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WHY THE 2000 BLOCK CANNOT BE SAVED *Or can it?*

THE RECORDS MESS

Ingham County struggling with safe storage, p.5

OLD SCHOOL

David Frizzell brings classic country sound to Lansing, p. 14

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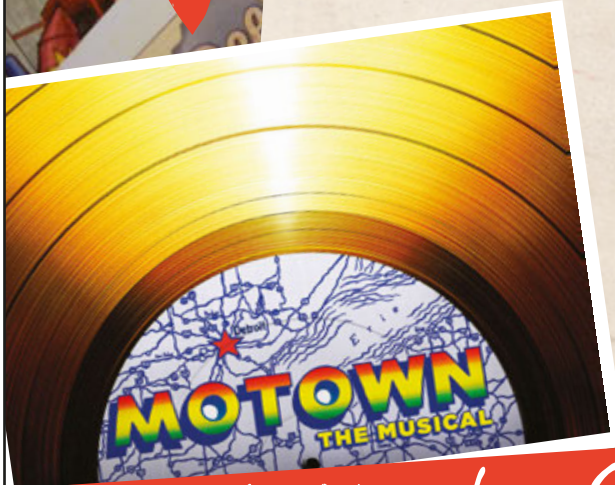
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Thanks and a very happy holiday season!

B. Schwartz



Berl



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CityPULSE

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Hirten: Here's why we have too many guns

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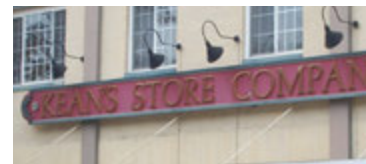
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Photo collector talks Native American history

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Kean's Store Co. reopens its doors

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By JONATHAN GRIFFITH

COVER ART

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Haphazard storage

County struggles with limited space and damaged records

In the garage of Ingham County's Annex Building in Mason, a rack of files stood, gathering dust, neglected and forgotten. They contained thousands of decades old Circuit Court records that the county is required to maintain.

The haphazard storage was an accident waiting to happen ... and it did. At the end of January 2014, a water pipe along the ceiling froze and burst in the frigid temperatures. It flooded the garage with approximately 4 inches of water, damaging records and costing the county taxpayers \$16,904 to restore the documents.

Those damaged files are no longer kept in the garage. Document restoration company DFD has repaired the damaged documents. They've been returned to a room in

the Annex with no temperature controls and where they are exposed to sunlight.

Shortly after taking office in 2013, Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum started reviewing how the county's court and vital records were being stored and maintained. Proper storage of Circuit Court records had been neglected by the previous clerk, Mike Bryanton, she said, adding that storage in the garage was particularly inappropriate.

"When the court administrator and I saw where the files were being kept, we immediately took action to address the problem," Byrum said. She fired off emails and held meetings with facilities director Rick Terrill and his supervisor, Administrator/Controller Tim Dolehanty. She discussed her ongoing concerns for months with county commissioners and top management at the county.

"This is what I was afraid of," she emailed Dolehanty on Jan. 27, 2014 when she received news of the water logged files.

"That pipe break sped up the response from the controller and facilities director," Byrum said.

In September 2014, the Board of Commissioners authorized just under \$75,000 for a space utilization study to be conducted by DLZ Michigan, Inc. a Lansing based business. A draft of the study was sent to top county staff in August. Nothing has been done with the report and it has not been shared with county commissioners.

Byrum saw the draft document in mid-November, before a meeting with Dolehanty and Terrill. She and her staff spent many hours with the con-

The storage problem

Ingham County has to maintain hard copies of vital records — such as marriage licenses, birth and death records, and concealed carry permit applications — as well as tens of thousands of files that the Circuit Court is required to maintain.

County officials are unable to give an exact count on the number of files being retained; they can only put the numbers in the hundreds of thousands of pages. Those files are spread out through the county's buildings, in various storage areas. And each set of documents has specific regulations and rules attached to how long they must be maintained and how they must be maintained.

Key among them is limited access to authorized staff and officials only. Technically that requires separate, climate controlled and controlled-access facilities.

sultants exploring the storage issues and reviewing where and how files are currently stored. But she said the draft study is inadequate because it does not address the storage concerns properly or provide recommendations to address the storage issue.

Kara Hope, a Democratic commissioner representing Delhi Township and incoming chairwoman of the board of commissioners, said she is unclear why county officials had not brought the space utilization study forward yet but is "looking forward" to seeing it.

"No one has explained why it's been so long" for commissioners to receive the study, she said.

Dolehanty did not respond to emails and phone calls for this story. Neither did Brian McGrain, the outgoing Commission chairman.

While commissioners struggle to address the pressing storage needs of both Circuit Court and county clerk vital records, they have taken some pressure off by authorizing Byrum to contract with a Madison Heights company to store and retrieve the Circuit Court files.

Graphic Sciences Inc. will provide



Cathy Huddy of Lansing was the first person to correctly identify the inaugural Eye for Design — in this case a relief from the entrance to the Olin Memorial Health Center at Michigan State University, pictured above.

The limestone panel reading "Herbs" is one of several that surround the building's entrance. Topped by images of Panacea and Hygeia, the Greek goddesses of health, the entrance is flanked by other symbols of the healing arts.

The first person to correctly identify the location of the stone detail featured above (hint: it's in Williamston) will receive a City Pulse Eye for Design mug. Send your answer to debollman@comcast.net by Dec. 16.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA



Courtesy Photo

Files in January 2014 being stored in the garage of the Annex building in Mason.

Memories of Sinatra To Frank on 100 years

Frank Sinatra had a favorite toast. “May you live to be 1,000 years old,” he would say, “and may mine be the last voice you hear.”

Frank made it to 82 years. Had he lived till Tuesday, he’d have been 100.

I saw him twice, both times in 1968.

The first was in Philadelphia at the Spectrum, the huge new arena — now gone — in South Philly where only the biggest acts played when the 76ers weren’t

on the court or the Flyers on the ice. Later, as a music writer, I saw many of rock’s greatest acts there — but that’s for another time.

I was a college student and a summer intern for the old Bulletin, Philly’s afternoon newspaper. On a Saturday night in August, the Bulletin sent me to cover a show Sinatra did as part of a benefit tour for Hubert Humphrey, the vice president running his star-crossed presidential campaign in that



BERL SCHWARTZ

most tumultuous and tragic of years. It says something that a major newspaper would do a story on a concert by anyone, but this was after all Frank in a town that loved him.

Frank wasn’t alone. The comic Pat Cooper, a Las Vegas staple who opened the show with jokes like this: One time I visited my mother and found St. Anthony’s statue upside down. I say, ‘Mama, why’s St. Anthony upside down?’ He don’t answer my novena, he stays that way!’

Then came a hot young act, Trini Lopez, whose version of “La Bamba” is still the gold standard.

But the crowd was there for one thing: Frank, and he was magnificent alone in the spotlight in his impeccable tuxedo. Not that I was mature enough to get it. I was 20. I had some appreciation for the American Songbook, stemming from when my mother took me to a drive-in theater in the ‘50s to see the wonderful biopic “The Jolson Story.” In college, though, my music was mostly folk, and mostly Dylan. Sinatra just wasn’t on my mind yet. Nor at 20 did I get it when he sang some of his great ballads that night — songs I’d come to appreciate many years later when I discovered his masterpiece album, “Only the Lonely.”

towed if they are left in the parking lot of Forest View Elementary School again. The school is around the corner from where he has been running his business.

“This letter is to notify you that parking any of your vehicles, personal or commercial is prohibited on Lansing School District property,” wrote Cordelia Black, public safety director for the district. The letter was dated Dec. 1. “Should any of your vehicles be found on any property owned by the Lansing School District in the future, they will be immediately towed at your expense.”

These are Burnham’s most recent troubles.

City Pulse’s investigation revealed that Burnham was operating his moving company without authorization by the state of Michigan, a misdemeanor. State Police confirmed he was not properly authorized by either the state or the federal government to run a moving company. A letter from the Michigan State Police to Burnham, dated Friday, shows Burnham has since been approved for authority to operate a moving company. Those records show that on Thursday, Burnham applied for and obtained insurance, as required by law.

He was charged with violating state law, as well as having functional issues with his equipment, in Eaton County in 2013, and in 2014 agreed to plead guilty to the equipment charge. The prosecutor dismissed the operating without authorization charge.

His former landlord in Delta Township was also cited for Burnham’s operating a moving company from his rented home there, in violation of the township’s zoning laws.

— Todd Heywood



I went back to the newsroom that Saturday night to write my story. Shel Murphy, an assistant city editor — ancient to me, probably in his 40s — asked me how the show was. “OK,” I said, with not much enthusiasm, thinking it wasn’t cool to like Sinatra. Shel looked disappointed — perhaps because he was stuck at a desk that night and an unappreciative kid got to hear the great Sinatra.

A few weeks later, I was in Chicago for the historic 1968 Democratic convention. Through a friendship, I was a page for one night on the convention floor. My night happened to be the one when Dan Rather, then a CBS reporter, got punched in the stomach after he protested rough treatment by security guards. I couldn’t hear it, but I saw in person the commotion that America saw on television.

The night before, my brother drove us into Chicago from Gary, where he worked. We found an old barn of an auditorium to see a free show for conventioners. The performers: Sinatra and Louis Armstrong. The show was set to start late — maybe 10 p.m. — but it was closer to midnight when the two of them took the stage. We heard a song or two, but by then my brother said we had to go. We had an hour’s drive back

to Gary, and he had work in the morning. I don’t recall what they sang, but I can clearly remember seeing the most influential entertainers of the 20th Century side by side.

I never saw either of them again in person. Sinatra retired three years later and Armstrong died the same year. Sinatra of course came out of retirement a couple of years after that for his third great act. His first was in the ‘30s and ‘40s, when he was adored by bobby sockers. The second was his comeback, when he won an Academy Award for best supporting actor in “From Here to Eternity” and went on to record his great albums with Nelson Riddle and much more. His third act saw a mature Sinatra who could belt “New York New York” and carry an audience with his interpretations as his voice declined.

Over the years, I’ve come to appreciate Sinatra. I have scores of his albums as well as tribute albums — the very best of which is “Shadows of the Night,” by of all people my favorite singer from college days, Bob Dylan. It’s a stunning take on Sinatra’s ballads — the very songs I didn’t get in 1968. I do now.

Frank, on your centennial: May your music live to be 1,000 years old — and may yours be the last voice I hear.

State cracks down Mover arrested, charged with motor carrier fraud

A businessman who has allegedly been operating his moving business in violation of local ordinances has been arrested and charged with breaking the state’s motor carrier act, according to records from 54A District Court.

The businessman, Jae Burnham, was arrested Nov. 24 on a charge of motor carrier fraud/kickbacks, a misdemeanor that makes it a crime to “knowingly and willfully, by any means, fraudulently seek to evade or defeat rules as promulgated under this act for motor contract carriers.” If he is found guilty, he faces up to six months in jail and/or a \$500 fine. He was released on \$3,000 bail.



Burnham

As City Pulse first reported, Burnham has been operating his moving business, allegedly in violation of city of Lansing zoning ordinances from a home on Wabash Road on the city’s near southeast side. Neighbors have been complaining about the operations since May.

Potentially there are more problems awaiting Burnham, 45, and his U Save Moving and Storage company. Lansing School District officials sent Burnham a letter last week notifying him his trucks would be

Records

from page 5

5,677 linear feet for files in a secure, climate controlled location. Taxpayers are on the hook for \$39,197 for moving and storing the files as well as paying Graphic Sciences’ staff to retrieve court documents as requested. Commissioners also approved an additional \$7,670 to hire a part-time, temporary employees to assist in purging the files — making sure the files contain only those documents required by court rule — before moving them off site. Byrum said the process of preparing the files for transport and storage has begun.

She is reviewing whether vital records might also need to be moved to the location. “It doesn’t sound good to say we are storing our files in Sterling Heights or wherever,” Byrum said. “But on the other hand, building a new building is always expensive.”

She acknowledged the county has significant facilities needs and floated the idea that if — and she emphasized this was only a hypothetical idea — a decision was made to build a new Circuit Court building, “that may be an opportunity to make that part of the package.”

— Todd Heywood



Courtesy Photo

The new storage room in the Annex building in Mason.

Old war, new camps? Brown Clarke, Yorko set to lead Lansing Council

City Councilmember at-large Judi Brown Clarke is likely to become the next City Council president. Brown Clarke, who has been on Council since January 2014, appears to have a five-member majority for the position once the new Council is seated in January. She now serves as vice president.

Councilmembers Jody Washington, Carol Wood, and Jessica Yorko will join Brown Clarke and Councilman-elect Adam Hussain in voting for Brown Clarke, sources said. Yorko is expected to become vice president. Councilwomen Kathie Dunbar, Tina Houghton and Patricia Spitzley have not committed their votes.

The split suggests that Mayor Virg Bernero may be in for a rough ride for the next two years until the next election. Dunbar and Houghton have long been considered supporters of Mayor Virg Bernero, as had been Yorko. Spitzley won with Bernero's backing. Wood, who ran against Bernero in 2011, has long been considered the leader of the anti-Bernero contingent on the Council.

However, Brown Clarke is vice president, and the Council tradition — with exceptions — has been to elevate the previous year's vice presidency to the presidency.

Some members said the leadership decision was made once the November General Election results were in. Voters put two new councilmembers on the dais: Hussain, who beat incumbent A'Lynne Boles, and Spitzley, who won an open seat. Boles, who had Bernero's support, narrowly lost.

In January 2015, it took the Council hours to settle on a new leadership team, finally agreeing on Derrick Quinney as presi-

dent and Houghton as vice president.

After Quinney was appointed to the Ingham County Register of Deed's post in February, Houghton became president. However, remaining councilmembers were unable to agree on a choice for vice president, leaving that post open for the next month. It wasn't until Vince Delgado was selected to fulfill the remainder of Quinney's term, which ends Dec. 31, that Brown Clarke was voted in as vice president.



Brown Clarke

Houghton will vacate the presidency with the new leadership election in January.

Leadership selection has often been in the past few years. Battles for the leadership roles have lasted hours, sometimes days

at time.

Those battles for leadership have played out with Bernero trying to get his choice to lead the body. But Councilmembers said they were "tired" of Bernero's control of the Council.

That has been seen as aligning the Council into pro- and anti-Bernero camps.

"I know that's what pundits would say," said Wood regarding whether an anti-Bernero faction had gained control of the Council. "But all of us have supported Virg's initiatives at one time or another in the past. Does it mean we will be a more independent Council willing to look at the issues instead of the personalities? Yes. We're going to expect and demand information in a timely manner."

— Todd Heywood



Ethics scandal

County expected to make changes after firing IT employees for being on the take

Ingham County commissioners will vote Tuesday night on a series of proposals to address the ethics scandal that resulted in the firing of two top information technology staff earlier this year.

The Board of Commissioners' County Services Committee approved three resolutions dealing with protection for whistleblowers, consolidation of ethics policies, and vendor relationships, all of which are meant to strengthen the county's ethics policies.

But the county will not authorize hiring an outside auditor to review the contracts and payments to contractors, as had been previously discussed by the committee. A City Pulse investigation showed that contracts did not match up to payments. County officials have been unable to answer specific questions about why.

Officials were unsure how the discrep-

ancies would be resolved or addressed, although they said they expected a general audit, as performed annually by Plante Moran, would identify any issues.

County Administrator/Controller Tim Dolehanty told commissioners that there had been no new findings. Commissioners withdrew their support for the motion, effectively killing the outside auditor proposal.

"Some of those issues would be addressed as a matter of the process in our general audits" by Plante Moran, said Kara Hope, a Democratic commissioner from Holt and the board's incoming chairwoman, replacing Brian McGrain of Lansing. She also served on County Services Committee this year. That committee oversees all departmental operations.

Citing the audit and also the ongoing investigation by the Mason Police Department, Hope said the committee decided an outside audit would be "unnecessary."

The policy changes would take effect

See Ethics, Page 8

Beer, wine and pot Jones amends medical marijuana bills to follow state system for alcohol

In a major shift, state Sen. Rick Jones amended legislation Tuesday to govern medical marijuana dispensaries to follow the same tiered distribution system as alcohol.

The change quickly cost the legislation the support of a major medical marijuana advocacy group.

Jones, R-Grand Ledge, chairs the Senate Judiciary Committee, which is working on legislation that has already passed the House. Jones delayed a vote today to send the three-bill package to the floor because two members had to leave early.

The three-tiered system for alcohol is a post-Prohibition era policy that is meant to keep alcohol producers from distributing and selling their own product. Under that system, suppliers sell alcohol to wholesalers, which then sell it to retailers like bars or stores, which then sell it to consumers. Jones believes it should also apply to medicine.

"When Pfizer makes medicine, they don't go open a store and sell it," Jones said Tuesday. "There is a clear difference between people who manufacture it and people who transport it and people who sell it."

The National Patients Rights Association withdrew its support. "We think it's a terrible model," said its legislative liaison, Robiun Schneider. "Medical marijuana is a very unique product. It's not in any way similar to a product like alcohol."

Preventing growers from also processing or selling their medical marijuana creates barriers for patients who need specialized forms of the product, Schneider said.

"We're better off with nothing than having a three-tiered system for medical marijuana," she said.

Jones denied that the tiered-system amendment was pushed on him by the Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association.

"They didn't ask me to be able to distribute" medical marijuana, Jones said.

Jones, a former Eaton County sheriff, said the change was meant to address police concerns, but the wholesalers are clearly interested.

"Michigan's local beer and wine distributors encourage legislators to regulate medical marijuana in a manner consistent with other adult, controlled products. What businesses in Michigan's alcohol industry have found is that a tiered, licensed system is the most effective way to promote accountability, transparency, competition and safety," Michigan Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association President Spencer Nevins told City Pulse last week.

The House version of the bill without the tiers passed in October with broad bipartisan support.

Jones hopes to move it out of committee "as soon as possible," where it faces an uncertain fate in the full Senate.

— Andy Balaskovitz



PUBLIC NOTICES

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Sealed proposals will be received by the City of East Lansing at the Office of the Director of Public Works, up to 2:00 PM, December 29, 2015 at which time and place proposals will be publicly opened and read for the furnishing of materials, labor and equipment for improvements to the 250,000 gallon double ellipse (Alton tank) in the City of East Lansing. Proposals may either be mailed to the Director of Public Works at 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan 48823 or hand delivered to the Office of the Director of Public Works located at 1800 E. State Road, East Lansing, Michigan.

The Contract Documents, including Specifications, Plans and Bidding Forms may be obtained at the office of DIXON ENGINEERING, INC., 1104 Third Avenue, Lake Odessa, Michigan, 48849 upon payment of \$60.00 (handling charge for each set). Payment for SPECIFICATIONS should be made to Dixon Engineering, Incorporated. There will be no refund of handling charge for return of specification packages.

Each BIDDER must deposit with his BID, Security in the amount, form, and subject to the conditions provided in the INFORMATION FOR BIDDERS. The OWNER reserves the right to accept any PROPOSAL, to reject any or all PROPOSALS, and to waive any irregularities in any PROPOSAL. No BIDDER may withdraw his BID within sixty (60) days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Prevailing wages are required for this project.

The City of East Lansing reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, to waive defects in proposals, and to make the award in its own best interest.

CITY OF EAST LANSING
By: Marie Wicks
City Clerk

CP#15_291

Ethics

from page 7

upon approval. One would tighten up language on whistleblowers that provide protections for those raising concerns about potential ethics violations and set a path for specific complaints. The committee passed the resolution unanimously.

Committee members also approved a new policy requiring vendors to be fully informed of the county's ethics policy. The measure is designed to prevent vendors from "tempting" employees by offering gifts and such, which would violate the county ethics policy, Dolehanty explained in previous meetings.

And finally the committee approved a resolution requesting all countywide elected officials — Prosecutor Stuart Dunning III, Clerk Barb Byrum; Register of Deeds Derrick Quinney, Eric Treasurer Schertzing and

Drain Commissioner Pat Lindemann to adopt the ethics policy as their own departmental policies.

Byrum, Schertzing and Quinney said Monday they supported the ethics policy.

"I wholeheartedly endorse the concept," Schertzing said. His office, as well as the Ingham County Land Bank, which he heads, have had training sessions on the ethics policy, he said.

Quinney said his office will receive training this week.

Byrum said her staff received training last month and has long followed the policy.

"I implemented the policy long before it was cool to implement an ethics policy," she said. "We were operating ethically long before there were ethics concerns at the county."

Lindemann and Dunning did not return calls seeking comment.

— Todd Heywood



PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN OFFICE OF THE INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

In the Matter of: Smith Consolidated Drain

NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DETERMINATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to you as a property owner or municipality who may be liable for an assessment for benefits, that the Board of Determination, composed of Ron Flinn, Paulette Hatchett, and John Leonard, or alternate Jennie Nerkowski, will meet on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Meridian Township Hall, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864 to hear all interested persons and evidence and to determine whether it is necessary and conducive to public health, convenience or welfare to consolidate the following Drainage Districts, all of which are located and established within Alaiedon Township, the City of Lansing, or Meridian Charter Township, Ingham County, Michigan:

- Smith Drain Drainage District (located in Sections 27-29 and 32-34 of Meridian Charter Township, Sections 3-5 and 8-10 of Alaiedon Township, Sections 3-4 of the City of Lansing);
- Sunwind Branch of the Smith Drain Drainage District (located in Sections 28-29 and 32-33 of Meridian Charter Township);
- Jolly - Okemos Drain Drainage District (located in Section 33 of Meridian Charter Township);
- Smith, Jolly Oak Branch Drain Drainage District (located in Section 33 of Meridian Charter Township);
- Smith, Hiawatha Lakes Branch 7 Drain Drainage District (located in Section 33 of Meridian Charter Township);
- Turtle Crossing Drain Drainage District (located in Sections 32 -33 of Meridian Charter Township)

Said drainage districts once consolidated to be known collectively as the Smith Consolidated Drain Drainage District, and the Drain to be known as the Smith Consolidated Drain, as prayed for in the Petitions filed with the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, in accordance with Section 441 of 1956 PA 40, as amended.

And further, the Board of Determination is to determine whether it is necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience or welfare to maintain and improve the drain to be known and designated as the Smith Consolidated Drain, as prayed for in the Petitions filed with the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, in accordance with Sections 72 and 191 of 1956 PA 40, as amended, and to determine whether the Smith Consolidated Drain is necessary for the protection of the public health of Alaiedon Township, the City of Lansing, and Meridian Charter Township. And finally, the Board of Determination is to determine whether it is necessary to add lands to and/or delete lands from the Smith Consolidated Drain Drainage District pursuant to Section 197 of 1956 PA 40, as amended.

Proceedings conducted at this public hearing will be subject to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act and you are further notified that information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the Ingham County Drain Commissioner. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Ingham County Drain Commissioner at the number noted below (voice) or through the Michigan Relay Center at 711 (TTY) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. Minutes of the meeting will be on file in the following office: Patrick E. Lindemann, Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, P.O. Box 220, Mason, Michigan 48854.

YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that persons aggrieved by the decisions of the Board of Determination may seek judicial review in the Ingham County Circuit Court within ten (10) days of the determination. If the consolidation and maintenance and improvement of the Drain is found necessary and conducive to the public health, convenience or welfare, a special assessment may be levied against properties and municipalities that benefit. An owner or party having an interest in property to be assessed, or his or her agent, may appear in person to comment on the necessity of the project.

Dated: November 24, 2015

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner
Phone: (517) 676-8395

CP#15_288

Special holiday sales

Assault rifles as low as \$479

— laser sights extra

Like most Americans, I knew about last week's mass murders in San Bernadino before reading the next day's newspaper. Still the headline in the Lansing State Journal's USA TODAY news section was chilling, though familiar: "14 DEAD AS GUNMEN ATTACK CALIF. SOCIAL SERVICES CENTER."

More gun violence. More gun deaths. This week's massacre.

In the Sports section was a vivid reminder of why.

There in a circular for Cabela's was an offer to save \$75 on the DPMS Oracle semiautomatic tactical rifle, just \$524.99.

It's almost identical to the weapon used by Syed Rizwan Farook and Tashfeen Malik in their attack at the Inland Regional Center. For Cabela's it was the centerpiece of its "doorbuster" sale.

It's hard to know whether advertising an assault weapon as the national grapples with another horrific massacre is good or bad for weapons dealers like Cabela's. I'm sure it's good.

Unlike airlines, which usually pull advertising from newspapers when there is a crash, the gun world thrives on tragedy. The predictable call for gun control following the San Bernadino shootings is a platform for the National Rifle Association to stoke fears that the government is just waiting for a chance to curtail sales and confiscate weapons. Or there is the belief that owning an arsenal provides protection against foreign or domestic terrorists, criminals, or in Florida and states with stand-your-ground laws, any perceived threat.

The result is a rush to load up on weapons and ammunition.

The DPMS Oracle has a 16-inch, chrome-moly steel barrel, fires 5.56 NATO/.223 Rem. Ammunition and — Cabela's makes a point of this — is available with 10- or 30-round magazines. The retailer calls the DPMS Oracle a tactical rifle, suggesting that it's a bit uncomfortable calling it an assault rifle, which is how users generally refer to it. I've occasionally visited Cabela's, a high-octane outdoor goods retailer, and hadn't thought of it as an arms dealer. Wrong on that score.

Still, I wanted to find out more about this rifle or other AR-15s, which is how owners label them. They are legal, at least in most states, but they are essentially a military type of weapon and as we've seen all too often very popular with mass murderers.



MICKEY HIRTEN

Cabela's is too far away for me to examine the weapon. I tried WalMart, where a sales associate said the retailer stopped selling assault rifles after the Sandy Hook massacre. Dick's doesn't sell them either. But the Dunham's Sports on Michigan Avenue does and, in fact, has a full line of attractively priced assault weapons.

But first some research. I discovered on YouTube that the DPMS Oracle is a popular assault rifle. There are ample reviews and demonstrations, all matter-of-fact breakdowns of the rifle, its performance and modifications with specialized stocks, flash suppressors, ergonomics grips, sights and lights. It wasn't clear why all of these modifications are necessary. One reviewer talked about plunking varmints or personal protection. As one of my hunting friends put it, if you need a 30-round clip to shoot woodchucks, maybe you shouldn't be shooting at all.

Though the reviews were measured during their videos, they invariably referred to the rifle as a weapon. True enough.

If after reading all of this you think the an assault rifle is just the weapon needed for your home armory, there's good news.

Dunham's sells the DPMS Oracle for less than Cabela's. It advertised a Sunday and Monday sale on the rifle for just \$479.99 compared to the regular price of \$549.99. But why settle? With so many choices I handled a few different AR-15s and from my cursory examination they were indistinguishable, which no doubt explains why modifications are so important.

Dunham's offers lots of options to personalize an assault rifle. You can buy a customized foregrip, telescopic sights and high-powered lights and laser sights. While I was in the store, a shopper was complaining that the Jackson store had sold out of the DPMS. He wanted four and was asking how that would work. Sales entail a perfunctory federal registration and an electronic background check.

But it really drove home the point that we make it so easy to buy weapons that make it so easy to kill. The United States is awash in guns — about 300 million, but no one really knows. About a third of all households have guns, according to a University of Chicago study in 2014, which found that about 70 percent of those surveyed favor permitting by police.

Estimates for gun deaths in the United States start at 32,000 year, but reporting is incomplete and the total is likely much higher. It is a staggering cost, but acceptable to those who reject measures to limit gun ownership or regulate weapon sales. It means you can walk into Dunham's and walk out with an assault weapon. Background checks don't really matter, or work. Look to Aurora or Lafayette, or Portland or Santa Monica, or last week to San Bernadino.

PUBLIC NOTICES**CITY OF EAST LANSING****ORDINANCE NO. 1360**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 108.2 AND 108.4 OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE, 2006 ED, AS ADOPTED BY SECTION 6-171 AND AMENDED BY SECTION 6-175 OF ARTICLE III - PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE - OF CHAPTER 6 - BUILDING AND BUILDING REGULATIONS - OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING TO MAKE AMENDMENTS TO THE PROVISIONS REGARDING DANGEROUS BUILDINGS

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Sections 108.2 and 108.4 of the International Property Maintenance Code, 2006 Ed, as adopted by Section 6-171 and amended by Section 6-175 of Article III, of Chapter 6 of the Code of the City of East Lansing are hereby further amended to read as follows:

108.2 "Dangerous building" means any building, structure or fixtures to a building which has any of the defects or is in any of the following conditions.

108.2.1 Has a door, aisle, passageway, stairway, or other means of exit which does not conform to the city's fire prevention code or is not of sufficient width or size, or is not so arranged as to provide safe and adequate means of exit in case of fire or panic for all persons housed or assembled therein who would be required to or might use such door, aisle, passageway, stairway or other means of exit.

108.2.2 Has a portion which has been damaged by fire, wind, flood, deterioration, neglect, abandonment, vandalism or by any other cause so that the structural strength or stability of the building or structure is appreciably less than it was before the damage and fails to meet any minimum structural requirements set forth in the building code.

108.2.3 Has a portion which is likely to fall, or to become detached or dislodged, or to collapse and thereby injure persons or damage property.

108.2.4 Has a portion which has settled to such an extent that walls or other structural portions have materially less resistance to winds than is required by the code for new construction.

108.2.5 Which because of dilapidation, deterioration, decay, faulty construction, or because of the removal or movement of some portion of the ground necessary for the purpose of supporting such building or any portion of the building, or for other reason, is likely to partially or completely collapse, or some portion of the foundation or underpinning is likely to partially or completely collapse, or some portion of the foundation or underpinning is likely to fall or give away.

108.2.6 Has become, for any reason whatsoever, manifestly unsafe for the purpose for which it is used.

108.2.7 Has been so damaged by fire, wind, or flood, or has become so dilapidated or deteriorated as to become an attractive nuisance to children, or as to afford a harbor for vagrants, criminals, or immoral persons, or as to enable persons to resort thereto for the purpose of committing a public nuisance or unlawful or immoral acts.

108.2.8 If a building or structure, used or intended to be used for dwelling purposes, including the adjoining grounds, because of dilapidation, decay, damage, or faulty construction or arrangement or otherwise, is unsanitary or unfit for human habitation or is in a condition that is likely to cause sickness or disease, or is likely to cause injury to the health, safety, or general welfare of those living within.

108.2.9 Has become vacant, dilapidated, and open at door or window, leaving the interior of the building exposed to the elements or accessible to entrance by trespassers.

108.2.10 A building or structure that remains or has remained unoccupied for a period of 180 consecutive days or longer, and was not listed as being available for sale, lease, or rent with a real estate broker licensed under article 25 of the Occupational Code, Public Act No. 299 of 1980 (MCL 339.2401—339.2518) during a reasonable portion of that time period. For purposes of this subsection, "building or structure" includes, but is not limited to, a commercial building or structure. This subsection does not apply to either of the following:

(a) A building or structure as to which the owner or agent has done does both all of the following:

(i) Notified the East Lansing Police Department that the building or structure will remain unoccupied for a period of 180 consecutive days. The notice shall be given to the police department by the owner or agent not more than 30 days after the building or structure becomes unoccupied.

(ii) Maintained the exterior of the building or structure and adjoining grounds in accordance with this chapter and the applicable building code of the city.

(iii) Permits or permitted any requested inspections of the interior of the building or structure by city officials and the inspections confirm that the building or structure does not have any defects or conditions that would make it a dangerous building under any of the other subsections of the definition of dangerous building.

(b) A secondary dwelling of the owner that is regularly unoccupied for a period of 180 days or longer each year, if the owner has notified the police department, prior to the 180 day period, that the dwelling will remain unoccupied for a period of 180 consecutive days or more each year. An owner who has given the notice prescribed by this subparagraph shall notify the police department not more than 30 days after the dwelling no longer qualifies for this exception. As used in this subparagraph, "secondary dwelling" means a dwelling such as a vacation home, hunting cabin, or summer home, that is occupied by the owner or a member of the owner's family during part of a year.

108.2.11 Has a boiler, heating equipment, cooling equipment, elevator, moving stairway, electrical wiring or device, flammable liquid container, or plumbing device or piping on a premises or structure in such disrepair or condition that it is a hazard to life, health, property or safety of the

public or occupants of the premises or structure.

108.4 Hearing; testimony; decision; order, nonappearance or noncompliance; review; order to show cause; costs.

108.4.1 The hearing officer shall take testimony of the building official, the owner of the property, and any interested party. The hearing officer shall render a decision either closing the proceedings or ordering the building to be demolished or otherwise made safe, or properly maintained.

108.4.2 If it is determined by the hearing officer that the building or structure should be demolished, otherwise made safe, or properly maintained, the hearing officer shall so order, fixing a time in the order for the owner, agent or lessee to comply with the order.

108.4.3 If it is determined that a structure is unsafe and the hearing officer has determined that the cost of the repairs would exceed 100 percent of the true cash value of the structure as reflected on the city assessment tax rolls in effect prior to the building becoming an unsafe structure, such repairs shall be presumed unreasonable and it shall be presumed for the purpose of this article that such structure is a public nuisance which may be ordered demolished without option on the part of the owner to repair. This section is not meant to apply to those situations where a structure is unsafe as a result of an event beyond the control of the owner, such as fire, windstorm, tornado, flood or other Act of God. If a structure has become unsafe because of an event beyond the control of the owner, the owner shall be given by the city manager, or his designee, reasonable time within which to make repairs and the structure shall not be ordered demolished without option on the part of the owner to repair. If the owner does not make the repairs within the designated time period, then the structure may be ordered demolished without option on the part of the owner to repair.

108.4.4 If the owner, agent or lessee fails to appear or neglects or refuses to comply with the order, the hearing officer shall file a report of the findings and a copy of the order with the city council not more than five days after noncompliance by the owner and request that the necessary action be taken to enforce the order. A copy of the findings and order of the hearing officer shall be served on the owner, agent or lessee in the manner prescribed in subsection 108.3.5 above.

108.4.5 The city council shall fix a date not less than 30 days after the hearing prescribed in section 108.4.1 for a hearing on the findings and order of the hearing officer and shall give notice to the owner, agent or lessee in the manner prescribed in subsection 108.3.5 of the time and place of the hearing. At the hearing the owner, agent or lessee shall be given the opportunity to show cause why the order should not be enforced, and the city council shall either approve, disapprove, or modify the order. If the city council approves or modifies the order, the city council shall take all necessary action to enforce the order. If the order is approved or modified, the owner, agent, or lessee shall comply with the order within 60 days after the date of the hearing under this subsection. In case of an order of demolition, if the city council determines that the building or structure has been substantially destroyed by fire, wind, flood or other natural disaster, and the cost of repair of the building or structure will be greater than the state equalized value of the building or structure, the owner, agent or lessee shall comply with the order of demolition within 21 days after the date of the hearing under this subsection.

108.4.6 If there is not full compliance with the order and the order has not been appealed to circuit court, or was appealed and affirmed, the city may take whatever steps it deems appropriate to bring the building into compliance including demolition, maintenance or seeking appropriate court orders. The cost of bringing the property into compliance, including the cost of the demolition, of making the building safe, or of maintaining the exterior of the building or structure, or grounds adjoining the building or structure incurred by the city shall be reimbursed to the city by the owner or party in interest in whose name the property appears.

108.4.7 The owner or party in interest in whose name the property appears upon the last city tax assessment records shall be notified of the amount of such cost by first class mail at the address shown on the records. If the owner or party in interest fails to pay the same within 30 days after mailing by the assessor, the city shall have a lien for the cost incurred to bring the property into conformance with the order. The lien shall not take effect until notice of the lien has been filed or recorded as provided by law. The lien does not have priority over previously filed or recorded liens. The lien shall be added to the next tax roll of the city, and the same shall be collected in the same manner in all respects as provided by law for the collection of taxes by the city.

108.4.8 In addition to other remedies under this chapter, the city may bring an action against the owner of the building or structure for the full cost of the demolition, of making the building safe, or of maintaining the exterior of the building or structure or grounds adjoining the building or structure. The city shall have a lien on the property for the amount of a judgment obtained pursuant to this subsection. The lien provided for in this subsection shall not take effect until notice of the lien is filed or recorded as provided by law. The lien does not have priority over prior filed or recorded liens and encumbrances. Pursuant to section 141a of the Housing Law of Michigan, being MCL 125.541a, a judgment under this section may be enforced against the assets of the owner other than the building or structure. The lien for the amount of judgment obtained pursuant to this subsection shall be against the owner's interest in all real property located in this state that is owned in whole or in part by the owner of the building or structure against whom the judgment is obtained.

Marie E. Wicks, City Clerk

CP#15_292

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF EAST LANSING

ORDINANCE NO. 1362

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 2-85 OF DIVISION 2 - CODE OF ETHICS - OF ARTICLE III - OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES - OF CHAPTER 2 - ADMINISTRATION - OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING TO PROHIBIT THE ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND TO REQUIRE THE COUNCIL MEMBERS' TO DISCLOSE CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS IN EXCESS OF ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS FROM BUSINESSES WHEN VOTING ON ISSUES AFFECTING THAT BUSINESS

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Section 2-85 of Article III of Chapter 2 of the Code of the City of East Lansing is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2-83. Definitions.

Whenever used in this division, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

City means the City of East Lansing.

City official means any person elected, appointed, or otherwise serving in any capacity with the City of East Lansing in any position established by the City Charter or by city ordinance which involves the exercise of a public power, trust, or duty. The term includes any official or employee of the city, whether or not they receive compensation, including consultants and persons who serve on advisory boards and commissions.

Compensation means any money, thing of value, or other compensatory or pecuniary benefit conferred upon, received, or to be received in return for, or as reimbursement for, services rendered or to be rendered.

Controlling authorities means those persons identified in section 2-86 to whom inquiries must be directed.

Decision making means to exercise public power to adopt ordinances, regulations, administrative procedures or standards, render quasijudicial decisions, establish executive policy, or render a governmental decision as that term is defined in section 2a of Public Act No. 196 of 1973 (MCL 15.342a).

Economic interest means any interest having value or capable of valuation in monetary terms.

Employee means an individual employed by the city, whether part-time or full-time, but excludes elected officials and city contractors.

Gift means anything of value given without consideration or expectation of return.

Official duties or official action means a decision, recommendation, approval, disapproval, or other action or failure to act which involves the use of discretionary authority.

Person means any individual, entity, corporation, limited liability company, partnership, firm, association, union, trust, estate, and any parent or subsidiary of any of the foregoing, whether or not operated for profit.

Relative means a person who is related to an official or employee as spouse or as any of the following, whether by blood or by adoption: parent, child, brother or sister, aunt or uncle, niece or nephew, grandparent, grandchild, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, stepfather or stepmother, stepson or stepdaughter, stepbrother or stepsister, half-brother or half-sister.

Substantial means anything of significant worth and importance, or of considerable value as distinguished from something with little value, social tokenism, or merely nominal.

Sec. 2-85. - Code of ethical conduct.

(a) *Gratuities.* No city official or employee of the city shall solicit, accept, or receive, directly or indirectly, any substantial gift, whether in the form of money, service, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, thing, promise of future employment, promise of benefit, or in any other form of an economic interest, under circumstances in which it can reasonably be inferred that the gift is intended to influence him or her in the performance of his or her official duties or is intended as a reward for any official action or inaction on his or her part.

(b) *Solicitation and receipt of political contributions.* No council member shall solicit, accept, receive, or retain a contribution to any committee described in the Michigan Campaign Finance Act, if the council member believes that the contribution is intended to influence her or him in the performance of his or her official duties, including but not limited to actions related to the award of city contracts or business and votes taken on an impending or anticipated matter before council.

(c) *Preferential treatment.* No city official or employee of the city shall use, or attempt to use, their official position to unreasonably secure, request, or grant any privilege, exemption, advantage, contract, or preferential treatment for themselves, a relative, or others.

(d) *Use of information.* No city official or employee of the city who acquires information in the course of their official duties, which information by law or policy is not available at the time to the general public, shall use or withhold such information to further the private economic interests of themselves, a relative, or anyone else.

(e) Full disclosure.

(1) No city official or employee of the city shall participate, as an agent or representative of the city, in approving, disapproving, debating, voting, abstaining from voting, recommending, or otherwise acting upon any matter in which he or she or a relative has a direct or indirect economic interest without disclosing the full nature and extent of their interests. Such a disclosure must be made before the time to perform their duty or concurrently with that performance. If the city official or employee is a member of a decision-making or advising body, they must make disclosure to the chairman and other members of the body on the official record. Otherwise, a disclosure would be appropriately addressed by an appointed city official or employee to the supervisory head of their organization, or by an elected officer to the general public. In the case of the city manager or city attorney, he or she shall make such disclosure to the mayor.

(2) A council member must disclose campaign contributions received during the past five (5) years to his or her candidate committee in the following circumstances: i) A person who is a named party in a matter before Council contributed a total of more than one hundred dollars (\$100) to the committee in a single election cycle; or ii) A person who was the owner, employee, manager, officer or representative of a named party before Council at the time the contribution was made, contributed a total of more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) to the committee in a single election cycle. These disclosures must be made at the Council meeting(s) during which the named party is discussed and/or decided.

(3) All city council members, the city manager, city attorney, city finance officer, city purchasing officer, all city department heads and all regular full-time and part-time city employees, shall file an annual disclosure statement with the city clerk on or before April 15 of each year. The statement shall disclose and detail any interest of the filer in any company, business, trust or entity of any kind doing business with or licensed or regulated by the city for the past year and state the type of interest, cost, income and benefits received and present value. The statement shall also include any interest of the filer's immediate family in any such company, business, trust or entity. The disclosure statement shall be a public document.

(4) Provided however, that disclosure need not be made of benefits received from any entity when an ownership interest is the only connection, and: (i) the company has stock traded on a national exchange and the filer owns \$25,000.00 or less of stock of the entity; or (ii) the stock holder owns one percent or less of the total stock by value; whichever is greater, provided further that wages or salary received from a public community college, junior college or state college or university need not be reported.

(f) Outside business dealings.

(1) No city official or employee of the city shall engage in or accept employment or render services for a private or public interest when that employment or service is incompatible or in conflict with the discharge of the city official's or employee's official duties or when that employment may tend to impair his or her independence of judgment or action in the performance of official duties.

(2) No city official or employee shall engage in a business transaction in which the city official, or employee may benefit financially from his or her official position or authority or benefit financially from confidential information which the city official or employee has obtained or may obtain by reason of that position or authority.

(g) *Doing business with the city.* No city official or employee shall engage in business with the city, directly or indirectly, without first filing a complete written disclosure statement for each business activity having an economic interest. Such disclosure shall be made on an annual basis or prior to any business activity or decision affecting an interest not previously disclosed by an annual disclosure.

(h) *Suppression of public information.* No city official or employee of the city shall suppress any public city report, document, or other information available to the general public because it might tend to affect unfavorably their private financial or political interest.

(i) *Use of city property.* No city official or employee of the city shall, directly or indirectly, make use of or permit a relative or other person to make use of city property of any kind or city personnel resources for purely personal gain or economic benefit. City officials or employees shall strive to protect and conserve all city property including equipment and supplies entrusted or issued to them.

(j) *Legal process.* No city council member, city official, or employee shall interfere with the ordinary course of law enforcement within the city, and no special favors, consideration, or disposition shall be suggested to or requested of any law enforcement person of the city including city manager, police chief, police officers, code enforcement officers, city attorney, and/or administrative staff concerning any city law enforcement matter including (but not limited to) parking tickets, traffic tickets, ordinance tickets, or municipal civil infraction citations. This subsection shall not prohibit the city manager, city attorney, and all law enforcement officials from exercising the usual power, control, and discretion which are part of their duties. Nor shall this subsection prohibit the mayor and city council from making policy decisions, enacting legislation, and directing the affairs of the city in accordance with their legal powers and responsibility.

Marie E. Wicks, City Clerk

CP#15_293

SLICE OF LIFE ON THE CHOPPING BLOCK

Michigan Avenue's 2000 block goes through 100-year growing pains

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

By the time Jimmy Johnson pulled his bologna out of the smoker every Thursday at 1 p.m., people were waiting in the parking lot. That smell, if anyone bothered to bottle it, would pull you right back to the 1970s, behind Lindemann's East Town Market and the other small businesses on the south side of Michigan Avenue's 2000 block, in the heart of the city's east side.

One day, the smokehouse, which adjoined the wall of Emil's Restaurant next door, caught fire. Diners at Emil's were treated to billows of smoke with their wine and chicken diablo.

That was the end of the little smokehouse and Jimmy Johnson's bologna.

Countless cuts of meat and slices of life, from pharmacies to grocers to barber shops, have come and gone without fanfare on the humble, chock-a-block stretch of Michigan Avenue from Clemens to Fairview streets since the 1910s.

The next big thing isn't coming — or going — quietly.

The 2000 block is where Scott Gillespie, owner of the Gillespie Co, plans to put up a \$5 million, four-story building with 11,500 square feet of retail space on the first floor and 39 studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments renting from \$750 to \$1,250. Gillespie paid an additional \$1 million for the property. The City Council would need to approve the development. Its last meeting of the year is scheduled for Monday, but the agenda has not yet been set.

Gillespie says the buildings on the Clemens Avenue side of the block, to the west, are too run down to renovate. Three buildings on the east end, in better condition than the rest, will be saved. Gillespie plans to take down the others.

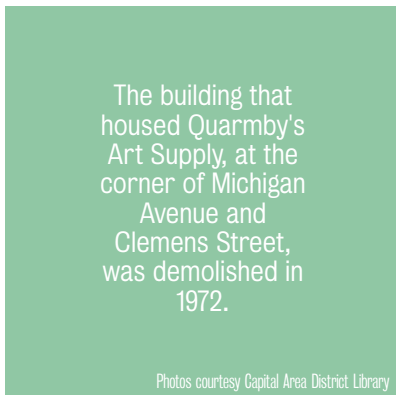
Long neglected and taken for granted, the 2000 block is suddenly at the center of a tug of war between the city's past and future, where regional development plans collide with local eastside culture.

City and county planners are salivating at the chance to build up population density on the area's busiest corridor and shore up a spinal column of transportation "nodes" reaching from the state Capitol

By the late 1950s, the south side of Michigan Avenue's 2000 block was home to several of its longest-lived tenants, left to right: Becker Barber Shop at 2008 (partially visible here), Bollert's Hardware (later Loomis Hardware) at 2006, Moore's Pharmacy at 2004, Mead's Jewelry at 2002 and Quarmby's Art Supplies at 2000. Further east, but not pictured, were Emil's Restaurant at 2012 and Schmidt Bros. Grocery, later Lindemann's East Town Market, at 2010.



Moore's Pharmacy at 2004 E. Michigan Ave., featured in this 1956 photo, lasted until 1964. The space was taken over by a factory for false teeth in 1964 and housed Capital City Comics beginning in 1984. Clinton Jewelry, at 2002, came to the block in 1946, became Mead's Jewelry in 1958 and closed in 1971. Eastside Barber Shop filled the space from 1983 to 2015. Quarmby's Merry-Go-Round Toys, at 2000, arrived in 1951 and became Quarmby's Art Supply in 1959.



The building that housed Quarmby's Art Supply, at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Clemens Street, was demolished in 1972.

Photos courtesy Capital Area District Library



past MSU to Williamston. But at a Nov. 17 community meeting, Gillespie got an earful from over 100 east side residents, many of whom were not appy with the proposed grey monolith looming over the old 2000 block and its embodied history. Gillespie said he's gone "back to the drawing board" and will come back with a better design in the coming weeks.

BREAD AND BUTTER

The south side of Michigan Avenue's 2000 block spent most of its first 100 years as a modest row of drugstores, groceries, barber shops, hardware stores and other bread-and-butter businesses, with apartments above.

Several grocery and meat stores came and went, most notably Schmidt Bros., from 1936 to 1953, and East Town Market, later Lindemann's Market, from 1962 to 1987. Bollert's Hardware, later Loo-

mis Hardware, lasted from 1945 to 1964. Moore's Pharmacy stood from 1938 to 1964, succeeding J. C. Johnson & Son Drugs, which started in 1920. Many of the proprietors lived upstairs from their shops in the block's early years. Stores dealing in jewelry, toys, auto supplies and radios enjoyed shorter stints.

The block's longevity champion is Emil's Italian Restaurant, which started in 1921 as a fruit stand, then became a spot for "confectionery, cigars and light lunches," a spaghetti house and, finally, the city's oldest restaurant until its demise earlier this year.

The 2000 block got funkier in the 1980s and beyond, as shoppers sought the staples of life at malls and megamarkets. The block began to traffic in odds and ends such as antiques, comic books, scuba gear and a nonprofit selling flags and other United Nations-sanctioned gifts. In its

later years, it housed bohemian tenants like Magdalena's Tea House, with its kale smoothies and floor cushions, and a marijuana-dispensary-cum-unlicensed-performance venue, Zeppelin's Music Hall.

Whether the businesses smacked of Main Street or Greenwich Village, they mixed well. From the early 1980s until this year, white-shirted Garry Grimm of the Eastside Barber Shop anchored the block's west end, shouting "greetings and salutations" to arriving customers.

Through the decades, eastsiders rolled with the changes, so long as the sun kept on rolling past the block's familiar one-to-two-story outline.

LIFE ON THE BLOCK

Pat Lindemann, now Ingham County drain commissioner, ran a grocery and meat market, owned an art gallery, and lived in the 2000 block for a decade.

"I spent 40 years of my life on that block," Lindemann said. "At one time, I had my name on four of those buildings."

The block was a hub of eastside life through the 1970s, when the Michigan Avenue Merchants threw block parties with merchant tables, a beer tent and sidewalk cafes.

"They were all great people," Lindemann said. "We used to watch out for each other, check each other's buildings. Emil used to buy all of their meat at our market. If they ran out of something, they'd just run next door and get it."

Lindemann bought 2006-08 from Dental Art Laboratories, grinders of false teeth.

"We called them the Tooth Fairies," Lindemann said. "He had about 30 people in there, making teeth, bridges and things for dentists."

The space was covered with fine porcelain dust. The furnace vents were clogged and vacuums couldn't handle it. It took Lindemann and his brother Dan a month and a half to clean it all up.

It could be argued that the 2000 block made its first pivot from bread-and-butter to bohemian when meat man Lindemann started his gallery, The Gentle Side of Life,

See 2000 block, Page 12

2000 block

from page 11

in the late 1970s.

The block had already seen its best days by the time Lindemann bought the 2010 building, with four efficiency apartments upstairs, in the early 1980s. Even then, the roof leaked. "It was a mess," Lindemann said. "You couldn't put enough tar up there. They were constantly needing repair, over and over again."

In the 1980s, Rick Kibbey, an eastsider and urban planning expert, had an office at a nonprofit tucked upstairs at 2010 Michigan Ave.

"It was a wreck," he said. "Pieces of the ceiling falling into your computer, electric and plumbing from the 1920s."

Kibbey smiled at the memory of Lindemann as landlord.

"He wasn't really interested in the building," Kibbey said. "He wanted to be an artist."

"I did everything I could to maintain it," Lindemann protested about the 2010 building. "It's just wooden and it's really

old."

In the early 1970s, an elderly renter died upstairs and wasn't discovered for a week.

"Once that happened, we moved the tenants out of the upstairs," Lindemann said. "It kind of put the kibosh on putting people up there."

Over time, Lindemann said, the 6-inch spaces between the buildings became cluttered with collapsed wooden siding and debris.

"You couldn't get into that space to repair it," Lindemann said. "Birds were flying in the top, it was nuts. The only way to fix it was to knock it down and rebuild it, and I didn't have the resources."

By 2013, Lindemann sold all his 2000 block buildings.

"To open a new business, it needed to be renovated," Lindemann said. "You couldn't put enough capital costs in it to keep it up to code."

WATER CLOCK

Last week, Scott Gillespie took me through a few of the storefronts on the 2000 block. Conditions don't seem to have changed much since Lindemann's day.

The back end of the block is a warren of

wooden staircases, extensions, additions, buildouts and balconies.

Pools of standing water on the roof are surrounded by impressive grass and shrub gardens. On the roof, two or three layers of temporary asphalt fixes going back to the 1960s have curled free, trapping more moisture.

"Water is the most destructive force we've seen in this building," Gillespie said.

On the facades, the bottom courses of brick are bowing out from water intrusion. There are holes in the roof and standing water in the upstairs apartments above Emil's and the 2010 building. Thick support beams are rotted, broken and falling down. New-looking plywood ceiling panels in the apartments above Emil's are already densely spotted with mold.

The only space with a hint of its old panache is 2008, spiffy home to Becker Barber Shop from 1921 to 1967 (the building is named after the longtime proprietor, Abram Becker) and a series of successor salons.

The shop still has its original black-and-white checkered tile floor. Huge mirrors and marble slabs an inch thick lined the walls. Gillespie's crew found newspapers from 1926 stuffed into the walls.

Gillespie is saving the marble panels and mirrors, should a bar or restaurant move into the first floor of the new building.

Poking into the gap between the drop ceilings and the original tin ceilings, the crew found old balloons of visqueen plastic sheeting used to catch water.

"You look at Knapp's, or what my brother did at the Armory, it takes a lot of money to turn them around," Gillespie said, referring to developer Pat Gillespie. "But they are truly historic structures, and they're worth salvaging. This is so far gone, it's very difficult to put it into any reasonably effective use."

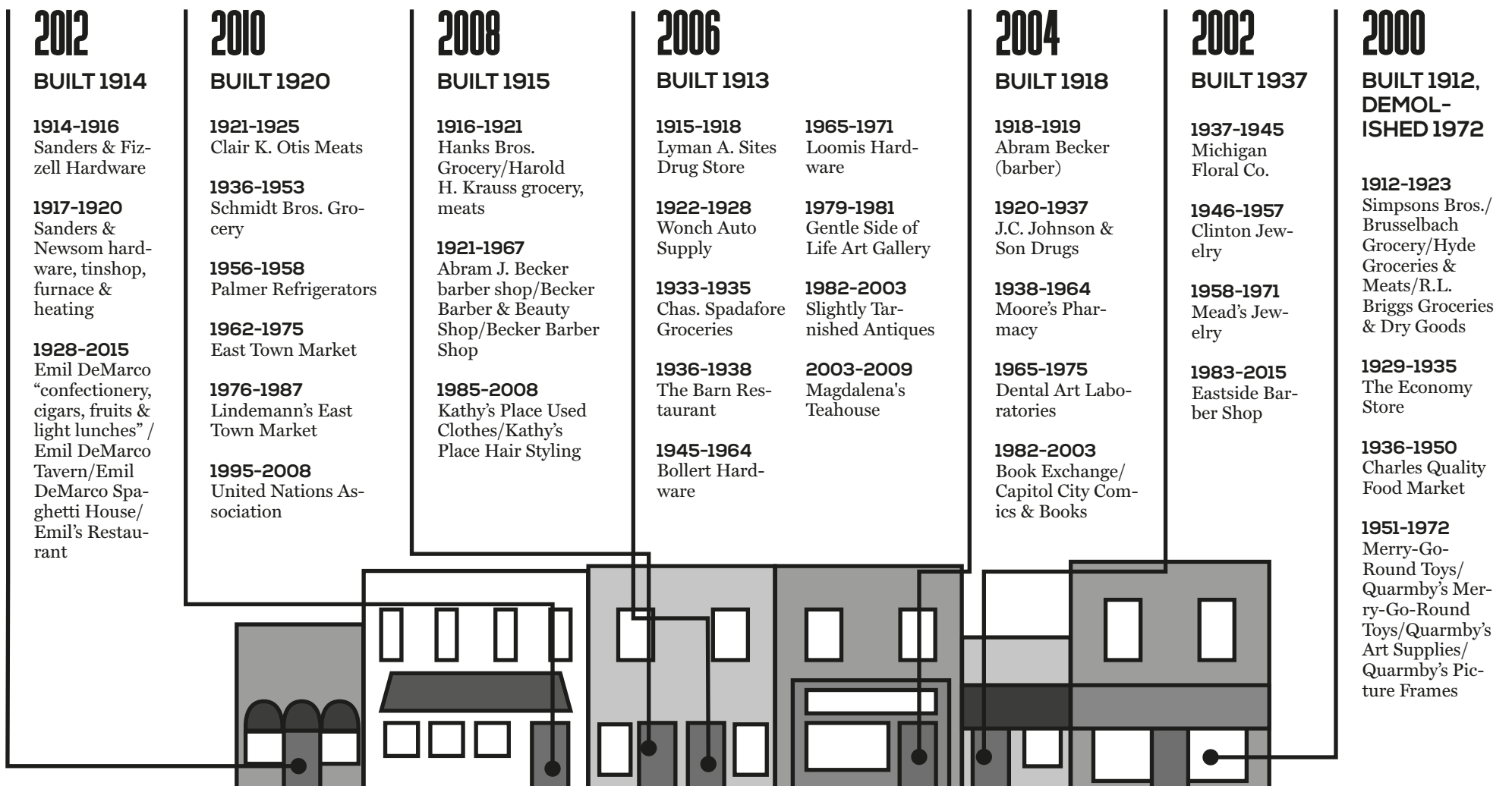
Gillespie's contention that the west end of the 2000 block is beyond repair is only half of his case. Other projects he's done, he said, prove that he's mindful of preserving old buildings.

In 2007, Gillespie bought a downtown complex of four storefronts dating from 1896 to '98 on the northeast corner of Washington Square and Kalamazoo Street. The complex now houses Gillespie's offices, Crafty Palate and Studio 109. "It was in tough shape, but it didn't have the water damage and the decades of neglect," Gillespie said.

See 2000 block, Page 13

MAJOR TENANTS OF MICHIGAN AVENUE

2000 BLOCK, SOUTH SIDE



2000 block

from page 12

DESIGN PROBLEM

If the 2000 block is beyond restoration, that leaves the question of what should go up in its place.

It's easier to find a consensus on the block's next use than on its design.

"I've always thought that would be a perfect place for four- or five-story buildings with living units," Lindemann said. "It's right on the bus line to MSU."

The real lesson of the 2008 recession, in Kibbey's analysis, is that the city needs more rental housing.

"Not everybody wants to buy a house," Kibbey said. "If you're not getting married until you're 28, and that's what is happening, why would you buy a house?"

Gillespie's mixed-use proposal rides a wave of new urbanism desiderata laid out in recent years by the Tri-County Regional Planning Commission, Design Lansing 2012 Comprehensive Plan and a study by MSU's Planning, Design and Construction.

"It's exhaustive work, to lay out what MSU is calling a world-class community," Gillespie said.

Kibbey, who has worked on four Lansing master plans over the years, is an avid fan of the concept, if not of Gillespie's execution as it looks now.

He said the proposal is be a "classic" example of Transit Oriented Development, a prime tenet of the new urbanism.

"If you go anyplace in the real world where you have a real city, transit spots have denser development than the surrounding neighborhoods," Kibbey said. "Transit is an asset, and the only way you can afford it is if you get the density up."

Kibbey thinks that the call for more low-income housing from some critics of Gillespie's plan is misplaced, especially on the east side. He pointed to nearby employers like Neogen, Sparrow and Accident Fund as an expanding source of demand for middle-income housing.

"Maybe in Bloomfield Hills, broader housing opportunity means building lower income housing," Kibbey said. "We have a shitload of low income housing on the east side. If you want integrated housing, you need some housing for people who can afford to live someplace else."

Working on a recent East Side housing study for the Allen Neighborhood Center, Kibbey got a surprise. In addition to finding that "the usual" singles and young people were moving into the area, the study found that downsizing seniors are also looking for rentals on the east side.

"It's a full-cycle neighborhood,"

Kibbey said. "It's not age specific. We've got a cohort of seniors who associate with the neighborhood center. They don't want to take care of a house, a lawn."

In sum, Gillespie has what Kibbey described as "a design problem, not a building problem."

FACADISM

Gillespie was surprised at the community blowback he received over the proposed design at the Nov. 17 meeting.

"The city pushed us to make sure we had balconies — 42 balconies — and we had masonry, which is quite expensive, and outdoor seating to make it pedestrian friendly and have a nice streetscape," he said.

Nevertheless, many eastsiders at the meeting weren't impressed with the gray and brown monolith, which resembles a giant, 14-cylinder engine block.

"They said it doesn't look like it belongs here, and it doesn't," Kibbey said. "They said there's no appeal to the front of the building, and that was true, too."

He said the design needs visual interest such as "cornices, columns, old-style Chicago stuff."

"And that color — they must have gotten some kid that was having a Goth day," Kibbey cracked.

Some speakers at the November meeting asked Gillespie to build something that looks like it's been there for years, but that's a tricky proposition.

Architect Dan Bollman, author of City Pulse's "Eyesore/Eye Candy of the Week," cautioned against "Disneyland" designs that try to make new buildings look old.

"The 2000 block has a nice, human scale," he said, "but it's hard to do that starting with a clean slate and make it look like it's built up over time. It's going to look phony, like a stage set."

Bollman cited the Eastwood Towne Cen-



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

After decades of leaks, the apartments above Emil's Restaurant have undergone extensive water damage.



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

Plastic sheeting kept leaks at bay between the drop ceiling and old tin roof above 2008 Michigan Ave., a barber shop and beauty salon since 1921.

ter, with its pre-fab checkerboard of varied storefronts built up over weeks instead of decades, as a perfect example.

"You know that's not authentic," Bollman said. "Accept the fact that it's new, give it good pedestrian scale, but don't try to fake it, give it false history."

Since the early 1980s, larger cities such as Toronto, New York and Memphis have finessed the problem of harmonizing old and new via "façadism," an architectural buzzword for saving the facade of a historic structure while building completely new innards and "upwards."

The result is a row of masonry storefronts, complete with limestone ornaments and "built in 1915" inscriptions, adhering to modern, glassy new structures stretching four or more stories high behind them.

Facadism has taken hold in high-profile places like New York's Fifth Avenue or Memphis' Beale Street — see the Koshland Science Museum in Washington, D.C., for a wild example — but humble rows like Lansing's 2000 block are scarce, owing mainly to the cost of dismantling and resetting facades, brick by brick.

Joe Vitale, a Realtor and president of Preservation Lansing, said Gillespie is welcome to build his four-story apartment building, with all its new urbanism benefits, but he should keep the block's historic street-level look.

"Other cities can do those repairs and keep those facades, but it's unfortunate that developers in Lansing don't do that," Vitale said.

"Granted, the space may not be functional for a business today, but even if you wanted to add up and add out, it seems like you could somehow work the facade into the design so it would look like it was always there."

Since the Nov. 25 meeting, Gillespie hasn't committed to any partic-

ular solution. He's been through this process before, with his other eastside project, The Avenue Flats at 1629 E. Michigan Ave.

"It's a lot of angst and anguish," Gillespie said. "We gave up some space, it cost us a fair amount of money, but it's a better street scape and a better building."

For now, Gillespie and his architectural firm, The Peabody Group, have gone back to the drawing board. Peabody has worked on several successful Lansing projects, including the renovation of the downtown Arbaugh department store into offices and apartments and the conversion of the massive Motor Wheel factory into over 100 lofts.

Just before we met and toured the 2000 block, Gillespie met with architects and went over some new drawings.

"When they come out, it will be obvious that we listened," he said. "We are making dramatic changes to the appearance of the building that are a direct result of the comments we received."

With a thick slice of his life invested in the 2000 block, Lindemann looked at the bill of sale from his parents for the old meat market at 2010 Michigan Ave., framed on his wall.

Lindemann, the future drain commissioner who lost the war with leaks, waxed sentimental over his time on the block, even though he is one of the landlords who presided over its downward spiral.

He expects Gillespie's wrecking crew to find advertisements, receipts and other scraps of history when the walls go down.

"A penny a pound for chicken wings," he mused.

These days, Lindemann plays on a bigger chessboard. He is pleased at the prospect that his old block will play a new role in the regional push to reverse urban sprawl and encourage the city to "grow inward."

"It's not like we build monuments with these places," he said. "It's healthy for Lansing to go through these growing pains. People have a problem with change. But cities change."

ARTS & CULTURE

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DEEP ROOTS

David Frizzell brings decades of country music history to Lansing performance

By TY FORQUER

Country artist David Frizzell produced a string of hit records in the 1970s and 1980s, but his biggest hit — the 1981 duet, “You’re the Reason God Made Oklahoma,” with Shelly West — almost never saw the light of day.

“I was out in California working with Buck Owens, and my brother introduced me to Shelly West,” Frizzell explained.

Country Music At Its Best With David Frizzell

7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14
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Frizzell recorded a few duet demos with West — daughter of country star Dottie West — and sent them off to producer Thomas “Snuff” Garrett, best known for his work with Sonny & Cher.

“Snuff told me, ‘If you look as good as you sound, I’ll make you the Sonny & Cher of country music,’” Frizzell said.

He and West set to work on recording an album, but while they were finishing the recording, the record label Garrett had lined up for the project dissolved. Garrett pitched the album to several record labels, but none of them were interested. At the time, Garrett was also music supervisor for the 1980 film “Any Which Way You Can,” starring

Clint Eastwood. In a last ditch effort, Garrett pitched “You’re the Reason God Made Oklahoma” to Eastwood. He loved the song and wanted to use it in the film, so Garrett struck a deal.

“Snuff told (Eastwood), ‘If you help me get a record deal for this, I’ll give you half of everything,’” Frizzell said.

Eastwood held up his end of the bargain, and the Frizzell & West album, “Carryin’ On the Family Names,” was released on Warner/Viva in 1981. “You’re the Reason God Made Oklahoma” hit No. 1 on the country charts, and follow-up singles “A Texas State of Mind” and “Husbands and Wives” hit No. 9 and No. 16 on the charts, respectively. The album peaked at No. 6 on the country music charts.

Frizzell hit the top of the charts again in 1982 as a solo artist. “I’m Gonna Hire a Wino to Decorate Our Home” hit No. 1 on the country charts and helped drive its album, “The Family’s Fine, But This One’s All Mine,” to No. 7 on the charts. West and Frizzell parted ways in 1986, but he continued to tour and record music as a solo artist.

Monday, Frizzell comes to Lansing Community College’s Dart Auditorium to perform a fundraiser concert for the Capital City Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 141. Frizzell, 74, said the concert will feature songs spanning his six-decade-long career, as well as some holiday favorites.

Frizzell’s live show also features songs written by his older brother, the late country legend William “Lefty” Frizzell. David Frizzell started playing in his brother’s band when he was 14. By 16 he was opening shows for his brother, and by 18 he was recording country and rockabilly albums for Columbia Records.

“Lefty taught me everything. How to get on stage, what to do when I got on stage, how to get off stage. He was my total inspiration,” Frizzell said. “He was an unbelievable person, one of the founders of honky tonk — but he was also my brother.”

Lefty Frizzell died in 1975 at 47. Since then, David Frizzell has championed his older brother’s legacy. In 2011, he authored the biography “I Love You A Thousand Ways: The Lefty Frizzell Story.” He has also written an as-yet-unproduced screenplay based on his brother’s life and continues to play his music at nearly all of his live performances.

“I do some of Lefty’s big hits,” said Frizzell. “I inherited those, in a way.”



Courtesy Photo

Frizzell plays a campfire tune as part of the “Frizzell and Friends Roundup.” For the project, Frizzell participated in an actual cattle drive on the ranges of Montana.

Frizzell’s list of influences also includes country music stalwarts like Johnny Cash and Jimmie Rodgers, as well as rock ‘n’ roller Buddy Holly and soul music pioneer Ray Charles.

“I’ve never heard anyone put so much emotion into a song. (Charles) could get more out of a grunt than most people can get out of a whole song,” Frizzell said. “I learned to play piano because of him.”

Even at 74, Frizzell shows no signs of slowing down. When asked if he plans to retire, he just laughs it off.

“Well then what would I do?” he asked. “I’m still going to play songs and write songs.”

For his latest project, “Frizzell & Friends Roundup,” he even put himself to work as a cowhand. Inspired by the classic cowboy songs of his youth, Frizzell put together a group of country music stars to go on an actual cattle drive.

“I’ve been wanting to do a cattle drive for ages,” Frizzell explained. “I’m a big fan of the old songs of Gene Autry and Roy Rogers, and I love Western music.”

Frizzell’s posse included Lacy J. Dalton, Rex Allen Jr. and Marty Haggard, son of Merle Haggard. The group herded cattle by day and sang campfire songs by night, traveling from Custer to Roundup, Mont. The experience, which was capped off by an evening concert in Roundup, was edited into a made-for-TV special — which aired last month on RFD-TV — and spawned a three-disc collection: a CD of campfire songs, a live concert CD and a DVD featuring the TV special and behind-the-scenes footage.

“I think John Wayne would’ve been proud of us, riding all day and singing all night out on the Montana range,” said Frizzell.

City Pulse is giving away three pairs of tickets to see David Frizzell. To enter, visit lansingcitypulse.com. Winners will be selected Friday.



Courtesy Photo

Country artist David Frizzell, brother of country legend “Lefty” Frizzell, comes to Lansing Monday. David Frizzell enjoyed a string of hits in the ‘70s and ‘80s, both as a solo artist and as half of duo act Frizzell & West.

Christmas inside...

The fourth annual Festival of Trees kicked off Friday with a invitation-only gala at the historic Turner-Dodge House. This year's festival features over 50 trees decorated or created by local businesses, nonprofits and individuals. The festival opened to the public Saturday and will run through Jan. 3. Public viewing hours are 1 p.m.-7 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; noon-8 p.m. Saturday and noon-6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$5; children 12 and under are free.

Photos by Ty Forquer

"Rosie All Dressed Up," decorated by Melinda Doyle, was named Most Unique Tree at Friday's gala.



Paul Shore stands next to "Holiday Extra," which he decorated for City Pulse. The tree, which is decorated with typewriters, press passes and City Pulse clippings, was awarded Best Theme.



Diane Tubbs (left), a Realtor with Tomie Raines Inc., and Janice Szur, senior mortgage consultant at Union Home Mortgage, stand next to their "The Wizard of Oz" themed tree, "No Place Like Home." The tree, named Best Promotional Tree, was sponsored by Tomie Raines Inc. and Union Home



... and out

Hundreds of seasonal fun seekers made their way to downtown East Lansing Saturday for the city's annual Winter Glow Festival. This year's installment featured live music, vendors, ice carving, carriage rides and even an open-air bonfire for marshmallow roasting.

Robert Parker of Old Town's Rust Belt Roastery pours a hot coffee for a Winter Glow attendee.



MSU students Anna Solomon (left) and Kate Brondyke take a selfie with a goat at the live animal petting zoo.



Left to right: Sarah Linford, Emely Gernnat and Camila Gernnat enjoyed the holiday-themed fun at this year's Winter Glow.



CROWDSOURCING

A GUIDE TO LANSING-AREA ONLINE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGNS

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



Courtesy image

REACH Studio Art Center is raising support to complete its main hub, the second phase of its block-long renovation project.

Phase 2: REACH Main Hub

patronicity.com/project/phase_2_reach_main_hub

After months of planning and reconstruction, REACH Studio Art Center is ready to tackle the second phase of its block-long renovation project. The effort began in

2013 with the studio's purchase of five run-down commercial buildings in REO Town. Over two years, volunteers and gallery staff have dedicated themselves to renovating these buildings to create community art spaces for children and adults. With this latest round of renovations, the center will double its size and introduce a teen studio

space, a new main classroom area and offices. The gallery hopes to raise \$30,000 by Monday to complete construction of inside walls, painting and installation of exterior doors and windows. The campaign, hosted by Patronicity, recently cleared the \$23,000 mark. Donations levels range from \$25 to \$5000 and come with rewards ranging from handmade postcards to commemorative tiles and plaques. REACH also hosts its annual Not So Silent Night fundraiser and silent auction this weekend, see page 30 for details.

Point West Art And Trail Project

patronicity.com/project/point_west_art_and_trail_project

Dunnebacke Park and West Side Park, on Lansing's west side, offer an array of public amenities for all sorts of outdoor enjoyment. But there is no public sidewalk that leads into the park grounds. The Saginaw Oakland Commercial Association, with the help of the Michigan Economic Development Corp. and Michigan State Housing Development Authority, has recently launched the Point West Art and Trail Project campaign, which seeks to build up the areas around the park with outdoor art installations and a 1-mile path connecting the parks, lined with benches, gardens, in-

formational signs and physical fitness stations. The group is hoping to raise \$13,000 through a Patronicity campaign that ends Dec. 30. If the campaign reaches its goal, MEDC and MSHDA will contribute another \$13,000. Donation levels range from \$10 to \$2,500, with incentives including personalized thank you notes, engraved pint glasses, coffee vouchers or sponsor signs along the trail.

Michigan State Slam Poetry Team

gofundme.com/ecac9rvz

With the huge number of students enrolled at MSU, it can be difficult for each student club to get funding from the university. This is a big problem for the MSU Slam Poetry Team, a group of students who meet weekly to write, perform and critique poetry together. The lack of funding prevents the team from inviting regional poets to campus or sending student poets to out-of-town competitions and events. The team is hoping to raise at least \$1,300, which would go towards compensating guest performers, travel and other operational costs.

— KEVIN McINERNEY

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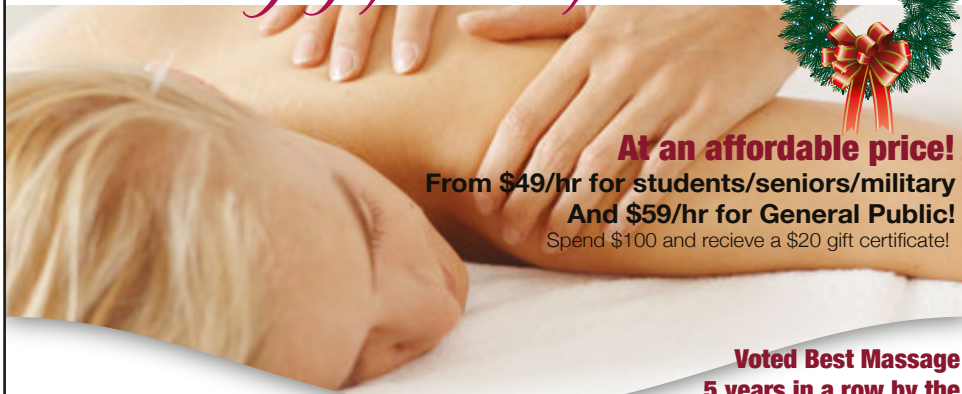


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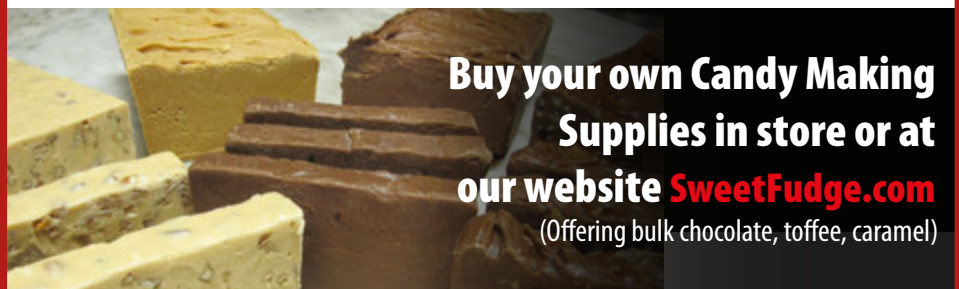
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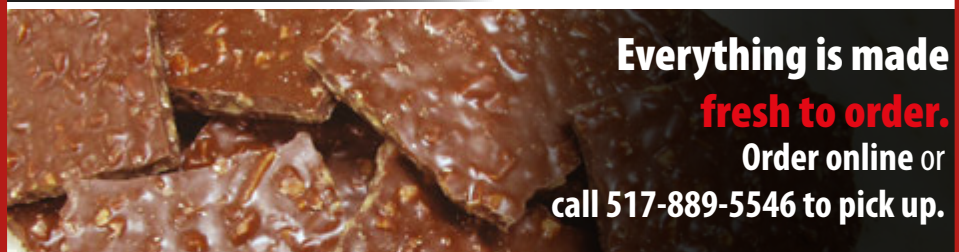
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History on film

Photography talk explores early Native American photography
By **BILL CASTANIER**

Without the handful of intrepid photographers who documented the Native Americans of North America at the turn of the last century, we would have little idea what their way of life looked like before they were forced to adopt the ways of colonizing Europeans. Doug Price, an Ann Arbor-based

Humanity in Photography of North American Indians

With Doug Price
1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12
FREE
Library of Michigan
702 W. Kalamazoo St.,
Lansing
(517) 282-0671,
lansinghistory.org

Price will exhibit and discuss photographs by several prominent photographers, including Edward Curtis, Frank A. Rinehart, Karl Moon and Michigan photographer Grace Chandler, 1 p.m. Saturday at the Library of Michigan. The presentation is part of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing's ongoing exhibit on photography, "From Sepia to Selfies."

Price, who graduated from MSU with a degree in history, said he got into photo collecting while he was working at Jocundry's Books in East Lansing during the 1970s. A customer tipped him off to a cache of photographs by Curtis being sold at an Okemos rummage sale. He snatched them up, starting his career in the rare photography business. Price maintains a gallery at Westside Books in Ann Arbor.

Price said most of the early photographers of Native Americans were part of the pictorialist movement — taking the photographs to maximize the beauty of an image at the expense of realism.

"We have to remember that most of the photographers were taking photographs for a white audience," he said. "But the photographers became very much aligned with their subjects."

Curtis, probably the best known photographer of Native Americans, spent 30 years



Courtesy Photo

Photograph collector Doug Price, seen here in his Ann Arbor studio, has built up an extensive collection of early Native American photography.

of his life lugging camera equipment to remote locations across the American west, documenting a way of life that had inexorably changed. Curtis took more than 40,000 photographs for his 20-volume "The North American Indian" series, which comprises over 2,500 images.

Chandler, a photographer in Petoskey and Harbor Springs from 1899 to 1923, had unparalleled access to the local Native American tribe members. Her most notable images are of the performers in the Petoskey Hiawatha Indian Pageant, which was each summer at Lake Ya-wa-ga-mu (Round Lake) from about 1905 to 1914.

The pageant, based on Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's epic poem, was the brainchild of a railroad executive of the Grand Rapids and Indian Railways. He erected a stage for the pageant, complete with 2,500 grandstand seats, as a way of attracting tourists to the area. Ernest Hemingway, while still

in high school, used the pageant as inspiration to write an unpublished play, "No Worse Than a Bad Cold."

Chandler was influenced by Curtis, whom she visited in Washington state, as she created her visually stunning but highly stylized photographs. Price said the photographers were often taking photographs of a way of life that had already vanished.

"Our broader national experience of who Indians are has been influenced by these photographs," Price said. "They provide a much different vision of who they are, contrasted to the movie industry depiction."

James McClurken, Lansing ethnographer and author of "Our People, Our Journey: The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians," has worked four decades with Native American tribes as a consultant on tribal recognition issues. When he was working with the Traverse City Band of Odawa Indians in the 1980s to get tribal recognition from the federal government, they created a book, "Gah-Baeh-Jhagwah-Buk: The Way It Happened — A Visual Culture History of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa," containing photographs of tribe members.

"When they first began going to the Capitol, the congressmen didn't even know there were Indians in Michigan," McClurken said.

At a crucial committee meeting, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., responding to questions about the tribe's legitimacy, held up the book.

"What do you mean there are no Indians there?" he asked. "They have a book."

"The committee voted to support the tribal recognition. That is the power of images," McClurken said.

Photographs of Michigan Native Ameri-

cans are scarce, McClurken said. Family members hold onto the photos they have, often passing them down from generation to generation. In just one example of that scarcity, there are only two known photographs of Chief Okemos, namesake of the Meridian Township community.

Through the collecting process, Price has become an amateur ethnographer, researching each of the photographs he buys. He said most Native American photography took place west of the Mississippi, so photographs of Native Americans in the eastern part of the Midwest are much harder to come by.

"Anyone interested in photography and especially the photography of the Native American will want to take this opportunity to view these important images up close and personal along with a careful discussion of what they represent," said Valerie Marvin, president of the Historical Society of Greater Lansing. "The program underlines the importance photographs play in our collective

Schuler Books & Music

Poetry Book Signing with JOYCE BENVENUTO

Saturday, December 12
from Noon-3pm

Meridian Mall location

Joyce Benvenuto, author of *A Grand River: Poems for Michigan*, will be on hand to sign copies of her new poetry collection, *Poem Journey: More Poems and Prose from Along Old Grand River*.

Book Signing with RICHARD P. SMITH

Friday, December 18, 1 to 6pm
& Saturday, December 19
from Noon to 6pm

Meridian Mall location

Richard P. Smith, author of *Great Michigan Deer Tales*, will visit Schuler Books for his annual book signing, featuring his numerous hunting titles.

Storytime with Santa & Mrs. Claus!

Saturday, December 19
from 10am to noon
Eastwood Towne Center location

Warm up by the fire with free milk and cookies - provided by the Eastwood Towne Center -- and enjoy listening to Santa and Mrs. Claus read holiday stories. Cameras are welcome.

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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, December 9

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Aux Petits Soins-Explorers 2. French immersion class for toddlers, ages 2-4. 5:15 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

Aux Petits Soins-Travel Bugs 2. French immersion class for kids, ages 6-9. 6:15 p.m. \$20/\$16 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

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

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

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-9 p.m. FREE. Vietnamese Buddhist Temple, 3015 S. Washington St., Lansing. (517) 351-5866, lamc.info
Alcoholics Anonymous. A closed step meeting. 6 p.m. Donations. Pennsylvania Ave. Church of God, 3500 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 899-3215.

Line Dancing. All levels welcome. 3:15-4:15 p.m. \$10 drop-in/\$7 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

H.E.R.O. Class: Installing Base and Wall Cabinets. Home improvement course. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.

EVENTS

Melted Crayon Art. Create a work of art using crayons and heat. Ages 8 and up. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

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

Allen Street Farmers Market - Indoors. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E.

See Out on the Town, Page 26

Christmas, Creole style



By Forquer/City Pulse
Trumpeter Etienne Charles, seen here performing a summer concert with MSU's Professors of Jazz, celebrates the release of "Creole Christmas" Thursday at the Robin Theatre.

Thursday, Dec. 10

It's hard to imagine the holiday season without the beloved songs and melodies that accompany it. Every year, new artists are rearranging and covering songs like "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" or "I'll be Home for Christmas" and more. But these arrangements often feature pop singers doing duets over an up-tempo, treble-heavy version of the original. This is something that caught the attention of Etienne Charles, trumpet player and a professor in the Jazz Studies Department at MSU.

After the successful release of his 2013 album, "Creole Soul," Charles began planning his next album. A native of Trinidad, He wanted to make a mashup of traditional Trinidadian and American Christmas songs. The result is his latest release, "Creole Christmas."

"I knew it would take some time to put together the track listing and find the right musicians for the project," Charles said. "It ended up taking about 27 total musicians to finish the album."

Most of the tracks on the album

are arranged in a traditional calypso style, complete with steel drums, bass, saxophones, trumpets, trombones and flutes.

"I wanted to keep the arrangements as close to traditional songs as I could," Charles said. "Most are bouncy and have a New Orleans groove to them. Others will be more like a waltz — they will have a slower drum beat and be a little more danceable."

One rearrangement that stands out is Charles' version of "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy," by Tchaikovsky.

"When I first heard 'Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy,' I thought it was an absolutely beautiful composition," Charles said. "But I also heard a layer underneath that I wanted to explore on my own. We ended up writing our version as more of a joropo, which is a Venezuelan party dance. It ended up having a really amazing groove to it. It is probably one of my favorite tracks on the album."

Charles, along with his backing band, will perform the "Creole

Christmas" album in its entirety Thursday at REO Town's Robin Theatre. The album will be available for purchase at the event. (Those unable to attend the event can order the album from Charles' website, etiennecharles.com.)

"We only performed this album two other times, once last week in New York and one the week before back in Trinidad. So really, this is the only time people may get the chance to hear these arrangements live," Charles said, adding that he has no plans to take this holiday show on the road.

"It is something I have thought about but obviously holiday songs are kind of time sensitive. It would not really make sense to perform Christmas songs after the holiday season, but there is always next year."

Creole Christmas

With Etienne Charles
8 p.m. Thursday,
Dec. 10
\$15/\$12 adv./\$10
students
The Robin Theatre
1105 S. Washington
Ave., Lansing.
creolechristmas.bpt.me

— KEVIN MCINERNEY


Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

HEARTSICK (FORMERLY KNOW LYFE) RELEASES NEW ALBUM

Saturday, Dec. 12 @ The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$18, \$15 adv., 5 p.m.




Heartsick, formerly known as Know Lyfe, changed its name back in February, and vocalist Alfonso Civile said it's been a smooth transition. "We get to basically push reset and start fresh, from artwork to image to vibe of the band," Civile said. "It has just been 100 percent positive." Saturday at the Loft, the veteran Lansing-based metal band releases its first album under the new moniker. The self-titled disc has been four years in the making. "You are going to hear some of the most brutal death metal stuff we've ever done, and then suddenly you will be listening to some poppy punk melody," Civile said. The show also features DeverauX, Beyond the Fallout, Of Virtue, Pralaya, Ground Tracer, Avenue Sky and Tall Tales. Every ticket to the release show includes a copy of the new Heartsick album.

SAT. DEC 12TH

Heartsick

THE CHIRPS AT THE AZTEC ROOM

Saturday, Dec. 12 @ The Aztec Room (lower level of El Azteco), 1016 W. Saginaw, Lansing. 21+, \$5, 10 p.m.




The Aztec Room, aka the lower level of El Azteco West, is once again serving up both Mexican food and live music. Saturday, the Chirps headline the room; openers are Rhode Island Sluts and Nova. The Chirps, known for its mutated rockabilly-punk sound, were a fixture of the early 2000s Lansing music scene. The band's bio says it formed in 2002 as "a way to lampoon modern country and neo-folk." Since its birth, the band's had a spotty history. "We've never actually broken up," said vocalist Chaz Brackx. "But there have been periods of like two or three years we didn't do any gigs." The lineup has also shifted throughout the years. The current lineup features Jason Metcalf on lead guitar, Jonny Baird on bass fiddle and drummer Ryan Bliton. Fans of Hasil Adkins, Warren Smith or the Cramps might want to check out the Chirps.

SAT. DEC 12TH

The Chirps

BEATLES TRIBUTE SHOW AT THE AVENUE

Friday, Dec. 11 @ The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. \$5, 8 p.m.



Two Lansing-based rock bands pay tribute to the Fab Four at the Avenue Café with a one-time concert: An Evening of Music Celebrating the Beatles. From Big Sur and Abbey Road Lunatic (a side-project of Elliot Street Lunatic) perform classics from the group's entire catalog, spanning from the pre-Beatlemania Cavern Club era to the latter days' LSD-inspired works. "We are going to chronologically run through the Beatles' career with our set," said From Big Sur vocalist/guitarist Kevin Ream. Of course, members of each band are diehard devotees of the lads from Liverpool. "We're huge Beatles fans," Ream said. "Our bass player, Wes Tkaczyk, and I grew up together watching our dads trade Beatles vinyl with each other. We've been huge Beatles fans our whole life."

FRI. DEC 11TH

The Beatles

UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT RICH TUPICA AT RICH@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM >>> TO BE LISTED IN LIVE & LOCAL E-MAIL ALLISON@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM

LIVE & LOCAL	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Earphorik, 9 p.m.	Beatles Tribute, 9 p.m.	Josh David's Thirty + 1, 9 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.		DJ Don Black, 9:30 p.m.		Chip Christy, 8 p.m.
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd.			Chris Lasko, 8 p.m.	Scott Seth, 8 p.m.
Brookshire, 205 W. Church St.			Kevin Schaffer, 6 p.m.	
Capital Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr.			Grant Henderson, 8:30 p.m.	Bob Schultz, 8:30 p.m.
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.		Retro Joe, 9 p.m.	DJ YAY, 9 p.m.
Copper, 2874 E. Lake Lansing Rd.		Rachel Curtis, 6 p.m.		
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Fusion Shows Presents, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Champion's, 2240 Cedar St.		Ladies' Night, 7 p.m.		
Darb's, 117 S. Cedar St.				The Tenants, 9 p.m.
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.		Karaoke w/Jamie, 9 p.m.	DJ Fudgie, 10 p.m.	
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Live Blues w/ The Good Cookies, 7 p.m.	Skoryoke Live Band Karaoke, 8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 9:30 p.m.
Gallery Brewery, 143 Kent St.		Open Mic, 7 p.m.		Kathleen and the Bridge Street Trio, 7 p.m.
Grand Cafe/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.			Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Jam, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Mix Pack, 9:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m.
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave.			Alistar, 5:30 p.m.	
Leroys, 1526 S. Cedar St.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
Log Jam, 110 W. Jefferson St.				Rachel Curtis, 9 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.		Cooper Anstett, 7 p.m.	#12Play, 10 p.m.	Heartsick CD Release Party, 5 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Untitled Sean Bonnette Variety Hour, 8 p.m.	Fishgutzzz, 8 p.m.	Aaron West and the Roaring Twenties, 7 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.	Open Mic w/ Jen Sygit, 9 p.m.	Stan Budzynski and Third Degree, 9 p.m.	Rotations, 9 p.m.	Spoonful, 9 p.m.
R Club, 6409 Centurion Dr.			Showdown, 8:30 p.m.	
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road			Well Enough Alone, 7 p.m.	
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.		Bobby Standall, 7 p.m.	Chris Lasko, 7 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.			New Rule, 7 p.m.	New Rule, 7 p.m.
Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq.	Tavern House Jazz Band, 7:30 p.m.	DJ Don Black, 9:30 p.m.		
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.	Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.		2nd Nature, 8:30 p.m.	Full House, 8:30 p.m.
Watershed Tavern and Grill, 5965 Marsh Rd.	Trevor Compton, 7 p.m.	Rush Clement, 7 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.
Waterfront Bar and Grill, 325 City Market Dr.			Joe Wright, 7 p.m.	

Ingham County Animal Shelter

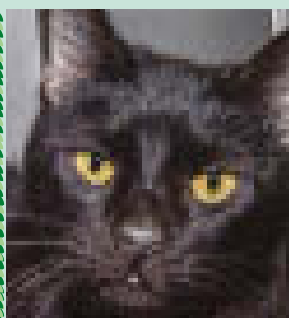
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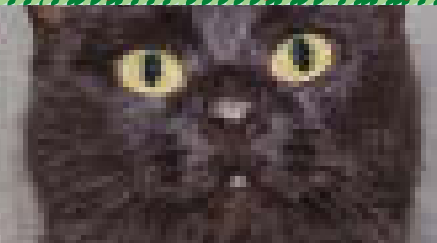
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Out on the town

from page 24

Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.
Practice Your English. Practice listening to and speaking English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing.
Veteran Services. Advice on VA benefits and claims. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. American Legion HQ, 212 N. Verlinden Ave., Lansing.
Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. cadl.org.
Landing Area Codependents Anonymous. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Community Mental Health Building, Room 214G, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.
Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 6 p.m., meeting 6:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 882-9080, stdavidslansing.org.
Take Off Pounds Sensibly. 5:15 p.m. \$5. New Hope Church, 1340 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 349-9183, newhopehaslett.com.
Tarot Study Group. FREE. Triple Goddess New Age Bookstore, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 347-2112.
Celebrate Recovery. For all types of hurts and hang-ups. 6 p.m. Donations welcome. Trinity Church (Lansing), 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing. (517) 492-1866.
Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Quan Am Temple, 1840 N. College Ave., Mason. (517) 853-1675, quanamtemple.org.
Conversational Spanish. Spanish put into practice. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Okemos Branch, 4321 Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 347-2021, cadl.org.

MUSIC

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See Out on the Town, Page 27

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and Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506.

Out on the town

from page 26

MUSIC

Open Mic @ Marshall Music. All ages and levels welcome. 6-7 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700, marshallmusic.com.

Karaoke. LeRoy's Classic Bar & Grill, 1526 S. Cedar St., Lansing.

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

Evening with Etienne Charles. Celebrating release of "Creole Christmas" album. 8 p.m. \$12/\$10 pre-sale. Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (989) 878-1810, therobintheatre.com.

EVENTS

After-School Teen Program. For grades 6-12. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Gentle Yoga. Yoga basics. 9-10 a.m. \$10/\$7 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Hearing Screenings. Provided by Hear USA. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Craft Corner. Supplies provided. Ages 4 and up. 3-6 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Dansville Branch, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511, cadl.org.

English Country Dance. No experience needed. Live music. 7-9:30 p.m. \$6/\$4 students/MSU students FREE. Snyder-Phillips Hall, C20, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing. (517) 321-3070.

Ingham Co Genealogy Meeting. Bring dish for Christmas dinner. 6-9 p.m. FREE, Food donations welcome. Sam Corey Senior Center, 2108 Cedar St., Holt. (517) 676-7140, icgsweb.org.

Kids Reading to Dogs. Kids read to trained dogs. 4-5 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Haslett Branch, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324, cadl.org.

Ladies Figure Skating. Lessons and practice. All skill levels welcome. 9:30-11:20 a.m. \$5/\$2 skate rental. Suburban Ice, 2810 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. (517) 574-4380, ladiessilverblades.com.

Lunch @ MSC. Call ahead to reserve meal. Noon-1 p.m. \$5.75/\$3 suggested donation for ages 60+. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

One on One Life Coaching. Brief guidance session. 1-3 p.m. \$24. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045,

meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Spanish Conversation Group. English and Spanish spoken. 7-8 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. elpl.org

Tripper's Comedy Club. 9-10:30 p.m. \$5 Subject to change or cancellation. Tripper's Sports Bar, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (517) 336-0717.

Food Drive. Drop off non-perishable food items for charity. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. SS Hair Designers, 3233 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 327-5300.

Wonderland of Lights. Light show at the zoo. 5-8 p.m. \$7/\$5 kids. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 342-2710, owl/UUf7c.

CADL South Lansing Family Holiday Night. Live reindeer, face painting and balloon animals. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries South Lansing Branch, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840, cadl.org.

8-Ball Tournament. Bring your pool game to the Avenue. Call to confirm. 7 p.m. \$10. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 492-7403.

Euchre. No partner needed. 6-9 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

After-School Teen Program. For grades 6-12. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

THEATER

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol. Classic story from a new point of view. 8 p.m. \$23. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.com.

December Project. Postmodernist philosophy explored. 7:30 p.m. \$13/\$11 seniors and faculty. Studio 60 Theatre, MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium

See Out on the Town, Page 28

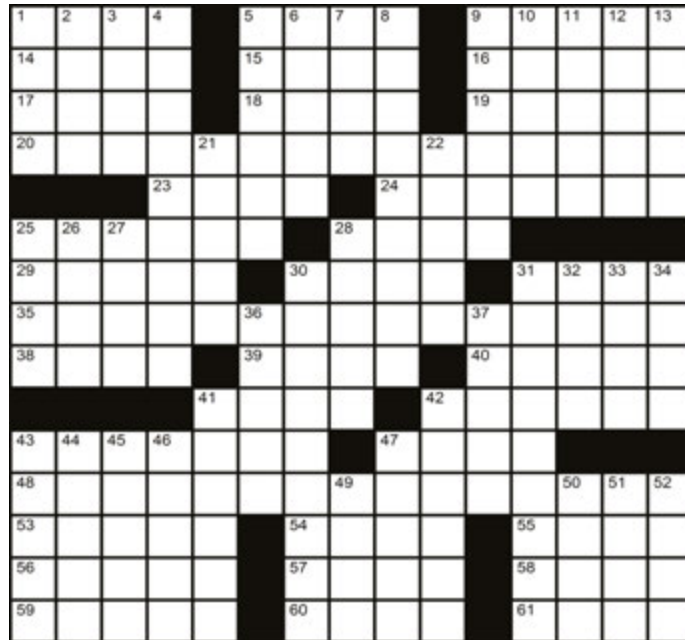
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Two-Way Streets" — hey, look where you're going!
Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Widescreen medium
- 5 DJ Kool ____ (hip-hop pioneer born Clive Campbell)
- 9 College football coach Amos Alonzo
- 14 Blarney Stone land
- 15 Like much family history
- 16 Spanish citrus fruit
- 17 "Author unknown" byline
- 18 City south of Tel Aviv
- 19 Adult insect stage
- 20 Tribal carving depicting the audience for a kids' show street?
- 23 Part of TMZ
- 24 More than just clean
- 25 Storm warnings
- 28 Macy Gray hit from the album "On How Life Is"
- 29 "Cold Mountain" star Zellweger
- 30 Amos with the album "Little Earthquakes"
- 31 Beach bucket
- 35 "Look out, bad generic street, my show's on the air!"
- 38 Lindsay Lohan's mom
- 39 Hose problem
- 40 Chair designer Charles
- 41 Incandescent light bulb depiction (because I have yet to see a CFL bulb depict one)



- 42 Philadelphia hockey team
- 43 Follow-up to "That guy's escaping!"
- 47 "Buena Vista Social Club" setting
- 48 Financial street represents a smell-related statute?
- 53 Came to a close
- 54 Nick Foles's NFL team
- 55 "Hawaii Five-O" setting
- 56 Bothered constantly
- 57 Bendable joint
- 58 "JAG" spinoff with Mark Harmon
- 59 Mozart's "____ Alla Turca"
- 60 Lawn sign
- 61 Acquires
- Down**
- 1 ____ index
- 2 "The Flintstones" pet
- 3 Harness race pace
- 4 Home to the world's tallest waterfall
- 5 Hulk and family
- 6 Take out
- 7 Completely destroy
- 8 School excursion with a bus ride, perhaps
- 9 Oscar the Grouch's worm friend
- 10 Kitchen noise-maker
- 11 Big name in violins
- 12 "Diary of a Madman" writer Nikolai
- 13 \$1,000 bill, slangily
- 21 Device needed for Wi-Fi
- 22 Heart chambers
- 25 Street ____
- 26 Jeans manufacturer Strauss
- 27 "Come ____!"
- 28 Ancient Greek region
- 30 Signs of a quick peel-out
- 31 Just go with it
- 32 "Paris, Je T' ____" (2006 film)
- 33 "Skinny Love" band Bon ____
- 34 Word in an express checkout lane which annoys grammarians
- 36 ____ Ababa, Ethiopia
- 37 Nellie of toast fame
- 41 "There was no choice"
- 42 Sweated the details
- 43 Go blue
- 44 "So much," on a musical score
- 45 "Here we are as in ____ days ..."
- 46 Respond to a charge
- 47 Caravan member
- 49 It means "one-billionth"
- 50 Lingerie trim
- 51 Take ____ (lose money)
- 52 Chicken

THURSDAY, DEC. 10-13 >> 'THE DECEMBER PROJECT' AT MSU DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

The MSU Department of Theatre explores themes of postmodernist philosophy through movement in "The December Project," a thought-provoking piece. Created by Kellyn Uhl, instructor of musical theater and dance who choreographed MSU's production of "Hair," "The December Project" is a collaboratively created piece that incorporates elements of dance and theater to comment on ideas of postmodernism. Sunday's performance will feature a pre-show performance at 1:15 p.m., and Thursday's performance will feature a post-show discussion. 7:30 p.m. Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 2 p.m. Sunday. \$13/\$11 seniors and faculty/\$10 students. Studio 60 Theatre, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com.

SUDOKU BEGINNER

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

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

Answers on page 28

Out on the town

from page 27

Road, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

Friday, December 11

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Palette to Palate. Painting class, BYOB. \$28/\$50 for two. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

ACTION Winter Craft Project: Water-less Snow Globes. Supplies provided. 3-4 p.m. FREE. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Aux Petits Soins-Explorers 1-3. French immersion for babies/toddlers. 9:30 a.m. (ages 2-4), 10:30 a.m. (0-2) & 5:15pm (ages 4-6). \$15/\$12 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitsoinsllc.

The Art of Cookie Decorating. Cookie decorating workshop. 6-8 p.m. \$25. MICA Gallery, 1210 N. Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, micagallery.org.

MUSIC

Community Christmas Concert. Featuring bands and choirs. 7-8:30 p.m. Donations welcome. Wilson Center Auditorium, 101 W. Cass St., St. Johns. (989) 224-8159, wilsoncenterauditorium.org.

Meridian Community Band, A Musical Feast for the Holidays. 7:30 p.m. \$5/kids FREE. Non-

perishable food donations encouraged. Okemos High School, 2500 Jolly Road, Okemos. ow.ly/VvE5u.

Merry Little Christmas. Men of Orpheus choir performs. 7 p.m. Plymouth Congregational Church, 2001 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing.

John Two-Hawks and Johanna Kurkela present 'Noel.' Acclaimed musicians perform. 7 p.m. \$15 pre-sale/\$18 door. Grand Ledge Opera House, 121 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge. gloperahouse.com.

Ten Pound Fiddle Holiday Sing. Sing-along concert. 8 p.m. \$15/\$12 members/\$5 students/\$35 family. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 337-7744, tenpoundfiddle.org.

The Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle's Holiday Show. Burlesque variety show. 3-4:30 p.m. \$10 in advance/\$15 at door. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517luvs.com.

EVENTS

Food Drive. Drop off non-perishable food items for charity. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. SS Hair Designers, 3233 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 327-5300.

Season of Light. Planetarium show. 8 p.m. \$4/\$3.50 students and seniors/\$3 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave. East Lansing. (517) 355-4672, abramsplanetarium.org.

Tripper's Comedy Club. 9-10:30 p.m. \$10 Subject to change or cancellation. Tripper's Sports Bar, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (517) 336-0717.

Wonderland of Lights. Light show at the zoo. 5-8 p.m. \$7/\$5 kids. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 342-2710, ow.ly/UUf7c.

Elves Night Out. Dinner for kids while parents shop. Registration required. 6-8 p.m. \$20. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St., Jackson. (517) 784-2389, jacksonarts.org.

Cherish the Arts Fine Art Sale. Show by 14 local artists. 10 a.m.-7 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 339-9479, ow.ly/VvEXB.

Kids Skate. 6-8 p.m. ages 13 and under; 8-11 p.m., ages 14 and up. \$8. Skate City Roller Rink, 905 Southland Ave., Lansing. (517) 894-8429.

Minecraft Game Night. Ages 8-15. Registration required. 7:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Downtown Lansing Branch, 401 South Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6367, cadl.org.

StoryTime. For ages 2-5. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

TGIF Party. Dance party. 8 p.m.-midnight. \$13. Hawk Hollow Banquet Center, 15101 S. Chandler Road, Bath.

After-School Teen Program. For grades 6-12. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Wonderland of Lights. Light show at the zoo. 5-8 p.m. \$7/\$5 kids. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 342-2710, ow.ly/UUf7c.

ARTS

Sunset Clay Studio 2nd Annual Holiday Art Market. Local artists sell work. 5-9 p.m. Sunset Clay Studio, 1820 Sunset Ave., Suite 203, Lansing. facebook.com/sunsetclaystudio.

THEATER

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol. Classic story from a new point of view. 8 p.m. \$28. Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.com.

December Project. Postmodernist philosophy explored. 8 p.m. \$13/\$11 seniors and faculty. Studio 60 Theatre, MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

Saturday, December 12

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

Aux Petits Soins-Explorers 1. French immersion class for babies, ages 0-2. 9:30 a.m. \$15/\$12 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitsoinsllc.

Tai Chi at Allen Market Place. Instruction in Qigong, meditation and Yang style tai chi forms. 9-10 a.m. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 272-9379.

Study Smart Broad. Free food and study space

See Out on the Town, Page 29

FRIDAY, DEC. 11-12 >> LANSING UNIONIZED VAUDEVILLE SPECTACLE THIRD HOLIDAY SHOW

The 15ish-piece musical group Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle — known as LUVS by its fans — hosts a yuletide-themed concert full of mischief and merrymaking. The 1920s-influenced gypsy-jazz outfit invites audience members to sing along with their vaudeville-ified versions of classic Christmas tunes. The eccentric show will also feature dancers, puppets and comic relief provided by pseudo-scientists. 8 p.m. Friday; 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday. \$15/\$10 advance. Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517luvs.com.

FRIDAY, DEC. 11-13 >> HOLIDAY AT LEBWOSKY WITH THE OWOSSO COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Join the cast and crew of the Owosso Community Players for an evening of holiday-themed song and dance. Over 70 singers, dancers and youth choir members have come together to put on a show with extravagant sets and lighting design. The historic Lebowsky Center, which hosts the holiday performance, was completely renovated after a 2007 fire nearly destroyed the building. The Owosso Community Players recently celebrated the renovations with a relighting of the theater's iconic marquee, retrofitted with energy efficient LED light bulbs. 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday; 3 p.m. Sunday. \$20/\$18 students and seniors/\$10 children. The Lebowsky Center, 122 E. Main St, Owosso. (989) 723-4003, owossoplayers.com.

FRIDAY, DEC. 11 >> HOLIDAY SING AT TEN POUND FIDDLE

Local folk music promoter Ten Pound Fiddle puts the audience in the spotlight with its 12th annual Holiday Sing. The sing-along concert will be led by Sally Potter, veteran of the local music scene as well as booker for Ten Pound Fiddle and teacher at Williamston High School. She will be joined by a special guest, Lansing-based dulcimer player/builder Doug Berch, who will also provide pre- and post-show music. 8 p.m. \$15/\$12 members/\$5 students/\$35 family. MSU Community Music School, 4930 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing. (517) 337-7744, tenpoundfiddle.org.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 27

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

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 27

H	D	T	V		H	E	R	C		S	T	A	G	G		
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A	N	O	N		G	A	Z	A		I	M	A	G	O		
T	O	T	E	M	A	S	E	S		A	M	E	T	O		
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C	L	O	U	D	S					I	T	R	Y			
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Your guide
to Lansing- area events,
music, entertainment,
restaurants and more

TEXT
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TO
77948

Out on the town

from page 28

for MSU students. 5-10 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

MUSIC

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

Christmas Music Concert. Choir and brass ensemble perform. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 349-4220.

The Lansing Unionized Vaudeville Spectacle's Holiday Show. Burlesque variety show. 3-4:30 p.m. \$10 in advance/\$15 at door. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. 517luvs.com.

Acoustic Lunch. Representatives of Lost Voices preview their Pump House concert. 12:30 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Celtic Holiday. Irish Dance Company of Lansing performs. 8 p.m. \$13/\$8 kids. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

Lost Voices at Pump House. Performance by representatives from organization that teaches songwriting to youth. 7 p.m. \$15 suggested donation. Pump House Concerts, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. (517) 927-2100, ow.ly/VAa97.

EVENTS

Food Drive. Drop off non-perishable food items for charity. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. SS Hair Designers, 3233 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 327-5300.

Season of Light. Planetarium show. 8 p.m. \$4/\$3.50 students and seniors/\$3 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave. East Lansing. (517) 355-4672, abramsplanetarium.org.

Breakfast with Santa. Crafts and stories with Santa. 9 a.m. FREE. Lansing Mall, 5330 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing. lansingmall.com.

REACH Not So Silent Night Benefit. Silent auction, live entertainment and refreshments. 7-9:30 p.m. \$25 pre-sale/\$20 at door/\$40 preview party. REACH Art Studio, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. reachstudioart.org.

State Room's Breakfast with Santa. Kids of all ages welcome. Call to register. 10 a.m. \$18. State Room, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. (517) 432-5049, kelloggcenter.com/stateroomrestaurant.

Tripper's Comedy Club. 9-10:30 p.m. \$12 Subject to change or cancellation. Tripper's Sports

Bar, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (517) 336-0717.

Wonderland of Lights. Light show at the zoo. 5-8 p.m. \$7/\$5 kids. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 342-2710, ow.ly/

See Out on the Town, Page 30

SATURDAY, DEC. 12 >> LOST VOICES BENEFIT AT PUMP HOUSE CONCERTS

Who knew giving back to the community could be as simple as going to a show? East Lansing's Pump House Concerts presents a fundraising concert for Lost Voices, a group that produces creative programs for incarcerated and at-risk area youth. Michigan folk and blues artists Kitty Donohoe, Josh White Jr. and Mike Ball supply the evening's tunes, and all money raised goes to Lost Voices. A preview of the concert is hosted by the Broad Art Museum at 12:30 p.m. Saturday. This Acoustic Lunch show is free and open to the public, and attendees are encouraged to bring a lunch. 7 p.m. \$15 suggested donation. Pump House Concerts, 368 Orchard St., East Lansing. (517) 927-2100, facebook.com/pumphouseconcerts.

CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS

HOSTED BY BERL SCHWARTZ

WITH GUEST

Tim Daman

of the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce

THIS WEEK

BUSINESS ISSUES

MY18TV!

NEW TIME 10:30 a.m. EVERY SATURDAY

COMCAST CHANNEL 16 LANSING

7:30 P.M. EVERY FRIDAY

GRACIE'S PLACE

GIFT CERTIFICATES!

GET A \$10 BONUS GIFT CARD WITH THE PURCHASE OF A \$50 GIFT CARD!!

Ask your server for one today!

BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY PARTIES NOW!!

Gracie's Place is the perfect choice for any celebration!

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BUY ONE ENTRÉE GET THE SECOND ENTRÉE HALF OFF!

(Of equal or lesser value.)

EMAIL: _____

LIMIT ONE PER TABLE. GOOD FOR DINNER ONLY. ONE TIME USE PER PERSON. DOES NOT COVER SALES TAX. PRESENT TO SERVER WITH COMPLETED EMAIL. (CANNOT BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS OR FOR THE PURCHASE OF ALCOHOL.) EXPIRES 1/31/2016

Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsy

Dec. 9-15

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "Happiness sneaks through a door you didn't know that you left open," said actor John Barrymore. I hope you've left open a lot of those doors, Aries. The more there are, the happier you will be. This is the week of all weeks when joy, pleasure, and even zany bliss are likely to find their ways into your life from unexpected sources and unanticipated directions. If you're lucky, you also have a few forgotten cracks and neglected gaps where fierce delights and crisp wonders can come wandering in.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): What state of mind do you desire the most? What is the quality of being that you aspire to inhabit more and more as you grow older? Maybe it's the feeling of being deeply appreciated, or the ability to see things as they really are, or an intuitive wisdom about how to cultivate vibrant relationships. I invite you to set an intention to cultivate this singular experience with all your passion and ingenuity. The time is right. Make a pact with yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Like Metallica jamming with Nicki Minaj and Death Cab for Cutie on a passage from Mozart's opera *The Magic Flute*, you are redefining the meanings of the words "hybrid," "amalgam," and "hodgepodge." You're mixing metaphors with panache. You're building bridges with cheeky verve. Some of your blends are messy mishmashes, but more often they are synergistic successes. With the power granted to me by the gods of mixing and matching, I hereby authorize you to keep splurging on the urge to merge. This is your special time to experiment with the magic of combining things that have rarely or never been combined.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): I hope you can figure out the difference between the fake cure and the real cure. And once you know which is which, I hope you will do the right thing rather than the sentimental thing. For best results, keep these considerations in mind: The fake cure may taste sweeter than the real one. It may also be better packaged and more alluringly promoted. In fact, the only advantage the real cure may have over the fake one is that it will actually work to heal you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): There's a sinuous, serpentine quality about you these days. It's as if you are the elegant and crafty hero of an epic myth set in the ancient future. You are sweeter and saucier than usual, edgier and more extravagantly emotive. You are somehow both a repository of tantalizing secrets and a fount of arousing revelations. As I meditate on the magic you embody, I am reminded of a passage from Laini Taylor's fantasy novel *Daughter of Smoke & Bone*: "She tastes like nectar and salt. Nectar and salt and apples. Pollen and stars and hinges. She tastes like fairy tales. Swan maiden at midnight. Cream on the tip of a fox's tongue. She tastes like hope."

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): I bought an old horoscope book at a garage sale for 25 cents. The cover was missing and some pages were water-damaged, so parts of it were hard to decipher. But the following passage jumped out at me: "In romantic matters, Virgos initially tend to be cool, even standoffish. Their perfectionism may interfere with their ability to follow through on promising beginnings. But if they ever allow themselves to relax and go further, they will eventually ignite. And then, watch out! Their passion will generate intense heat and light." I suspect that this description may apply to you in the coming weeks. Let's hope you will trust your intuition about which possibilities warrant your caution and which deserve your opening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "The secret of being a bore is to tell everything," said French writer Voltaire. I agree, and add these thoughts: To tell everything also tempts you to wrongly imagine that you have everything completely figured out. Furthermore, it may

compromise your leverage in dicey situations where other people are using information as a weapon. So the moral of the current story is this: Don't tell everything! I realize this could be hard, since you are a good talker these days; your ability to express yourself is at a peak. So what should you do? Whenever you speak, aim for quality over quantity. And always weave in a bit of mystery.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Ducks are the most unflappable creatures I know. Cats are often regarded as the top practitioners of the "I don't give a f---" attitude, but I think ducks outshine them. When domestic felines exhibit their classic aloofness, there's sometimes a subtext of annoyance or contempt. But ducks are consistently as imperturbable as Zen masters. Right now, as I gaze out my office window, I'm watching five of them swim calmly, with easygoing nonchalance, against the swift current of the creek in the torrential rain. I invite you to be like ducks in the coming days. Now is an excellent time to practice the high art of truly not giving a f---.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): My old friend Jeff started working at a gambling casino in Atlantic City. "You've gone over to the dark side!" I kidded. He acknowledged that 90 percent of the casino's visitors lose money gambling. On the bright side, he said, 95 percent of them leave happy. I don't encourage you to do this kind of gambling in the near future, Sagittarius. It's true that you will be riding a lucky streak. But smarter, surer risks will be a better way to channel your good fortune. So here's the bottom line: In whatever way you choose to bet or speculate, don't let your lively spirits trick you into relying on pure impulsiveness. Do the research. Perform your due diligence. It's not enough just to be entertained. The goal is to both have fun and be successful.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Ancient Greek philosopher Epicurus was a pioneer thinker whose ideas helped pave the way for the development of science. Believe nothing, he taught, unless you can evaluate it through your personal observation and logical analysis. Using this admirable approach, he determined that the size of our sun is about two feet in diameter. I'm guessing that you have made comparable misestimations about at least two facts of life, Capricorn. They seem quite reasonable but are very wrong. The good news is that you will soon be relieved of those mistakes. After some initial disruption, you will feel liberated.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Aquarian inventor Thomas Edison owned 1,093 patents. Nicknamed "The Wizard of Menlo Park," he devised the first practical electrical light bulb, the movie camera, the alkaline storage battery, and many more useful things. The creation he loved best was the phonograph. It was the first machine in history that could record and reproduce sound. Edison bragged that no one else had ever made such a wonderful instrument. It was "absolutely original." I bring this to your attention, Aquarius, because I think you're due for an outbreak of absolute originality. What are the most unique gifts you have to offer? In addition to those you already know about, new ones may be ready to emerge.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Here's an experiment that makes good astrological sense for you to try in the coming weeks. Whenever you feel a tinge of frustration, immediately say, "I am an irrepressible source of power and freedom and love." Anytime you notice a trace of inadequacy rising up in you, or a touch of blame, or a taste of anger, declare, "I am an irresistible magnet for power and freedom and love." If you're bothered by a mistake you made, or a flash of ignorance expressed by another person, or a maddening glitch in the flow of the life force, stop what you're doing, interrupt the irritation, and proclaim, "I am awash in power and freedom and love."

Out on the town

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UU77c.

Free Public Tours. 1 and 3 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.

Books and Bagels @ 2.0. "Beholding Bee" by Kimberly Newton Fusco. 2-4 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

CADL Adventurer's Role Playing Game Club. Creative gaming adventures. Ages 13-18. Registration required. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Mason Branch, 145 West Ash St., Mason. (517) 676-9088, cadl.org.

CMU Sport Management for Cystic Fibrosis Bowling for a Cure. Bowling fundraiser. Noon-2 p.m. Donations welcome. City Limits East, 2120

E. Saginaw Highway, East Lansing. (810) 569-1942, ow.ly/VACHZ.

Decorate a Tree for Wildlife. Outdoor tree-decorating contest. Noon-4 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 483-4224, mynaturecenter.org.

Disney's 'Frozen' Party. Fun games, costumes welcome. 11 a.m.-noon FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Dansville Branch, 1379 East Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511, cadl.org.

Drop-in Ornament Craft. Supplies provided. All ages. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185, cadl.org.

Second Saturday Supper. All are welcome. 5-6:15 p.m. \$8/\$4 kids. Mayflower Congregational Church, 2901 W. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-3139, mayflowerchurch.com.

See Out on the Town, Page 31

SATURDAY, DEC. 12 >> A NOT SO SILENT NIGHT AT REACH STUDIO ART CENTER

Celebrate the season while giving back to the community at REACH Studio Art Center's A Not So Silent Night event. The organization's annual benefit and silent auction will be for the first time in its recently renovated South Washington Avenue facility. The evening will feature live entertainment from the students and staff of the All Of The Above Hip-Hop Academy. Refreshments include a cash bar and complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Works by local artists, gift certificates for local businesses and other gift-able items will be up for auction. A preview party with an open bar (\$20 extra) is available starting an hour before the event. Preview party guests will get an early opportunity to purchase items from the new Youth Art Gallery and can get the first bids in the silent auction. 7-9:30 p.m. \$20 advance/\$25 doors. 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

SATURDAY, DEC. 12 >> STEINER CHORALE'S WINTER CONCERT

Lansing's Steiner Chorale presents Morten Lauridsen's captivating five-movement piece, "Lux Aeterna," as the centerpiece of its annual winter concert. Corb Felgenhour, the choir's musical director, chose "Lux Aeterna" for its theme of light against darkness and its rich, complex harmonies. The program also include works by other highly esteemed composers, along with a few whimsical holiday favorites. 6:30 p.m. \$12. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. steinerchorale.org.

"I received 15 calls in April from my City Pulse Pulsified for lawn mowing."

THE PULSIFIEDS
BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

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Out on the town

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THEATER

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol. Classic story from a new point of view. 2 and 8 p.m. \$25 at 2, \$28 at 8. Williamston Theater, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.com.

December Project. Postmodernist philosophy explored. 8 p.m. \$13/\$11 seniors and faculty. Studio 60 Theatre, MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

ARTS

Sunset Clay Studio 2nd Annual Holiday Art Market. Local artists sell work. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunset Clay Studio, 1820 Sunset Ave., Ste 203, Lansing. facebook.com/sunsetclaystudio.

Sunday, December 13

EVENTS

CADL Stockbridge Holiday Open House. Christmas crafts and live jazz. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Stockbridge Branch, 200 Wood St., Stockbridge. (517) 851-7810, cadl.org.
Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting Service. Bring photos or a reading. Refreshments after service. 7:30-9 p.m. FREE. Salvation Army Community Center, 701 W. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 351-6480.

Kate's Memory Cafe. Event for loved ones of Alzheimer's patients. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Community Center, 201 Hillside Ct., East Lansing. (517) 242-7355, helpinghandsrespice.care.

Tadpole Storytime at I5. Astronomy science for preschoolers. 1-2 p.m. FREE. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Drive, Lansing. (517) 485-8116.

George and Oatmeal Save Santa. Christmas planetarium show for families. 2:30 p.m. \$4/\$3.50 students and seniors/\$3 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4672, abramsplanetarium.org.

Lansing Area Sunday Swing Dance. Lessons 6-6:45 p.m., dance 6:45. \$8 dance/\$10 dance & lesson. The Lansing Eagles, 4700 N. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 490-7838.

Free Public Tours. 1 and 3 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

Season of Light. Planetarium show. 4 p.m. \$4/\$3.50 students and seniors/\$3 kids. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave. East Lansing.

(517) 355-4672, abramsplanetarium.org.
Study Smart Broad. Free food and study space for MSU students. 5-10 p.m. FREE. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. broadmuseum.msu.edu.
Wonderland of Lights. Light show at the zoo. 5-8 p.m. \$7/\$5 kids. Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 342-2710, ow.ly/UUf7c.

Christmas in the Village. Historical holiday festivities with a tree lighting and visit from Santa. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Meridian Historical Village, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 347-7300, meridianhistoricalvillage.org.

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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

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

Upcycled Coffee Bags. Sewing project. Ages 8 and up. 2-4 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420 elpl.org/register.

MUSIC

Delta Community Choir 'Making Memories' — A Winter Concert. Donations benefit Alzheimer's Association. 4 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Our Savior Lutheran Church, 7910 E. St. Joe Highway, Lansing. (517) 627-6202.

Lansing Symphony Orchestra Holiday Pops. Holiday favorites performed. 3 p.m. Tickets start at \$20. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. lansingsymphony.org.

Celtic Holiday. Irish Dance Company of Lansing performs. 2 p.m. \$13/\$8 kids. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive, Lansing. riverwalktheatre.com.

ARTS

Holiday Dance. DANCE Lansing performs. 1-2 p.m. FREE. MICA Gallery, 1210 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 371-4600, micagallery.org.

Merry and Bright Open House. Crafts, refreshments and carriage rides. Noon-4 p.m. FREE. Jackson School of the Arts, 634 N. Mechanic St., Jackson. (517) 784-2389, jacksonarts.org.

THEATER

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol. Classic story from a new point of view. 2 p.m. \$25. Williamston Theater, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston. williamstontheatre.com.

December Project. Postmodernist philosophy explored. 2 p.m. \$13/\$11 seniors and faculty. Studio 60 Theatre, MSU Auditorium, 542 Auditorium Road, East Lansing. (517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com.

Monday, December 14

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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

Tai Chi for Arthritis and Health. Weekly class. 1 and 5:30 p.m. Grace Lutheran Church, 528 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Lansing. (517) 323-0717.

WINS Breast Cancer Support Group. Support group for cancer patients. 7-9 p.m. Sparrow Professional Building Room D & E, 1200 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-3775.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Haslett Mystery Readers Book Group. "Spider Woman's Daughter" by Anne Hillerman. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Haslett Branch, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324, cadl.org.

EVENTS

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

After-School Teen Program. For grades 6-12. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Christmas Jingo. Game for kids aged 6 and up. 3:15-4:15 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Leslie Branch, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400, cadl.org.

BabyTime. 0-24 months. Meeting at church. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

French Club. To practice speaking French. 7-8 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Holiday Stories with Santa. Crafts, stories and a chance to share wishes with Santa. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Okemos Branch, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021, cadl.org.

Scratch Coding Club. Learn how to use Scratch 2 and create animations. 7-8 p.m. FREE, registration required. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Social Bridge. Play bridge and meet new people. No partner needed. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

Tuesday, December 15

EVENTS

Food Drive. Drop off non-perishable food items for charity. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. SS Hair Designers, 3233 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 327-5300.

After-School Teen Program. For grades 6-12. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Sporcle Live! Trivia. Team based. Win Crunchy's gift certificates. 7 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza & Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing.

Lunch @ MSC. Call ahead to reserve meal. Noon-1 p.m. \$5.75/\$3 suggested donation for ages 60+. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045, meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

Bible and Beer. Discussion of scripture's power in daily events. 6 p.m. Kelly's Downtown, 220 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 482-0600, bibleandbeer@ccclansing.org.

Comedy Coven X: S.A.D. Sketch comedy. 7-11 p.m. \$7 pre-sale/\$10 at door. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. facebook.com/comedycoven.

Gingerbread Architecture. All ages make gingerbread houses. Registration required. 5:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org/register.

Hispanic Christmas Symposium. Individuals from different cultural backgrounds share the season's spirit. 5:30-9 p.m. \$10. Quality Inn, 3121 East Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 575-8402.

Holiday Preschool Storytime. Holiday stories and activities. Ages 3-6. 11:15-11:45 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Holt-Delhi Branch, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351, cadl.org.

Knitting and Crochet Group. All ages and levels welcome. Basic supplies provided. 11 a.m.-noon. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

ToddlerTime. Ages 18 - 36 months listen to stories. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Capital City Toastmasters Meeting. Learn public speaking and leadership skills. 7 p.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 775-2697, cadl.org.

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

Shamanic Healing and Education Clinic. Shamanism talk and demos. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Donations welcome. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515

See Out on the Town, Page 32

SUNDAY, DEC. 13 >> HOLIDAY POPS AT LANSING SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Lansing Symphony Orchestra is doing its part to celebrate the season with its annual Holiday Pops concert, featuring vocalist Mara Bonde and the Arts Chorale of Greater Lansing. A portion of the show includes "side-by-side" performances where select local high school students get a chance to join the symphony on stage. Pre-show festivities begin at 2:20 p.m. with a mini-concert by the MSU Community Music School's Suzuki String program. Santa Claus also stops by to wish everyone a happy holiday season and pass out candy canes. The orchestra's holiday-themed performance will feature seasonal selections and classical favorites. 3 p.m. Tickets start at \$20. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 487-5001, lansingsymphony.org.

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Out on the town

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W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3, Lansing. (517) 402-6727, willowstickceremonies.com.

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

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

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

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

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Have a support system, lose weight. 7 p.m. FREE to visit. Eaton Rapids Medical Center, 1500 S. Main St., Eaton Rapids. (517) 543-0786.

Aux Petits Soins-Explorers 1. French immersion class for babies, ages 0-2. 5:15 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

Comprehensive Approach to Weight Loss. Wimbledon room, call to register. 5:30-6:30 p.m. Sparrow Michigan Athletic Club, 2900 Hannah Blvd., East Lansing. 1-800-SPARROW.

MUSIC

Russian Chorus Concert. Choral music of Russia and Eastern Europe. Handicap-accessible from Seymour Avenue parking lot. 7:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. Emanuel First Lutheran Church, 1001 N Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 482-0109.

Wednesday, December 16

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

H.E.R.O. Class Series: Kitchen Cabinet Series #3 Countertops and Sink Installation. Home improvement class. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Greater Lansing Housing Coalition, 600 W. Maple St., Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.

Aux Petits Soins-Explorers 2. French immersion class for toddlers, ages 2-4. 5:15 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

Aux Petits Soins-Travel Bugs 2. French immersion class for kids, ages 6-9. 6:15 p.m. \$20/\$16 students. 1824 E. Michigan Ave., Suite F, Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

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

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

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

Line Dancing. All levels welcome. 3:15-4:15 p.m. \$10 drop-in/\$7 members. Meridian Senior Center, 4406 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5045,

meridianseniorcenter.weebly.com.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Books and Beyond Club. Share and discover books. Grades 6 and up. 4:15-5:15 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Leslie Branch, 201 Pennsylvania St., Leslie. (517) 589-9400, cadl.org.

EVENTS

CADL Dansville Holiday Celebration. Stories, treats, crafts and live reindeer. 6:30-8 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Dansville Branch, 1379 E. Mason St., Dansville. (517) 623-6511, cadl.org.

CADL Haslett Holiday Open House. Live reindeer, refreshments, crafts and jolly surprise visitor. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Haslett Branch, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324, cadl.org.

Paper Snowflakes. All ages make snowflake crafts. 6:30-7:30 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave. East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

Preschool Holiday Storytime. Holiday stories and craft. Ages 3-6. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Foster Branch, 200 North Foster Lansing. 517.485.5185, cadl.org.

Preschool Storytime with Tinkerbell. From 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. Capital Area District Libraries Aurelius Branch, 1939 South Aurelius Road, Mason. (517) 628-3743.

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

Allen Street Farmers Market - Indoors. Locally grown, baked and prepared foods. 3-6:30 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911.


Practice Your English. Practice listening to and speaking English. 7-8 p.m. FREE. ELPL 2.0 Maker Studio, 300 M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing.

Veteran Services. Advice on VA benefits and claims. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. American Legion HQ, 212

After-School Teen Program. For grades 6-12. 3-5:30 p.m. FREE. All Saints Episcopal Church, 800 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.


Food Drive. Drop off non-perishable food items for charity. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. SS Hair Designers, 3233 W. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 327-5300.

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KEAN'S STORE CO./BANGKOK HOUSE/IGGY'S IN CONVENIENCE

Ty Forquer/City Pulse

Teresa Wren is the owner/operator of Kean's Store Co. in Mason. The 87-year-old department store reopened last week after a devastating fire caused more than \$1.5 million worth of damage to the building.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

In June, unrelated accidental fires struck two longtime Metro Lansing businesses — first **Bangkok House**, a Thai restaurant just north of downtown Lansing, then **Kean's Store Co.**, a department store in downtown Mason. In both cases, the owners fought through the adversity of their situations to rebuild their establishments, much to the relief of their passionate respective fan bases.

"When we reopened on Saturday, I swear every single person that came in that door told me how glad they were that we (didn't close)," said Teresa Wren, owner/operator of Kean's, 406 S. Jefferson St. "I've never been hugged so much in my life. People have said they were lost for six months."

On June 21, a fire broke out in the basement of the Baja Grille, a restaurant next door to Kean's. It destroyed much of the main floor of the restaurant and caused smoke damage throughout Kean's historic building, which was built in 1887. Wren's grandfather, Gus Kean, opened K&M 5&10 Cent Store — the first incarnation of Kean's — nearby in 1928. He moved into the building on Jefferson Street a year later.

Wren, 58, has worked at the store for 31 years and bought it from her father in 2000. After the fire, she first estimated that it would take about six weeks to reopen. But it took longer than anticipated to remove ruined merchandise, restore the interior and reorder new items. Wren estimates total damages, including merchandise loss, at over \$1.5 million.

"We lost everything," she said. "Fortunately, the insurance

covered it, and now everything is brand new and up to code. We weren't very (ADA compliant) before, and now we've got so much more room on the floor. It's got a lot more flow, the colors are brighter and there's more light. This is the best this shape this building has ever been in."

In addition to new plumbing, new electrical work and new floors and ceilings, Wren upgraded the bathrooms, the front doors and all the windows. She kept the store layout very similar to how it had been, reusing some of the same display units and returning the popcorn machine to the entrance. She was even able to rehire all 21 of her former workers, whom she credits as being "the lifeblood" of the business. Work was split into three stages, with the final stage being the main entranceway.

"We finished installing the candy and toys in that whole front section on Friday, and we opened first thing the next day," Wren said. "I missed my goal (of Nov. 9) and the four biggest (shopping) days of the year, including Black Friday and Small Business Saturday, but business has been unbelievable. We've actually been busier than a normal Christmas rush."

Wren said business has waxed and waned over the years, following the economy, but being so far from the malls has insulated Kean's from traditional urban retail woes — and even the rise of online commerce. She predicts that this three-generation business is likely to make it at least one more.

"My son and daughter (have expressed interest) in the store, so we'll see," Wren said. "Over the years, I've had to deal

with all kinds of issues with this old building — the heat, the plumbing, electrical stuff. If my kids take it over, the only things they'll have to worry about are the merchandise and the marketing. Everything else is going to last for a long time."

Thai fighter

Meanwhile, Bangkok House, 420 E. Saginaw St., is set to reopen within three weeks. On June 21, an electrical fire broke out, causing extensive damage to the building. Chris Buck is the business manager for **McCardel Restoration**, which is handling the renovation work.

"The public is going to be really impressed when they see the changes," Buck said. "The owners envisioned something very special. It looks incredible."

Buck said the booths and chairs were able to be restored, but everything else inside will be brand new — ceilings, flooring (including both carpeted and tiled areas), bathrooms and kitchen. Complicated insurance issues waylaid the process, he added, but once all the red tape was cut, restoration work has been fairly straightforward. For his part, Buck said this wasn't just another job.

"I've been proud to serve on this project, helping out a business that takes pride (in itself)," he said. "This place is an institution. There's been this massive outpouring of support as longtime customers see we're close to being ready to open. They've been taping love letters on the door. I've never even heard of anything like that happening."

Not inconvenient: In Convenience

Iggy's In Convenience opened inside the **Lansing City Market** this week. The grocery store is owned and operated by Igor Jurkovic, who also runs **Mediterranean Café and Catering** inside the Capital National Building and manages the kitchen for the **Exchange/Omar's Show Bar**. He said In Convenience will appeal to the growing demographic of Lansing's urban dwellers.

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

Kean's Store Co.

406 S. Jefferson St., Mason
10 a.m.–8 p.m. Monday-Saturday; noon–5 p.m. Sunday
(517) 676-5144, keansstore.com

Iggy's In Convenience

(Inside Lansing City Market)
325 City Market Drive, Lansing
11 a.m.–8 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday, closed Monday
(517) 402-6791, lansingcitymarket.com



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Not in Kansas anymore Emerald City offers wide variety of medical marijuana products

South Lansing's Emerald City may not have a real wizard, but it does have wizards of weed — and plenty of greens to pick from.

THE GREEN REPORT



STEVE GREEN

Emerald City is conveniently located at the corner of South Cedar and Riley streets, directly across from the Fleetwood Diner (which, coincidentally, is known for its Hippie Hash). The large parking lot is accessible from either

As I entered through the front door, I immediately noticed the reception window on my left and a large waiting area on my right. I provided my ID and Michigan Medical Marijuana card, and I was checked into the system. I was told there would be a one-minute wait. The lobby was comfortable and featured a TV and reading material. It was clean, looked nice and smelled

Emerald City

11 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday
2200 S. Cedar St.
(517) 253-0397,
emeraldcitymichigan.com

pleasant. But before I could even sit down, I was buzzed through the back door into the green room.

On the way to the back room, there is a painted mural of the employees and owners — a nice touch for a local business. The green room features a tall, bar-style counter display with two identical stations, allowing the shop to service two patients at a time. (In my experience, the staff asks both parties if they are comfortable with having another patient in the room before bringing two patients in at once.)

I started inspecting the jars on the counter and the wall display of edibles and oils. I like variety, and, with over 35 flower strains to pick from, Emerald City provided that. The budtender pushed a few jars to one side of the bar, telling me those were Indica strains. He pulled a few jars back to the other side of the bar and indicated that those were Sativa. The remaining jars were hybrids. I asked a few questions, and the budtender answered them with ease and accuracy. Watching a skilled budtender is comparable to watching a skilled bartender. The trade is important to them, and they take the time to hone their skills.

Emerald City also featured a wide selection of edibles, lined against the back wall. This section is great for the many patients who don't or can't smoke and need alternative forms of marijuana. They also have a variety of concentrates, from CO2 extracts to crumble, shatter and activated oils (which are typically eaten or put into food). After a two-minute smelling extravaganza, I picked out two different stains of flower: Kandy Kush and Critical Hog. Both were \$10 per gram. I also picked up a box of marinjuna-infused chocolates for the evening.

But I didn't stop there. I also purchased a portable, discreet Platinum Vape pen with a THC-filled cartridge. Vape pens, sometimes called electronic cigarettes or e-cigs, provide many of the benefits of traditional smoking while physically simulating the sensation of smoking

A few minutes later, I was safely in my smoking cave twisting up the Kandy Kush. My fingers quickly became sticky. This was not surprising, as this is generally a high resin producing plant. My fingers looked like they were covered in sugar and smelled like sweet lemon candy. After the first few hits, I felt my aches and anxiety melt away.

Next up was the Critical Hog. As I broke up this bud, it reminded me of the smell of a florist shop: a mix between sweet and floral with earthy undertones. As I smoked this strain, I noticed a feeling of mellowness setting in. This strain is known as a "creeper," meaning that it can take a few minutes to feel the full effects. I found that the Critical Hog helped relieve my back pain, muscle spasms and tension. It worked so well, in fact, that I returned later to get a quarter-ounce of this strain for \$50.

Steve Green, who writes this column every two weeks, uses marijuana to prevent seizures. He has no business ties to any dispensaries or products.



Steve Green/City Pulse

Emerald City, located across the street from the Fleetwood Diner on South Cedar Street, offers a wide variety of marijuana flowers, edibles, oils and other products.

TOP FIVE DINING GUIDE!

Based on your votes in City Pulse's 2015 Top of the Town contest, we've assembled a guide to your favorite Lansing-area eateries. We'll run single categories in the paper periodically, but the complete dining guide is always available on our website or on our official mobile app, *The Pulse*. The app is available on iPhone and Android platforms; head over to facebook.com/lansingapp or text "pulse" to 77948 for links to download.

Bon appétit!

TOP 5 STEAK

- #1 CAPITAL PRIME STEAKS AND SEAFOOD** (517) 484-7676
Upscale surf and turf restaurant with contemporary ambiance
2324 Showtime Drive, Lansing.
(517) 377-7463
capitalprimelansing.com
11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday;
11:30 a.m.-midnight Friday-Saturday; 2-9 p.m. Sunday
- #2 TEXAS ROADHOUSE**
City Pulse readers love the steaks and service at this casual steakhouse
280 E. Edgewood Blvd, Lansing
(517) 887-8181
texasroadhouse.com
4 p.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 4 p.m.-11 p.m. Friday; 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday; 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday
- #3 KNIGHT CAP**
One of Lansing's oldest restaurants, recently re-opened with revamped menu and upscale interior
320 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
- #4 OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE**
Australian-themed steakhouse famous for its Bloomin' Onion
707 Brookside, Lansing
(517) 321-3100
outback.com
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday
- #5 LONGHORN STEAKHOUSE**
City Pulse readers recommend the bacon-wrapped sirloin and parmesan-crusted asparagus at this chain steakhouse
5796 W. Saginaw Highway, Lansing
(517) 703-9041
longhornsteakhouse.com
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday

TOP 5 SUSHI

- #1 SANSU**
City Pulse readers love Sansu's value, serving quality sushi at good prices
4750 S. Hagadorn Road, East Lansing
(517) 333-1933
sansu-sushi.com
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. & 4:30-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 3-10 p.m. Sunday
- #2 MARU SUSHI & GRILL (OKEMOS)**
High quality sushi, upscale atmosphere
5100 Marsh Road, Okemos
(517) 349-7500
marurestaurant.com
11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. & 4-9:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday; 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Thursday-Saturday; 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday
- #3 AI FUSION**
Known for creative sushi rolls and good service
2827 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing
(517) 853-3700
ai-fusion.com
11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; noon-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-11 p.m. Sunday
- #4 UKAI (WEST SIDE)**
Sushi bar and hibachi grill, known for entertaining hibachi chefs
754 Delta Commerce Drive, Lansing
(517) 853-8888
iloveukai.com
11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. & 4-10 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 4-11 p.m. Friday-Saturday; noon-9 p.m. Sunday
- #5 SUSHI MOTO**
Cozy west side restaurant known for its fresh sushi
436 Elmwood Road, Lansing
(517) 580-4321
sushimoto.us
11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday; 4-9:30 p.m. Sunday



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THE PULSIFIEDS

BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

Christmas Expo

12/12 Sat. 10-3 Holt Nazarene Church

4851 Holt Rd., Holt - between Aurelius & Eiffert
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