

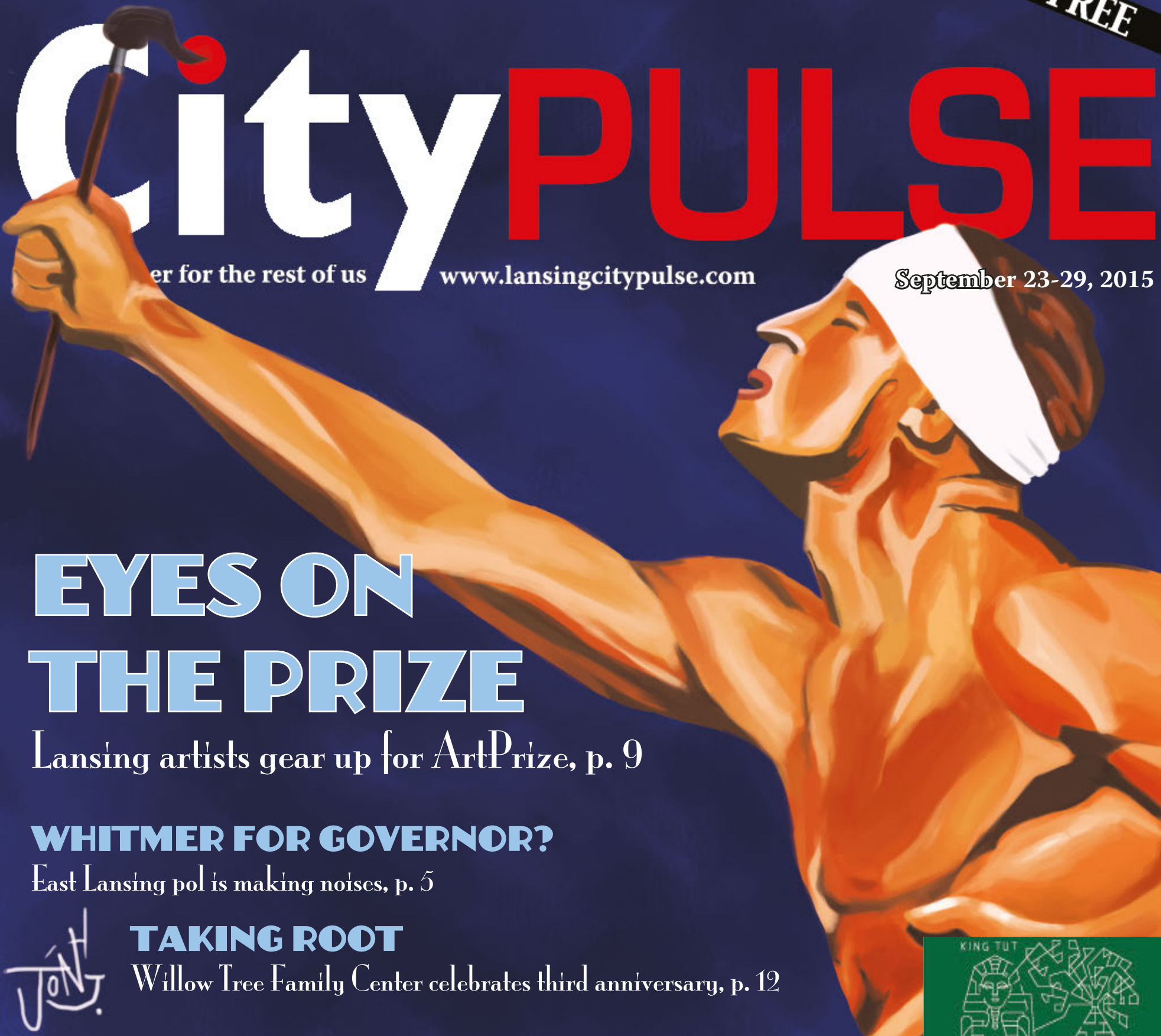
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September 23-29, 2015



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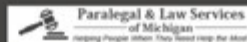
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"ARTLYMPIAD" BY JONATHAN GRIFFITH

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

DONALD TRUMP MAY HAVE ONE OF THE MOST ELABORATE COMBOVERS IN HISTORY--BUT HE'S VERY PROUD OF THE FACT THAT IT'S HIS REAL HAIR, AND NOT A TOUPEE.

AND IT'S BIG HAIR, TOO--THE BIGGEST!

ALL THOSE OTHER CANDIDATES ARE SUCH LOSERS, WITH THEIR TINY HAIR!



IN A WAY, HIS CAMPAIGN IS A GIANT, UGLY COMBOVER--A FORM OF ARTIFICE, SOMEHOW PERCEIVED AS MORE "AUTHENTIC" THAN OTHER FORMS OF ARTIFICE.

DONALD TRUMP UNDERSTANDS ORDINARY AMERICANS--UNLIKE HIS RIVALS!

WHAT A BUNCH OF PHONIES THEY ARE!



MEANWHILE, THE RULES OF FALSE EQUIVALENCY REQUIRE PUNDITS TO PRETEND THAT TRUMP AND BERNIE SANDERS ARE TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN.

ONE IS A BLUSTERING RAGEAHOLIC WITH NO ELECTIVE EXPERIENCE--WHILE THE OTHER IS A LONG-SERVING MEMBER OF CONGRESS WITH ACTUAL POLICY PROPOSALS--

--BUT OTHER THAN THAT--TOTALLY THE SAME!



POLITICAL COMMENTATORS ARE BAFFLED BY THE POPULARITY OF THE OPENLY XENOPHOBIC, BLATANTLY MISOGYNISTIC AND PROUDLY UNIFORMED CANDIDATE.

WHAT IS THE SECRET OF HIS APPEAL TO RANK-AND-FILE REPUBLICAN VOTERS?

I'M CERTAINLY STUMPED!



NOT THAT SANDERS GETS A FRACTION OF TRUMP'S MEDIA COVERAGE. COMING UP NEXT: DONALD TRUMP SAID ANOTHER CRAZY THING!

WE'LL DISCUSS THE CRAZY THING WITH OUR PANEL OF EXPERTS--RIGHT AFTER THIS ANALYSIS OF THE LAST CRAZY THING!

IT WAS SURE CRAZY!



AT WHICH POINT, SATIRE BECOMES IRRELEVANT, AND I MIGHT AS WELL PACK IT IN.

LOOK AT THIS NICE HAT A LOUD MAN GAVE ME!

TOM TOMORROW © 2015

PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

2018 race

Whitmer 'seriously looking' at running for governor

It's three years away, but with Gov. Rick Snyder termed out in 2018, no notable public official wants his or her name left out of the discussion when the natural discussion turns to "What's next?"

Count former state Sen. Gretchen Whitmer, the East Lansing Democrat, as being among that group.

Described on her Facebook page as a "public figure," Whitmer was in the Upper Peninsula this summer where she was asked, "Are you running for governor?"

Her response continues to be, "I'm seriously looking at it."

Reached by phone recently, she has not changed her tune.

Some will interpret her visit to the U.P. as a sure-fire sign of her desire to run in 2018, but she is not ready to make any formal announcement, either way.

Whitmer, 44, doesn't have a public office or official platform from which to run, but she is still sharing her feelings on public policy issues on her Facebook page, such as more public funding for higher education, Michigan's crumbling infrastructure and redistricting reform.

Unlike other potential Democratic contenders, Whitmer, who was term-limited out of the Legislature last year, does not have to seek reelection. Others do between now and then. That list includes U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee, D-Flint, Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel, and perhaps even former Lt. Gov. candidate Lisa Brown, the current Oakland County clerk, among other possibles.

Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan's name continues to pop up as well, despite his repeated assertions that he's not interested. Last May, Duggan got particularly feisty about the subject when asked by TV reporter Carol Cain at the Detroit Regional Chamber of Commerce Policy Conference.

"I will not be a candidate for governor, so stop asking me," he said. "I wouldn't have left DMC (Detroit Medical Center) to run for governor. It doesn't look like a fun job."

Whitmer, meanwhile, is already taking on state Attorney General Bill Schuette, considered a leading contender for the GOP gubernatorial nomination. Referring to same-sex marriage, she predicted in what could be a preview of the campaign: "Attorney General Bill Schuette's politically driven fight against equality will only leave him on the wrong side of history."

When Whitmer was mentioned for statewide office in 2014, 2012 and even 2010, Whitmer demurred because her children were in elementary school.

A check of the record shows her two daughters would be in high school if and when she decides to take a shot at being the second female governor in state history, after Jennifer Gra-

nholm. Her professionally done website, www.gretchenwhitmer.com, features a picture of her leading a Capitol rally. It doesn't suggest she is leaving the public spotlight since leaving office Dec. 31.

The attorney by trade took a position at Dickinson Wright starting Sept. 8 as a litigator. She worked for the firm before beginning her legislative service after her successful 2000 run.

She's a lecturer in public policy for the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy and remains outspoken on such issues as redistricting reform. When asked this summer what ballot question she'd like most on the Nov. 2016 ballot, Whitmer responded that she wants to change how legislative and congressional boundaries are redrawn every 10 years.

Michigan has one of the country's most partisan drawing processes, because the party in power draws the maps to make sure they stay in power, she said. It's worked for the Republicans the last few cycles, anyway.

"That means many of us don't have a voice at the Capitol much less a voice that is reflective and representative of us as a state," she told MIRS. "How do we have Gary Peters and Debbie Stabenow representing us on the federal level, and yet a Tea Party-controlled Legislature setting an agenda that continues to cut from our schools and give tax breaks to big, out-of-state corporations?"

She is hardly being retiring when it comes to politics. For example, she recently defended the appointment of Brandon Dillon, a former legislative colleague, as the state Democratic Party chairman, calling him an "outstanding leader for the Democratic Party." Others have criticized his appointment as being forced on the party.

Kildee hasn't been shying away from publicity outside of his Flint media market either. Earlier this year, he came to Lansing to hold a press conference on his push to get political prisoner U.S. Marine Amir Hekmati released from Iran. It was at least the second he's done

this year with Senate Minority Leader Jim Ananich and other state lawmakers.

Over on the Republican side, it wasn't hard to see the subtle ways Schuette, Lt. Gov. Brian Calley, U.S. Rep. Candice Miller and others made sure to stay in the public's eye at the GOP get-together with presidential candidates on Mackinac Island over the weekend.

Schuette held his biennial "shish-ka-bash" that sparked an out-the-door line. Calley's keyboarding performance Friday night kept Ohio Gov. John Kasich dancing at the Gatehouse. Miller's gathering at Horn's attracted Carly Fiorina, an overflow crowd and, ultimately, the fire marshal.

As of today, nobody will formally say they're in.

They're politically smart to at least wait until the presidential race is settled next November. But be assured Whitmer is among those thinking about that next political rung. We haven't seen or heard the last of her or a few others.

— Kyle Melinn



Gretchen Whitmer

Age: 44, Born and raised in East Lansing, Father, Richard Whitmer, is retired president and CEO of Blue Cross Blue shield Michigan, Married to dentist Marc Mallory. They have two daughters and three sons from previous marriages.



Education

Michigan State University communications degree, 1993, and law degree 1998 (magna cum laude).

Elective office

D-East Lansing, State House of Representatives, 69th District, 2001-2006, State Senate, 23rd District, 2006-2014, Senate Democratic leader, 2010-2014. Filed to run for state attorney general in 2009, but quit in 2010 for family reasons.

Biggest moment

Gained national attention for leading the successful fight against Republican legislative attempt to pass anti-bullying bill that would have excused bullying based on religious beliefs or moral convictions.

Graphic by Nikki Nicolau and Kevin McInerney



Abbot and Grand River
East Lansing

While the actual city limits are several blocks to the west, this intersection serves as the apparent western entrance to East Lansing, subtly marking one end of the central business district with a slight change in direction as Grand River meets Michigan Avenue. At this location, one expects a sign of arrival, not confrontation with significant urban blight.

This site, which has witnessed a protracted episode of neglect, comprises two buildings currently considered for demolition and replacement. The western building is a reasonably attractive composition of stone and brick, though the building to the east is a jumbled attempt to modernize a formerly tidy façade. They have been subjected to neglect and are essentially beyond recovery.

Ideally, their replacement will punctuate the end of the Michigan Avenue axis and create an attractive neighbor for beautiful Gothic Revival People's Church.

Unfortunately, poorly defined urban gateways are not limited to one traffic corridor, or one municipality. The east end of Grand River fares slightly better, as a series of strip malls depart Meridian Township, finally ending with a dignified sign marking Michigan State's campus and the Broad Museum — a building that only appears to be falling down.

— Daniel E. Bollman, AIA

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

MSU assault study LGBT students report higher rate of sexual violence

Michigan State University students who identify as non-heterosexual were nearly twice as likely to report being a victim of sexual violence than their straight peers, the results of national survey released Monday show.

Members of the LGBT community reported being victims of sexual assault or misconduct at a rate of 23.4 percent compared to 12.9 percent for heterosexual students.

The MSU data is part of a 27-university study funded by the Association of American Universities that surveyed over 150,000 students nationally. The study found about 1 percent of respondents identified as members of the LGBT or gender non-conforming communities. The Uni-

versity of Michigan had similar findings.

The data found that 13.2 percent of MSU students said they experienced non-consensual sexual contact (either penetration or sexual touching) involving physical force or incapacitation. Among female undergraduates, the rate was 24.8 percent.

Amy Hunter, coordinator of the ACLU of Michigan's Trans Advocacy Project, called the numbers "shocking."

"The transgender and gender non-conforming community is already most at risk for violence," Hunter said, "It is now evident that even in spaces where we should be in the safest spaces, we're not safe."

Hunter called on MSU officials to implement broad educational outreach for the LGBT and gender non-conforming community about sexual violence, but also general education about the community to the larger university community.

Yvonne Siferd, victim services director for Equality Michigan, a statewide nonprof-

it which tracks bias incidents involving the LGBT and HIV communities noted that the surveys revealed a consistent "male privilege bias."

"Over and over again, female and LG-BTQ student responses were less optimistic than male responses, which I think is telling," she wrote. "Those who belong to a group that experiences objectification and victim-blaming on a regular basis have a much more realistic perspective than those who have the privilege of not seeing it."

She noted that the LGBT community is often "targeted for violence and sexual violence because we don't fit into the gender roles society has deemed acceptable for us based on the sex we were assigned at birth."

State Sen. Curtis Hertel Jr., D-Meridian Township, said the findings "confirmed what we already knew about sexual assault: it's an epidemic." Hertel introduced legislation last week to amend Michigan's laws to reform how high school students

are educated on consent.

"It's not just a heterosexual problem," Hertel said. "it's an across-the-board problem."

MSU recognized the disparity between straight and non-straight students. "There is a need for more outreach to these communities to explore experiences in these high-risk students," Paulette Granberry Russell, MSU's Title IX coordinator and senior adviser to the president, said in a press release.

MSU spokesman Jason Cody said a sexual violence advisory council being formed this year will be asked to look into these survey results with a specific focus on those students identifying as LGBTQ.

— Todd Heywood



Mid-Michigan's peace corp marches Potter Park rally reflects new energy and old ideals

By JIM DETJEN

On Sunday, many hundreds of Mid-Michigan peace activists will march at Potter Park Zoo to celebrate the International Day of Peace. Among the activities will be the planting of a "peace pole," the signing of petitions, singing, yoga and the showcasing of peacemakers' accomplishments.

The activities coincide with Pope Francis' visit to the United States, the successful adoption of an international agreement to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons and the 70th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

"We hope that this event will bring together people of all ages to show their commitment to working towards peace," said Lynn Bartley, a retired educa-

tor who is the president of the Greater Lansing United Nations Association, the march's co-sponsor.

The Lansing peace march is one of hundreds of events being planned around the nation this week that will focus on nonviolence, racism, gun violence, police brutality, nuclear weapons and environmental destruction. Near Las Vegas, a group will protest drone attacks in Afghanistan and Pakistan. In Salt Lake City, there will be a birthday party for Mahatma Gandhi. In Little Rock, there will be a peace vigil and a discussion about the pope's encyclical on the environment.

"The peace movement is re-emerging with a whole new group of young people becoming involved," said Candice Wilmore, a long-time peace activist who has taught a class on peace issues at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lansing. "The peace movement has been dormant for awhile but now is re-surfacing in new ways with people using social media to connect with people from all around the world."

Two recently formed organizations involved in the peace march are the Michigan State University United Nations Association and the Haslett High School Model United Nations Club.

"A lot of young people want to get involved in peace activities," said Shreya Srivastava, 16, president of the Haslett club. "They are just trying to find out the best way to do it."

Srivastava and other Haslett students are creating signs of peacemakers, such as Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr., Mother Teresa, John Lennon and Malala Yousafzai, the 18-year-old Pakistani activist who won the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize.

Srivastava, who designed the peace march flier, hopes to work for the United Nations, Doctors Without Borders or

a similar humanitarian organization.

Monica Watt, 21, is the co-president of the MSU United Nations Association, a group formed earlier this year to educate MSU students about international disputes, such as the international refugee crisis and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The MSU organization, which has about 40 members from many nations, will help create "pinwheels for peace" at the march.

Terry Link, a retired MSU librarian who co-chairs the Peace Education Center, another co-sponsor of the march, said the peace movement "ebbs and flows." But he said the Iran treaty, which the center's members actively lobbied for, has brought new awareness of the peace movement. The increased use of social media and expansion of international travel have also increased interactions with people from many nations, he said.

"The peace movement brings together people interested in social and economic justice, nonviolence, food, climate change and international conflicts," he said. "We are all coming together to build a sustainable planet. If we don't have a livable planet, we have nothing."

Phil Ballbach, 76, has been involved with the peace movement in Michigan since 1967, when he led protests against the Vietnam War. He attends weekly peace vigils at noon Fridays in front of the Capitol and is involved with a discussion group on the cost of militarism at Everybody Reads bookstore, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.

"There are signs of optimism that the peace movement is growing again," he said. "Interest in Bernie Sander's presidential campaign makes me more hopeful. But there is still a lot of work that needs to be done."

The march will start at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Tiger's Den Pavilion adjacent to

the parking lot at Potter Park Zoo, 1301 S. Pennsylvania Ave. A peace pole will be dedicated at 3 p.m., following a one-mile walk along the Lansing River Trail. Wheelchair and strollers are welcome and participants are encouraged to wear attire that shows their affiliations with religious groups, nationalities, schools or other organizations. The march will be held rain or shine.

Other activities at the march will include yoga, singing, brief talks by religious and political leaders, petition signing, face painting and coloring for kids.

Both Bartley and Link said they hope the peace march will become an annual event and expand in future years. "People from many countries will be involved in this event," Bartley said. "It will be a great opportunity to meet people from around the world."

Other co-sponsors of the march include Edgewood United Church, Plymouth Congregational Church, the Michigan Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, the Zonta Club of Michigan Capitol Area, MSU Peace & Justice Studies, MSU Outreach and Engagement, MSU Student Housing Cooperative and MSU International Studies and Programs.

Food will be supplied by the Grand Traverse Pie Co., Insomnia Cookies, Bell's Pizza, Foods for Living, Meijer, Tasty Twist and other businesses.

There is no charge to participate in the march but people are encouraged to register in advance at www.gluna.org/registration. Parking at the zoo is free before 9 a.m. and costs \$3 for Ingham County residents and \$5 for non-residents after 9 a.m.

(Jim Detjen is the Knight Professor of Journalism Emeritus at Michigan State University and founding director of MSU's Knight Center for Environmental Journalism.)

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NOMAD KITCHEN/SUPU SUGOI

Alan I. Ross/City Pulse

Rick Sauer presents one of his burger creations, the Drifter. Sauer recently opened Nomad Kitchen, a new incubator kitchen inside the Avenue Café.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

Some restaurants get their start on the road. **Red Haven** in Okemos and **Good Truckin' Food** in REO Town were once — and occasionally still are — the food trucks **Purple Carrot** and **Good Truckin' Diner**, respectively. Some savor their itinerant existences and remain on the street, resisting the urge to settle down. (We're looking at you, **Detroit Frankie's Wood-Fired Pizza**.) But for Rick Sauer and his new venture, **Nomad Kitchen**, the path to a brick-and-mortar restaurant has started ... in a brick-and-mortar restaurant.

"I'd been running bars and restaurants in East Lansing for a decade, and I was looking to get out of the college scene," says Sauer, 35. "Then I stumbled upon the Avenue and met with Colleen

(Kelley). It all came together pretty quickly."

That would be Kelley's offbeat bar/performance venue, the **Avenue Café** on Lansing's east side. Kelley transformed the building, a former sporting goods store, into the funky coffee-house **Gone Wired Café** eight years ago. In 2012 she added a liquor license and renamed it. She had always served food, but a recent change left her without a kitchen manager. Her novel solution turned out to be Sauer's gateway into going into launching his own business: Kelley turned the Avenue's kitchen into an incubator.

"I thought it would be good way to get some fresh blood in here," Kelley said. "And doing it as an incubator allows us both a lot of flexibility. I'm excited about what Rick's doing."

Nomad Kitchen launched three weeks ago.

The benefit, for most students, is a good job with good pay, and the College Scorecard makes it easy to see where graduates do well. Leading the class in Michigan is Kettering University in Flint, an engineering school with just 1,640 students, where the median pay 10 years after enrollment was \$74,900. Tuition is \$30,683, and you'd better like math.

The next best post-college salaries were for graduates at another engineering school, Michigan Technological University in Houghton. There tuition is \$14,446 a year and salary is \$60,100. In addition to math, students there better like snow.

At the bottom of the salary rankings are schools that prompted the College Scorecard. Among Michigan's lowest performers is the International Academy of Design and Technology in Troy, a for-profit school where most of the students study visual arts. Tuition is \$17,208, the salary after attending is just \$25,200. The typical students leaves the college \$42,103 in debt, most of it federal loans. And only 20 percent of students graduate within six years, which is very low.

Reviews of more traditional schools like Michigan State University are generally favorable. Not only is MSU academically strong, but because it's a public college, tuition is relatively low. The most prominent measurements on the Scorecard are average annual cost (\$16,789), graduation rate (48 percent) and average annual salary (\$34,343); for MSU the results are \$16,507, 78 percent graduating and \$49,800 in salary.

The Scorecard calculated the typical total debt for an MSU undergraduate borrower at \$25,714, with a typical monthly payment

For at least the next six months, Sauer will rent the space from Kelley and have total control over the menu, including buying his own ingredients and hiring his own staff. He's keeping it simple for now, limiting his menu to burgers and fries. But come on, folks, this is the bohemian Eastside — you wouldn't really expect something timid, would you?

"I'm keeping things very experimental," Sauer said. "I came up with a bacon jam that I use on one of the burgers. I've got a vegan kimchee. Bourbon-pickled jalapenos. You can get a burger anywhere, but I'm coming up with stuff to really make these stand out. Basically, I'm gunning for the best burger in town."

Sauer buys his meat freshly ground from **Mert's Meat** in Okemos, but he also includes a vegetarian options for all his burgers using a vegan patty he makes with tofu, tempeh and beets. His brioche buns come from Eastern Market in Detroit, and the cheese curds come from the MSU Dairy. The fries are prepared Belgian-style: hand cut, a quick par fry to partially cook them, then a full deep fry just before serving.

Nomad is only open in the evenings now, but Sauer said he'd like to expand to lunch hours eventually. He also plans to add flatbreads and pizzas by end of year, as well as his homemade chili when the cold weather rolls in. Also coming soon: poutine, a Quebecois dish consisting of fries covered in cheese curds and gravy. (Those Canadians know how to beat the winter blues).

"Rick's take on (food) is very refreshing," Kelley said. "He's a great addition to the Eastside, and I'd be so happy if he was a success and eventually started his own restaurant. I'd hate to lose

him, but that's how incubators work. And if this works out, I'd definitely be open to trying it with someone else."

Awesome soup

Being an incubator is just one way an existing kitchen can enable an aspiring restaurateur to gain exposure. Another method gaining traction in big cities is the concept of the pop-up restaurant, which is typically a one-night dining adventure aimed at foodies. And there's one on the horizon in Metro Lansing, coming from a member of the community who's not typically associated with food: Dominic Cochran. Lansingites may know Cochran as the director of the Lansing Public Media Center and co-founder of both the Capital City Film Festival and Ahptic Film & Digital. But starting next month, he'll introduce local taste buds to authentic Japanese ramen cuisine with **Supu Sugoi**, a pop-up restaurant series. Yeah, you read that right: ramen.

"This is 180 degrees away from dorm ramen," Cochran said. "It's incredibly popular in other parts of the country, but there are only two in the state that are real ramen — and neither are in (mid-Michigan). It's similar to (Vietnamese dish) pho, which is really popular here right now. But ramen is a lot more fun."

Cochran plans to present a series of five-course meals to small groups of no more than 30 and is almost ready to announce locations. Stay tuned.

Nomad Kitchen (inside the Avenue Café)

2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
3-10 p.m. Monday-Saturday; closed Sunday
facebook.com/lansingnomadkitchen

College grades for colleges

Scorecard data bundles costs, aid and future salaries

Colleges and universities universally cite their mission as transmitting knowledge, which certainly is true. But the road to knowledge is paved with grades: high school averages, ACT/SAT scores, GPAs, GREs, MCATS and more.

And when it comes to tough grades for the graders, which is what the U.S. Department of Education has done with the nation's public and private colleges, the schools respond like students and complain that the test is unfair. The Obama administration, seeking to spotlight low-rated schools whose students run up high debt, wanted to create a grading system for colleges, like the rankings done annually by U.S. News and World Report.

It abandoned the effort after fierce lobbying by the higher education establishment, primarily private institutions. But it prevailed in developing a detailed College Scorecard that addresses some challenging cost-benefit issues that students face.



MICKEY HIRTEN

of \$285. Nearly half — 48 percent — receive some form of federal loans. Considering that the average salary of MSU students is \$15,457 higher than the national average, it makes sense that they would repay their loans at a better than average rate, and they do: 88 percent versus the average of 67 percent.

Comparisons with the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor are always telling, and based on the College Scorecard it's a better school. Graduates earn more — \$57,900 a year — and the annual cost to attend is lower: \$16,287. Fewer grads used student loans (37 percent) and the socioeconomic diversity grade — the percentage of families with income less than \$40,000 and receiving Pell Grants — is 16 percent. At MSU it's 24 percent.

And no, the Department of Education did not include a sports performance measurement.

What about other four-year colleges in the area? The grades are more Cs than Bs.

Davenport University, based in Grand Rapids but with a significant presence in downtown Lansing, has an average annual cost of \$17,421, but the College Scorecard pegs the graduation rate as just 37 percent and the salary 10 years after enrolling at \$29,000. The typical student debt for graduates is \$30,250, which they repay at a lower-than-average rate. Just 56 percent of Davenport grads have repaid at least \$1 of principal on their loans after three years, which is the measurement used by the government in the Scorecard.

But it's important to recognize that

Davenport students are different from those at MSU. Almost two-thirds of them attend part time and generally have lower family incomes than students at schools like MSU. The socio-economic diversity score for Davenport grads is 53 percent.

If there is an average school in the region it is Olivet College. Small, private, operated by the United Church of Christ, the average annual cost is \$18,341, with a graduation rate of 43 percent and salary after attending of \$34,100. Total student debt is \$27,000, the repayment rate is 73 percent and 80 percent of students receive federal loans. About half of the student body of 1,016 get income based Pell Grants. The socioeconomic diversity rate is 46 percent.

Albion College's Scorecard has a high average annual cost: \$23,479, a graduation rate of 73 percent and a salary of \$45,100 annually. The profile suggests a wealthier student body, with 62 percent receiving federal loans and a well above average 92 percent paying down student debt.

The Scorecard also graded community colleges. The numbers reflect a very different institution from four years schools. They cost less and serve more part-time students from lower income families. With all of the numbers and averages, what the Scorecard doesn't measure is the quality of education. Students at LCC can do as well, learn as much as students at MSU. And even with all of the College Scorecard numbers, it's worth noting that large numbers of students outperform the averages, that they complete school, leave with low debt and will be paid better salaries.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CITY OF EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN ORDINANCE NO. 1353

AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR A SERVICE CHARGE IN LIEU OF TAXES FOR A MULTIPLE FAMILY DWELLING PROJECT FOR PERSONS OF LOW INCOME TO BE FINANCED OR ASSISTED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ACT OF 1966 (1966 PA 346, AS AMENDED, MCL 125.1401)

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1353 was adopted by the East Lansing City Council at a regular meeting of the Council held on September 15, 2015.

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. Purpose. This ordinance authorizes and approves an annual service charge in lieu of taxes for residential housing developments that: (a) serve Low Income or Moderate Income Persons (as defined in the State Housing Development Authority Act, Act 346 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1966, as amended, and this Ordinance); (b) are financed or assisted by the Authority in accordance with Act 346; (c) are located within the City; and (d) comply with this Ordinance.

SECTION 2. Title. This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the "City of East Lansing Bailey Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership Tax Exemption Ordinance."

SECTION 3. Preamble. It is acknowledged that it is a proper public purpose of the State of Michigan and its political subdivisions to provide housing for its citizens of low income and to encourage the development of such housing by providing for a service charge in lieu of property taxes in accordance with the State Housing Development Authority Act of 1966 (1966 PA 346, as amended, MCL Section 125.1401 et. seq.). The City of East Lansing (the "City") is authorized by this Act to establish or change the service charge to be paid in lieu of taxes by any or all classes of housing exempt from taxation under this Act at any amount it chooses not to exceed the taxes that would be paid but for this Act. It is further acknowledged that such housing for persons of low income is a public necessity, and as the City will be benefited and improved by such housing, the encouragement of the same by providing certain real estate tax exemption for such housing is a valid public purpose; further, that the continuance of the provisions of this Ordinance for tax exemption and the service charge in lieu of all ad valorem taxes during the period contemplated in this Ordinance are essential to the determination of economic feasibility of housing developments which are constructed and financed in reliance on such tax exemption.

The City acknowledges that Bailey Limited Dividend Housing Association Limited Partnership (the "Sponsor") has offered, subject to receipt of a Mortgage Loan from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, to renovate a housing development identified as the "Bailey Community Senior Apartments" on certain property located on Bailey Street in the City of East Lansing (the "Development") to service Low Income Seniors (as defined below), and that the Sponsor has offered to pay the City on account of this housing development an annual service charge for public services in lieu of all taxes.

SECTION 4. Definitions.

- A. Act means the State Housing Development Authority Act, being Public Act 346 of 1966, of the State of Michigan, as amended.
- B. Annual Shelter Rents means the total collections during an agreed annual period from all low and moderate income residential occupants of a housing development representing rent or occupancy charges, exclusive of charges for gas, electricity, heat or other utilities furnished to the occupants, including the portion of the rent payable under any governmental subsidy.
- C. Authority means the Michigan State Housing Development Authority.
- D. Calendar Year means the consecutive 12 month period which ends December 31 of the year immediately preceding the year in which the service charge is to be paid.
- E. Class of Housing Development means a class of housing projects occupied by persons of low or moderate income as defined by Section 11(g) of the Act.
- F. Housing Development means a development which contains a significant element of housing for persons of low income and such elements of other housing, commercial, recreational, industrial, communal, and educational facilities as the Authority determines improve the quality of the development as it relates to housing for persons of low income.
- G. Low Income Seniors shall have the same meaning as found in Section 15(a)(7) of the Act
- H. Mortgage Loan means any of the following:
 - (i) A mortgage insured, purchased, or held by the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") or the Authority;
 - (ii) A mortgage receiving interest credit reduction payments provided by the HUD;
 - (iii) A Housing Development to which the Authority allocates low income housing tax credits under Section 22b of the Act; or
 - (iv) A mortgage receiving special benefits under other federal law designated specifically to develop low and moderate-income housing, consistent with the Act.
- I. Sponsor means Bailey Limited Housing Association Limited Partnership, 1290 Deerpath, East Lansing, MI 48823, which has applied to the Authority to finance a Housing Development.
- J. Utilities means fuel, water, sanitary sewer service and/or electrical service which are paid by the Housing Development.
- K. Tax Credits means the low income housing tax credits made available by the Authority to the Sponsor for rehabilitation of the Housing Development by the Sponsor in accordance with the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program administered by the Authority under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

SECTION 5. Class of Housing Projects. It is determined that the class of housing projects to which the tax exemption shall apply and for which a service charge shall be paid in lieu of such taxes shall be housing projects for Low Income and Moderate Income Persons and Families that are financed with a Mortgage Loan by the Authority. It is further determined that Bailey Community Senior Apartments is of this class or assisted by the Authority pursuant to the Act.

SECTION 6. Establishment of Annual Service Charge. The Housing Development identified as Bailey Community Senior Apartments and the property on which it is to be renovated shall be exempt from all property taxes for all calendar years commencing on the first day of the calendar year in which the renovation commences. The City, acknowledging that the Sponsor and the Authority have established the economic feasibility of the Housing Development in reliance upon the enactment and continuing effect of this Ordinance and the qualification of the Housing Development for exemption from all property taxes and a payment in lieu of taxes as established in this Ordinance, and in consideration of the Sponsor's offer, subject to receipt of a Mortgage Loan from the Authority, to acquire, rehabilitate, own and operate the Housing Development, agrees to accept payment of an annual service charge for public services in lieu of all ad valorem property taxes. The annual service charge shall be equal to One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars.

SECTION 7. Limitation on the Payment of Annual Service Charge. Notwithstanding Section 6, the service charge to be paid each year in lieu of taxes for the part of the Housing Development which is tax exempt and which is occupied by other than Low Income Seniors shall equal the full amount of the taxes which would be paid on that portion of the Housing Development if the Housing Development were not tax exempt.

SECTION 8. Contractual Effect of Ordinance. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 15(a)(5) of the Act, to the contrary, a contract between the City and the Sponsor with the Authority as third party beneficiary under the contract, to provide tax exemption and accept payments in lieu of taxes, as previously described, is effectuated by enactment of this Ordinance. However, nothing contained in this Ordinance shall constitute a waiver of any rights the City of East Lansing may possess or exercise under the provisions of Section 15(a)(2) of the Act, provided the exercise of such rights does not, in the opinion of the Authority, impair the economic feasibility of the project or the Mortgage Loan. Notwithstanding the contractual effect of this Ordinance, this Ordinance shall be null and void if renovation of the Housing Development does not commence on or before January 31, 2017 or the Housing Development is not completed by January 31, 2018.

SECTION 9. Payment of Service Charge. The service charge in lieu of taxes as determined under the Ordinance shall be payable in the same manner as general property taxes are payable to the City, except that the annual payment shall be paid on or before August 15th of each year and shall be distributed to the several units levying the general property tax in the same proportion as for general property taxes. Failure to pay the service charge on or before August 15th of each year shall result in the service charge being subject to one (1%) percent interest per month until paid. If any amount of the annual service charge or accrued interest shall remain unpaid as of December 31 of each year, the amount unpaid shall be a lien upon the real property constituting the Bailey Community Senior Apartments upon the City Treasurer filing a certificate of non-payment of the service charge, together with an affidavit of proof of service of the certificate of non-payment upon the sponsor with the Ingham County Register of Deeds, and collection procedures shall be in accordance with the provisions of the General Property Tax Act (1893 PA206, as amended; MCL211.1, tense).

SECTION 10. Duration. The exemption from taxation and the annual service charge shall commence on the last day of the calendar year in which construction or rehabilitation commences for the Housing Development, and shall remain in effect and shall not terminate so long as the Mortgage Loan remains outstanding or the Authority has any interest in the property or for the period of affordability as established by a regulatory agreement; and so long as the Housing Development submits the required annual notification pursuant to MCL 125.1415a(1), as amended, but in no case longer than 45 years.

SECTION 11. Severability. The various section and provisions of this Ordinance shall be deemed to be severable, and should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any section or provision of this Ordinance other than the section or provision so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

SECTION 12. Inconsistent Ordinances. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

SECTION 13. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become effective on the date of its adoption and publication as provided in the East Lansing City Charter. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1353 can be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan during normal business hours.

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#15_235

ArtPrize bound

Lansing artists compete in Michigan's premiere art competition

By TY FORQUER

The search for Lansing's ArtPrize participants takes you to coffee houses, art studios, galleries — and to a Tuffy service station in Grandor.

"I never intended for this to be art," said Don Krauss, a 56-year-old mechanic and 2015 ArtPrize participant.

Krauss stands in the lobby of the service station, surrounded by a menagerie of metal animal sculptures. A moose and a giraffe greet customers who walk into the lobby. A brightly painted fish is tucked away in a corner, and a pig on a spit sits on a shelf above. All of the sculptures are composed of discarded car parts.

"Those are all cut from brake lines," said Krauss, gesturing toward the quills of a porcupine statue in the corner.

Krauss started making sculptures a few years ago. His first attempt was a 4-foot-tall fisherman, complete with fishing rod. Jeff Neilson, owner of the service center, is an avid angler.

"I just wanted to make something fun to prop the door open with," Krauss said.

At the urging of Neilson, Krauss created more sculptures. Some, like the fisherman, have become fixtures at the station. Others are for sale. Krauss pointed out one of his

more popular creations, a turtle painted in MSU green and white.

"We call it a Spurtle," Krauss said. "It's a combination of Spartan and turtle."

Krauss is bringing 13 of his metallic fauna to this year's ArtPrize. He describes his entry, entitled "Group Therapy," as "the animals coming together as we humans destroy, pollute and take over more of the earth."

Krauss' work is an apt metaphor for ArtPrize. The annual Grand Rapids art competition, which opens today at noon, is at the intersection of art and commerce. Downtown bars, restaurants and other establishments become short-term galleries, showcasing the competing works.

The friction between art and commerce has created controversy for the competition in the past. ArtPrize draws thousands of visitors — and their wallets — to downtown Grand Rapids, but controversial art can make business owners uneasy.

Henry Brimmer, professor of advertising and public relations at MSU, caused a stir last year by placing life-size silhouetted figures — some appearing to hold binoculars, others seemingly armed with sniper rifles — atop a Grand Rapids building. (Two of the figures have found a home on a rooftop in Lansing's Old Town.)

Gurmej Singh, who works under the moniker SinGh, roiled owners of downtown entertainment venue the B.O.B. in

2012 when he unveiled an effigy of Saddam Hussein hanging from a noose outside the building. Greg Gilmore, owner of the B.O.B., removed the work from the premises before the competition began. Singh burned the work in protest. The artist would later be banned from the competition for his 2013 entry, a 2-mile-long painting that greatly exceeded the amount of space the venue had provided, running over streets and sidewalks and through private property. Police said it constituted a public safety hazard.

Ben Graham, a Lansing-based graphic designer, isn't looking to ruffle any feathers with his 2015 ArtPrize entry, "Sign Language."

"My message is a very positive, uplifting message," said Graham.

Graham installed his entry, a series of reimagined road signs, in the parking lot next to the B.O.B. two weeks ago for a media preview. A reworked stop sign now instructs viewers to "smell the roses." A "no parking" sign becomes a "no whining" sign, and yellow, diamond-shaped signs bring a message

of "peace & love."

Even before ArtPrize officially began, Graham noticed people stopping to check out his installation.

"It's been received unbelievably well," Graham said. "People were stopping and taking selfies with the signs. It made them happy."

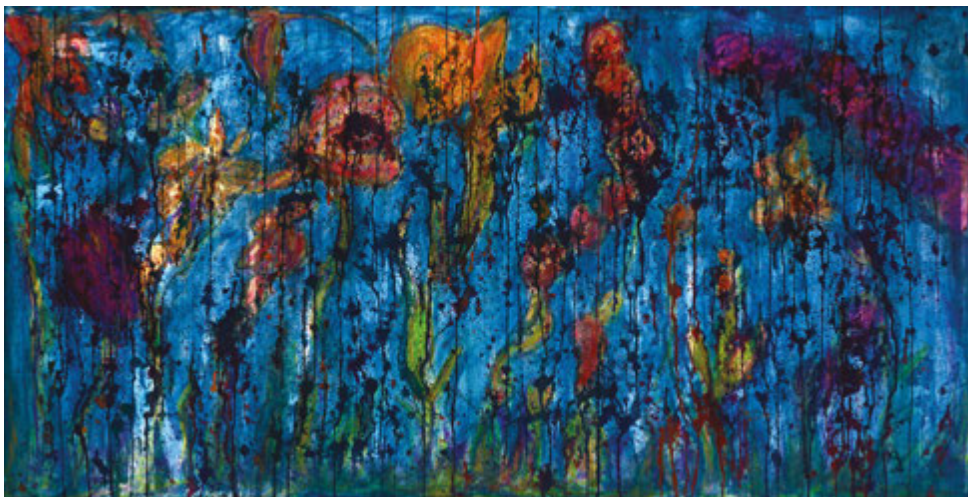
Other than the new text, the signs were created to the same specifications as public road signs, from the reflective surface to the posts they are mounted on. The only non-standard addition is a screen-printed signature on the back of each piece.

"Every sign is signed," said Graham.

Working with road signs is an idea that had been percolating in Graham's head for a few years. It began in the late '90s with a Christmas card he designed that digitally added a spray-painted red dot onto a deer crossing sign, evoking a certain red-nosed reindeer.

"Road signs are the most successful communication device the government ever cre-

See Art Prize, Page 10



Courtesy photo

"Midnight Garden," by Alisa Lincoln, will hang at Grand Rapids' San Chez tapas bistro.



Courtesy photo

Graphic artist Ben Graham works on the lettering for "Sign Language," his 2015 ArtPrize entry.

Art Prize

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ated," said Graham. "I started toying with the idea of communicating beyond what the sign was saying.

While much of Graham's day-to-day work is done on computers, Graham found the physical work of creating the signs refreshing.

"I was 15 years into my career before the digital age hit," said Graham, who earned a degree in graphic design from Northern Michigan University in 1974. "I love the digital technology, but now everyone has the same software. Everything is starting to look the same. I try to get the mouse out of my hand as much as possible."

ArtPrize has gained national prominence for the sheer scale of the event. The competition awards over \$500,000 in prize money, including top prizes of \$200,000 awarded to the winners in two categories: popular vote and juried prize. The big money, coupled with the event's spirit of inclusivity, draws over 1,500 artists to the competition, with works on display at over 160 venues. Numbers provided by ArtPrize estimate that over 440,000 people visited last year's competition.

While Graham isn't holding out hope for the big cash prizes, the opportunity to connect with a huge number of people motivated him to jump into this year's competition.

"Over 400,000 people are going to see 'Sign Language' over 19 days," Graham said. "It's phenomenal."

Those sentiments are echoed by Lansing-based artist Rick Cunningham.

"It's nice to be where people appreciate art," he said. "It's nice to meet other artists and hang out with my peers."

The 66-year-old artist holds degrees in fine art and commercial art, and he has worked since 1990 as a freelance commercial artist and illustrator. His 2015 entry, a



Courtesy photo

"First Sunday," by Brian Whitfield, features three members of Lansing's Trinity AME Church, the city's oldest African American congregation.

7-by-3-and-a-half-foot acrylic painting of a lakeside beach, will hang in downtown Grand Rapids coffee shop West Coast Coffee.

"I like to dip my hand in fine art once in a while," Cunningham said. "ArtPrize is a nice way to do that."

This is Cunningham's third year exhibiting at ArtPrize, and while he enjoys the camaraderie of the event, he has all but given up on the competitive side of it.

"I don't really compete anymore. It's a daunting task," Cunningham said. "These are some of the major leaguers. It's like me golfing against Jordan Spieth."

Brian Whitfield, a graphic designer for Michigan's Department of Transportation, also enjoys the chance to get away from commercial art.

"At heart, I'm really a painter and an artist," said Whitfield.

The 52-year-old Lansing native has exhibited at ArtPrize every year since its 2009 inception. This year his work will be on display at the Devos Place convention center, but in the past he has always exhibited at Monroe Community Church. He said that the church has become "like family" through his ArtPrize experience.

"The church is really progressive. It's a

really artistic group," he said. "They made it a personal, tight-knit group (of artists)."

Whitfield's other work includes designing Michigan license plates — including the award-winning Mackinaw Bridge design — and he designed the posters for last year's Lansing JazzFest and BluesFest. He was also tapped to create murals for the Under the Bridge project to beautify the US 127 underpass on Michigan Avenue.

While Whitfield usually creates a new piece for ArtPrize, this year he dipped into his archives to present "First Sunday," a 20-by-36 inch graphite-on-paper drawing depicting three elderly African American women taking communion. The women, who have since died, were members at Whitfield's church, Trinity AME Church, Trinity, Lansing's oldest African American church,

See Art Prize, Page 11

September 24 - November 1, 2015

Rounding Third

by Richard Dresser

Pay-What-You-Can Preview
Thursday, Sept. 24 @ 8PM

\$15 Previews

Sept. 25 @ 8PM, Sept. 26 @ 8PM

Sept. 27 @ 2PM, Oct. 1 @ 8PM

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



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lesbian, gay, bisexual and
transgender people and
their allies in the greater
Lansing community since 1979.

www.LAHRonline.org

Art Prize

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will celebrate its 150th anniversary next year.

The decision to use an older piece was mostly a practical matter. Whitfield didn't have time to create something new, but couldn't bear the thought of missing Art-Prize.

"This year has been so busy, but I didn't want to break my streak," Whitfield said.

Alisa Lincoln has attended ArtPrize almost every year but is exhibiting for the first time this year.

"I've been to every year except one," she said. "It finally worked out (to exhibit). The season felt right."

Lincoln, who has a home studio in north-west Lansing, said the community aspect of ArtPrize brings her back year after year.

"I love the atmosphere, the energy it brings," she said. "It's the synergy of everyone coming together."

Lincoln's 2015 Art-Prize piece, "Midnight Garden" will hang in downtown Grand Rapid's popular tapas bistro, San Chez. The work is a 6-by-3-foot acrylic and charcoal abstract painting.

Lincoln grew up in an artistic family but didn't plan on making a career out of art.

"I didn't always embrace that part of myself," she said. "I almost walked away from art."

Eventually, Lincoln graduated from Western Michigan University with a degree in graphic design, hoping to find a steady job that allowed her to be creative. But she never found fulfillment in graphic design.

"I never liked it," Lincoln said. "After I graduated, I realized I was a fine artist."

Lincoln has already set to work on her next endeavor, an ambitious series of paintings she calls the "Affirmation" project. Her goal is to hang 22 6-foot-by-3-foot paintings around Lansing. Each paint-

ing will have a different positive affirmation, like "beautiful" or "creative."

"We're inundated with negative messages in the media," Lincoln said. "What if we had a different conversation?"

Lincoln believes in the power of art to change lives and help people to see the world in a different way. She sees ArtPrize as an example of what is possible when a community embraces art and artists.

"I appreciate that Grand Rapids values art like that," Lincoln said. "I'm excited to be part of that vibe."



Photo by Ty Forquer

Don Krauss poses with one of his creations, a colorfully painted fish made from an automobile gas tank.



Courtesy photo

A menagerie of Krauss' animal sculptures greets visitors to the Tuffy service station in Frandor.

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Ingham County Land Bank Fast Track Authority is accepting proposals for the **Removal & Disposal of Hazardous Materials and Demolition & Debris Removal**, of residential structures located at sites listed in the **Bid Packet# DEMO-PI2-10-2015**, which can be obtained at the Ingham County Land Bank office, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI 48906 or at the website: www.inghamlandbank.org. Proposals will be due at the Land Bank office by 1pm on October 7, 2015. The Bid Opening will be October 7, 2015 at 1pm. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply.



CP#15_241

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, October 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan to add Chapter 1302, Sections 1302.01-1302.11 to the Lansing Codified Ordinances by providing regulation for Collection Bins.

For more information please call 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Monday, October 12, 2015, at the City Clerk's Office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 West Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933 or email city.clerk@lansingmi.gov.

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

www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#15_234

B/16/039 Winter Maintenance for Parking Division as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the **CITY OF LANSING C/O LBWL, PURCHASING OFFICE, 1232 HACO DR., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912** until 3:00 PM local time in effect on **Oct. 1, 2015** at which time the bids will be opened and read aloud. **Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling Stephanie Robinson, CPPB at (517) 702-6197, or email: slr@lbwl.com, or go to www.mitn.info.** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#15_240

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On September 16, 2015, the following minutes of the proceedings of the Meridian Township Board were sent for posting in the following locations:

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

September 1, 2015 Regular Meeting

ELIZABETH LEGOFF
SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#15_236

CITY OF EAST LANSING NOTICE

**LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION IS MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2015
FOR THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2015 CITY GENERAL ELECTION**

To the qualified electors of the CITY OF EAST LANSING,
Counties of INGHAM and CLINTON, State of Michigan

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE CITY OF EAST LANSING, WILL HOLD AN ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 3, 2015.

For the purpose of electing:

East Lansing City Council

Three (3) Members

Monday, October 5, 2015 is the last day to register or change your address for the November 3, 2015 City General Election.

To register to vote, visit any Secretary of State Branch Office, your County or City Clerk during regular business hours.

Clerk's offices with qualified electors in East Lansing are at the following locations:

East Lansing City Clerk, 410 Abbot Rd., East Lansing, 48823 (517) 319-6914
Ingham County Clerk, 341 S. Jefferson St., Mason, 48854 (517) 676-7201
Ingham County Clerk, 313 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, 48933 (517) 483-6101

The East Lansing City Clerk's Office is open Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For complete listing of candidates, log on to the East Lansing's website at www.cityofeastlansing.com /City Clerk's Department or the Ingham County Clerk's website at www.ingham.org

Marie E. Wicks
East Lansing City Clerk

CP#15_237

ARTS & CULTURE

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Growing families

Willow Tree Family Center offers help to Lansing parents

By **TY FORQUER**

Willow Tree Family Center, which aims to help families through “pregnancy, birth and beyond,” began as a way to connect overwhelmed parents with resources in the community.

Third Annual Soiree

6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26
\$70/\$525 table of up to 8
Radisson Lansing
111 N. Grand Ave.,
Lansing
(586) 806-9823,
willowtreefamily.com

“We had a group of women who didn’t know where to go for these resources,” said Nicole Greiter, founder and president of Willow Tree Family Center.

The main thrust of the nonprofit’s efforts are its support groups. It began three years ago with a single support group for mothers. Fast forwarding to the present, the group offers 24 support groups for parents. The groups aim to help parents with the day-to-day struggles of pregnancy and parenting, as well as specific situations like postpartum depression or loss of a pregnancy.

The groups are still mostly geared towards mothers, but some groups — like the recently launched Brew & Babies group — are trying to bring more fathers into the mix. The bimonthly Brew & Babies event offers fathers a chance to bond and discuss parenting issues over a beer or two.

The support group structure is impor-

tant to Greiter’s vision. Rather than swooping in to be a savior, Willow Tree Family Center tries to strengthen the community from within.

“Those of us who run it also use the services,” Greiter said. “There’s trust there. These are your friends and neighbors.”

Greiter said many young parents are intimidated by physicians — or even other family members — and are afraid to admit their struggles with parenting. Some parents, especially in low-income homes, are afraid that seeking help might trigger a visit from Child Protective Services.

“Willow Tree is a neutral place where you can get information on anything,” she said. “There’s no agenda.”

“Everything you say in the group stays in the group. It’s a safe place,” added Gaëlle Cassin-Ross.

Cassin-Ross attends support groups at the center and also leads a French immersion class for babies. She believes that media portrayals of parenthood also lead to unrealistic expectations for parenthood.

“The media always depicts parenthood as joyful,” Cassin-Ross said. “You need people to tell you that what you are going through is normal.”

Greiter believes the current culture of parenting places unfair expectations on parents. From the latest parenting fads to Baby Einstein to educational cartoons, parents are bombarded with products promising to give their children a developmental edge.

“There’s so much competition to be the best parent, to be perfect,” Greiter said. “When you face adversity, you’re afraid to talk about it.



Courtesy Photo

Melissa Kramer (left) and Willow Tree Family Center founder Nicole Greiter participate in a yoga class for mothers with babies.

The center also acts as an informational hub, connecting parents with the various resources available in the community.

“When they have a baby, parents are getting most of the information from their physician, who may not be aware of all the resources,” Greiter said. “That’s very limiting.”

While most activities take place at the center’s office at 3333 S. Pennsylvania Ave., some programs are designed to reach out into the surrounding community. A rural moms group in Dansville offers support for non-city-dwelling parents, and a new Flourishing Families program offers in-home parent mentoring. The Flourishing Families program is aimed at helping low-income families who Greiter describes as “on the bubble” — needing assistance, but not qualifying for government assistance programs.

“They still need support in the home,” said Greiter.

The center also puts on special events

like its annual Baby Fair, giving parents a chance to connect with local care providers. Exhibitors include everything from pediatricians and midwives to lactation consultants and preschool teachers.

All of the center’s programs are free and are supported through donations and grants. The group’s biggest fundraiser, the Third Annual Soiree, will be Saturday at the Radisson in Lansing. The \$70 ticket price includes dinner, dancing, an open bar and live and silent auctions.

Willow Tree Family Center operates on a tight budget and doesn’t spend much on advertising or promotion.

“Most of it is word of mouth,” Greiter said.

It must be working. Last year, Willow Tree Family Center served 690 attendees across its array of services. So far this year, Greiter said, the center has served 760 attendees and she hopes to double last year’s total by the end of the year.



Courtesy Photo

A group of moms discuss cloth diapers at Willow Tree Family Center’s annual Baby Fair.

CURTAIN CALL

The hard sell Ixon Theatre takes on Mamet's 'Glengarry Glen Ross'

By TOM HELMA

Put a bunch of street rats in a single cage and, no surprise, they begin to eye each other to see who will eat whom.

“Glengarry Glen Rose,” David Mamet’s Pulitzer Prize-winning 1984 stage play, presented by Ixon Theatre on the brand-new Robin Theatre stage, is a painfully intimate look at the deep vulnerabilities of a disparate group of desperate real estate con artists as they are forced

to compete with each other or lose their jobs. F-bombs fly with impunity in this piece, which has more than 55 curse words overall — more than an episode of HBO’s “Deadwood.”

The play is a true ensemble piece, character driven, performed by local actors who also dig deep to bring dark nuance to the roles they play.

A sweaty Shelly Levene, (welcome back, Daryl Thompson) starts out the action. Shelly is the elder hustler of the group, begging for a good lead, willing to promise virtually anything to be able to

land just one good sale after a long streak of rejections.

Director Jeff Croff has staged this scene as the first of several two- and three-person vignettes that reveal details of the plot. This staging gives each of the seven characters much latitude to present themselves.

Shelly is confronted by the young John Williamson (Christian Thompson). John appears at first to be a mere office manager, but ultimately holds the work life of five longtime salespeople in his hot little hand. While Daryl Thomson brings non-stop animation and stream-of-consciousness delivery, Christian Thompson is deadpan and chillingly calm.

The lights dim, and we are on to a second vignette, with Adam Bright as Dave Moss and Michael Schacherbauer as George Aaronow. Dave plots to break in and steal the list of the best leads, utilizing every one of his devious salesman tricks to persuade George to do the dirty deed. Once again, there is a severe contrast of styles between these two characters. Schacherbauer stutters and stumbles his way

through his character’s apprehension and wariness, while Bright blithely and coldly lays out the details of the midnight theft plot.

Once again, lights dim, and our third vignette reveals an actual sales pitch. The erudite Ricky Roma, elegantly portrayed by David Bilby, smooth-talks his way through the hesitations of a slow-talking, semi-handicapped customer, James Lingk (Kris Vitols). At a critical moment, as the sales pitch starts to falter, Shelly re-enters the scene. The seamless, perfectly scripted back-and-forth banter that ensues is a highlight of the show.

The final scene of the second act brings all the actors back out on stage (including Leo Poroshin in the featured role of Baylen, a menacing figure of few words and ominous intent). What follows is a flurry of intense, angry interactions and a powerful monologue by Shelly. The tiny stage at the Robin Theatre makes for some awkward bumping and stumbling around for this scene, but the powerful dialogue — in the hands of highly competent actors — prevails.

‘Cinderella’ Sparkles

Touring production puts new
shine on an old classic

By PAUL WOZNIAK

Like a sequined dress from the fairy godmother herself, Rodgers and Hammerstein’s “Cinderella” shimmers with life at the Wharton Center. Featuring a new book by Douglas Carter Beane, this musical production seamlessly blends classic songs with a modern, irreverent script.

“Cinderella,” of course, is the timeless tale of a poor servant girl who meets and captivates the prince with the help of magical threads courtesy of her fairy godmother. This Broadway production is adapted from

“Cinderella”

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 23 and Thursday, Sept. 24; 8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25; 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26; 1 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27
Tickets start at \$38
Wharton Center
750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
(517) 432-2000, whartoncenter.com

Set somewhere in a pre-electricity, post-printing press European fantasy kingdom, Prince Topher (Andy Huntington Jones) laments his lack of purpose. He slays forest monsters with ease — including a giant praying mantis — but feels bored and restless. Meanwhile, domestic servant Ella

(Paige Faure) longs to escape her mean and ungrateful stepmother and stepsisters. After a chance encounter in the woods, the two remember each other’s kindness and uncharacteristic generosity, especially given their respective social positions.

Faure and Jones are beautifully matched as two sincere, yet sensitive souls who learn to find their respective voices. Faure’s crisp soprano soothes the forest creatures in “In My Own Little Corner” and blends nicely with Jones in “Ten Minutes Ago.” She’s also a match for Marie (Liz McCartney), Ella’s fairy godmother. The stunning special effects of a pumpkin transformation and blink-of-an-eye dress changes barely keep pace with their voices on “Impossible” and “It’s Possible,” two of the strongest numbers in the first act.

The show also features a strong supporting cast, including Topher’s manipulative court advisor, Sebastian (Blake Hammond), Ella’s stepmother, Madame (Beth Glover), and stepsisters Gabrielle and Charlotte (Kaitlyn Davidson and Aymee Garcia, respectively). By far, this is one of the strongest touring

casts to come through Wharton, featuring several stage veterans straight from the Broadway production.

Perhaps the show’s greatest strength is its light tone. “Cinderella” is definitely a fantasy. Major problems in the kingdom are solved through blanket forgiveness — a wedding and

a quick decree turning an aristocratic empire into an overnight democracy. But the show never gets bogged down in sappy sentimentality. Despite the two-hour plus run time, the pace feels breathless, and its message of kindness and forgiveness over ridicule and self-preservation are timeless and universal.

**“I received
15 calls in April from
my City Pulse
Pulsified for
lawn mowing.”**

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Tuxedo vortex

Lansing Symphony wows with all-Gershwin opener

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

In 1946, American composer and critic Virgil Thomson was amazed at the success of an all-Gershwin program at Carnegie Hall.

“The works themselves, especially the ‘Rhapsody (in Blue),’ are not so fresh to us as they once were,” he noted dryly. That was about the time Harry Truman had just settled into the White House.

They’re no less fresh in at the tail end of the Obama administration, but audiences adore Gershwin, then and now.

Friday night, pianist Ralph Votapek managed to provoke four standing ovations during the Lansing Symphony’s all-Gershwin season opener — something I haven’t seen in 14 years of reviewing the LSO.

This was no fond, valedictory nod to an aging artist. For one thing, Votapek is granite hard and badass as ever, at least when playing music as familiar to his fingers as Gershwin.

For another, Votapek neither encouraged nor indulged in mawkish sentiment. All night, he sliced like a shark through the romantic billows and surges of an orchestra that’s already in mid-season form. Four works by Gershwin, including the famous “Rhapsody in Blue,” hardly seemed enough for the happy crowd at the Wharton Center.

Wall-to-wall enjoyment like that is rare at a symphony concert, where some music is bound to please more than others.

But the usual rules didn’t apply Friday. Timothy Muffitt, the symphony’s conductor and music director, had stacked the deck.

Votapek is a hometown favorite, with a storied career at MSU going back to the 1960s. He’s also a world-renowned musician, hailed like a rock star on his frequent tours of Latin America.

So parking Votapek on stage for a whole evening of Gershwin was unusual, but not risky.

The other ace up Muffitt’s sleeve was Gershwin, a category unto himself.

Gershwin’s music defies decay — not because it’s feel-good music, but because the jaunty two-steps and Art Deco frosting decay so fast. For all his vaunted American energy, Gershwin is a study in mortality and impermanence. A relentless night of razzle-dazzle would have been monotonous, but a concert that makes you want to go home and make your own short life count is no small achievement.

Muffitt set the bittersweet tone by opening with the longest work of the night, the Concerto in F. The banquet had barely started when the strings hinted at the bill — a haunting, halting melody with a lovely face and a pallid skull beneath. The skull

returned, full force, at the end of the first movement.

A wistful slow movement, with many fine solo turns, gave way to a frantic finale that threw the soloist and the orchestra into a tuxedo vortex. Votapek very nearly rushed ahead of the orchestra several times throughout the night. The chase gave the music a tense spontaneity, even in the most familiar bits. (And no American composer used a tam-tam more effectively until Frank Zappa’s climax to “G-Spot Tornado.”)

There followed a light set of variations on “I Got Rhythm” that felt stiff and labored, as such “pops” material often does. But the night’s big revelation was yet to come: the Second Rhapsody, the least frequently played piece on the program, dubbed in its early stages the “Rhapsody in Rivets.”

In the night’s tightest performance, a familiar Gershwin-esque emotional arc, from sky-scraping hustle-bustle to louche languor to a drawn-out, hat-cane-and-teeth finale, were packed into a dense and thrilling 14 minutes.

Part of the fun Friday was picking up bits and pieces of “Rhapsody in Blue” from every piece that preceded it until it rose up, fully assembled, at the end of the night.

If anyone can say they own the “Rhapsody” these days, it’s Votapek, who has played it more than 70 times with the world’s great (and not-so-great) orchestras. He learned it at age 17, when he won a contest and played it with its original conductor, Paul Whiteman. At 76, Votapek is close to double the age Gershwin was when he died.

Thomson wrote that “great mature interpreters” grow to overwhelm the work of composers who died young. Pianist Oscar Levant, the soloist in the 1946 Carnegie Hall Gershwin concert, was the era’s definitive Gershwin performer, but Thomson found Levant had given up spontaneity and become “authoritative” and “masterful.”

Not so for Votapek, whose workmanlike

focus sidesteps the whole issue of youth vs. maturity. Instead, he aspires to Gershwin’s own piano style, which Votapek has described as “dry” and “stenciled.”

The spontaneity, as well as the authority, comes simply from sitting down and doing the job as well as possible that particular day.

An overbearing or flamboyant artist couldn’t have held the attention of the hall all night, but Votapek seemed to have everyone in thrall from beginning to end.

Votapek’s only observable expression of emotion all night was a single raised eyebrow, after the audience clamored for an encore. (That eyebrow seemed to ask,

“Haven’t they had enough?”)

They had not. Votapek played an autumnal arrangement of “Summertime” that set the song’s famous limpid melody against a cross-current of descending scales, like dying leaves falling across a swimming hole in chilly October.

Thomson, who was no softy, knew when a successful concert had taken place. His 1946 Carnegie Hall review applies just as well to Friday’s Gershwin extravaganza.

“It is a pleasure to find that audiences are still reacting favorably to Gershwin’s music,” he wrote. “It is a pleasure to see an audience react so favorably to all the pieces on a program.”



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Chillin' with the chiller

Author Johnathan Rand on his road to youth thriller success

By ELI KLEIN

Author Johnathan Rand wishes more interviewers would ask him a simple, one-word question: Why?

"Everyone asks 'Where do you get your ideas?'" Rand said. "But no one has ever asked, 'Why? Why do you get your ideas?' That should be the root question."

Rand's own roots are firmly planted in Michigan soil, the fertile ground for the bountiful ideas found in his Michigan Chillers and American Chillers series. It's also the response to the why question, the why

behind his ghoulish and but lively tales for children, with titles like "Kreepey Klowns of Kalamazoo" and "Bionic Bats of Bay City," which play out on the stages of Michigan's pine tree forests and dark lakes.

"My parents were the original 'helicopter parents,'" Rand joked. "In the morning, they gave me a helicopter, told me to fly off into the woods. 'Come home for lunch and dinner. Don't bring home another raccoon. Clean

Friday Fright Night with Johnathan Rand
Presentation, book sale and signing
6:30-8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25
FREE (registration required)
Holt Junior High School
Auditorium
1784 Aurelius Road, Holt
(517) 367-6355, cadl.org

the trout outside and put them in the freezer. Stop scaring your sister with snakes.' Today, I can trace every creative idea I've ever had from the fact that my parents let me run

free, unsupervised, in and around the Au Sable River outside of Grayling."

After graduating from the timberlands of his youth, Rand took to the airwaves, working in radio from 1983 to 1995 while authoring adult novels. Born Christopher Wright, he did his radio and writing work under the pseudonym Christopher Knight. But Rand knew he needed a cleaner, punchier alias for his venture into the world of juvenile fright-fiction.

"When I came up with the idea for the 'Michigan Chillers' series, I knew that the stories would be very different, so I wanted a pen name that was simple," Rand said. "I'd jotted down about a dozen first and last names, but nothing really struck me."

Then, he looked to his reading list for inspiration.

"At the time, I was re-reading a book by



Bill Castanier/City Pulse

"Michigan Chillers" author Johnathan Rand comes to Holt Friday evening for a special event.

Ayn Rand called "Atlas Shrugged." Her last name was simple, and that appealed to me. The hero of the book is named John, so I lengthened it to Johnathan. I liked the way it sounded, and I never really thought too much more about it."

With a fresh pseudonym, Rand struck out into the realm of the entrepreneurial, self-published author - with an unfussy, Michigan twist. Rand started selling his "Michigan Chillers" at gas stations, restaurants, and gift shops in the Upper Peninsula. It worked.

When did he know the books were becoming successful?

"I think when we received a fax order for a full case from a distributor. My wife and I were really excited," he said. "But it was also a great thrill to stop by our vendors and find our books gone. And it was great to have the

support of the local businesses. It was a lot of work, hauling books around the north. But it worked, and I wouldn't trade the experience for anything."

Now Rand is a youth literature phenom, but he still bounds between juvenile and adult literature. The author can quickly switch gears to write books like "Bestseller," an adult fiction book-within-a-book thriller.

"I find it easy to leap from one field to the next, within seconds. While I was writing 'Bestseller' at a cabin in the Upper Peninsula, I was also outlining the first book in the 'American Chillers' series," Rand said. "I'd switch back and forth without any trouble at all.

"I think people find this odd, being that the content of 'Bestseller' is very graphic and very adult in nature, while the 'American Chillers' are very, very tame. Personally, I've never had any trouble confusing the audience."

A seasoned writer, Rand is happy to dole out advice to aspiring authors.

"Persistence is one (important thing), but there's more to it than that," he said. "You've really got to find your own niche, your own unique market and marketing angle. I'm always willing to share my story of how we made things happen. I was once asked: 'Don't you worry about someone doing the same thing as you? Becoming your competition?' The answer is, 'No.'"

Rand takes a rising-tide-lifts-all-boats approach to helping other authors.

"Another author does exactly what I do and they're successful. Because of their efforts, people are reading. Who loses? Not me," Rand said. "I love to see anyone of any age with an open book in front of them."

Although he has dozens of "Michigan Chillers" under his belt, one city that has not yet been featured in his chilling tales is Lansing. Does he have plans to write about our city in the future?

"I do get asked that a lot, being that Lansing is our state capital. So, yes, it's quite possible. I'd really like to finish the 'American Chillers' series— one for every state— first. Then, I'll probably focus on a few more 'Michigan Chillers.'"

Eli Klein is online content/social media and PR coordinator at Capital Area District Libraries.

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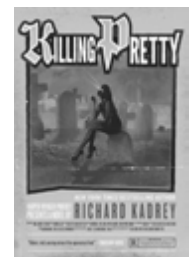
Thursday, Sept. 24 @ 7pm
Meridian Mall location



Meet Sharona Hoffman, professor of Law and Bioethics at Case Western Reserve University, as she presents *Aging With a Plan: How a Little Thought Today Can Vastly Improve Your Tomorrow.*

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OUT ON THE TOWN

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

Wednesday, September 23

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

Branding Toolkit for Business. Workshop on businesses branding. 9:30 a.m.-noon, FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, Suite 110, 309 N. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Call for Volunteers. Training for volunteers. 2-4 p.m. FREE. Michigan Historical Museum, 702 W. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 241-6852, michigan.gov/mhcvolunteers.

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

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

Mendeley. Beginner training for Mendeley Citation. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, classes.lib.msu.edu/class_list.php.

Getting Data: Collections. Collecting data on the internet for research. 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive, East Lansing. (517) 353-8700, classes.lib.msu.edu/class_list.php.

EVENTS

The Self Realization Pathway. Talk by Hnanda Whittingham. 7 p.m. FREE. Self Realization Meditation Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201, SelfRealizationCentreMichigan.org.

Strategy Game Night. Ages 18 and up. 5-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4, dtdl.org.

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

See Out on the Town, Page 19

A market for all

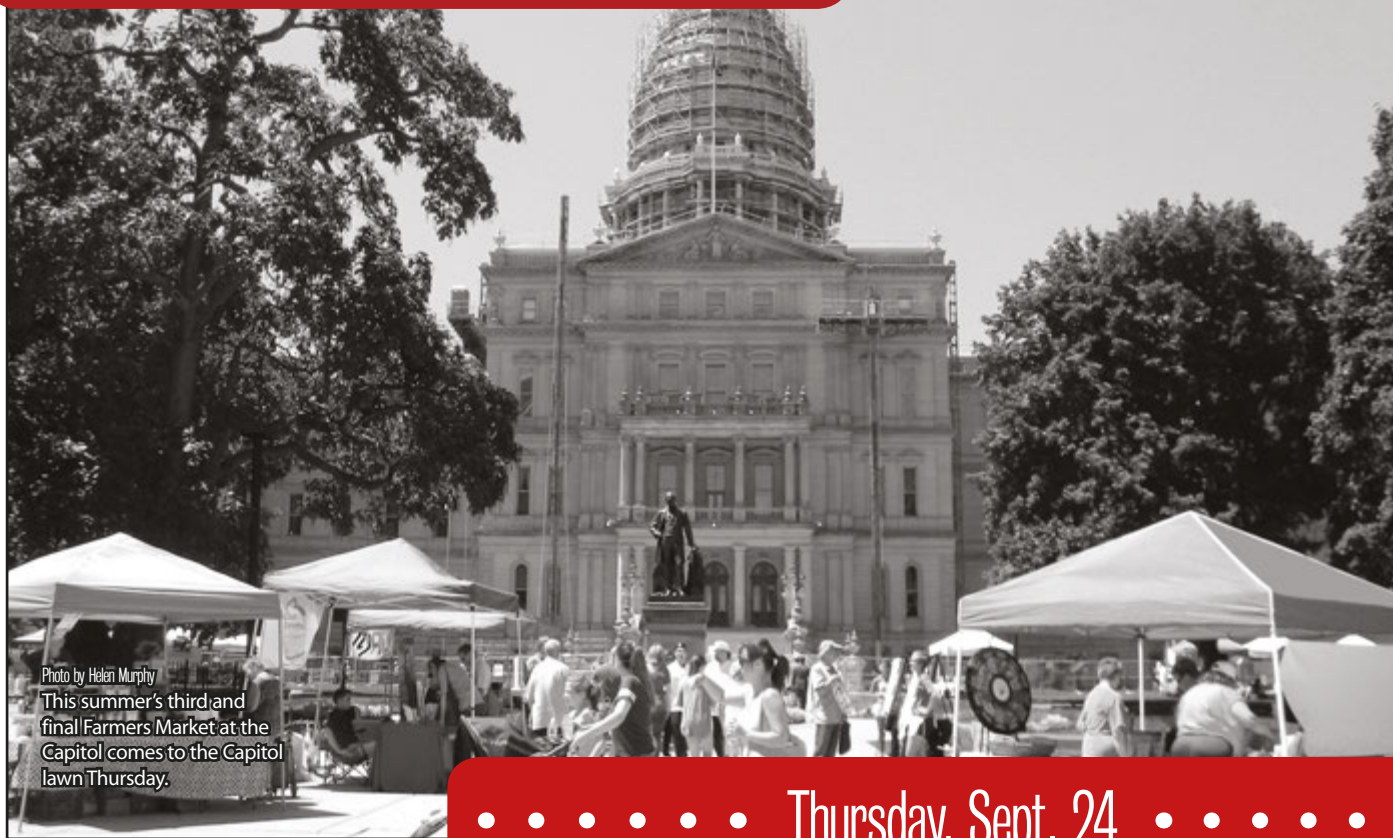


Photo by Helen Murphy

This summer's third and final Farmers Market at the Capitol comes to the Capitol lawn Thursday.

Thursday, Sept. 24

Twice already this summer the Capitol's East Lawn has filled up with tents for the Farmers Market at the Capitol. Thursday is the third and final market for the summer. The event, now in its 10th year, is hosted by the Michigan Farmers Market Association. Farmers Market at the Capitol brings over 70 vendors from across the state to sell their goods.

And while it is a farmers market, you can find more than just produce under the tents. All kind of artisanal food products are available, from cheeses and chocolates to sauces and snacks. Vendors are small businesses from all over Michigan.

"They're strongly traditional and trendy at the same time," Dru Montri, executive director of the association, told City Pulse before the series' July kickoff.

There are even non-edible goods for sale, such as homemade soaps and beauty supplies. Vendors are tapping in to popular demand for craft products — and offering an alternative to the grocery store.

Thursday's market includes more than just shopping. Lansing-based blues band Root Doctor entertains

market-goers starting at noon, and live yoga and Zumba lessons are available thanks to Just B Yoga and Lansing Parks and Recreation. There will also be three cooking demonstrations by Kurt Kwiatkowski, corporate chef for Michigan State University. Kwiatkowski oversees food production, recipes, and food sourcing for the university's dining commons and retail concessions.

Stop by the City Pulse tent for a free caricature by Dennis Preston 10 a.m.-noon

City Pulse will be at the market to meet our readers and hand out copies of the latest paper. Visitors to the City Pulse tent will also have a chance to get a free caricature drawn by local artist Dennis Preston.

Preston said the most common reaction to his caricature portraits is "a smile and a laugh." He draws the eyes first, and then goes on to capture the most prominent features of the face.

"I've had people drop on the

ground from laughing," Preston said.

Preston has been part of the Lansing art scene since his high-school years, designing T-shirts, album covers and posters for area bands, festivals and businesses. He has taught cartooning classes at Lansing Community College since 1977.

For many years, his napkin doodles could be purchased at local Biggby cafés, until the company tightened its rules regarding decor. Preston's art is still available for purchase at his online store, Prestoons (society6.com/prestoons).

The venue is no coincidence; the group makes it a goal to draw lawmakers' attention to farmers and small businesses.

At the same time, the market reaches out to the average Joe as well. By accepting SNAP Bridge cards, Double Up Food Bucks and other benefits programs, the market aims to be accessible to everyone.

Farmers Market at the Capitol

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 24
FREE
East Capitol Lawn
124 W. Allegan St., Lansing
(517) 432-3381, mifma.org

—ALLISON HAMMERLY

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

THE GODDAMN GALLOWES AT MAC'S BAR




Friday, Sept. 25 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$15, \$13 adv., 7 p.m.

The Goddamn Gallows' roots might be in Lansing, but the five-piece outfit, known for its potent mélange of punk, bluegrass and metal, has fans across the globe and spends much of its time on the road. This year, the band ventured even further from home. "We spent most of the year out of the country for the first time as a band, going to Brazil and Europe," said drummer Uriah "Baby Genius" Baker. "Our goal this year is to destroy all U.S. foreign relations — so far so good." Friday, the band headlines Mac's Bar; openers are the Devils Cut and Wormfoot. In addition to Baker, the Goddamn Gallows comprises Mikey Classic (guitar/vocals), Fishgutzzz (bass), TV's Avery (washboard/accordion) and Joe Perreze (banjo). Through October, the band is on a coast-to-coast U.S. tour supporting its fifth studio LP, "The Maker," released via Farmageddon Records.

FRI. SEP 25TH The Goddamn Gallows

DEACON EARL AND REV. ROBERT B. JONES AT 'THE FIDDLE'

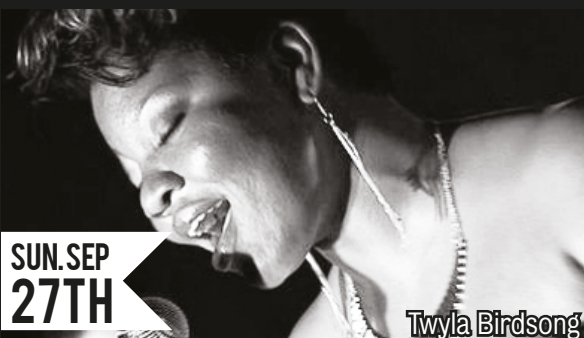


Friday, Sept. 25 @ Ten Pound Fiddle – Allen Market Place, 1629 East Kalamazoo St., Lansing. All ages, \$20, 7:30 p.m.

The Ten Pound Fiddle, which just kicked off its 41st season, hosts "Carry It On!: Rebuild the Churches" Friday at the Allen Market Place. The event features the Rev. Robert B. Jones Sr. and Deacon Earl & The Congregation. Tickets are \$20, with \$10 of each ticket going to the Rebuild the Churches fund to aid black churches destroyed by arson. The evening combines storytelling with traditional folk, rock 'n' roll and more. "I'm playing a mixture of country-blues and American roots music blended with gospel and honky-tonk," said Earl, a Lansing-based vocalist/guitarist. Earl's backing band, the Congregation, debuted at the 2014 Michigan BluesFest in Old Town and comprises Roger Gentry (harmonica/vocals) and Ben Godoshian, filling in for Tyler Jenson (drums/bass). As for Detroit native Rev. Robert Jones, Sr., for over 25 years the bluesman/storyteller has combined contemporary activism with timeless stories and songs.

FRI. SEP 25TH Deacon Earl and the Congregation

TWYLA BIRDSONG BAND AT MORIARTY'S PUB



Sunday, Sept. 27 @ Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 21+ , FREE, 7 p.m.

Back in May, the Twyla Birdsong Band won the Capital Area Blues Society's 13th Annual Blues Brawl competition, which landed the band a slot at the upcoming 31st annual International Blues Competition in Memphis, Tenn. The four-day blues challenge runs Jan. 20-24. The Twyla Birdsong Band plays Sunday at Moriarty's Pub. The show is free, but donations to help fund the Lansing-based band's Memphis trip are welcome. Birdsong is known for her soulful and captivating vocal style, a dynamic fusion of blues, jazz, R&B, gospel and rock 'n' roll. Fans of Billie Holiday, Joss Stone, Aretha Franklin or Etta James may want to check out this show. After two years of production and recording sessions, Birdsong is wrapping up work on her upcoming album, "Don't Waste Time."

SUN. SEP 27TH Twyla Birdsong

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

LIVE & LOCAL

	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.	Service Industry Night, 3 p.m.	Open Mic, 9p.m.		Chip Christy, 8 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 15 Albert Ave			Greg Smith, 8 p.m.	Kevin Krieger, 8:30 p.m.
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd.			Paule O., 8:30 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.
Capitol Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr.	DJ Trivia, 8 p.m.			
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.				
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Blvd.		Open Mic w/Pat Zelenka, 9 p.m.		
Copper, 2874 E. Lake Lansing Rd.		Alistar, 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.
Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Rd.			Darrin Lerner Jr., 7 p.m.	Rob K., 7 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.
Fieldhouse, 213 Ann St.	Reggae Lou, 5 p.m.			
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	"Johnny D" Jam, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Glamhammer, 9 p.m.	The Hot Mess, 9 p.m.
Harper's, 131 Albert Ave.		Mark Sala, 5 p.m.	Alistar, 5 p.m.	
Harrison Roadhouse, 720 Michigan Ave			Rachel Curtis, 5:30 p.m.	
Leroys, 1526 S. Cedar St.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			We Are Harlot (Rock Pass), 7 p.m.	Electric Six, 8 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.		Evolution of the Underground, 9 p.m.	The Goddamn Gallows, 7 p.m.	Cattle Decapitation, 7 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.		Electrocats, 9 p.m.	Cash O'Riley, 9 p.m.	Jim Shaneberger Band, 9 p.m.
R Club, 6409 Centurion Dr.			Exit 86, 8:30 p.m.	Exit 86, 8:30 p.m.
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Road	Steve Cowles, 6 p.m.		New Rule, 6 p.m.	Bill Slaghts, 6 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.		Life Support, 6 p.m.	Rush Clement, 6 p.m.
Reno's West, 5001 W. Saginaw Hwy.	Mark Sala, 6 p.m.		El Kabong, 6 p.m.	Reggae Lou, 6 p.m.
Tavern and Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq.		DJ Don Black, 9:30 p.m.	Steve Cowles, 8 p.m.	
Tin Can West, 644 Migaldi Ln.	Waterpong, 11 p.m.			
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	Untamed, 8:30 p.m.	Untamed, 8:30 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Drive			Joe Wright, 7 p.m.	
Watershed Tavern and Grill 5965 Marsh Rd.	Trevor Compton, 7 p.m.	Dan MacLachlan, 8 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capitol City DJs, 10 p.m.
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.			Showdown, 9:30 p.m.	

LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS!

To get listed just email us at liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-5066. Only submit information for the following week's paper.

Out on the town

from page 17

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

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

Screen Repair/Replacement @ ANC. With Bruce Witwer and Maurice Ruiz. 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, ow.ly/SuN96.

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

Michigan Craft Cider. A presentation on apples and craft ciders. Ages 21 and up. 7 p.m. FREE. DeWitt District Library, 13101 Schavey, DeWitt. (517) 669-3156, dewittlibrary.org.

Bunny Storytime. A live bunny joins us for stories. Ages up to 6. 10:30-11:15 a.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

Rock n' Read Storytime. Books, music, movement and interactivity. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Haslett Library, 1590 Franklin St., Haslett. (517) 339-2324.

MUSIC

Ukulele Play-Along. Learn how to play chords and songs on the ukulele. 6 p.m. FREE. Marshall Music, 3240 E. Saginaw St., Lansing. (517) 337-9700, marshallmusic.com.

MSU Faculty Recital. Melanie Helton, soprano and Derek Polischuk, piano. 7:30 p.m. \$10/\$8 seniors/FREE students. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-5340, ow.ly/SbG8H.

Wednesday with Colby Rye. Live music performance. Noon-2 p.m. FREE. Lansing City

Market, 325 City Market Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-7460.

Zack Okello at Allen Street Farmers Market. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 367-2468.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Group Discussion: Just Mercy. Informal community discussion on 'Just Mercy.' 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

THEATER

Cinderella. Rodgers and Hammerstein's version of a classic story. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com/events/detail/cinderella.

Thursday, September 24

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Free Shamanic Educational & Healing Clinic. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE. donations welcome. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave., Suite 3 Lansing.

Meditation. For beginners and experienced. 7-8:30 p.m. FREE. Quan Am Temple, 1840 N. College Ave., Mason. (517) 853-1675, quanamtemple.org.

Family Storytime. Ages up to 6. Stories, rhymes and activities. 10:30 a.m. FREE. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. (517) 367-6363, cadl.org.

Lansing Area Codependents Anonymous. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Community Mental Health Building, Room 214G, 812 E. Jolly Road, Lansing. (517) 515-5559, coda.org.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. 5:15 p.m. \$5. New Hope Church, 1340 Haslett Road, Haslett. (517) 349-9183, newhopehaslett.com.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly. Weigh-in 6 p.m., meeting 6:30 p.m. FREE. St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 882-9080, stdavidslansing.org.

Tarot Study Group. FREE. Triple Goddess New Age Bookstore, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 347-2112.

Celebrate Recovery. For all types of habits, hurts and hang-ups. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Trinity Church (Lansing), 3355 Dunckel Road, Lansing. (517) 492-1866.

EVENTS

Spanish Conversation Group. Both English and Spanish spoken. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

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

Baby Storytime. Stories and movement for our youngest readers. Ages 0-2. 10:30-11 a.m. FREE. CADL Foster Library, 200 N. Foster Ave. Lansing. (517) 485-5185, cadl.org.

Minecraft Game Nights. Open to all skill levels. 6-7 p.m. FREE. CADL South Lansing Library, 3500 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 272-9840.

Plein-Air Art Display. Landscape art opening reception. 6-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420.

RCAH @ Peckham Closing Reception. Celebration of art exhibition. 1:30-3 p.m. FREE. Lookout! Gallery, 362 Bogue St., East Lansing.

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

Evening Storytime. Stories, songs and crafts. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3, dtdl.org.

Euchre. No partner needed. 6-9 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road,

See Out on the Town, Page 20

Jonesin' Crossword

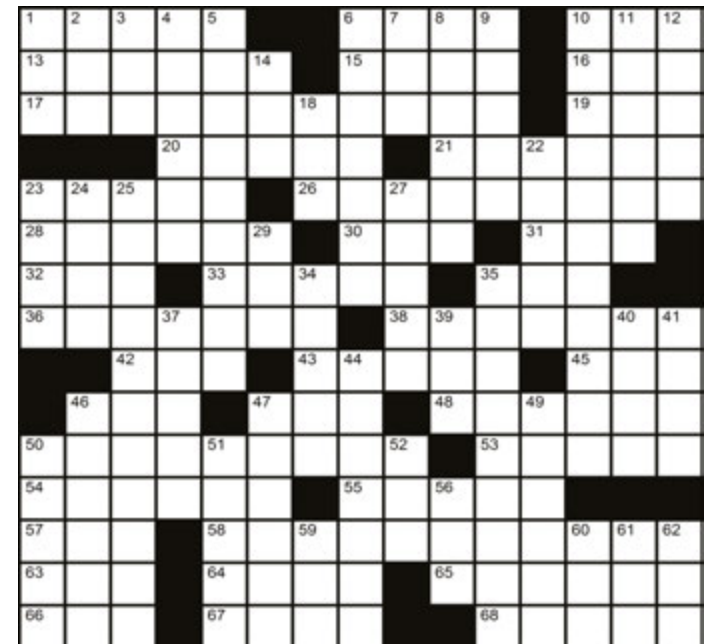
By Matt Jones

"Up With People!" -no, not the half-time show group. Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Curly-tailed Japanese dog
- 6 Bit of turf
- 10 Bone with teeth
- 13 Gets back to full strength
- 15 Debtor's loss
- 16 Fireplace accumulation
- 17 Overcharge for a cigar?
- 19 Show set in Las Vegas
- 20 Bygone oath
- 21 Big name in oats
- 23 Los ___ ("La Bamba" group)

- 26 Public expressions of thanks
- 28 Bit of wishful thinking
- 30 Before, for poets
- 31 Stacks of wax
- 32 Bit of hair gel
- 33 "___ my keep"
- 35 Society page newcomer
- 36 Extinguished, as a candle
- 38 Meet in the middle?
- 42 Dessert often served a la mode
- 43 Many, with "a"
- 45 Prefix for pressure
- 46 "Honest" guy
- 47 Address from a rev.
- 48 Skyping accessory, maybe
- 50 Hay dummy?
- 53 Giant from Finland?
- 54 Louisiana subdivision
- 55 Blue movie mate-



- 57 "Ew!"
- 58 Program that just notifies you without blocking?
- 63 Mendacity
- 64 "Strange Condition" singer Pete
- 65 Like Aconocagua
- 66 Old salt
- 67 Downhill runner
- 68 Former Russian sovereigns

Down

- 1 Radius setting
- 2 Mauna ___ (Hawaii's highest peak)
- 3 German pronoun
- 4 Adopt
- 5 Pixar movie with an entomological theme
- 6 Can recycler, sometimes
- 7 Beirut's country: Abbr.

- 8 Not at all transparent
- 9 It may start as a flat ring
- 10 Hoist one player in a chess game?
- 11 Balance sheet heading
- 12 Helicopter sounds
- 14 Place for relaxation
- 18 Descendants of
- 31-Across
- 22 "You've got mail" hearer
- 23 Pot tops
- 24 In the blink ___ eye
- 25 Carnival announcer that surfaces from the water?
- 27 "Ready ___ ..."
- 29 "___-haw!"
- 34 Austrian psychiatrist Alfred
- 35 The accused
- 37 Guy who might try to put whiskey in your

- meal
- 39 "I shall return," e.g.
- 40 Antioxidant-rich berry
- 41 Mountain cat
- 44 Full-voiced
- 46 Tree in a giraffe's diet
- 47 It may "let out" in the afternoon
- 49 Gets on the plane
- 50 Knocked over, as milk
- 51 Annual sports awards since 1993
- 52 "Trap Queen" rapper Fetty ___
- 56 Focus of "Straight Outta Compton"
- 59 Start to exist?
- 60 Jazz Masters org.
- 61 Word with plug or bud
- 62 Some hosp. employees

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24-26, OCT. 1-3 >> 'THE WHALE' AT PEPPERMINT CREEK THEATRE CO.

Funny and profound, 'The Whale' is the story of the morbidly obese Charlie, who tries to lay his past to rest in the face of his rapidly declining health. Along the way he reaches out to his estranged teenage daughter, whose bitterness and snarky attitude prove to be a difficult obstacle. The reclusive Charlie meets with a series of family and unexpected friends in an effort to make peace with his demons. 8 p.m., Sept. 24-26 and Oct. 1-3. 2 p.m., Sept. 27 and Oct. 4. \$15/\$10 students and seniors. Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. (517) 927-2016, peppermintcreek.org.

SUDOKU **INTERMEDIATE**

		7				2	6	
	5							
8				4	1			
					7			
					5	1		3
4			2			9		
3	1	8				4		
			6			7		
			9	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 22

Out on the town

from page 19

Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

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

South Lansing Farmers Market. Local produce, delicious prepared foods and handmade goodies. 3-7 p.m. FREE. St. Casimir Catholic Church, 800 W. Barnes Ave., Lansing. (517) 374-5700.

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

Capital Area Crisis Men & Women's Rugby Practice. All experience levels welcome. 6-8 p.m. FREE. St. Joseph Park, 2151 W. Hillsdale St., Lansing. **Harvest Basket Produce Sale.** Farmers market with organically grown produce. 3-7 p.m. FREE. Smith Floral and Greenhouses, 1124 E. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6085.

THEATER

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

Cinderella. Rodgers and Hammerstein's version of a classic story. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com/events/detail/cinderella.

Friday, September 25

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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

EVENTS

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

THEATER

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

Cinderella. Rodgers and Hammerstein's version of a classic story. 8 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com/events/detail/cinderella.

Saturday, September 26

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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

EVENT

Compete for a Cause. Okemos and Mason soccer teams play to raise money for cancer research. 5:30 p.m. \$5. Okemos High School, 2500 Jolly Road, Okemos.

American Heritage Festival. Crafts and historical actors. FREE. Woldumar Nature Center, 5739 Old Lansing Road, Lansing. (517) 322-0030, woldumar.org.

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

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

See Out on the Town, Page 21

SATURDAY, SEPT. 26 >> BAD BREWING FALL BLOCK PARTY

BAD Brewing Co. is spilling out into to the streets of Mason with its fall block party. The brewery taps the keg on over 25 different brews, including specialty fall beers, barrel-aged beers and ciders. Some featured beers include Chinook Harvest IPA, Bourbon Barrel Aged Mud In Your Rye, and Imperial Pumpkin Rye Porter. Good Bites food truck will be on hand to provide pleasing food pairings. Local band the Further Adventures of Fat Boy and Jive Turkey plays. 5-11 p.m. \$5. BAD Brewing Company, 440 S. Jefferson St., Mason. (517) 676-7664, badbrewing.com.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25 >> THE ART OF BREWING: COFFEE EDITION AT THE BROAD

Who doesn't love a good cup of joe? The Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum concludes its art of brewing series with Cara Nader, owner of Strange Matter Coffee Co., and her take on the art of making coffee. Nader and her team demonstrate the artistry of pour-over brewing, and guests have a chance to sample their caffeinated creations. Strange Matter Coffee Co., located in Lansing's east side on Michigan Ave., was recently voted Best Coffee Shop in City Pulse's Top of the Town contest. 6 p.m. \$45/\$35 members. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Dr., East Lansing. (517) 844-3914, bit.ly/shopbroadmsu.

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsny

Sep 23-29

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The next seven weeks will NOT be a favorable time to fool around with psychic vampires and charismatic jerks. I recommend you avoid the following mistakes, as well: failing to protect the wounded areas of your psyche; demanding perfection from those you care about; and trying to fulfill questionable desires that have led you astray in the past. Now I'll name some positive actions you'd be wise to consider: hunting for skillful healers who can relieve your angst and aches; favoring the companionship of people who are empathetic and emotionally intelligent; and getting educated about how to build the kind of intimacy you can thrive on.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You may have seen websites that offer practical tips on how to improve your mastery of life's little details. They tell you how to de-clutter your home, or how to keep baked goods from going stale, or why you should shop for shoes at night to get the best fit. I recently come across a humorous site that provides the opposite: bad life tips. For instance, it suggests that you make job interviews less stressful by only applying for jobs you don't want. Put your laptop in cold water to prevent overheating. To save time, brush your teeth while you eat. In the two sets of examples I've just given, it's easy to tell the difference between which tips are trustworthy and which aren't. But in the coming days, you might find it more challenging to distinguish between the good advice and bad advice you'll receive. Be very discerning.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): On a windy afternoon last spring I was walking through a quiet neighborhood in Berkeley. In one yard there was a garden plot filled with the young green stems of as-yet unidentifiable plants. Anchored in their midst was a small handwritten sign. Its message seemed to be directed not at passers-by like me but at the sprouts themselves. "Grow faster, you little bastards!" the sign said -- as if the blooming things might be bullied into ripening. I hope you're smart enough not to make similar demands on yourself and those you care about, Gemini. It's not even necessary. I suspect that everything in your life will just naturally grow with vigor in the coming weeks.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "I am rooted, but I flow," wrote Virginia Woolf in her novel 'The Waves.' That paradoxical image reminds me of you right now. You are as grounded as a tree and as fluid as a river. Your foundation is deep and strong, even as you are resilient in your ability to adapt to changing circumstances. This is your birthright as a Cancerian! Enjoy and use the blessings it confers. (P.S. If for some strange reason you're not experiencing an exquisite version of what I've described, there must be some obstacle you are mistakenly tolerating. Get rid of it.)

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Should I offer my congratulations? You have corralled a gorgeous mess of problems that are more interesting and provocative than everyone else's. It's unclear how long this odd good fortune will last, however. So I suggest you act decisively to take maximum advantage of the opportunities that your dilemmas have cracked open. If anyone can turn the heartache of misplaced energy into practical wisdom, you can. If anyone can harness chaos to drum up new assets, it's you. Is it possible to be both cunning and conscientious, both strategic and ethical? For you right now, I think it is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Let's say you have walked along the same path or driven down the same road a thousand times. Then, one day, as you repeat your familiar route, a certain object or scene snags your attention for the first time. Maybe it's a small fountain or a statue of the Buddhist goddess Guanyin or a wall with graffiti that says "Crap happens, but so does magic." It has always been there. You've been subconsciously aware of it. But at this moment, for unknown reasons, it finally arrives in your conscious

mind. I believe this is an apt metaphor for your life in the next week. More than once, you will suddenly tune in to facts, situations, or influences that had previously been invisible to you. That's a good thing! But it might initially bring a jolt.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The 20th century's most influential artist may have been Pablo Picasso. He created thousands of paintings, and was still churning them out when he was 91 years old. A journalist asked him which one was his favorite. "The next one," he said. I suggest you adopt a similar attitude in the coming weeks, Libra. What you did in the past is irrelevant. You should neither depend on nor be weighed down by anything that has come before. For now, all that matters are the accomplishments and adventures that lie ahead of you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A windbreak is a line of stout trees or thick bushes that provides shelter from the wind. I think you need a metaphorical version: someone or something to shield you from a relentless force that has been putting pressure on you; a buffer zone or protected haven where you can take refuge from a stressful barrage that has been hampering your ability to act with clarity and grace. Do you know what you will have to do to get it? Here's your battle cry: "I need sanctuary! I deserve sanctuary!"

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your fellow Sagittarian Walt Disney accomplished a lot. He was a pioneer in the art of animation and made movies that won numerous Academy Awards. He built theme parks, created an entertainment empire, and amassed fantastic wealth. Why was he so successful? In part because he had high standards, worked hard, and harbored an obsessive devotion to his quirky vision. If you aspire to cultivate any of those qualities, now is a favorable time to raise your mastery to the next level. Disney had one other trait you might consider working on: He liked to play the game of life by his own rules. For example, his favorite breakfast was doughnuts dipped in Scotch whisky. What would be your equivalent?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): October is Fix the Fundamentals Month. It will be a favorable time to substitute good habits for bad habits. You will attract lucky breaks and practical blessings as you work to transform overwrought compulsions into rigorous passions. You will thrive as you seek to discover the holy yearning that's hidden at the root of devitalizing addictions. To get started, instigate free-wheeling experiments that will propel you out of your sticky rut and in the direction of a percolating groove.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Have you made your travel plans yet? Have you plotted your escape? I hope you will hightail it to a festive playground where some of your inhibitions will shrink, or else journey to a holy spot where your spiritual yearnings will ripen. What would be even better is if you made a pilgrimage to a place that satisfied both of those agendas -- filled up your senses with novel enticements and fed your hunger for transcendent insights. Off you go, Aquarius! Why aren't you already on your way? If you can't manage a real getaway in the near future, please at least stage a jailbreak for your imagination.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Pablo Neruda's 'Book of Questions' consists entirely of 316 questions. It's one of those rare texts that makes no assertions and draws no conclusions. In this spirit, and in honor of the sphinx-like phase you're now passing through, I offer you six pertinent riddles: 1. What is the most important thing you have never done? 2. How could you play a joke on your fears? 3. Identify the people in your life who have made you real to yourself. 4. Name a good old thing you would have to give up in order to get a great new thing. 5. What's the one feeling you want to feel more than any other in the next three years? 6. What inspires you to love?

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

Out on the town

from page 20

THEATER

Glengarry Glen Ross. Story about tension at a real-estate office. 8-10 p.m. \$15. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington St., Lansing. ixiontheatre.com.
The Whale. Play about healing from the past. 8 p.m. \$15/\$10 students and seniors. Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. (517) 927-3016, peppermintcreek.org.
Cinderella. Rodgers and Hammerstein's version of a classic story. 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com/events/detail/cinderella.

MUSIC

Matt LoRusso Trio at Troppo. 9 p.m. FREE. Troppo, 101 S. Washington Square, Lansing. (517) 371-4000.

Sunday, September 27

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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

Spiritual Talk, Pure Meditation and Silent Prayer. 7 p.m. FREE. Self Realization Meditation

Healing Centre, 7187 Drumheller Road, Bath. (517) 641-6201, selfrealizationcentremichigan.org.

EVENTS

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

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

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

Sky Preview and Total Lunar Eclipse of the Moon. Eclipse viewing. 7:30-11:30 p.m. FREE. Abrams Planetarium, 400 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 355-4676, abramsplanetarium.org.

THEATER

Glengarry Glen Ross. Story about tension at a real-estate office. 8-10 p.m. \$15. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington St., Lansing. ixiontheatre.com.
The Whale. Play about healing from the past. 2 p.m. \$15/\$10 students and seniors. Miller Performing Arts Center, 6025 Curry Lane, Lansing. (517) 927-3016, peppermintcreek.org.
Cinderella. Rodgers and Hammerstein's version of a classic story. 1 and 6:30 p.m. Tickets from \$38. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com/events/detail/cinderella.

Monday, September 28

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Sharper Focus/Wider Lens. What's UP: The Past, Present and Future of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. 7-9 p.m. FREE. MSU Union, MSU Campus, East Lansing.

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.

EVENTS

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

Mac's Monday Comedy Night. Hosted by Mark Roebuck and Dan Currie. 9:30 p.m. FREE. Mac's

Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, macsbar.com.

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

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

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

Tuesday, September 29

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

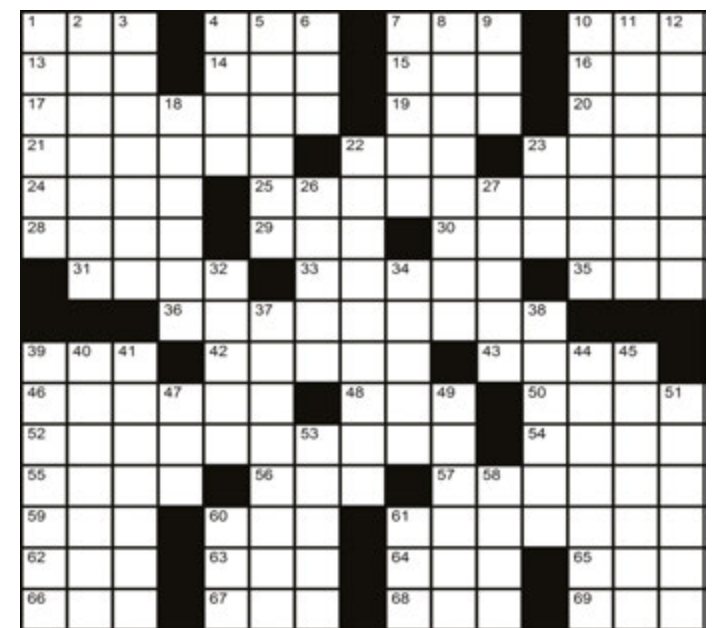
See Out on the Town, Page 22

Jonesin' Crossword —BONUS

By Matt Jones

To make up for a misprint last week, we are running two crosswords today!

"Eat the Beatles"-get back...to the buffet.
 Matt Jones



Across

- 1 Booker T.'s backers
- 4 "More or less" suffix
- 7 Place to unwind
- 10 2011 Rose Bowl winner, for short
- 13 "___ pro nobis"
- 14 4 letters?
- 15 Spider's digs
- 16 Move like a kangaroo

42 Ashley Madison-enabled event, perhaps

43 ___ Domani (wine brand)

46 Rubber mouse, e.g.

48 Maui tourist attraction ___ Valley (hidden in CIA OPERATIVE)

50 Act like a couch potato

52 With 61-Across, Beatles song about a sandwich bread's wish?

54 German car company

55 Drop some details, perhaps

56 Fallen Angel ingredient

57 "It's a possibility"

59 Marge and Homer's neighbor

60 "Charter" tree

61 See 52-Across

62 Ripken of the Orioles

63 Distort data

64 Uncloseted

65 Burma's first prime minister

66 "Tarzan" star Ron

67 Final stages

68 AZ's setting

69 They have their own precincts, for short

Down

1 Hairdo that may be restyled into liberty spikes

2 Oregon's fourth-largest city

3 Greet informally

4 Doctor Frankenstein's helper

5 Quaint store

6 Kept under wraps

7 Football Hall-of-Famer Lynn

8 Sense

9 "Fresh Off the Boat" airer

10 Something to "blame it on," per Milli Vanilli

11 Cooperate secretly

12 So far

18 Pasta ___ (dish)

mentioned in "That's Amore")

22 Breach of privacy, perhaps

23 Airport code for O'Hare

26 Tank marking

27 Revolutionary place-finder?

32 "Hop aboard!"

34 Of base eight

37 "Nope, pick another one ..."

38 Chocolate-frosted item

39 Word stated in a Thomas Dolby song

40 Unfair treatment

41 In a calm manner

44 Pay, slangily

45 Seasoned vet

47 Demolition site letters

49 Contemptible

51 Chemical indicator

53 Hit the trail

58 Mixed breed

60 "Go, goalie!"

61 ___ Kippur

SUNDAY, SEPT. 27 >> MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL AT MSU MUSEUM

The MSU Museum unveils its "Quilts of Southwest China" exhibit Sunday at its Mid-Autumn Festival. This traditional Chinese and Vietnamese celebration has been observed for centuries. It is classified as a public holiday in both mainland China and Taiwan, serving as a time for family and friends to gather and give thanks for the year's harvest. The festival always falls on the 15th day of the eighth month, according to the Chinese calendar, when the moon is at its brightest and roundest. MSU Museum's celebration will include traditional moon cakes and refreshments, exhibition tours and activities for kids. The "Quilts of Southwest China" exhibit will be on display until April 16. 2-4 p.m. FREE. MSU Museum, 409 W. Circle Dr., East Lansing. (517) 355-2370, museum.msu.edu.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 27 >> LANSING'S LEADING LADIES

The Friends of Lansing's Historic Cemeteries gives a Lansing-themed lesson in girl power with its ninth annual fall walking tour at Mount Hope Cemetery. Entitled "Lansing's Leading Ladies," this year's tour will feature prominent women in Lansing's history buried at the cemetery, including the first female state librarian, the "mother" of the Michigan parks system and the first woman to drive a car in Lansing. This free, family-friendly tour comprises 18 stops, with refreshments available halfway through the tour. The Friends group exists to "protect, promote, and prosper" Lansing's three city-owned cemeteries. The Friends of Lansing's Historic Cemeteries group holds a "Race to Restore" 5K run/walk on Oct. 10 inside the cemetery. 3-5 p.m. FREE. Mount Hope Cemetery, 1800 E. Mt. Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 648-5730, facebook.com/lansingcemeteries.

Out on the town

from page 21

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 19

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Starting a Business. Program for business planning. FREE. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Square, Suite 110 Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

EVENT

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

Comedy Coven VII: CVLTURE. Fun night of spooky comedy. 7-10 p.m. \$7 presale/\$10 at the door. The Robin Theatre, 1105 S. Washington St., Lansing. facebook.com/comedycoven.

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

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

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

Lansing. (517) 643-8059.

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

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

EVENT

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

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

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

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

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

Music Appreciation @ ANC. With Bill Nelson. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Allen Neighborhood Center, 1619 E Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

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

MUSIC

Fascinators @ Allen Street Farmers Market. 4-6 p.m. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468.

Wednesday, September 30

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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

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

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

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

MONDAY, SEPT. 28 >> LANG LANG AT THE WHARTON CENTER

Internationally renowned pianist Lang Lang his Wharton Center debut with a solo concert Monday evening. A native of Shenyang, China, Lang has performed at global events such as the 2014 World Cup and the 2008 Beijing Olympics. In addition to his many musical achievements, Time magazine has also recently placed Lang on its annual list of the top 100 most influential people in the world for his self-proclaimed "second career," working to bring music into the lives of children all over the world. He is also the founder of the Lang Lang foundation, an organization whose mission is to educate, inspire, and motivate the next generation of classical music lovers and performers. 7:30 p.m. Tickets start at \$37. Wharton Center, 750 E. Shaw Lane, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 19

A	K	I	T	A	C	L	O	D	J	A	W
R	E	H	A	B	S	R	E	P	O	A	S
M	A	R	K	U	P	C	U	B	A	N	C
			E	G	A	D	S	Q	U	A	K
L	O	B	O	S	S	H	O	U	T	O	U
I	F	O	N	L	Y	E	R	E	L	P	S
D	A	B	I	E	A	R	N	D	E	B	
S	N	U	F	F	E	D	O	V	E	R	L
			P	I	E	L	O	T	O	F	A
A	B	E	S	E	R	W	E	B	C	A	M
S	C	A	R	E	C	R	O	W	N	O	K
P	A	R	I	S	H	T	A	N	D	A	
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L	I	E	Y	O	R	N	A	N	D	E	A
T	A	R	S	L	E	D	T	S	A	R	S

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 21

M	G	S	I	S	H	S	P	A	T	C	U
O	R	A	G	H	I	W	E	B	H	O	P
H	E	Y	F	O	O	A	R	C	E	N	T
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							L	E	T	T	C
S	R	S	T	R	Y	S	T	E	C	C	O
C	A	T	T	O	Y	I	A	O	L	O	L
I	W	A	N	N	A	H	O	L	D	A	U
E	D	I	T	G	I	N	I	M	I	G	H
N	E	D	O	A	K	Y	O	U	R	H	A
C	A	L	L	I	E	O	U	T	U	N	U
E	L	Y	E	N	D	M	S	T	P	D	S

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Small but mighty

Meds.Ink doles out quality medicine from its tiny storefront

You may have driven right by Meds. Ink and not even noticed it. It is visible from both Washington Avenue and Mt. Hope Avenue, but if you're not looking for it, it's easy to miss. But — as I'm sure we've all heard at one time or another — size does not matter.

When I pulled into the small parking lot, I tried to decide whether cramped or cozy best described the situation. As I walked up to the

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THE GREEN REPORT



STEVE GREEN

front door, I saw a sign on it that read, "No Card: No Meds." After being greeted, I provided my ID and Michigan Medical Marijuana Card for confirmation. As I waited in the lobby, I browsed the shop's selection of shirts,

pipes, bongs and other paraphernalia. Next, I was welcomed into the Green Room.

I stood on one side of a case, and the budtender was behind it. I asked several questions about the strains they carried, and she was able to answer each one accurately. I could tell this budtender really cared for her patients. I asked about CBD-rich flowers, but they were fresh out. I looked over out the 14 varieties in stock, which ranged in price from \$10 to \$20 per gram. They also had pre-rolled joints.

I smelled the contents of several jars and found one I had to have: Lemon Headband. There was also a great selection of edibles, including marijuana-infused chocolate, brownies and gummies. I decided to pick up a small chocolate candy called RSO Swirl, made with dark and white Ghirardelli chocolate and infused with 60 milligrams of high-THC Rick Simpson Oil (often referred to simply as RSO). I asked to see the shatter listed on the menu board, and the budtender informed me she had to get it out of the freezer. I knew I would not be getting any on this trip, but I did want to look at the quality. The budtender told me about other patients' positive experiences with the shatter, but did point out its dark color and that it was not a good consistency

— which is why she stored it in the freezer.

After picking out my goods and engaging in a bit of small talk, she offered to show me the back room where she was working on roach art — a walking stick to be more precise. She also had several finished pieces of roach art for sale. To be clear, we are not talking about the insects here. Roaches are the remaining bit of a smoked joint, sometimes known as tails. She is happy to take roach papers if you have them.

The Lemon Headband bud, which was priced at \$20/gram, was very frosty with a nice trim job. The odor started off with a lemon punch, followed by hints of other sweet citrus fruits. The burn was even, and the ash was a beautiful white. The taste was just what I expected: sour lemon overtones with a fruity finish. The effect was even better than I expected. After smoking the



Photo by Steve Green for City Pulse

Meds.Ink operates out of a small storefront near the intersection of Mt. Hope and Washington avenues.

one-gram joint, I felt relaxed but still motivated to get work done. The strong blend of uplifting terpenes helped to provide a long-lasting cerebral effect. I felt my creative senses heighten to the point where I was nearly tempted to try my hand at roach art. I thought better of it this time.

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

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THE PULSIFIEDS

BACKPAGE CLASSIFIEDS

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CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS

HOSTED BY BERL SCHWARTZ

SHELLEY DAVIS MIELOCK
 Lansing City Council 1st Ward candidate

JODY WASHINGTON
 Lansing City Council 1st Ward candidate

THIS WEEK LANSING CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

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