my view, this plan would take America in the wrong direction. I hope it does not become law.

(Charles L. Ballard is a professor of economics at Michigan State University, where he directs the quarterly State of the State Survey, which measures consumer confidence and approval ratings of politicians.)

PUBLIC NOTICES

ORDINANCE # 1206

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

The City of Lansing ordains:

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

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

Case Number: Z-7-2016

Legal Descriptions: **33-01-01-36-252-001:** Lot 1, Hospitality Motor Inns, A Subdivision on part of the Southwest ¼ of Section 36, T4N, R2W, City of Lansing, Ingham County, MI, as recorded in Liber 29 of Plats, Pages 9-11, Ingham County Records, Except Commencing at the Northwest Corner of said Lot 1; thence South 86°09'45" East along the North line of said Lot 1 a distance of 676.19 feet to the point of beginning; thence South 86°09'45" East continuing along said North line 118 feet to the Northeastly line of said Lot 1; thence South 44°58'35" East along said Northeastly line 109.12 feet; thence South 03°50'15" West perpendicular to said North line 78.14 feet; thence North 86°09'45" West parallel with said North line 200.12 feet; thence North 03°50'15" East perpendicular to said North line 150 feet to the point of beginning; said parcel containing 12.09 acres more or less, from "DM-2" Residential District to "E-1" Apartment Shop District.

33-01-01-36-352-022: Part of Lot 1, Commencing 677.19 Feet East of the Northwest Corner of Lot 1, Thence South 86°09'45", East 298.09 Feet, South 01°31'45", East 173.08 Feet, North 44° 52'49", West 150 Feet, South 03°50'15", West 78.01 Feet, North 86°09'45", West 200 Feet, North 03°50'15", East 150 feet to the point of beginning; Hospitality Motor Inns, City of Lansing, Ingham County, MI, from "F" Commercial District to "E-1" Apartment Shop District.

33-01-01-36-352-032: Commencing at the Northeast Corner of Lot 2, Thence North 86°09'45", West 314.78 Feet, South 01°31'45", East 240 Feet, South 86°09'45", East 314.78 Feet, North 01°31'45", West 240 Feet to the point of beginning; Hospitality Motor Inns, City of Lansing, Ingham County, MI, from "F" Commercial District to "E-1" Apartment Shop District.

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

Section 3. This ordinance was duly adopted by the Lansing City Council on January 9, 2017, and a copy is available in the office of the Lansing City Clerk, 9th Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48933.

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

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

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#17-011

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, January 30, 2017**, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider an Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan to add Section 206.25 to Chapter 206 of the Lansing Codified Ordinances by requiring transparency in the solicitation, awarding, opening and selection of bids for projects that receive certain economic incentives approved by the Lansing City Council.

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

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

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#17-012

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, February 8, 2017** in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1397, an application request from Agree Limited Partnership to rezone the property at 2447 East Lake Lansing Road from B4, Restricted Office Business District to B2, Retail Sales Business District. The property is 7.10 acres in size.

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

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

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#17-014

Trump and the media: Shall this too pass?

By ERIC FREEDMAN

Oh, how those politicians and partisans love to belittle us — we journalists and our news organizations — to distract public attention away from their own foibles, shortcomings and crimes. And that's not just Donald Trump.

To illustrate, the 2016 campaign brought us New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie's derisive,

"When reporters act like jerks, you need to treat them that way. The guy's a complete idiot, self-consumed underpaid reporter." I never met the New York Daily News reporter Christie attacked and don't know whether he's an idiot or self-consumed, but he may well be underpaid.

Unhappy with questions that moderators peppered him with at a GOP debate, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz grouched, "This debate illustrates why we cannot trust the media."

And in a comment that was, perhaps, meant as a joke, sort of, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said, "If I want to knock a story of the front page, I just change my hairstyle."

Shades of then-Vice President — and future prison inmate — Spiro Agnew's "In the



United States today, we have more than our share of the nattering nabobs of negativism."

I don't side with critics of reporting on the 2016 presidential race. For one thing, these critics usually ignore the aggregated coverage by all news organizations. The reality is that no single wire service, network or newspaper can cover everything that happens in a campaign, but overall collective coverage by national, regional and local outlets was comprehensive.

Another reason is that critics fail to distinguish among coverage by mainstream news organizations, partisan news outlets and fake news outlets, let alone between news articles and commentary.

And a third reason is their failure to reflect the growing importance to candidates of bypassing the press — even the partisan press — and going directly to voters through Twitter, Facebook and other social media. While Trump deserves a trophy for his advancement of the tweetification of elections, his Republican and Democratic rivals tweeted as well, although less flamboyantly and less effectively.

Was reporting on the presidential election perfect? No, and it never can be perfect. Journalists are human, make errors and covered not only the White House race but also contests for Senate and House seats, governorships, state legislatures and local offices. News organizations have limited personnel, financial resources and airtime or print space for political coverage. A burgeoning number of bloggers and

rankers absorb the public's time. And yes, candidates and other news sources lie to the press, dissemble and hide.

I've been reporting full time and part time on politics and government since the Ford administration. Despite the occasional outpourings of public admiration triggered by hit films such as "All the President's Men" and "Spotlight" and the vital investigative reporting that formed their basis, we journalists have never been well loved during those four decades.

I don't see that changing, nor should it. But we didn't choose this profession from a desire to make new BFFs or to get wealthy.

So what should the press do during the Trump-Pence administration?

With or without public adoration, we owe an unchanged ethical professional obligation to serve as a watchdog over institutions of power.

That means heavy investigative and analytical coverage of the new administration's people and policies. There's no shortage of things to investigate — among them are the financial dealings of the new president, his Cabinet members and advisers, the human and economic cost of policy proposals; the future of U.S. relationships with friendly and hostile countries, the U.S. military, humanitarian and human rights roles abroad; and the doings of lobbyists, campaign donors and other wielders of political and economic influence in Washington.

With or without public adoration, we should labor to reestablish public trust in

independent reporting.

That includes constantly demonstrating the integrity of mainstream and traditional news organizations. Some carry internationally respected brand names such as the Associated Press, CBS, NBC, Time magazine, PBS, The Wall Street Journal, NPR, The Washington Post, The New York Times and Bloomberg. Others have deep community traditions and reputations for honesty and trustworthiness, like many local daily and weekly newspapers and broadcast stations.

With or without public admiration, non-mainstream news outlets with a commitment to fairness, creativity and accuracy should help fill the reporting and analysis gaps left by major news organizations

That's an essential and irreplaceable role for alternative outlets such as City Pulse, nonprofit outlets such as Pro Publica and Bridge magazine, ethnic newspapers and broadcast programs, and college student media.

Finally, we in the press have been derided and spat upon before. We must remember that the public's need for honest and balanced news of public affairs will never disappear, even if the number of journalists continues to shrink and even if we sometime feel that nobody is watching, listening or reading what we tell them without fear or favor.

(Pulitzer Prize-winner Eric Freedman teaches journalism and is director of Capital News Service at Michigan State University.)

Hope

from page 11

abortion, especially partial-birth abortion," Scott went on. "We're both mothers and it's extremely important."

Before Raymond left the salon, they huddled near a shelf packed with Aveda products to discuss the merits of various curling creams. Meanwhile, Scott's sister-in-law, Anna Musolf, got into the chair.

Scott twirled Musolf's hair, holding a huge brush in her left hand and a dryer in her right, alternately turning the brush in the direction of the hair and perpendicular to it. It looked like hard work.

Before long, Musolf's hair began to resemble the shining mane of a white mare in a huge painting on the salon wall.

I asked Musolf how she felt about Trump.

"I'm pretty much with Alexis," she said. "She hit the nail on the head."

Sounding off

In contrast with Scott's fledgling, month-old salon, the Tonsorial House Barber shop around the corner on Putnam Street has been a Williamston mainstay for over 40 years.

Owner Rahn H. Wright, 75, was sitting and talking about the health care issue with a longtime customer — we'll call him Sam



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Andrea Pakkala and Breanne Place of Charlotte supported Trump even though Place said he has his "quirks."

—when I walked in.

Wright has a spectacular white moustache and bristles with opinions as well. He and Sam both voted for Trump.

"We were just talking about politics," Wright said.

Wright said he didn't agonize much over his vote.

"You know how Don is, he's blustery," Wright said. "He ranted and raved and raised hell and it worked. I liked his enthusiasm."

Wright said November's results came as a surprise to everyone, including, he guesses,

Trump himself.

"Most all the guys I've talked to in here, there was damn few of 'em that figured Donald Trump would win, including me," he said. "I think he'll do a good job for us — I hope."

Wright cited a long list of national goals, from better race relations to paying down the national debt.

"We have to get tougher internationally and do some kind of cleanup on this immigration thing," Wright said.

Wright also hopes Trump will "pull our

nose out of everybody else's business, [and] straighten that deal with Iran, support Israel, because they're hanging all alone out there."

He wants to see more people working, or, if necessary, put to work.

"My dad and my uncles were in the CCC," he said, referring to part of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal, the Civilian Conservation Corps. "If we're paying all these people, sitting on their asses, maybe we ought to have something like that. You could plant trees, fix the roads, whatever needs doing."

"It's so complex, I have my doubts," Sam said.

There was a lot more to the conversation, which ended this way, as Sam walked out the door.

"If we're not careful, we'll end up like Scandinavia," Sam said.

"Socialism," Wright added.

I walked across the street to the hardware store, where I met the sole person on my informal strolls through Potterville and Williamston who admitted he didn't support Trump, a hardware store staffer named Andy (not his real name).

Andy was not happy about the new president, but he said it's not that hard to get along in what he called a "pretty conservative town."

"Most people are polite about it," he said. "There are three or four that come here and give you a piece of their mind. I just let 'em sound off. That's kind of what this country was founded on."

ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC • THEATER

BRACING FOR TRUMP

Greater Lansing arts communities gather to encourage unity, inclusion

By TY FORQUER

With President-elect Donald Trump's inauguration looming, Greater Lansing artists are pondering if and how to respond to the tumultuous political climate.

"At first, it was like 'Wow, we're going to have a lot of material,'" said comedian Will Green, "but then it was like 'Ugh, we're going to have a lot of material ...'"

Green is the Lansing host for What a Joke Fest, one of three local events that are partnering with national organizers to respond to Trump's inauguration. Thursday, Greater Lansing's theater community gathers for the Ghostlight Project, an evening of discussions that will focus on theater as an advocate for diversity and inclusion. Then Saturday, Williamston Theatre joins theater companies nationwide in offering a staged reading of "The Taming," a political farce.

At 5:30 p.m. local time Thursday, over 200 theater communities nationwide will meet as part of the Ghostlight Project. According to the movement's website, the communities will be asked to "make or renew a pledge to stand for and protect the values of inclusion, participation, and compassion for everyone — regardless of race, class, religion, country of origin, immigration status, (dis)ability, gender identity or sexual orientation." Chad Badgero, artistic director of Peppermint Creek Theatre Co., is organizing Lansing's meeting.

"I've been seeking a way to proactively and productively respond to my feelings about

this political climate — something positive," Badgero said. "Theater is my wheelhouse. It's where I have the strongest voice in the community."

The event will include representatives from nine Greater Lansing theater companies: Ixion Theatre, LCC Theatre Program, MSU Department of Theatre, Over the Ledge Theatre Co., Owosso Community Players, Peppermint Creek



Image created with convertimage.net

Theatre Co., Riverwalk Theatre, Starlight Dinner Theatre and Williamston Theatre.

"It's valuable for us to remind ourselves that we're a community, to feel the strength in that," Badgero said. "I'm hoping we can begin a dialogue to speak to the ideas of inclusion and diversity."

The evening will be a mix of live performances and facilitated discussions. Deborah Mikula, executive director of the Arts Council of Greater Lansing, will emcee the event.

"We have to start the conversation somewhere," Mikula said. "Theater is a great place to put focus on societal issues."

Badgero hopes to offer a wide-ranging discussion on ways theaters can promote inclusion, ranging from the plays performed to things like lobby art galleries and greater audience resources.

"It will take different forms at different theaters," Badgero said. "At Peppermint Creek, we're challenging ourselves to make each show a community partnership. We're still developing what that will look like."

This weekend, over 30 cities will host locally organized comedy shows as part of What a Joke Fest. All proceeds from the shows benefit the ACLU. The festival's marketing ma-

ter hosts a free staged reading of "The Taming," an all-female political farce inspired by Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew." Author Lauren Gunderson is one of the country's most frequently performed living playwrights. While browsing Gunderson's rental catalog for possible Williamston Theatre projects, Tony Caselli, the theater company's artistic director, saw that Gunderson is offering the script for free, one-day staged readings on Inauguration Day.

Intrigued, Caselli requested a review copy.

"It's a funny piece about politics, a biting piece," he said. "I immediately fell in love with it."

The play centers around a Southern beauty queen who, to advance her political ambitions, enlists the help of an ultra-conservative senator and a left-wing blogger. In a blog post on playscripts.com, Gunderson explains that she wrote the play "to unpack the deep frustration of a divided and obstructionist patriarchy" and "to laugh with the painful truth about extremism on both sides."

Caselli describes the work as "bipartisan" in its skewering of American politics.

"This year's been pretty contentious," he said. "This is a fun way to unwind but also to talk about these issues."

For a playwright of Gunderson's reputation, licensing fees for a one-night reading of a play generally run around \$80 to \$100, Caselli said. Williamston Theatre joins nearly 50 theater groups across the nation who are taking advantage of the fee-free script on Inauguration Day. While some groups are marketing it as "counterprogramming," an alternative to watching the inauguration, Caselli sees the play as something more conciliatory.

"It's not to distract people from it," he said. "It gets people in a room talking, and that's important. Let's do something together that reminds us that it's better to get involved than to stand and watch."

It's hard to say what a Trump administration and a Republican-led legislature might do to federal arts funding, and groups like Williamston Theatre receive very little direct federal funding. But Caselli is keeping a close eye on the situation, as funding cuts at the top levels could mean less money trickles down to local arts councils and grant-providing institutions.

"Every arts organization is always worried

terials feature Donald Trump's signature red hat, but with the slogan "What a Joke."

Lansing's edition of What a Joke Fest, hosted by comedian Will Green, comes to Old Town's MICA Gallery Saturday. Green, a Greater Lansing native, recently returned to Mid-Michigan from Maine. He learned about What a Joke Fest from some New England comedians, who connected him to the organizers.

"There's a need for more comedy in Lansing," Green said, "and the ACLU is an organization that's hard to find a flaw with."

In keeping with the spirit of the event, Green worked to assemble a diverse line-up of Michigan comics. Headliner Robert Jenkins, an African American and Detroit native, is a lawyer by day and comedian by night. The evening also features standup comedy from Nardos Osterhart, winner of 2013's Funniest Person in Grand Rapids contest. She was born in Ethiopia but came to the U.S. with her family when she was a child.

"She has a very interesting background and a very interesting point of view," Green said.

Green and local comic Nick Leydorf round out the evening's lineup.

On Inauguration Day, Williamston The-

Ghostlight Project

5:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19
FREE

Miller Performing Arts Center
6025 Curry Lane, Lansing
(517) 927-3016,
theghostlightproject.com

What a Joke Fest

8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21
\$10

MICA Gallery
1210 Turner St., Lansing
whatajokefest.com

"The Taming"

7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20
FREE, donations accepted

Williamston Theatre
122 S. Putnam St.,
Williamston
(517) 655-7469,
williamstontheatre.org

See Bracing, Page 15

Romancing the trombone

MSU's Michael Dease takes a tour through the cradles and colors of jazz
By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

Michael Dease almost lost control of the steering wheel the first time he heard one of his idols, Detroit trombone legend Curtis Fuller.

Getting Dease, 34, to talk about Fuller is a good way to trick him into describing his own sound.

Michael Dease "All These Hands" Album Release Party

7 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 22
\$15

The Robin Theatre
1105 S. Washington
Ave., Lansing
therobintheatre.com

"It's round and warm, but there's passion and articulation and it's really swinging and the harmony is so clear and it feels so good," he rhapsodized, turning the word "and" into a string of devotional beads with the same breath control Dease uses on trombone.

A faculty member in Michigan State University's Jazz Studies program, Dease marks the release of his latest album, "All These Hands," with a release party Sunday at the Robin Theatre in Lansing. But before we get there, the Fuller story is worth telling in full.

When Dease was 17, a friend popped John Coltrane's "Blue Train" into the car's CD player. Dease wasn't sure what to make of Coltrane, but when Fuller started to play, Dease put the hazard flashers on and pulled over to the side of the road.

"What instrument is that?" he gasped.

"Trombone," his friend said.

"No, it's not. To me, a trombone is like this." He made a cliché, oafish trombone sound: "VROORT."

Dease started the CD over again, fast-forwarding past Coltrane and trumpeter Lee Morgan — which, to some jazz lovers, is like pushing your steak and lobster to the floor to get to the mashed potatoes.

But Dease's rippling, mellifluous, ductile sound, like his hero Fuller's, is no side dish.

"I never heard an instrument sound like that," Dease recalled. "It matured me 10 years. I was a know-it-all, jerky, scared 17-year-old kid. I heard Curtis Fuller's solo,

Courtesy Photo

Trombonist Michael Dease celebrates the release of his latest album, "All These Hands," at the Robin Theatre Sunday.



and I'm like 40 years old with a glass of Chianti, looking at watches and stuff."

Fuller's initials — along with those of Fuller's fellow Detroit trombonist J.J. Johnson and Dease's mentor, former MSU professor Wycliffe Gordon — are enshrined on Dease's license plate: "JJCFWG."

Back in his home town of Augusta, Ga., Dease played saxophone in high school, under the spell of bebop icon Charlie Parker. When he was 15, his favorite bass player was Rodney Whitaker, now his boss at MSU's Jazz Studies program. At the time, Whitaker played in Wynton Marsalis' Septet, which also featured Gordon.

"Something about the way Rodney was playing attracted me in the same way Charlie Parker did," Dease said. "Imagine my surprise when I realized that Rodney was from Detroit, which is the home of all my favorite bebop musicians."

After Dease's roadside Curtis Fuller epiphany, he asked a friend with two trombones to lend him one. He told Dease to meet him at 2 a.m. so his mother wouldn't find out.

"I snuck out of the house and drove 30 minutes to my buddy's house," Dease said. "He met me outside and snuck his trombone through the window. It was romantic."

Dease taught himself to play in a month and a half. He made first chair in all-state auditions.

"Probably two months," he corrected himself. "Let's be realistic."

Sine then, Dease has rocketed to jazz fame, garnering critical acclaim for a series of finely crafted albums and snagging Rising Star recognition from Downbeat Magazine in 2014.

He's honored to be part of Whitaker's star-

studded Jazz Studies faculty, but the biggest thing in his life is his intense classical-jazz marriage with MSU percussion Professor Gwen Dease, who also plays for the Lansing Symphony. He called their romance "some otherworldly shit." They have a 1-year-old girl, Brooklyn Parker Dease.

In between teaching, recording dates and composing, Dease is exploring intriguing ways to work with his wife to merge the worlds of classical music and jazz. Michael Dease and Rodney Whitaker play on Gwen Dease's 2016 album "Beguiled." The couple also did a concert in Tampa in 2015 of tango master Astor Piazzolla's music.

"We do rub off on each other but it's very cool," he said.

But he doesn't swagger into the mix and improvise. "Everything's written," he said. "I'm taking liberties, but within the context

of the music."

With titles like "Father Figure" and "Decisions," Dease's discography tells his life story, as well as the story of jazz. He's thought hard about how to spin his own thread into jazz's tangled skein of styles.

You can dig deep into the intersecting themes of his new CD, "All These Hands," or just bounce along and enjoy the ride. Like Dease himself, the CD comes at you in a gentlemanly, soft-spoken way but packs in many layers of structure and thought.

The concept is a slick exercise in jazz trigonometry. Along the x-axis, Dease takes the listener to the geographic and historic points where a diverse range of styles of jazz came into being, from the melting pot of New Orleans to Kansas City-style territorial bands to the unique sounds of New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Detroit.

Along the y-axis, Dease contrasts the sophistication of the city to the twang of the country. Odd-numbered tracks, with pianist Renee Rosnes, trumpeter Etienne Charles and reedman Steve Wilson, sparkle with urbanity. Even-numbered tracks, with guitarist Randy Napoleon and bassist Rodney Whitaker, have a stripped-down, bluesy grit but go down as smoothly as Appalachian spring water.

Despite Dease's unparalleled chops on trombone, he is generous with his colleagues. His interplay with Charles and Nelson is joyous and sublime. To close the disc, he cedes

See Dease, Page 16

Bracing

from page 14

about funding," he said. "Ticket prices only cover half of our yearly budget."

The rest of the budget, he said, comes from private donations and grants.

Over at the Arts Council, Mikula hasn't seen much funding-related anxiety — not more than usual, at least.


"Everything is so unclear, but I haven't gotten the sense that people are worried,"

she said. "I don't feel like our backs are against the wall."

But Mikula will be keeping an eye on groups like the National Endowment for the Arts, which has been a political lightning rod at times. In the past, Republicans have tried to defund the organization, which provides nearly \$150 million in grants to community arts projects and organizations. But Mikula hopes local events like the Ghostlight Project and national advocacy groups like Americans for the Arts will keep arts in the national discussion.

"I'm an optimist," she said. "There's a future in all of this."

MSU Music




MON. JAN. 23, 7:30 PM

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MOZART

West Circle Series invites you to our seventh annual celebration of Mozart's birthday. Please join us for a concert and birthday cookies.

Generously sponsored by Martha L. and John R. Brick



College of Music
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

TICKETS & INFO: 517-353-5340
MUSIC.MSU.EDU/WESTCIRCLE

CURTAIN CALL

Four Hemingways walk into a bar

Riverwalk Theatre explores author's life with inventive play

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

Riverwalk Theatre deserves special praise for its portrayal of Ernest Hemingway — a large enough task that it took four actors to capture the entirety of the author.

The world premiere com-

"The Hemingway Play"

Riverwalk Theatre
7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19;
8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20 and
Saturday, Jan. 21; 2 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 22
\$15/\$12 students, seniors
and military
Riverwalk Theatre
228 Museum Drive, Lansing
(517) 483-5700,
riverwalktheater.com.

version of Hemingway, all earned "top billing" status.

Hemingway number one was Jared Ross.

munity theater production of the "The Hemingway Play" traced the adult life of the literary icon. To accomplish that, four talented actors portrayed Hemingway at different points in his life. The lead actors, each skillfully playing a very different

He capably portrayed the ever-smiling and likeable Wemedge, a 19-year-old rookie reporter. Jesse Frawley successfully played a brash-yet-crafty Hem, the successful author at 28. The 55-year-old seasoned writer, Ernest, was compellingly captured by Joe Dickson. Michael Hays completed the quartet, mastering the image of a moody, aging and tormented 60-year-old Papa.

The foursome forged ahead with distinct and formidable forms of the author, foreshadowing the Nobel Prize winner's unfortunate fate, each with a forte that was forceful and unforgettable.

The unique, two-hour "The Hemingway Play," masterfully wove the multi-faceted author's different life stages in a non-linear way, as the four Hemingways meet in a Madrid restaurant. That restaurant was brought to life through a clever two-level set designed by Leroy Cupp. Frederic Hunter's ingenious script connected different times and personalities in inventive ways, and his

writing seemed to come from a knowledgeable wordsmith, historian, biographer and psychologist.

Intermingling the four Hemingways and linking components of his career and personal history is no easy undertaking for a writer or a theater company. The Riverwalk Theatre's presentation accomplished the task with a projected ease.

Every member of the cast — not just the four principals — worked well together and independently. There were no stumbles in any actor's polished delivery. Supporting actors Anna Szabo, as secretary Glynis; Sally Hecksel, as an adoring Dana; and Gloria Vivalda, as Luisa, the restaurant owner; all played their parts with finesse.

Todd Heywood as Vas and Chris Goeckel as Charlie were exceptional additions. Even featured actor Michael Shalley, as Julio the waiter, handled his small role with enormous flair.

Credit for fluid interactions and dialogue — including complex speeches that often had multiple segues — was due to director Bob Robinson. The master theatrical mechanic somehow kept all the pistons of the intricate theatrical machine firing smoothly and at a pace that never seemed to run out of petrol.

Hemingways who were likeable and despicable, young and old exchanged articulate bickering and engaging storytelling. Robinson said it best in the program's director's note, describing Hemingway as "complex, tortured, kind, callous, generous, explosive, paranoid, brave and filled with anxiety." Everyone who saw the play surely left with a better understanding of Hemingway.

I'll mention only a few petty annoyances. The body sizes of the Hemingways were different in too many ways. And a start-of-show low-energy Spanish dance by Fran Ludington seemed out of step with the rest of the play. But since "The Hemingway Play" repeated Hemingway's damnations and cursings of reviewers — even offering the line "I say shoot the critics!" — I'll just leave it at that.

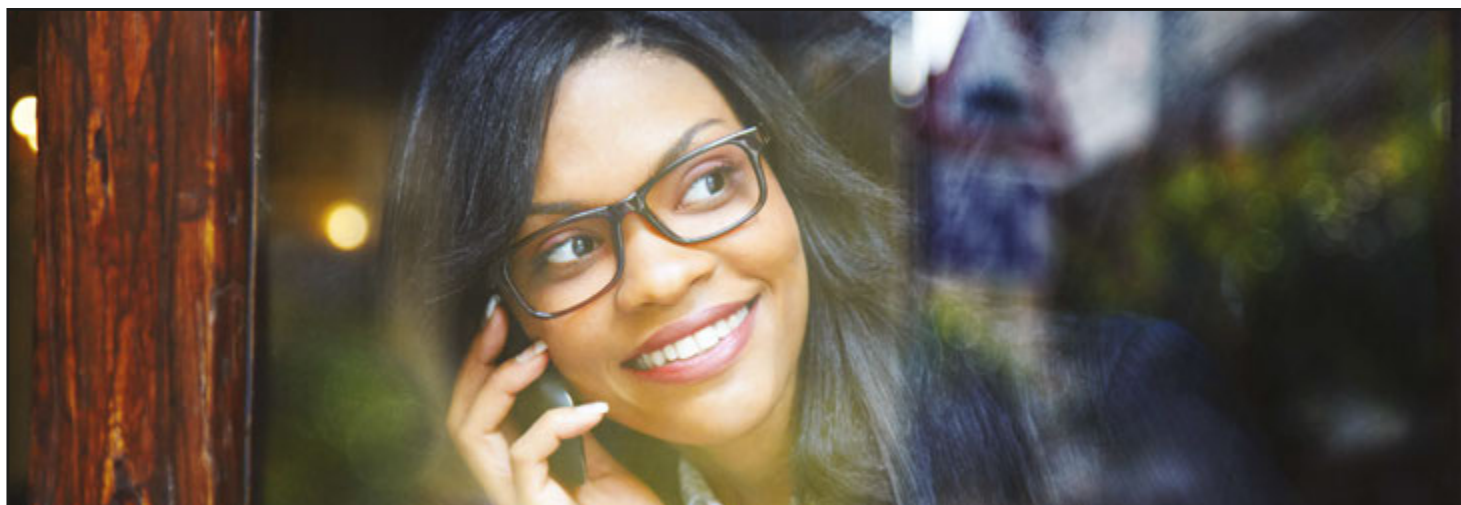
Dease

from page 15

the spotlight to Whitaker, who outdoes himself with a shattering, semi-dissonant solo tune, "Up South Reverie."

The effort is hidden by all the talent and camaraderie evident in the disc, but Dease must have worked long and hard to dig such a crystal clear wellspring into jazz history. Mini-tributes and references to dozens of styles and jazz legends are embedded into every spontaneous bubble.

"The thing that's special about jazz music to me is that it's living history," Dease said. "Without the connection to the roots of American music, the roots of Africa and Europe, it's hard to feel the jazz music in it. However, in order for it to have the spirit of jazz, to me it has to feel like it can only be created right now."



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Wanted: poet laureate

Lansing groups team up to create new literary honor

By BILL CASTANIER

“I think I shall never see a poem as lovely as a tree,” wrote Joyce Kilmer in a 1913 poem named “Trees.”

Lansing already has plenty of trees, and if everything goes according to plan, it will also have its first poet laureate in time for April’s National Poetry Month. While the state of Michigan is one of a handful that doesn’t have a poet laureate, several Michigan cities, including Port Huron, Detroit and Grand Rapids, and even the Upper Peninsula have poet laureates.

The idea of Lansing having its own poet laureate has been discussed for some time, but it was only recently that an alliance was forged between the Lansing Poetry Club, the RCAH Center for Poetry at Michigan State University and the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (LEAP) to make it a reality.

Bob Trezise, president and CEO of LEAP, sees poetry as way of expanding the cultural placemaking efforts of the region. Trezise, himself an accomplished poet, is interested in the region’s “road not taken.”

“At every turn, our region needs to look and feel like an international, diverse and sophisticated environment, so that our companies have a greater success rate with talent attraction,” Trezise said. “Every major city or state has a poet laureate, so we will too.”

The poet laureate is being called an “ambassador” for poetry and will serve two years, receiving a \$2,000 per year stipend. The selected poet will be charged with offering instructional workshops and public readings in Ingham, Clinton and Eaton counties. The poet laureate may also be asked to per-



Courtesy Photo

Detroit Free Press columnist Edgar Guest was Michigan’s only poet laureate, holding the title from 1952 until his death in 1959. Three local groups are looking to name Lansing’s first poet laureate this spring.

form readings at official city and county events.

The search for a poet laureate will begin with a workshop explaining the new position and its requirements from 3 to 5 p.m. Feb. 5 at the MICA Gallery, 1210 Turner St. in Lansing’s Old Town. Applications for the position are available

online at purelansing.com/poet-laureate.

To qualify, an applicant must be at least 18, a resident of Clinton, Eaton or Ingham County and an experienced and skilled poet dedicated to producing poetry in textual and/or oral traditions. The applicant will be expected to provide examples of their work. Deadline for applications, which will be reviewed by a panel of poets, is 5 p.m. March 3.

The Lansing Poetry Club will soon celebrate the 80th anniversary of its founding in 1938. Rulaine Stokes, president of the Lansing Poetry Club, said poetry is “one of the oldest and most powerful art forms, and it helps us see the complexity and glory of human existence and transcend our day to day struggles.” Over the last several years, both the RCAH Center for Poetry and the Lansing Poetry Club have worked diligently to expand the reach of poetry in the community by bringing in national poet laureates and Pulitzer Prize winning poets and by holding poetry events with provocative themes like erotic poetry and murder ballads.

Maybe the refrains of poetry will be heard by the Michigan legislature and encourage them to create a Michigan poet laureate, which would be the first since Detroit Free Press columnist and poet Edgar Guest held the title from

1952 to 1959. Michigan poet Will Carleton, who was wildly popular in the late 1870s, was informally called the state’s poet laureate.

Patricia Clark, poet laureate for Grand Rapids from 2005 to 2007, said she thinks the position is important because “the literary arts are often not represented on the local landscape.” She also believes the position gives the poet a platform to lobby for literary causes and to host events.

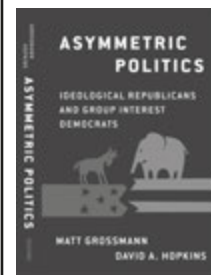
Clark, who has published several books of poetry and is a professor of writing and poet in residence at Grand Valley State University, also believes in the transformative aspects of writing poetry.

“It builds literacy and (the poet laureate position) encourages young people to write and recite poetry, which builds a lot of poise and self-confidence,” she said.

SCHULER BOOKS

MSU Assoc. Professor Dr. Matt Grossman presents Asymmetric Politics

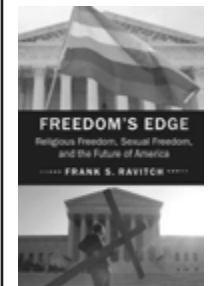
Thursday, January 19. 7 p.m. Meridian Mall



Meet Dr. Matt Grossman, director of the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research and Associate Professor of Political Science at Michigan State University as he presents his book *Asymmetric Politics*, co-authored with David A. Hopkins.

MSU College of Law Prof Frank S. Ravitch presents Freedom’s Edge

Thursday, January 26. 7 p.m. Meridian Mall



Meet MSU Professor of Law Frank S. Ravitch as he discusses his book, *Freedom’s Edge: Religious Freedom, Sexual Freedom, and the Future of America*. *Freedom’s Edge* takes the reader directly into the heart of the debate over the relationship between religious freedom and LGBT and reproductive rights.

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Lansing's LGBT Connection!

Lansing Association for Human Rights

The LGBT News

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January 2017: Published Monthly

January 2017 President's Corner: Transitions

Here we are, it's 2017, and in less than a week on January 20th Donald Trump will be sworn in as President of the United States. Yes, him. The reality-show spectacle, sketchy businessman, education fraud peddler, grabber of women and master of fifth-grade playground Twitter jabs. This is real life. But how does this affect lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people?

Ignore the rumors, Donald Trump is not neutral on LGBTQ issues and under his presidency it is our everyday lives that will be most affected. Marriage Equality is the least likely of all of our victories to

be reversed, at least in the immediate future. Instead, the first attacks will be felt when our health insurance benefits are threatened and canceled, when our survivor and tax benefits are yet again something we must fight for, when the support of LGBTQ social services organizations is endangered, when transgender children again lack any protections in our public schools and when federal contractors can discriminate against us in employment. These were just some of the gains brought by a pro-LGBTQ president's pen, and as such they can be erased. Trump has signed onto the most explicitly anti-LGBTQ policy platform in

history, chosen as vice president the former Indiana governor who championed a law allowing discrimination based on religious beliefs, appointed known bigots and white supremacists to cabinet positions, and vowed to support states' efforts to deny transgender individuals equal access to the most basic of facilities. It is true that he doesn't say much to reveal how he feels about, well, anything of substance and then not in any detail. We are, as requested by his advisor Kellyanne Conway, judging Trump by what's in his heart and not by what may (or may not) come out of his mouth.

We are called to be active in change

now more than ever. It is imperative that our impassioned defenses of our communities and others who are in the bullseye are not restricted to the arguments we're having with Uncle Dick on facebook. Stay vigilant and active in defending our lives. Steel yourself for the hold on all progress we'll likely witness at the national level. Find in yourself and protect some balance of love and fight, if only for your own resilience. Dissent, dissent, dissent.

*Emily Dievendorf, President
Lansing Association
for Human Rights*

Moving Forward

by Jen Anderson

The day after the election, I made it halfway through the morning without eating. I couldn't seem to muster the energy. But eventually, operating on minimal sleep, an empty stomach, and despair, I left my office and walked down to the donut shop. Everything, even the weather, felt profoundly unfair.

As the woman behind the counter stuffed my order into a white waxed-paper bag, I started seriously considering the next four years. The fog of denial in which I'd surrounded myself lifted, giving way to a cold shock of fear. That's when I started crying.

If you're going to have a good cry, I don't recommend doing it in a donut shop. It's embarrassing, and at some point you need to take your order, pay the nice people, and go. But that's the real lesson, isn't it? Indulge yourself, and then keep going.

And going, even in the face of overwhelming adversity and hostility.

Last year, state legislatures across the country introduced an astonishing number of anti-LGBT measures, a trend that we can expect to continue

well into 2017. And although our new president dubiously describes himself as a champion of the LGBT community, his cabinet boasts a rogues' gallery of anti-equality villains. If we truly want accountability, it's our responsibility to normalize the demand for equality and social justice.

You can start by making small changes in your own lives.

The first step is acknowledging that being an advocate and a true ally requires education and a willingness to sacrifice. We need to be willing to learn and admit when we are wrong. We need to be cognizant of our own language. That means using the pronouns that people request and challenging ourselves to eliminate words or phrases that diminish or devalue others. And when language fails, we need to ensure that we're willing to take action by intervening on behalf of the most vulnerable. If you see something, do something.

Money talks, too. Organizations like the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, the Human Rights Campaign, and even the Sierra Club have been receiving record numbers of donations. But while those organizations may have the power to lobby Washington, they're probably not effecting direct changes in your community. Instead, consider donating time, money, or your expertise to local advocacy and service groups that will

make a difference in the lives of your friends, families, and neighbors. You might be surprised by how many local nonprofits need people to sit on their boards and take an active role in shaping the direction of the organization.

We also need to make time to challenge all levels of our government.

Don't worry — it's a lot easier than you might think. Spend some quality time with Google and add the contact information for your local elected officials and members of Congress into your phone. It's hard to believe, but lawmakers are indeed beholden to their constituents, and it's on you to remind them. If making phone calls produces the same bead of anxiety for you as it does for me, get comfortable being uncomfortable, and call often. When you do, identify yourself as a constituent and share your comments and concerns. Reference specific bill numbers, if possible, and encourage them to support people and policies that promote equality and basic human rights.

It doesn't sound like much, but it's a start.

We're only halfway through the first month of the new year, and I'll admit that I'm still scared and frustrated. But that's OK. Remember: we are all stronger when we work consistently and together. Keep the flame burning.

Transition and Choice: No One Can Answer for You

by Zoe Russick Steinfield

"Transition" is far too mild a word to do justice to the extremes of inner turmoil, fear, and exhilaration that have accompanied major turning points in my life. I've made a number of decisions that have radically and permanently altered my path. I chose to take on inconceivable financial debt, to pursue higher education and become a social worker. I chose to remain in the hometown I'd always thought I'd leave, to become a wife and a stepmother in the family I fell in love with. I chose to acknowledge my own womanhood to myself and to all others, when everything and everyone in my environment denied it to me.

These kinds of choices require asking myself questions that can feel impossible. Which path will be the most moral? Which will save me the most suffering? Which will enrich my life the most in the limited time I have on this Earth? Which will be best for those I hold dearest? At times, I can't answer these questions, especially when the answers seem in conflict with one another. Sometimes I freeze up with the fear of answering incorrectly. If I cross the threshold, will the gate lock behind me?

See Transition, Page 19

Surviving and Thriving is Political, or Self-Care in Dark Days

by Ana Holguin

I don't know if you've noticed, but what I can tell from popular memes and our current stranger-than-fiction reality is that 2016 has felt like a real toilet-buster. If you've found yourself screaming, crying, sleeping too much, crying, snapping at people, crying, and/or hiding from life while crying, please remember the following:

You aren't alone. Save the effort of chastising yourself for feeling awful or for not doing enough. These memes exist and spread widely because a lot of us are struggling. Know who your closest and best cheerleaders are and let them help you battle your inner meanies. The My Little Pony reboot got it right: friendship really is magic.

You have the power to ground yourself when you feel shaky, restless, or disconnected. Counting out measured inhaled and exhaled, going outside, stepping on earth, holding a stone in your palm — these practices can draw you back into your steady self. Focus is key. Let yourself experience the sensations of what you are doing. Give full awareness to your mindful task, even if your moment of Zen is truly just a few moments.

Cover your basic bases. Stop to drink water, make time to eat, move your body, hug somebody, spend time alone, get enough sleep. If you have a headache, take an aspirin. If your house is a trash pile, maybe let your mindfulness exercise be just five minutes of tidying without distractions. If you find you have time and energy at some juncture, prep snacks and water so they are at the ready for the next day. Don't beat yourself up if the mere suggestion of prepping seems too overwhelming for your state of being. Just grab a Gatorade and some crackers and enjoy them on your trash pile. This is what surviving looks like.

You are enough and you are special and perfect exactly as you are. You're going to think that sounds stupid, but guess what? You have too many voices in your head judging everything you say and do, and I am giving you permission to think something nice for a change. If you need your cynical and cutting snark, cool, keep it. But balance it out. Allow for one honestly kind thought to eke its way into existence for every despairing, self-loathing one. You are the only you we have and you are worth cocooning in sweetness. If you have trouble with this, outsource. See the "friendship is magic" tenet above. Maybe watch that TV show, too. Self-care can look like many things; rainbow-haired and feather-winged might be the antidote to a gray (or Cheeto-colored) world.

Take care and be well!

Transition

from page 18

I have often felt the urge to examine every option from every angle, to ask every self-proclaimed expert I can find, to ensure I don't screw it up. This is why I waited a decade to make the hardest transition I ever have: to admit to myself or to any other person that I suffered being understood as a man and that I yearned deeply to live as a woman. For many years I searched for external validation that this was possible and ethical, that it was for someone like me, that I would not regret it, and that I would finally be happy. Even after devouring every "yes," "no," and "maybe" I could find, I felt no closer to knowing.

I eventually came to a surprisingly simple conclusion: that I might transition and regret it, or I might transition and finally be at peace. However, if I did not transition, I would continue to suffer and would always regret not doing so. Remembering this has helped me be at peace with a new life journey that has given me both immense joy and immense suffering.

Every transition is likely to hold both joy and suffering; that is why choosing it is so difficult. What I have come to understand is that there is never one correct answer that exists independently of you, and no one else can give you that answer. A mentor once told me: "We all made the best decisions we could have made at the time we made them."

There is no right choice. There is only the choice that you alone make, and the peace that you make with it.



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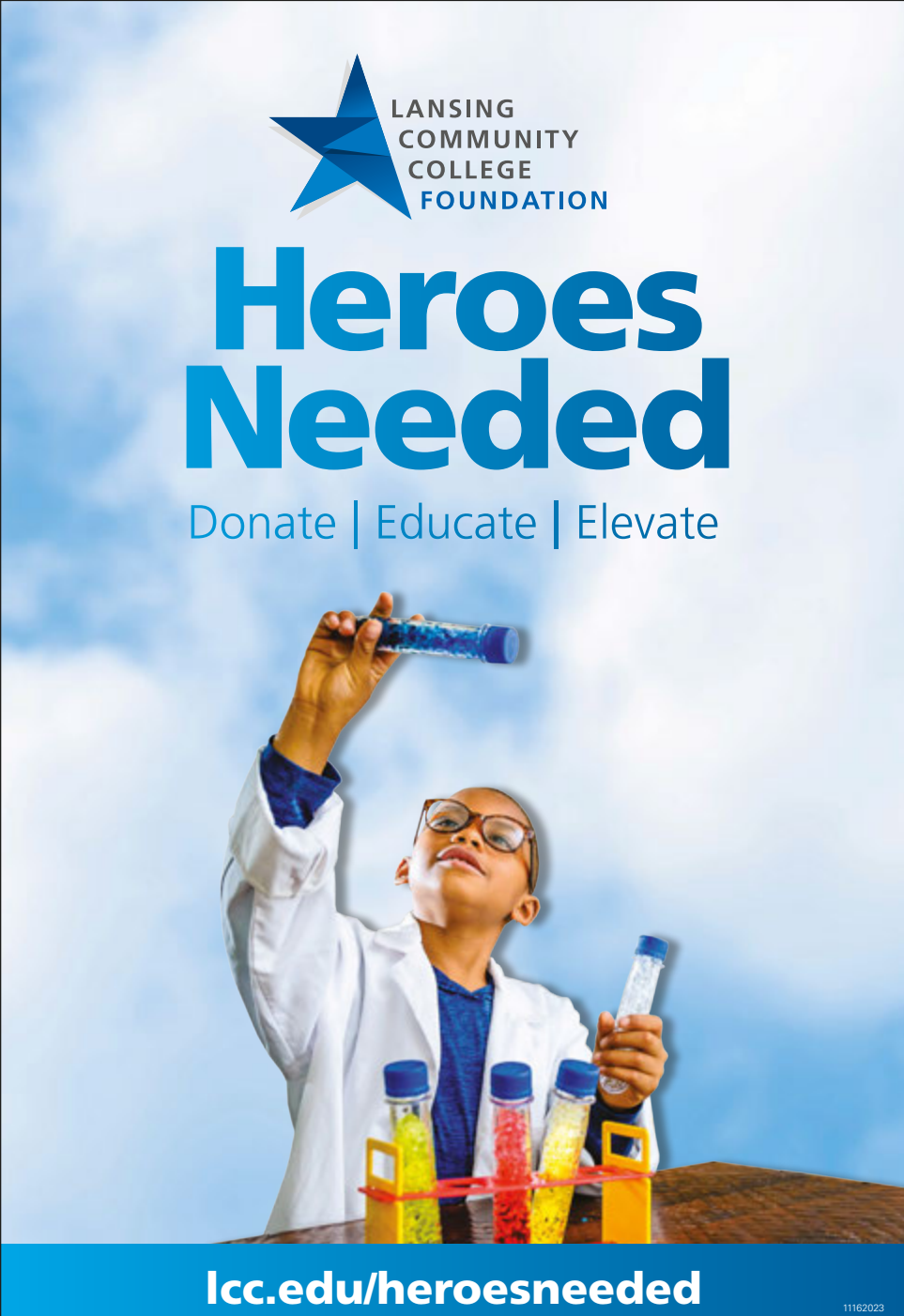



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OUT ON THE TOWN

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

Wednesday, January 18 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Mindfulness. Meditation for beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 420-5820, ow.ly/CIHU305nMqx.

Water As A Resource In Your Landscape. Presentation on rain gardens, rain barrels, green roofs and more. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 887-0596, wildoneslansing.org.

EVENTS

Allen Market Place — Indoor Season. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Farmers Market, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911, ow.ly/Bol1303O4VE.

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

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

Practice Your English. All welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpi.org.

Thursday, January 19 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. Group on peace through forgiveness. 7-9 p.m. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes St., Lansing. (517) 371-3010, unitylansing.org.

Mason Codependents Anonymous. Support group. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Mason First Church of the Nazarene, 415 E. Maple St., Mason.

H.E.R.O. Basic Drywall Installation. From 6 to 8 p.m. FREE. Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, 600 W. Maple Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Chipmunk Story Time: Fun in the Snow. Nature activities and stories for children. 10-11 a.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

EVENTS

Crafting for a Cause. Knitters invited to create items for food bank. 4-5:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St., Grand Ledge. (517) 627-7014, grandledge.lib.mi.us.

See Out on the Town, Page 22

Communication pipeline

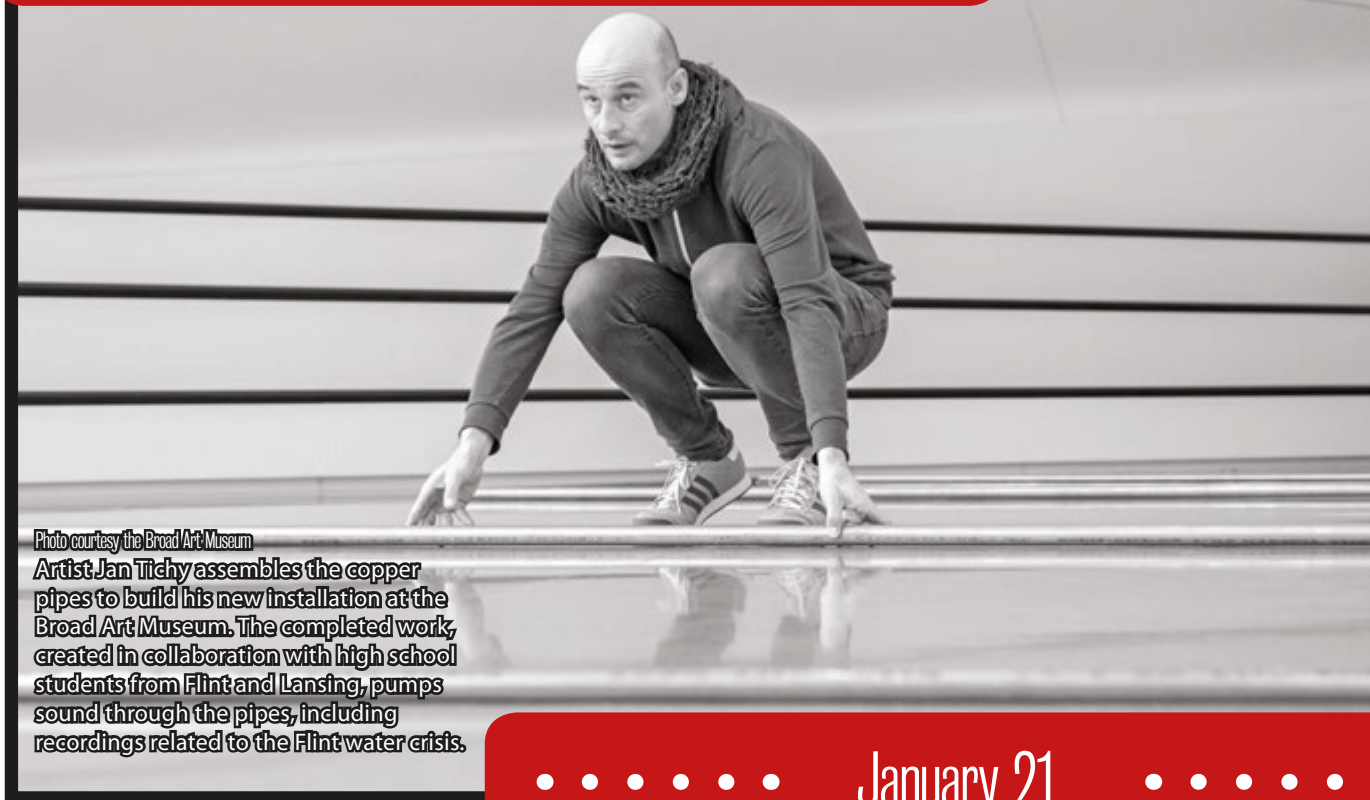


Photo courtesy the Broad Art Museum

Artist Jan Tichy assembles the copper pipes to build his new installation at the Broad Art Museum. The completed work, created in collaboration with high school students from Flint and Lansing, pumps sound through the pipes, including recordings related to the Flint water crisis.

January 21

The irregular angles and slanted walls of Michigan State University's Broad Art Museum get another layer of complexity this week. Shiny copper pipes snake their way through the museum's education wing. But unlike most of the pipes in the building, these don't carry water. These pipes carry sound.

"We think of it as a sound mural," said Jan Tichy, artist-in-residence at the Broad Museum.

Tichy created "Beyond Streaming: A Sound Mural for Flint" with the help of nearly 80 high school students from Lansing and Flint. The exhibit opens with a reception Saturday.

"I brought in the idea of a pipe as an object, almost like a trumpet, that sounds out the concerns of these young people," Tichy said.

The sounds piped into the installation are taken from recordings made by students from two schools, Everett High School in Lansing and Carman-Ainsworth High School in Flint. The students worked with Tichy over the course of several months to document their experiences with the ongoing Flint water crisis, which has left many city residents without safe drinking water for over two years.

The museum's residency is also designed to foster community

involvement in art. The Broad invited Tichy to address the Flint water crisis as part of MSU's year-long, multi-disciplinary focus on water-related issues. While the museum had already decided the theme, the use of the pipes as a metaphor came later.

"It became clear somehow that it's all about the failure of communication, and that people didn't listen," Tichy said. "And there was also the notion of a pipe as something that brought pollution to people's homes. On a more abstract level, all these different pipes are running between us and among us, allowing us to communicate with each other."

Students from Flint met with students from Lansing to share how the crisis has impacted their lives. In turn, Lansing students shared stories about life in the state capital. Tichy, who serves as assistant professor of photography at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, guided the process, coming to Michigan for five days each month.

"I thought it would be valuable to work with high school students from Flint and from Lansing, which are two places that are so close yet so far apart from each other on so many levels," Tichy said. "I

was thinking about what the next generation of local leaders needs to be able to do in order to share and talk to each other."

When students weren't working together or with Tichy, they worked on the project in the classroom with teachers. Flint students worked with an English teacher to create poems and other texts, while Lansing students worked with an art teacher on visual responses.

The resulting installation will be unveiled Saturday. Listeners can open valves to hear the soundtrack inside the pipes. Many of the recordings used are related to water, but some reflect other aspects of the students' lives and home cities.

"It's their way of sharing their own experiences and concerns," Tichy said. "The new relationships they formed with each other were woven in as well."

"Beyond Streaming: A Sound Mural for Flint" opening reception

January 21, 2-4 p.m.
FREE
Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum
547 E. Circle Drive, East Lansing
(517) 884-4800,
broadmuseum.msu.edu


— ALLISON HAMMERLY

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE
BY RICH TUPICA

FORD THEATRE REUNION AT THE FLEDGE

Saturday, Jan. 21 @ The Fledge, 325 S. Clinton St., Grand Ledge. All ages, \$5, 8 p.m.




Ford Theatre Reunion returns to Mid-Michigan for a headlining show Saturday at the Fledge in Grand Ledge. Based in Lexington, Ky., the forever-touring group of road warriors, formed in 2008, is known for its eclectic, oddball sound that mixes punk, metal and jazz into what the group calls “sludge-punk-circus funk.” The band comprises Joe Harbison (banjo, guitar and vocals), Luke Harrington (bass), Alex Johns (clarinet, keyboards and vocals), Eric Myers (accordion and vocals) and percussionist Will Chewning. Sharing the bill are a couple of local folk-punk outfits: the Devil’s Cut and Rent Strike. Also taking the stage is Holt-based pop-punk band Frames Janco (formerly Catalina Wine Mixer), as well as a solo performance from vocalist/bassist Pat Hogan of Jason Alarm. Hogan’s set includes a batch of originals, as well as a few punky cover tunes. For more information, visit: facebook.com/fledgemusicgroup.

SAT. JAN. 21ST
Ford Theatre Reunion

TAYLOR DAVIS AT THE LOFT

Friday, Jan. 20 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$15-\$40, 7 p.m.




Violinist Taylor Davis is a self-described “proud nerd” whose blend of classical music and video game culture has earned her more than 250 million views on Youtube. Friday, she headlines the Loft. The Los Angeles-based arranger/composer’s latest LP of originals, “Odyssey,” was released late 2016 and debuted at No. 6 on the Billboard Classical Music chart. Her past records include 2013’s “Melodies of Hyrule,” based on music from Nintendo’s “The Legend of Zelda” franchise, and her 2014 effort, “The Anime and Game Collection.” Davis, 29, worked a public relations job until 2011, when she decided to work full time on her music. In 2012, she released her debut disc, “Gaming Fantasy.” The collection of video game tracks includes “Cid’s Theme” from her favorite game, “Final Fantasy VII.” Since then, she has also released a number of singles and toured the United States and Europe.

FRI. JAN. 20TH
Taylor Davis

HELL IN A BUCKET AT THE AVENUE CAFE

Friday, Jan. 20 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. \$5, 8 p.m.



A batch of local musicians converge Friday at the Avenue to celebrate “deep jams” from the trippy catalogs of Phish, Grateful Dead and more. The concert, dubbed Hell in a Bucket after the 1987 Grateful Dead song, features musicians Brian Byrnes, Jeff Shoup, Alex Gauthier, Tim Sorenson, Eric Stallcup and Kevin McKay. Accenting the long, strange jams is stage production by Parametric, a company specializing in fully-restored analog gear, and Inmuso, a Lansing-based booking company that also manages area bands like Everyday Junior, Desmond Jones and Dave Menzo. For fans of Phish who prefer the real thing, the band released its 13th studio album, “Big Boat,” back in October. All Music praised the disc for its “streamlined songwriting and more concise lyrics.”

FRI. JAN. 20TH

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT ALLISON@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Monthly Open Mic (FREE), 8 p.m.	Grateful Dead/Phish Tribute (FREE), 8 p.m.	Desmond Jones, 8 p.m. Darrin Lerner, 8 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.			Steve Cowles, 9 p.m. Sarah Brunner, 9 p.m. Lee Groove, 9 p.m.	
Buddies – Holt, 2040 N Aurelius Rd			Good Question, 9 p.m. Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Jammin' DJ, 9 p.m. Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Buddies – Okemos, 1937 W Grand River Ave			Dan MacLachlan, 6 p.m. DJ Fudgie, 9 p.m.	DJ Fudgie, 10 p.m.
Classic Bar & Grill, 16219 Old US 27		Lee Groove, 7 p.m.	Well Enough Alone, 9:30 p.m.	The Knock Offs, 9:30 p.m. The Blackbirds, 7 p.m.
Champions, 2440 N. Cedar St.			Artist Reception, 5 p.m. Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Rd			Root Doctor, 9 p.m. Rob Klajda, 5:30 p.m. Taylor Davis, 7 p.m.	Global Village, 9 p.m.
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Jeremy Kratky, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m. Steve Cowles, 6 p.m.		Xplozivo DJ E-NYCE, 7 p.m. Bobby Knucklez / Jagadellig, 7 p.m.
Eaton Rapids Craft Co., 204 N Main St.				Stan Craig Band, 9 p.m. Bobby Standall, 8 p.m. Life Support, 8 p.m. The New Rule, 8 p.m.
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke with DJ Jamie, 9 p.m.	Mike Skory, Hank Mowery, Mike Eyja, 8:30 p.m. Open Mic, 7 p.m.		
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 8 p.m.			
Gallery Brewery, 142 Kent St.				
Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.				
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Blues Night, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.		
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 E. Michigan Ave.				
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.,				
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	DJ Clay, 8 p.m.			
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Springtails, 9 p.m. Kathy Ford, 8 p.m.	Hooties, 9 p.m. Rush Clement, 8 p.m. Hidden Agenda, 8 p.m. The New Rule, 8 p.m.	
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road				
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27				
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.				
Ryan's Roadhouse, 902 E State St		Alistair, 6 p.m.		
Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Square	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.			
Tequila Cowboy, 5660 W. Saginaw Hwy.			Joe Nichols, 4 p.m. Calling Doctor Howard, 9 p.m. Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	Calling Doctor Howard, 9 p.m. Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m. Mark Sala, 8 p.m. Alex Mendenall, 8 p.m.		
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.	Trevor Compton, 7 p.m.			
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr.				

Free Will Astrology By Rob Brezsky

Jan. 18-24

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Are you more attracted to honing group dynamics or liberating group dynamics? Do you have more aptitude as a director who organizes people or as a sparkplug who inspires people? Would you rather be a Chief Executive officer or a Chief Imagination Officer? Questions like these will be fertile for you to meditate on in the coming weeks. The astrological omens suggest it's time to explore and activate more of your potential as a leader or catalyst.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): An eccentric Frenchman named Laurent Aigon grew up near an airport, and always daydreamed of becoming a commercial pilot. Sadly, he didn't do well enough in school to fulfill his wish. Yet he was smart and ambitious enough to accomplish the next best thing: assembling a realistic version of a Boeing 737 cockpit in his home. With the help of Google, he gathered the information he needed, and ordered most of the necessary parts over the Internet. The resulting masterpiece has enabled him to replicate the experiences of being a pilot. It's such a convincing copy that he has been sought as a consultant by organizations that specialize in aircraft maintenance. I suggest you attempt a comparable feat, Taurus: creating a simulated version of what you want. I bet it will eventually lead you to the real thing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The weather may be inclement where you live, so you may be resistant to my counsel. But I must tell you the meanings of the planetary omens as I understand them, and not fret about whether you'll act on them. Here's my prescription, lifted from Henry David Thoreau's Walden: "We need the tonic of wildness, to wade sometimes in marshes where the bitter and the meadow-hen lurk, and hear the booming of the snipe; to smell the whispering sedge where only some wilder and more solitary fowl builds her nest, and the mink crawls with its belly close to the ground." And why does Thoreau say we need such experiences? "We must be refreshed by the sight of inexhaustible vigor, to witness our own limits transgressed."

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Welcome to the most deliciously enigmatic, sensually mysterious phase of your astrological cycle. To provide you with the proper non-rational guidance, I have stolen scraps of dusky advice from the poet Dansk Javlarina (danskjavlarina.tumblr.com). Please read between the lines: 1. Navigate the ocean that roars within the seashell. 2. Carry the key, even if the lock has been temporarily lost. 3. Search through the deepest shadows for the bright light that cast them. 4. Delve into the unfathomable in wordless awe of the inexplicable.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): What exactly would a bolt of lightning taste like? I mean, if you could somehow manage to roll it around in your mouth without having to endure the white-hot shock. There's a booze manufacturer that claims to provide this sensation. The company known as Oddka has created "Electricity Vodka," hard liquor with an extra fizzy jolt. But if any sign of the zodiac could safely approximate eating a streak of lightning without the help of Electricity Vodka, it would be you Leos. These days you have a special talent for absorbing and enjoying and integrating fiery inspiration.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Eighteenth-century painter Joshua Reynolds said that a "disposition to abstractions, to generalizing and classification, is the great glory of the human mind." To that lofty sentiment, his fellow artist William Blake responded, "To generalize is to be an idiot; to particularize is the alone distinction of merit." So I may be an idiot when I make the following generalization, but I think I'm right: In the coming weeks, it will be in your best interests to rely on crafty generalizations to guide your decisions. Getting bogged down in details at the expense of the big picture — missing the forest for the trees — is a potential pitfall that you can and should avoid.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Czech writer Bohumil

Hrabal penned the novel *Dancing Lessons for the Advanced in Age*. It consists of one sentence. But it's a long, rambling sentence — 117 pages' worth. It streams from the mouth of the narrator, who is an older man bent on telling all the big stories of his life. If there were ever to come a time when you, too, would have cosmic permission and a poetic license to deliver a one-sentence, 117-page soliloquy, *Libra*, it would be in the coming weeks. Reveal your truths! Break through your inhibitions! Celebrate your epic tales! (P.S.: Show this horoscope to the people you'd like as your listeners.)

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): When Pluto was discovered in 1930, astronomers called it the ninth planet. But 76 years later, they changed their mind. In accordance with shifting definitions, they demoted Pluto to the status of a mere "dwarf planet." But in recent years, two renowned astronomers at Caltech have found convincing evidence for a new ninth planet. Konstantin Batygin and Michael E. Brown are tracking an object that is much larger than Earth. Its orbit is so far beyond Neptune's that it takes 15,000 years to circle the sun. As yet it doesn't have an official name, but Batygin and Brown informally refer to it as "Phattie." I bring this to your attention, Scorpio, because I suspect that you, too, are on the verge of locating a monumental new addition to your universe.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): The tomato and potato are both nightshades, a family of flowering plants. Taking advantage of this commonality, botanists have used the technique of grafting to produce a pomato plant. Its roots yield potatoes, while its vines grow cherry tomatoes. Now would be a good time for you to experiment with a metaphorically similar creation, Sagittarius. Can you think of how you might generate two useful influences from a single source?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Some guy I don't know keeps sending me emails about great job opportunities he thinks I'd like to apply for: a technical writer for a solar energy company, for example, and a social media intern for a business that offers travel programs. His messages are not spam. The gigs are legitimate. And yet I'm not in the least interested. I already have several jobs I enjoy, like writing these horoscopes. I suspect that you, too, may receive worthy but ultimately irrelevant invitations in the coming days, Capricorn. My advice: If you remain faithful to your true needs and desires, more apropos offers will eventually flow your way.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The word "naysayer" describes a person who's addicted to expressing negativity. A "yeasayer," on the other hand, is a person who is prone to expressing optimism. According to my assessment of the astrological omens, you can and should be a creative yeasayer in the coming days — both for the sake of your own well-being and that of everyone whose life you touch. For inspiration, study Upton Sinclair's passage about Beethoven: He was "the defier of fate, the great yea-sayer." His music is "like the wind running over a meadow of flowers, superlative happiness infinitely multiplied."

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): If I'm feeling prosaic, I might refer to a group of flamingos as a flock. But one of the more colorful and equally correct terms is a "flamboyance" of flamingos. Similarly, a bunch of pretty insects with clubbed antennae and big fluttery wings may be called a kaleidoscope of butterflies. The collective noun for zebras can be a dazzle, for pheasants a bouquet, for larks an exaltation, and for finches a charm. In accordance with current astrological omens, I'm borrowing these nouns to describe members of your tribe. A flamboyance or kaleidoscope of Pisceans? Yes! A dazzle or bouquet or exaltation or charm of Pisceans? Yes! All of the above.

Out on the town

from page 20

Drop-in LEGO Club. Ages 4 and up enjoy imaginative play. 3:15-4:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Webberville, 115 S. Main St., Webberville.
Film Movement Series. View an award-winning or foreign film. Today: "Theeb" (Arabic). 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos.
Finger Knitting. Knit accessories, gifts and more without needles. Call to register. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. CADL Mason, 145 W. Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088.
Genealogy Seminar Part 1. Gathering family data. Call to register. 6-8 p.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400.
Ladies Silver Blades Figure Skating Club. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:20 a.m. \$5 and yearly dues fee. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 881-2517, ladiesilverblades.com.
Spanish Conversation Group. Practice listening to and speaking. All levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

THEATER

The Hemingway Play. Four depictions of famed author at different points in his life. 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Friday, January 20 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Gentle Yoga. Relaxing pace class suitable for beginners. 11 a.m.-noon. First class FREE/\$5/\$3 members. Williamston High School, 3939 Vanneter Road, Williamston.
The Basics of Tea. Learn the best ways to prepare tea. Call to register. 1-2 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021.

MUSIC

Sally Rogers and Claudia Schmidt CD Release. 7:30 p.m. \$20 Public/\$18 members/\$5 students. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.
Off the Ledge wsg Hollywood Vinyl and the Hot Mess. Cash bar and food available. 7 p.m.-2 a.m. \$10. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St., Lansing. (517) 885-8318.

EVENTS

Ice Worlds. Examination of icy ecosystems and ice on other planets. 8-9:30 p.m. \$3-4. Abrams

Planetarium, 755 Science Road, East Lansing.
StoryTime. Ages 2-5 enjoy interactive program of stories and songs. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

THEATER

The Hemingway Play. Four depictions of famed author at different points in his life. 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Saturday, January 21 CLASSES AND SEMINARS

C Division Advanced Speakers Toastmasters. Learn to speak in front of audience and receive speech evaluations. 9:30-11:45 a.m. FREE. Dart Bank, 1020 Charlevoix Drive, Grand Ledge. (517) 896-4091, 5799. toastmastersclubs.org.
Studio Teacher Workshop. Workshop for music teachers on marketing, curriculum and more. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$10. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. capitalareamta.org.

MUSIC

Hoist: A Tribute to Phish. Featuring Fried Egg Nebula, Electric Jug Band and more. 7 p.m.-2 a.m. \$8 in advance/\$10 at door. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St., Lansing. (517) 885-8318.

EVENTS

Children's Social Justice Reading Group. Kids read, discuss books with MSU faculty. 10:30 a.m.-noon. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.
Evergreen Haiku Study Group. All writers are welcome. 10 a.m.-noon. Snyder C301, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing. (517) 884-1932.
A Sound Called Unity: The Twelve Powers. Documentary on Unity churches. 7-9 p.m. \$10. Unity Spiritual Center of Lansing, 230 S. Holmes St., Lansing. (517) 371-3010, unitylansing.org.

Dinner Dance. Roast pork dinner with dancing afterwards. 5:30-11:30 p.m. \$10/\$4 kids; \$6/kids FREE for only dance portion. Lansing Liederkrantz Club, 5828 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing.
Family Tree Talk. "Using the Family Search Wiki," presented by Director of the Lansing Family History Center. 2-3 p.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.
Healing Fair. Spiritual healing, energy alignment, soul reading and more. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Non-perishable food donation/healing sessions \$15. Inner Ascended Masters Ministry, 5705 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 455-3902, lightiam.org.

See Out on the Town, Page 23

THURSDAY, JAN. 19 >> HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY AT EAST LANSING PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Historical Society of Greater Lansing hosts historian Jacob McCormick Thursday to discuss the history of photography in Lansing. McCormick's lecture, based on impressive photography collection of David Tinder, covers Lansing photography in the 19th and 20th centuries. McCormick also discusses historical photography techniques like carte de visites and cabinet cards. Visitors can also check out a collection of local photographs. 6:30 p.m. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 282-0671, lansinghistory.org.

FRIDAY, JAN. 20 >> SALLY ROGERS AND CLAUDIA SCHMIDT AT TEN POUND FIDDLE

Sally Rogers and Claudia Schmidt, who have been performing together for 30 years, celebrate their latest album Friday at the Ten Pound Fiddle. The new CD, "We Are Welcomed," is the duo's fourth album. Rogers and Schmidt, both Michigan natives, have toured extensively as a duo and as soloists, and both women have appeared on public radio's "A Prairie Home Companion." 7:30 p.m. \$20/\$18 Fiddle members/\$5 students. MSU Community School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 337-7744, tenpoundfiddle.org.

Out on the town

from page 22

What A Joke Fest. Comedy benefit for the ACLU. 7:30-10 p.m. \$10. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, ow.ly/kXR4307WlGS

THEATER

The Hemingway Play. Four depictions of famed author at different points in his life. 7-9 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

Sunday, January 22

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Kendo Martial Art Class. Martial arts practice group. 10-11:30 a.m. \$5. Westside Community YMCA, 3700 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. (269) 425-6677, koyokai.wordpress.com/about.

MUSIC

Family Symphony Series. Members of the Lansing Symphony Orchestra present short concert for kids, with a craft. 3-4 p.m. FREE. Lansing City Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing.

Organ Re-dedication and Celebration

Service. Program of organ and flute music, followed by reception. 3 p.m. Trinity Lutheran

Church, 501 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 372-1631.

EVENTS

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.

Winter Walkabout. Break the winter doldrums with a naturalist-guided walk. 2-3 p.m. \$3/\$7 per family. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866, bit.ly/HNCprg.

THEATER

The Hemingway Play. Four depictions of famed author at different points in his life. 2 p.m. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 482-5700, riverwalktheatre.com.

ARTS

True Colors of an Unlimited Palette. "Making Colorful Mandalas for Mindfulness" for all ages and abilities. 2-5 p.m. \$20. Studio Retreat and Art Gallery, 316 N. Clinton Ave., Saint Johns. (517) 381-1410, disabilitiesministries.org.

Monday, January 23

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

HomeWork Help. Drop-in homework help from MSU students. 5-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

Painting Basics: Acrylic. For ages 14 and up. 6:45-7:45 p.m. \$40. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St., Jackson. jacksonarts.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Celebrate 20 Years of Harry Potter. Make your own wand. Register online. 6-7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org/register.

Graphic Novel Writing Club. Ages 12 and up bring own supplies to make a graphic novel. 4-6 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Meridian Seniors Booklovers Group. "17 Carnations by" Andrew Morton. 11 a.m.-noon. FREE. CADL Haslett, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett.

Out of This World Book Club. "The Forever War" by Joe Haldeman. 7 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing.

Read A Poet/Write A Poem. Featuring the work of Muriel Rukeyser. 7-9 p.m. Snyder C301, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing. (517) 884-1932.

EVENTS

BabyTime. Ages 0-2 and caretaker experience rhymes and finger plays. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

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

Monday Movie Matinee. "Florence Foster Jenkins." Popcorn while supplies last. 1 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

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, January 24

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Capital Area Crisis Rugby Practice. All levels welcome. 7-8 p.m. \$3. Gier Community Center, 2400 Hall St., Lansing. crisisrfg.com.

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn

See Out on the Town, Page 24

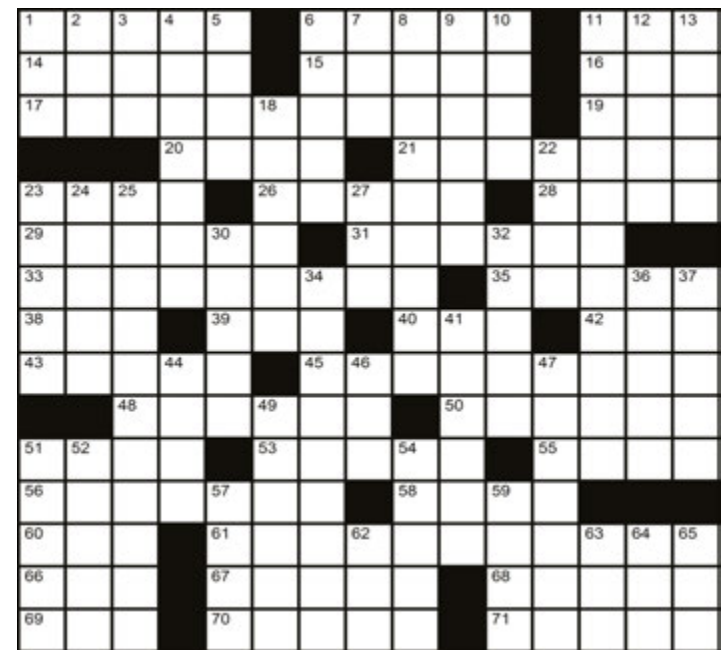
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Arise!"—get up to the challenge.
Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Body of beliefs
- 6 Zipped past
- 11 Heathcliff, for one
- 14 2016 Disney title character voiced by Auli'i Cravalho
- 15 Statement of empathy (or sarcasm, depending on tone)
- 16 He shared a phone booth with Bill and Ted
- 17 Sides at the monastery diner?
- 19 Commingle
- 20 Rotary phone feature
- 21 "Forbidden dance" popularized in the late 1980s
- 23 "Daily Show" correspondent ___ Lydic
- 26 Kombucha brewing need
- 28 Pitchblende and hornblende, e.g.
- 29 Is here
- 31 "Thank you," in Honolulu
- 33 "Just don't look nervous"
- 35 Pivotal
- 38 "Read Across America" gp.
- 39 Smoking alternative, once
- 40 Hogwarts letter carrier
- 42 Muhammad of the ring
- 43 The Jetsons' youngest
- 45 Creator of "Community" and co-creator of "Rick and Morty"
- 48 Quenches
- 50 Most dangerous, as winter roads
- 51 ___ en place (professional kitchen setup)
- 53 "King ___" (Jackson moniker)
- 55 "Ring Around the Rosie" flower



- 56 Paper crane art
- 58 Makes a knot
- 60 B-movie piece
- 61 Team of nine that doesn't draw, dance, or play an instrument?
- 66 Beehive State college athlete
- 67 "___ Joy"
- 68 Home of the Burj Khalifa
- 69 "WKR" character Nessman
- 70 Tissue masses
- 71 Rating system basis, often

Down

- 1 "Unbelievable" band of 1991
- 2 Wrestler-turned-B-movie-actor Johnson
- 3 Yes, in Yokohama
- 4 How files were often stored, before the cloud
- 5 Bangalore wrap
- 6 Part of the NRA
- 7 Crossword puzzler's dir.
- 8 Places where one may tip for getting tips
- 9 It's visible on cold days
- 10 "O.K." from Tom Sawyer
- 11 Special appearance by a Chevrolet muscle car?
- 12 Emulate The Dude
- 13 State with the most counties
- 18 Gives confirmation
- 22 New Mexico's official neckwear
- 23 American Revolutionary patriot Silas
- 24 Shine
- 25 Places to buy Indian string instruments?
- 27 "I ___ robot, beep boop beep" (unusually common impersonation of a robot)
- 30 Tucker who sang
- "Delta Dawn"
- 32 Company with a duck mascot
- 34 Vague
- 36 At ___ (puzzled)
- 37 Like a clogged dryer vent
- 41 "Go forward! Move ahead!" song
- 44 Couturier Cassini
- 46 Cleopatra's undoer
- 47 Removes, as an opponent's spine in "Mortal Kombat"
- 49 ___ dragon (world's largest lizard)
- 51 Business bigwig
- 52 Mad as hell
- 54 Others, in Spanish
- 57 Author unknown, for short
- 59 Comes to a close
- 62 Got into a stew?
- 63 "___ Action: It's FANTASTIC" (old slogan)
- 64 Musical ability
- 65 "___ the season ..."

SATURDAY, JAN. 21 >> WOMEN'S MARCH ON LANSING

Women and allies from all over Michigan symbolically "march" for equality and inclusion Saturday at the Capitol. The Women's March on Lansing describes itself as "a peaceful demonstration in opposition to the wave of hate crimes and violence and threats of official discrimination that have proliferated following the election." The rally includes speakers like former Michigan Rep. Lisa Brown, Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum and gubernatorial candidate Gretchen Whitmer, as well as a performance by the Sistrum's Women's choir. 1-3 p.m. Michigan State Capitol, 100 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing. marchonlansing.org.

MONDAY, JAN. 23 >> SHERYL WUDUNN AT THE WHARTON CENTER

Author and journalist Sheryl WuDunn, the first Asian-American reporter to win a Pulitzer Prize, comes to the Wharton Center Monday for the latest installment of its Worldview Lecture Series. WuDunn's work has shed light on sex trafficking and the oppression of women all over the globe. She is co-author of the bestselling "Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide," which has spawned a film, mobile apps and a global initiative, all created to fight the oppression of women and girls. 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$13/FREE for MSU students, faculty and staff. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

SUDOKU

BEGINNER

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

TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 24



JOSE'S CUBAN SANDWICH & DELI / PROVIDENT PLACE AT EAST TOWN

Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

Jose Miroquesada moves his sandwich shop, Jose's Cuban Sandwich & Deli, back to its original location near downtown Lansing this week.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Seven years after its debut inside a Marathon gas station near downtown Lansing, **Jose's Cuban Sandwich & Deli** returns to that original location, 401 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Thursday. For owner/operator Jose Miroquesada, it's a bit-sweet move. On Dec. 6, a fire inside the sandwich shop's Groesbeck Neighborhood location left Miroquesada's business temporarily homeless.

"The last month has been tough," Miroquesada said. "Thankfully, all my regular customers have been able to find me and keep business going. But I needed a place to move into quickly, and this was my only option."

He worked out a short-term deal with Colleen Kelly, owner of the **Avenue Café** on Lansing's east side, but that deal ended this week.

"I would have loved to have stayed there — it's a great location," Miroquesada said. "But I understand (it was only temporary). I'm very grateful to Colleen for opening her kitchen to me. If it wasn't for that, I don't know how I would have been able to survive."

Miroquesada went solo with Jose's Cuban Sandwich in 2010 after spending years working in other restaurants. He moved to Michigan from New York in the mid-'90s to work for a friend who had opened a Chinese restaurant in Kalamazoo.

When that owner opened another location in East Lansing in 2003, Miroquesada relocated to help open Oodles of Noodles inside the former Pretzel Bell building on Trowbridge Road. He took over operations shortly before it closed in 2009. The building was leveled in 2015; the site is now a parking lot for the adjacent **Trowbridge Village Shopping Center**.

"I had a lot of ideas, but it was a bad time to take over a restaurant that wasn't doing well, and I lost a lot of money," Miroquesada said. "I honestly wanted nothing to do with restaurants again after that. It's the business that I know the best, but that really hurt me."

He eventually allowed himself to be pulled back in, first managing a local Indian restaurant, then moving into East Lansing's bustling sushi scene. The owner of Sushi & Deli, a short-lived restaurant across from campus, allowed Miroquesada to experiment with sandwiches.

"I told him, you do the sushi, I'll do the deli," Miroquesada said. "And slowly, I started to work out some recipes and it started catching on with students and East Lansing folks. That was the beginning."

After Sushi & Deli closed in 2010, Miroquesada worked out a deal to take over the food counter inside the Lansing Marathon gas station at the corner of Kalamazoo Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. There he built up a full menu filled with hot and cold sandwiches, wraps and salads, all built around the Media Noche (the Midnight), Miroquesada's version of a traditional Cuban standby. It's a mighty sandwich, piled with roast pork, ham, Swiss cheese, onion, mustard and mayo, served on a sweet bun.

"The roast pork on that is my grandma's recipe," Miroquesada said. "This sandwich has the taste from my childhood. It's filled with happy memories."

Other top sellers include the artichoke chicken sandwich (slathered with a cheesy artichoke spinach dip) the Island Sandwich (with grilled roast beef, banana peppers and Thousand Island dressing) and the sausage platter. After a successful year, Miroquesada opened a second location inside a Groesbeck gas station, 2315 E. Grand River Ave., and in 2012 he closed the Marathon shop. He had only done carryout and delivery up to that point, but the new location had five tables, and Miroquesada started to develop a sit-down crowd as well. But then last month, a small fire in his dry storage area forced him to close, and Miroquesada became entangled in a web of insurance woes.

"Basically, the owner wanted me to pay for the damages to the building, but my insurance only covered my business, which was only in part of the building," Miroquesada said. "I came to the Avenue while we were working it out, even though I knew it was only going to be for a short time, but in the end it was able to give me the time I needed."

After taking a day off for inspection, Miroquesada anticipates reopening Thursday in time for the weekend. The new location has no seats, something Miroquesada is looking for in a permanent location, which could happen later this year.

"I saw a lot of places when I was looking to reopen, but none of them could get me in as quickly as I was able to get in here," Miroquesada said. "I'm definitely going to keep looking for my own place, hopefully somewhere on the east side. It will be nice to have tables again. But I don't want to be too big — I think I like it small."

Eastside by design

Shortly after plans were revealed last week for **Provident Place** at East Town, a new mixed-use development project being developed by the **Gillespie Co.** on the 2200 block of Lansing's Eastside Neighborhood, social media lit up decrying aspects of the new construction. Complaints included its contemporary color scheme and its staggered, variegated façade. Gillespie Co. president Scott Gillespie said he takes concerns seriously.

"Someone called these pastel colors, but that couldn't be further from the truth," Gillespie said. "We worked with a color consultant to develop a palette of earth colors, including these deeper greens and subdued browns, that were specifically meant to fit in with the Eastside community. I don't think that comes through on the rendering. And we spent months talking with nearby residents about how they wanted the exterior to look, and one aspect that most people mentioned was they wanted it to look like several buildings instead of one monolithic structure, which is how we arrived at this design."

Another point of contention has been the fact that two commercial buildings, one built in 1969, the other in 1925, will be leveled before Provident Place can go up. Last year Gillespie heard similar complaints when he tore down seven vacant buildings two blocks over, where his **Venue at East Town** development is currently being erected. He described those buildings as "functionally obsolete," but said the situation at 2200 is different.

"The soil here is contaminated, so part of this project (entails) a massive cleanup of the grounds," Gillespie said. "Years ago, there was a service station here, and there were underground storage tanks that had gasoline and then heating oil that now need to be cleaned up. The first thing we look at is the possibility of bringing a building back to its historic integrity if there is some, but that wasn't possible here."

Pending several city and state approvals, Gillespie anticipates construction on Provident Place to begin this fall, with a projected fall 2018 completion.

Jose's Cuban Sandwich & Deli
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11 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; noon-9 p.m. Saturday; noon-8 p.m. Sunday
josesclubsandwichmi.com, (517) 374-6832

Out on the town

from page 23

public speaking and leadership skills. See website for schedule and meeting locations. 7 p.m. FREE for visitors. CADL Downtown Lansing Library,

401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 775-2697, 639. toastmastersclubs.org.

H.E.R.O. Power Tools 101. How to safely use power tools on DIY projects. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.

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.

Yawn Patrol Toastmasters. Hone speaking and leadership skills. See website for details. 7-8:30 a.m. FREE for visitors. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. yawnpatrol.com.

EVENTS

Introduction to Isha Kriya Meditation. Learn a 15-minute practice to improve health. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Foster, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing.

iPhone & iPad Photo Basics. How to take and edit photos. Call to register. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL Leslie, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400.

LCC West Toastmasters. Public speaking

group. 5-6:30 p.m. LCC West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-1314, lccwest.toastmastersclubs.org.

Wednesday, January 25 LITERATURE AND POETRY

MSU Creative Writing Center Group. All types of creative writers encouraged to attend. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

EVENTS

Allen Market Place — Indoor Season. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Farmers Market, 1629 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911, ow.ly/Bol130304VE.

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

STEM Storytime. Ages 6 and under explore science, technology, engineering and math. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840, cadl.org.

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 From Pg. 23

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HE ATE

SHE ATE



Finley's barbecue-infused menu draws a crowd

Heaping helpings of comfort

By MARK NIXON

Safe and predictable are what some folks crave in a restaurant. Look no further than Finley's Grill & Smokehouse, whose motto could be "Playing it safe, every day."

Before we go any further, let me just spit it out: I have devolved into that lowliest of culinary creatures, the food snob. I can't help it. I have been to the promised land on several occasions, feasting on food fit for the gods. Back on Earth, I must regularly reacquaint myself with the ordinary. It's tough. As the song goes, "How ya gonna keep 'em down on the farm after they've seen Paree?"

Finley's ain't Paris — or even one of the better dining spots in Lansing. But Finley's, a Michigan chain with two restaurants in Lansing, has a solid fan base, if online reviews are to be believed.

One of Finley's most positive aspects is pricing. Its entrees are more modestly priced than most of the trendier places in Lansing. For instance, a full rack of ribs at Finley's is \$21.99. A full rack at Saddleback BBQ, arguably the best place for smoked meats in this town, is \$26.

The single best thing I tasted during two visits — one visit to each Lansing location — was the mac and cheese at the South Lansing Finley's. It came as a side with a three-meat barbecue combo (\$16.99).

The mac and cheese is lavishly made; it tasted buttery, creamy and cheesy all at once. I had the same side a week later at the west side location, but it was dry and less flavorful.

The three meats I chose were chicken wings, Texas brisket and pulled pork. Finley's promises its meats are smoked 17 hours, yet the wings were nearly bereft of smokiness. Of the three, only the brisket held the bold smokiness I look for.

Finley's accompanies each barbecue entrée with a six-pack of sauces, ranging from mild to thermonuclear (my term). That's a nice touch, allowing customers to sample and indulge according to their own tastes.

Also on the plus side, the steak half of the steak and shrimp entree (\$17.99) was done perfectly rare, the way Judy likes it. The shrimp half was a rubbery, uninspired dud.

Duddier still was the side of sweet potato fries. They looked and tasted as if they went straight from freezer to fryer.

On our visit to the west side Finley's, I went for the half rack of baby back ribs (\$15.98). I assumed they were smoked. Shame on me for not reading the menu carefully. There are smoked meats on the menu, but baby back ribs aren't one of them. Instead, the ribs are slow-cooked. You can dab barbecue sauce on them if you want. The ribs were tender but lacked flavor. Meh.

Finley's seems to fare better with its sides. The onion rings (\$7.99) appear to be breaded with panko, those Japanese breadcrumbs that turn airy and light when fried. These onion rings are some of the best I've had in Lansing.

Another side, a simple baked sweet potato, was kissed with a dash of cinnamon. Very nice.

See He Ate, Page 26

Kickin' chicken, big burgers

By GABRIELLE JOHNSON LAWRENCE

I was as surprised as anyone to recently find myself sitting in Finley's for dinner. But City Pulse duties called, so off to South Lansing we went. Mr. She Ate and

I had invited a friend, a Naval intelligence officer who had come to visit from San Diego for Christmas.

Generally, I like an independent restaurant, something that's one of a kind and has some of its own flavor — unless it is one of the three chains to which I swear my allegiance: Starbucks, Cracker Barrel, and Cheddar's. Those places have proven themselves to me, and I know that I can always count on the Holiday Spice Flat White, Egg in a Hole, and croissants and Cookie Monsters (respectively) to knock my socks off.

To be fair, Finley's is a Michigan-based mini-chain with just five locations. Still, it was with some trepidation that we ordered one of Finley's signature items, the Woodpile (\$8.99), as an appetizer. French fries were topped with a meager helping of pulled pork, chopped green onions and tomatoes and what the menu promised as a "five cheese blend." It looked and tasted like straight up Velveeta, pale yellow, waxy and no flavor. The pork had a sweetly smoky flavor that tried to shine through, but the serving was so skimpy that we could barely taste it.

Mr. She Ate chose the pulled pork macaroni and cheese (\$12.99) as his entrée. We liked the cavatappi (spiral shaped) noodles in place of traditional macaroni, but were again disappointed with the cheese quality.

Our friend had a three-meat BBQ combo (\$16.99) with Texas brisket, smoked sausage and ribs. The brisket was a little fattier than we are used to — especially in comparison to the vast amount of lunches that we have enjoyed lately at REO Town's Saddleback BBQ — but it was tender and had a deep, smoky flavor. "The sausage," our friend sagely observed, "is sausage." Naval intelligence, ladies and gents. The ribs were tough and coated in a sticky, too-sweet sauce.

I had a two-meat BBQ combo (\$14.99) with the same smoky, flavorful brisket and the chicken. In the chicken, I found what is probably the best thing on the menu. No diabetes-inducing sauce, no cheese-like product, just moist and juicy smoked chicken that should be the first item mentioned by servers when they are asked for recommendations.

My baked beans were so saccharine that I could only manage one bite, and my steamed broccoli was so overcooked that I could mash it with a stern look. My com-

panions liked the beer selection, especially the Tiramisu Stout from the local Ellison Brewery.

Round 2: Mr. She Ate bowed out, and I was accompanied by my dad, who is convinced that I am a food snob who only eats things like quinoa and organic edamame. "I wanted to play 'Fanfare for the Common Man' when I got in the car," he said, barely able to contain his glee over this dad joke. We headed to the west side Finley's, across the street from Horrocks in a former TGI Friday's — the site of

See She Ate, Page 26

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6300 S. Cedar St., Lansing
(517) 882-7530
finleysamericangrill.com



Left: The Woodpile, one of Finley's signature appetizers, features French fries topped with pulled pork, cheese, tomato and green onions. Right: Finley's Drippy Brisket Burger tops a beef patty with smoked brisket and melted gouda cheese.



Gabrielle Johnson Lawrence/City Pulse



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He Ate

from page 25

Somebody — many somebodies, actually — like Finley's. That is clear. On a brutally cold January weeknight, the west side Finley's was bustling with customers by 6 p.m. The service was

friendly and attentive. The decor in both places is subdued, favoring dark wood and low lights.

While it's fair to say Finley's leans heavily on familiar comfort food, that isn't an indictment. Adventurous dining is not for everyone. For those looking for a safe bet, Finley's is just the ticket.

She Ate

from page 25

weekly girlfriend gatherings during my high school days. The West Saginaw location is a far cry from South Cedar. It's newer and better lit, and the joint was jumping when we arrived.

We started with potato skins (\$6.99), the kind everyone has eaten a million times. If I had any special military training, I might tell you that the potato skins were potato skins. Instead, I'll relay that they had more filling than usual, which made for a hearty appetizer, but they needed salt.

I asked our server about the house salad, and she expertly rattled off the ingredients: iceberg and romaine lettuces, cherry tomatoes, red onion, and croutons. No surprises here. Dad perused the menu and was pumped to see options that included gouda, one of his preferred cheeses. He chose the Drippy Brisket Burger (\$11.99) which, despite its unappetizing name, turned out to be the winner of the evening. The fat, juicy patty was cooked to his desired medium and topped with layers of smoky brisket and gooey melted gouda. The bun was buttery and toast-

ed. He loved the coleslaw too, which I didn't realize is an actual thing that people can love. It's creamy, he said, and not too vinegary. The housemade chips were thick, salty and not too dry, a perfect crunchy complement to his burger.

When Grandma She Ate learned that I was researching Finley's this month, she jumped at the chance to give me her intel, advising me to try the Hawaiian chicken (\$12.99). It was, in a word, brown. Brown rice topped with a browned chicken breast and a yellowish slice of grilled canned pineapple. A cup of brown sauce came on my plate, filled with something so syrupy sweet that a dip of the tines of my fork was all I could handle.

I love my grandma, but I didn't love the Hawaiian chicken. It was dry and boring. I kept thinking about Horrocks across the street, how I would love to hop over and get some parsley to throw on the plate.

Maybe I am a food snob, but I just want chains and mini-chains to be a little better. Put fresh spinach in your side salad. Make your own croutons. If you insist on Hawaiian chicken, use fresh pineapple, not canned.

But then again, my dad returned for another burger three days later, so Finley's is doing some things right.

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Bún bò Hue — Capital City BBQ

When a Facebook friend posted a picture of bún bò Hue and called it “pho plus,” I knew I had to try it. It was awesome, and I’ll talk about it in a bit, but first let’s discuss the delightful strangeness that is Capital City BBQ.

This little joint is often referred to as “cell phone barbecue” in my circle of friends, because it shares its tiny storefront at the corner of Saginaw Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard with a Boost Mobile outlet. And then there’s the menu. In addition to barbecue staples like

Capital City BBQ

11 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday; closed Sunday
1026 W. Saginaw St.,
Lansing
(517) 775-8500, facebook.com/capitalcitybbq

pulled pork and smoked turkey, the tiny kitchen turns out traditional Vietnamese fare like pho (beef noodle soup) and bánh mì (pork sandwich). As I slurped my bún bò Hue on a recent rainy afternoon, a pair of ladies dug into a pair of barbecue sandwiches to my left, and a young couple talked about cell phone plans to my right. (Or, for the classic rock fans: Brisket to the left of me, cell phones to my right, here I am, stuck in the middle with soup. My sincere apologies to Stealers Wheel.)

This heaping bowl of soup features slices of beef and pork floating over a bed of vermicelli noodles, all in a sea of rich, spicy broth. The soup is accompanied by the tray of add-ons that’s familiar to pho fans — fresh cilantro, basil, sliced jalapeno and bean sprouts. The soup is fresh, filling and just a little spicy, which is exactly what I need when the weather gets this drab.

Warning: I butchered the name of this dish so badly that the cashier didn’t know what I was asking for. The last syllable is pronounced something like “hway,” but you may just want to point to the menu to be safe. If a small amount of embarrassment is the price of enjoying this soup, I’m OK with it.

— TY FORQUER



What’s your favorite dish/drink?

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

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	<p>Cannaisseur 3200 N. East St., Lansing (517) 580-6702 Hours- Mon-Sat: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sun: 10am-6pm</p>	<p>Our mission at Cannaisseur is to provide MMMP patients with a safe, secure location to obtain high quality cannabis and cannabis products at a fair price from a compassionate, professional, knowledgeable staff. We strive to make your experience great! Stop by today. All new patients receive a free strain specific preroll!</p>		<p>Nature's Alternative 2521 S. Cedar St., Lansing (517) 253-7290 Hours- Mon-Sat: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sun: Noon-5 p.m.</p>	<p>Our mission at Nature's Alternative is to provide access to high quality, medical marijuana in a safe and professional environment. We are committed to helping patients find the most effective relief for their qualifying ailments. A wide variety of lab tested medical marijuana flowers, edibles and extracts are always available.</p>
	<p>Kola 1106 N. Larch St., Lansing (517) 999-0994 Hours- Mon - Sat 11am-8pm, Sun 12pm-5pm.</p>	<p>Here at Kola, we have the highest quality, lab tested meds obtainable. We strive to continually raise the bar, bettering the industry and community through excellent quality control, great service and education. You can expect an open, safe facility with professional, knowledgeable and friendly staff - stop by and let us show you what we have to offer.</p>		<p>Cedar Street MMMP 3205 S. Cedar St., Lansing (517) 708-0577 Hours: Mon-Fri: 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Sat-Sun: 10 a.m.-11 p.m.</p>	<p>Our mission is to ensure the highest standards of client relations, make sure each patient feels comfortable, and informed. Come meet our friendly and knowledgeable staff for recommendations on our wide variety of flower, edibles, CBD products, concentrates, and more! Still need to get certified? Stop in and we'll help!</p>
	<p>The Emerald City 2200 S. Cedar St., Lansing (517) 253-0397 Hours- Mon-Sat: 10 AM-11 PM Sun: Noon-7 PM</p>	<p>Emerald City is one of Lansing's oldest and fastest growing provision centers! We Strive to provide the most comfortable, professional and cleanest atmosphere to access medical marijuana in the state of Michigan. Our meds are the highest quality at the best possible prices we can provide. "City Pulse" to (313) 349-4700.</p>		<p>Star Buds 1210 N. Larch St., Lansing starbuds-mi.com Hours- Mon-Fri: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun: Noon-5 p.m.</p>	<p>StarBuds combines years of experience serving the Lansing area with an educated staff to bring you an unparalleled selection of quality products and accurate marijuana information. Our mission is to give you high-quality tested medicine with an emphasis on patient education. StarBuds is here to help!</p>
	<p>Got Meds 3405 S. Cedar St, Lansing (517) 253-7468 Hours- Mon-Thurs: 9 a.m.-midnight Fri-Sat: 9 a.m.-2 a.m. Sun: 9 a.m.-10 p.m.</p>	<p>Got Meds is a donation-based organization committed to meeting its customers' needs. As a result, a high percentage of our business is from repeat customers and referrals. Our budtenders are knowledgeable and experienced, allowing us to deliver you the best services and products in a fun, relaxed atmosphere.</p>		<p>Superior Genetics 1522 Turner St., Lansing Hours- Mon-Sat 10am-8pm Sunday 10am-5pm</p>	<p>Conveniently Located in the Old Town District in North Lansing, Just minutes from I496 and I69. We Offer ONLY Top Quality Medical Marijuana Strains, Medibles, and Alternative Medicines that are ALWAYS Lab tested. Check us out on the WEEDMAPS app, or stop in today! "Superior Genetics, A Natural Healing Collective."</p>