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August 12-18, 2015

SPOTLIGHT ON LANSING THEATER

RENEGADE THEATRE FESTIVAL PREVIEW,
2015-2016 SEASON CALENDAR • PAGE 11

COMPENSATION GAP

Hirten: Local CEOs doing nicely, thank you • p. 4

RETURN OF THE CREOLE

Beloved Old Town venue gets a second life • p. 8



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CityPULSE NEWSMAKERS

HOSTED BY **BERL SCHWARTZ**

THIS WEEK: **ADDICTION TREATMENT**

DR. PAUL DEWEESE

JACOB BURNS
DR. DEWEESE'S PATIENT

my 18 LANSING JACKSON MY18TV!
10 A.M. EVERY SATURDAY

COMCAST CHANNEL 16 LANSING
7:30 P.M. EVERY FRIDAY

PUBLIC NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN OFFICE OF THE INGHAM COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

NOTICE OF ORDERS OF ABANDONMENT OF PETITIONS

Notice Is Hereby Given that the Ingham County Drain Commissioner has entered Orders of Abandonment of Petition relating to the petitions filed by the Village of Webberville on December 30, 2008, for the Webberville Drain, the Webberville No. 2 Drain, and the Monroe and Leach Drain, for the reason that Leroy Township filed a subsequent petition on January 30, 2014, for consolidation of these drains and their drainage districts as well as for the maintenance and improvement of these drains. This subsequent petition having been found necessary for public health, convenience or welfare by a Board of Determination on April 29, 2014, and these drainage districts now consolidated into the Webberville Consolidated Drain Drainage District, the 2008 petitions are deemed abandoned pursuant to Section 221 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956, as amended, same being MCL 280.221.

Dated: August 6, 2015

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

CP#15-191

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider the following:

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from FP Investors, LLC for cluster plan development approval for the Falcon Pointe property north of Hawknest Subdivision, near the intersection to Chandler and State Roads, to convert an existing manufactured housing community into a site condominium development. There are a total of 120 two-bedroom units being proposed. The property is zoned R-2, Medium Density Single-Family Residential.
2. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1349 a City-initiated ordinance to amend sections 50-731, 50-732 and 50-733 of Chapter 50 – Zoning – of the Code of the City of East Lansing to allow for additional uses in the Community Facilities District.
3. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from Columbia East Lansing Hotel, Inc. for Special Use Permit approval for the property at 300 M.A.C. Avenue to modify its existing special use permit condition #7. The modification would allow the applicant to serve food and beverages in the Lobby Greatroom Restaurant until 2:00 AM.
4. A public hearing will be held to consider Ordinance 1350 an application from WREL, LLC, to rezone the property at 3126 West Road from RA, Residential Agriculture District to B-5, Community Retail Sales Business District.

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

Marie E. Wicks
City Clerk

CP#15_192

City of Lansing Notice of Public Hearing

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on August 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, MI, for the purpose stated below:

To afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, other interested persons and ad valorem taxing units to appear and be heard on the approval of SkyVue on Michigan Redevelopment Project – Brownfield Redevelopment Plan #60 pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, Public Act 381 of 1996, as amended, for property commonly referred to as 3165 East Michigan Avenue located in the City of Lansing, but more particularly described as:

Parcel ID: 33-01-01-14-226-031, COM ON N LINE E MICHIGAN AVE AT PT S 89DEG 55MIN E 563 FT FROM CL CLIPPERT ST N 0DEG 17MIN E 419.8 FT S 89DEG 55MIN E 349.1 FT, S 419.8 FT, N 89DEG 55MIN W 349.8 FT TO BEG; SEC 14 T4N R2W

Approval of this Brownfield Plan will enable the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to capture incremental tax increases which result from the redevelopment of the property to pay for costs associated therewith. Further information regarding this issue, including maps, plats, and a description of the brownfield plan will be available for public inspection and may be obtained from Karl Dorshimer – Director of Business Development, Lansing Economic Area Partnership, 500 East Michigan Avenue, Suite 202, Lansing, MI 48912, (517) 999-9039.

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, August 24, 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#15-196

CityPULSE
 would like to invite
 newly married
 same sex
 Michigan couples
 to take part in
 a historic photo.

March and/or celebrate on the Capitol lawn
 Saturday, August 29
 Parade begins at noon
 Photo immediately follows rally

PUBLIC NOTICES

City of Lansing Notice of Public Hearing

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on August 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, Lansing, MI, for the purpose stated below:

To afford an opportunity for all residents, taxpayers of the City of Lansing, other interested persons and ad valorem taxing units to appear and be heard on the approval of Brownfield Plan #61 – The Feldman’s Bud Kouts Redevelopment Project pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, Public Act 381 of 1996, as amended, for property commonly referred to as 2701, 2801 and 2827 East Michigan Avenue located in the City of Lansing, but more particularly described as:

2701 E. Michigan Avenue Legal Description: COM 49.5 FT N OF CEN SEC 14 T4N R2W, TH N 522 FT +/- TO POINT 407.45 FT S OF S LINE LASALLE GARDEN STREET, E 190 FT +/- TO W LINE PRIVATE DETROIT ST, S 520 FT +/- TO N LINE E MICHIGAN AVE, W 190 FT +/- TO BEG; ALSO LOTS 1 THRU 5 AND 35 THRU 43, AND VAC E-W ALLEY ADJ S LINE LOT 43, ALSO PART VAC LASALLE BLVD COM NE COR LOT 38, TH E 66 FT, S 120 FT, W 66 FT, N TO BEG; MIDWAY SUB

2701 E. Michigan Avenue/N. Howard Street Legal Description: COM W LINE HOWARD ST 60 FT S OF SE COR MIDTOWN SUB TH S 89DEG 53MIN 12SCD W 312.536 FT, S 00DEG 11MIN 24SCD W 93.6 FT, E 314.9 FT N 92.4 FT TO BEG; SEC 14 T4N R2W

2801 E. Michigan Avenue Legal Description: COM ON N LINE E MICHIGAN AVE 189.9 FT E OF N & S 1/4 LINE SEC 14, TH N 632.5 FT, E 50 FT, N 7.5 FT, E 314.9 FT, S 470.3 FT, W 140 FT, S 169.7 FT, W 229.4 FT TO BEG; SEC 14 T4N R2W

2827 E. Michigan Avenue Legal Description COM AT INTERSECTION N LINE E MICHIGAN AVE & W’LY LINE HOWARD ST, TH W 140 FT, N 169.7 FT, E TO W LINE HOWARD ST, S TO BEG; SEC 14 T4N R2W.

Approval of this Brownfield Plan will enable the Lansing Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to capture incremental tax increases which result from the redevelopment of the property to pay for costs associated therewith. Further information regarding this issue, including maps, plats, and a description of the brownfield plan will be available for public inspection and may be obtained from Karl Dorshimer – Director of Economic Development, Lansing Economic Area Partnership, 1000 South Washington, Suite 201, Lansing, MI 48912, (517) 702-3387.

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, August 24, 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
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CP#15-195



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The compensation gap

A local preview of the SEC-ordered CEO-to-worker ratio

In an era where pay to workers has hardly budged, the compensation paid to chief executives has soared.

CEOs in 1965 earned about 20 times the typical worker. By 2013 CEOs earned about 300 times that amount, according to the Economic Policy Institute, a liberal leaning advocacy group. It sounds too high to me, but the broader point addresses a piece of the income inequality gap that is real and by many accounts worsening.

How real will be obvious in 2017 when as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission companies must disclose the gap between the pay of the big boss and a company's rank-and-file workers. It's a complicated calculation and won't mean much in the Lansing area. There are few publicly traded companies based in mid Michigan, and by national standards, annual pay for local chief executives is modest — just \$147,440, according to the May report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics. It put the average worker's pay in May at \$45,260

But there are some well-compensated CEOs, particularly at area hospitals and other health related organizations. Compensation for CEOs included base pay, retirement benefits, stock options and other sweeteners.

Topping the executive compensation chart at \$8.8 million — 180 times the average worker — is Philip Incarnati, president/CEO of McLaren Health Care, which operates two of its 12 hospitals in Lansing. His pay was listed in the organization's 2013 Form 990, filed with the IRS. (These and the BLS report are the source of compensation numbers unless noted.) Hospitals have a wide range of average workers, at one extreme near the minimum wage, at the other end, highly compensated doctors. Yet even measured against medical professional means wages in the Lansing area, the McLaren CEO gap is huge. Incarnati's compensation is 51 times the mean pay for physicians and surgeons (\$172,800), 39 times that of obstetricians and gynecologists (\$225,310), and 36 times that of anesthesiologists (\$244,700).

Closer to home, the gap shrinks. Sparrow Hospital CEO Dennis Swan's compensation for 2013 was \$1.4 million — about 30 times the average workers'

pay and six to eight times more than the three physician categories. Pay isn't bad for Sparrow's No. 2 exec, Joe Ruth. His compensation was listed at \$711,519 — 15 times the average. And the gap really shrinks at Hayes Green Beach in Charlotte, where CEO Matthew Rush's compensation was \$430,548, just nine times the average worker.

But there are other examples of ample health-related pay. At the Michigan Health and Hospital Association, which defines its mission as promoting the interest of the health care industry, CEO Spencer Johnson's compensation was \$1.2 million, 25 times the average. He retired in June.

Then there is Okemos-based Delta Dental Plan of Michigan, essentially a multi-state health insurance provider, where CEO Laura Czelada's 2013 compensation was \$3.9 million — 83 times the average worker and 25 times more than the average \$155,720 pay of an area dentist.

The two publicly traded companies in the area — Spartan Motors and Neogen Corp. — both list CEO salaries in their 2014 proxy statements, as reported by Salary.com. Compensation for Spartan's former CEO, John Szykiel, was \$554,928 — 12 times the average worker. At Neogen, which develops and markets food and animal safety products, the compensation package for CEO James L. Herbert was \$1.4 million, 30 times the region worker pay rate.

Consumers Energy, which is based in Jackson but has a large presence in the area, paid CEO John G. Russell \$6.2 million in total compensation, 130 times the average worker's pay.

Michigan State University, a nonprofit, except for its sports program, is one of the rare institutions where the CEO, Lou Anna Simon isn't the highest paid employee. Her pay was raised to \$850,000 a year in 2014 — 18 times the average. But it's in the Athletic Department where compensation dwarfs Simon's. The university's AD Mark Hollis will make \$917,000 according to the Detroit Free Press — 18 times the average worker. Football coach Mark Dantonio's 2015 compensation will be \$5.6 million — 180 times the average; basketball coach Tom Izzo's compensation is set at \$4 million,

See Hirten, Page 6



MICKEY HIRTEN

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PAGE 6

'Little House' star declares for big House in D.C.



PAGE 9

Actor Peter Carey on playing Ernie Harwell



PAGE 20

Author John Scalzi signs big league contract



COVER ART

"EXIT, PURSUED BY A BEAR" by ANGUS McNAIR



THIS WEEK

- Ingham County Treasurer Eric Schertzing
- Renegade Theatre Festival's Chad Badgero
- Dr. Paul DeWeese
- DeWeese patient Jacob Burns

7 p.m. Wednesdays

ON
IMPACT

RO FM



THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

SO WHAT DOES THE SIMULACRON-2 DO, DR. VON PHILBERT?

WELL, BILLY--I'VE PROGRAMMED A SIMULATED VERSION OF OUR ENTIRE WORLD--POPULATED BY AUTONOMOUS UNITS WHO BELIEVE THEMSELVES TO BE ACTUAL PEOPLE LIVING IN A PHYSICAL UNIVERSE!

WHOA!

WITHIN THIS VIRTUAL WORLD, I'VE BEEN RUNNING A TEST LASTING SEVERAL SUBJECTIVE DECADES--TO SEE HOW FAR A POLITICAL PARTY CAN DESCEND INTO MADNESS BEFORE IT FINALLY LOSES ALL LEGITIMACY!

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF MY SIMULATED WORLD IS FULL OF GUN FETISHISTS, WHITE SUPREMACISTS, MISOGYNISTS AND LUNATICS! WHY, MANY OF THEIR CORE VOTERS BELIEVE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS SECRETLY PLOTTING TO INVADE ITSELF!

THAT'S CRAZY!

OH, YOU SHOULD SEE THE CANDIDATES I'VE CREATED FOR THEM! THEY PREFER WAR TO DIPLOMACY, OPPOSE CLEAN AIR LAWS, WANT TO CRIMINALIZE ABORTION ENTIRELY, AND REFUSE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE BASIC SCIENCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE!

AND THAT'S JUST FOR STARTERS!

MY PIECE-DE-RESISTANCE IS A BLATANTLY RACIST AND SEXIST REALITY TV STAR WITH A REALLY BAD COMBOVER--PROGRAMMED TO BEHAVE AS BOORISHLY AS POSSIBLE!

I PROBABLY GOT A LITTLE CARRIED AWAY WITH THAT ONE--BUT HE'S BEEN THE FRONTRUNNER!

WOW! I'M SURE GLAD HE'S JUST A SIMULATION!

MEANWHILE, IN A REALITY ONE LEVEL ABOVE...

SO WHAT DOES THE SIMULACRON-3 DO?

WELL, BILLY--IT'S A SIMULATED VERSION OF OUR WORLD--BUT WITH A REPUBLICAN PARTY FULL OF RATIONAL PEOPLE!

HAW! IF ONLY!

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

Now you have two ways to sound off:

- 1.) Write a letter to the editor:
 - E-mail: letters@lansingcitypulse.com
 - Snail mail: City Pulse, 1905 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
 - Fax: (517) 371-5800
- 2.) Write a guest column:
 - Contact Berl Schwartz for more information: publisher@lansingcitypulse.com or (517) 999-5061

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

DeWeese defends record

Challenges FBI, takes on medical community over opioid concerns

“Pathetic.”

That’s how embattled physician Paul DeWeese characterized an FBI affidavit filed in federal court alleging a variety of abuses in his Lansing-based pain management and drug addiction medical practice.

DeWeese, a former state representative from Ingham County whose license was suspended last month pending the outcome of state and federal probes, broke his silence on the “City Pulse Newsmakers” TV show Saturday. The show is available at www.lansingcitypulse.com.

“I felt the way this was going — especially the high-profile nature of the media — I just felt like it wasn’t wise to just let the allegations be floating out there,” he said.

That, he said, outweighed the risk of surrendering Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination — even though he said he expects he will probably be indicted.

DeWeese said in his defense that the FBI ignored that he discharged 240 patients he knew or suspected were abusing his prescriptions.

“That has never been brought up by the FBI because it is against their narrative,” he said. “The narrative is that I am just dishing out drugs like crazy, giving them to drug dealers and I don’t care about anything.”

“The fact that I would have discharged 240 patients — many of them who were caught selling their prescriptions, and that’s why we discharged them — is kind of against the whole grain” of the FBI’s case, he said.

He blames his legal problems on discharged patients who turned “vindictive.”

“About 40 of those 240 were very angry and came back at us and said things like ‘I’m bringing a shotgun and I’m blowing your staff away,’ ‘I’m going to calling the FBI, I’m going to lie about you,’ ‘I’m going to bring you down,’ ‘I’m going to destroy you,’ ‘I’m going to get your license taken away.’”

Jacob Burns, one of DeWeese’s pain patients, supported him. He told the story of a woman DeWeese discharged after she failed a drug screening.

“She was screaming at the top of her lungs,” Burns recalled. He said she called the police and threatened to call the FBI.

Said DeWeese: “Not once in the whole 40-page-plus

document did the FBI ever indicate that this person was discharged from our practice and threatened us with this kind of information, because it was against their narrative.”

He took exception to the FBI’s implied characterization that he exploited patients he took into his home by giving them drugs in exchange for favors, sexual and otherwise.

DeWeese said he acted out of his Catholic faith in offering assistance to people who needed help.

“There was no quid pro quo,” he said.

He said the patients would then offer to run errands or make meals or clean the common areas.

“We were living in community,” he said.

One of them was a prostitute trying to get away from her pimp, who was paying her in heroin. After she broke down in his office when she sought treatment, he offered shelter because she had nowhere else to turn, he said.

One couple he invited into his home had been living on the “under the Kalamazoo Street bridge” for over a year, he said.

He also defended his July 4, 2014, trip to Escanaba in the Upper Peninsula to visit patients and write prescriptions. He said they could not afford the seven-hour trip to Lansing.

Moreover, understanding where and how a patient lives

provides many details a physician can use in caring for that patient, he contended. He said he also educated family members about how they could help their kin.

He rejected the allegations by the FBI he drove up there just to write prescriptions. He also defended meeting some of them in such places as a McDonald’s between the U.P. and Lansing. He did so as a matter of convenience and said he asked them the same questions he would have in a medical office, entering their answers on his laptop.

DeWeese, 60, said he has been living on retirement savings since his license was suspended. His legal bills in July alone were \$25,000, he said.

DeWeese served four years in the Legislature representing rural Ingham County from 1999 to 2003. He was a Republican.

He has been on missions providing medical treatment with Mother Teresa’s Missionaries of Charity. He has traveled to Africa three times for the Nyaka AIDS Orphan Project. He’s also been an emergency room physician.

DeWeese said his Catholic faith has played a large role in the way he practices medicine.

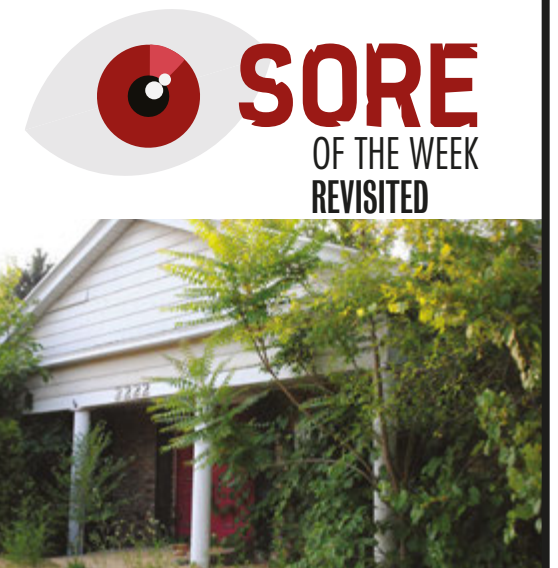
“It’s all about the notion that God is a God of redemption,” DeWeese said, “that God is a God that especially cares about the disempowered, the impoverished, the poor, the people that aren’t protected.”

DeWeese sees this example again and again in the



City Pulse file image

Paul DeWeese (right) said on “City Pulse Newsmakers” that the FBI has painted an unfair portrait of his medical practice. One of his patients, Jacob Burns (left), supported him. The show will be rebroadcast at 10 a.m. Saturday on MY18.



Property: 2222 Grand River Ave.

Okemos

This building was featured as an Eyesore in July 2012. At that time, the front elevation was nearly covered “by rampantly overgrown shrubs and trees.” The bay windows, now clearly visible on either side of the entrance portico, were completely obscured.

As mentioned in the 2012 feature, businesses periodically relocate or close in response to market pressures or new opportunities. However, vacant buildings need not necessarily succumb to blight; neglect and deferred maintenance led to this building’s deteriorated state.

Now, the property is showing the marks of a turnaround. Bright signage announces the promise of project funding and the excess foliage has been removed from the walls. A new enterprise is imminent.

— 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 (517) 999-5061.

Wood apologizes

Councilwoman begins reimbursing city for ads

Lansing City Councilwoman Carol Wood has reimbursed the city of Lansing for some of the ads she placed with taxpayer funds that included her campaign web address.



Wood

Wood said Thursday she has repaid the city \$125 for an advertisement that ran in the monthly newsletter of the Lansing Association for Human Rights. The amount covers five ads from this year.

Wood said she is still determining how much more she owes the city for the ad, which appeared as long ago as January 2013. The publication's rate card said the ad is \$25 per insertion.

Ingham County Clerk Barb Byrum sent a letter to state election officials last week raising concerns about the ad because it did not show up as an expense on Wood's campaign finance report.

Wood admitted to the error in a phone call with City Pulse. On Wednesday she posted an apology on her Facebook page

to her supporters.

"Because I used my city council account to pay for the ad which is a permissible expenditure, the ad should not have included the link to my campaign website," Wood posted. "I apologize for this error. I take ethics issues very seriously, and I take full responsibility for this mistake. I will be removing the link to my website from future versions of the ad, and will immediately reimburse the city from my campaign account."

The apology was "liked" by 123 people by Friday morning, and received 38 comments, all supportive.

"I wrote a check for \$125 to cover from Feb. to July," Wood told City Pulse on Thursday. "January was a free month and May a free month."

That only covers 2015. Wood told City Pulse the ad had been running for "years."

"I am following up on that now," Wood said, "but I wanted to take care of this year's first and some of those were paid by me from my own checking account when my council account was used for other things."

It is unclear what, if any, actions state election officials will take against Wood.

— Todd Heywood



DeWeese

from page 5

traditional Biblical stories such as the Good Samaritan, and even in the story of the Jewish exodus from slavery in Egypt.

That philosophy led DeWeese to focus his medical work on addicts and chronic pain sufferers, he said. He said in the interview that that group of people is "looked down upon" by traditional medicine.

For DeWeese, that meant working with people with chronic pain and addiction issues, because they are "stigmatized" by traditional medical establishments. They are also, he said, a difficult community to work with.

"It takes a long time; it takes a lot of effort to get to know this patient population," he said of the addicted community. He noted that many in that community have learned to survive by lying, cheating and stealing — something most traditional medical practices are unprepared to confront and handle.

But that may be changing. Earlier this month the Michigan Health and Hospital Association announced it had adopted new programming to reduce the prescription of opioid pain medications and better regulate pain management for persons with chronic pain.

DeWeese said part of the reason the

medical community is turning its back on the needs of chronic pain sufferers and the addicted community is the crackdown on physicians.

"They're scared," he said of physicians. "They're scared of being raided by 25 armed federal agents."

As a result of that fear, physicians are not treating pain or addiction, and those impacted have to turn to the street. And on the street, prescription drugs sell for as much as a dollar a milligram. Heroin is much cheaper.

"When you have those people kind of flooding the street and the market because they can't get their legitimate pain needs met, or they can't get their addiction needs met, you drive up demand for heroin," DeWeese said.

And local statistics show there is a serious crisis brewing in Lansing. Since January, 47 heroin overdoses have been recorded by Lansing Police. Seven have been fatal, more than the previous two years combined.

Ultimately, he said it is about sharing with others.

"We are to be about suffering with people," he said. "The idea is to be aware of people that are in need and actually treat them as if they are God."

— Todd Heywood



Going after Gilbert

GOP quick to attack actress' bid to unseat Bishop

Eric Schertzing takes it as a good sign that Republicans quickly attacked actress Melissa Gilbert when she announced her candidacy for the 8th Congressional District seat.



Gilbert

It means that they view her as a serious candidate, said Schertzing, the Ingham County treasurer who ran unsuccessfully last year against U.S. Rep. Mike Bishop.

And they should, he added, saying he is optimistic about her chances.

"She has the connections and the name recognition, and some of her history is going to help her attract the money necessary to knock out a weak freshman incumbent."

Gilbert, 51, who starred in the popular TV series "Little House on the Prairie" in the 1970s and '80s, said Monday she will seek the Democratic nomination to run against Bishop next year. She lives in Howell in Livingston County with her husband, actor Timothy Busfield, an East Lansing native. Besides Livingston, the district comprises Ingham and northern Oakland counties.

Republicans responded quickly to the challenge with a press release pointing out that Gilbert owes the IRS more than \$360,000 in back taxes.

"Hollywood Actress and IRS Tax Cheat Melissa Gilbert owes hundreds of thousands to the IRS and wants to get a government paycheck," Stu Sandler, Bishop's campaign spokesman, said. "Melissa Gilbert can afford to have a stylist for her dog, but cannot pay her taxes. Her values are out of whack with the district."

Schertzing said he was also pleased they attacked her dog. "As a county treasurer, who licenses 25,000 of them, it's a bad idea to attack dogs."

MIRS, a Capitol news service, said that in an email Gilbert responded to the attack by saying, "The truth is I got caught in a perfect storm of financial difficulty, which is why I initiated a conversation with the IRS, told them I was having trouble and together we set up a payment plan."

A Detroit News article said the actress blamed her financial troubles on her 2011 divorce from actor Bruce Boxleitner, a struggling acting career, and the economy.

In her campaign announcement, Gilbert said, "I'm running for Congress to make life a little easier for all the families who feel they have fallen through the cracks in today's economy. I believe building a new economy is a team effort, and we need to bring fresh voices to the table to get the job done."

Schertzing lost 54 percent to 42 percent to Bishop, but he said that Gilbert can do better in 2016 because "in a presidential year those numbers move around 5 percentage points."

He described her as a mainstream Democrat whose two-time presidency of the Screen Actors Guild means she's "no newcomer to negotiating tough situations, not all that unlike electoral politics."

"Women candidates are always very attractive," he added. And her work on behalf of the Mark Schauer gubernatorial campaign last year is a plus, he said.

As for her appeal to non-Democrats, he said the "Little House on the Prairie" connection will benefit her. "I loved that show. I loved reading those books to my kids. There's a visceral connection she makes to a lot of independents because of that history."

— Berl Schwartz



Hirten

from page 4

85 times the average. Both were reported by USA TODAY.

In the latest IRS filing by Thomas M. Cooley Law School (now known as Western Michigan University Cooley Law School), CEO Don LeDuc's compensation was \$675,626, 14 times average worker pay and seven times the \$98,320 average of lawyers in the area.

Finally, at Peckham Vocational Industries Inc., one of the area's most prominent nonprofits, CEO Mitchell Tomlinson's latest reported compensation package was \$505,770, 11 times the average.

There are, of course, many factors that determine CEO pay: the size of the organization, the location, comparable

pay in the industry and the profits their companies generate.

The new SEC rule was opposed by the two Republicans on the commission and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, which said it was added to the Dodd-Frank as a favor to union lobbyists. Probably, but why is that a problem? The measure is unlikely to influence investment decisions. Certainly institutional investors have the savvy to analyze CEO compensation.

But it will provide some stark reading and recognition of income inequality as a political issue, which has blossomed since Dodd-Frank was passed in 2010.

And considering the Chamber of Commerce's disdain for workers — it's against the minimum wage, a living wage, changes in laws and more — its opposition to the new reporting requirement can be seen as an endorsement. At least for those of us who aren't CEOs.



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

Advanced Esthetics M.D. offers a variety of minimally invasive cosmetic procedures at its new office on Michigan Avenue.

By ALLAN I. ROSS

It's hard work to look good. With all of the microdermabrasion facials, body waxing, laser hair removal, vein treatments and cellulite management casting the allure of eternal youth, it can be a considerable investment of both time and money.

But as technology in the field becomes more prevalent and accessible, the professionals at the recently moved (and newly renamed) medical cosmetic care facility **Advanced Esthetics M.D.** are offering a card that's increasingly more affordable — and less invasive — to punch.

"We're just helping Mother Nature out," said company CEO Donna Mickley. "With the latest

advances in technology, (procedures) that used to be expensive and could be quite painful have gotten much cheaper and are practically painless."

Advanced Esthetics M.D. isn't a day spa; no massages, hair or nails here. Instead, the focus is on medical esthetic care that requires a doctor's supervision: skin tightening, acne scar treatments, chemical peels and Botox injections, as well as a whole slew of new procedures.

"BodyFX is huge right now," Mickley said. "It's non-invasive, it's fast and it really targets and kills fat cells. It's great for people who've tried everything else to get rid of fatty areas but can't

quite get that last little bit."

After finding success with her original Ann Arbor location, Mickley opened the Grand Ledge Advanced Esthetics location in 2012. She developed a base of about 200 clients in Grand Ledge, but she was looking for numbers closer to what she had in Ann Arbor.

"We have about 4,000 (clients in Ann Arbor), and I thought moving the Grand Ledge office closer to Sparrow (Hospital) would be beneficial," Mickley said. "We appeal to a lot of people in the medical profession, who know all about the procedures but feel uncomfortable or shy doing it at work. So they take a day off, come to us, and go back to work the next day."

Mickley said that by targeting the faculty of Sparrow, recommendations will trickle down to the rest of the community, including that giant resource down the street: Michigan State University.

"We see a lot of U of M students in Ann Arbor, and I want to emulate that success in Lansing," she said. "We have the potential to get very, very busy here."

Mickley recently ascended to the CEO position, allowing Dr. C. Randall Chube, the new owner, to step in and handle the day-to-day duties. Chube will be based out of the company's newest location in Indiana, but will have hours in both Michigan locations. He's a former family practice physician, but he said he's always been interested in dermatology.

"I was looking to see what I could do with medicine that didn't have to do with disease," he said. "I actually spent a year of my residency with a dermatologist and that time had always stuck with me. At a certain point, I thought this emerging field of non-invasive cosmetics

was a perfect thing to switch my focus to. Then I met Donna at a conference in Detroit last September, I expressed interest in changing in the esthetic field, and a year later here we are."

Chube has been training and attending for three years in preparation for his switch. He said he plans to continue to take courses to stay abreast of the latest developments. He's also hired Lisa Metler, a physician assistant who serves as his eyes, ears and — most notably — hands when he's not in the office.

"Lisa is my extension why I'm not here," Chube said. "We can Skype about any issues that come up. It basically allows me to be in Indiana (and Lansing) at the same time."

Advanced Esthetics recently started offering 24/7 scheduling via its website, allowing clients to book appointments in the middle of the night and show up the next morning. It also recently started carrying its own line of pharmaceutical skin care products.

"I've been in this business for 25 years now," Mickley said. "I'm a specialist, and I know what to look for in the best products. I'm very into education, and I make sure my staff is very educated. This is a changing industry and it's important to stay on top of the latest information."

To mark the grand reopening, the Lansing office will have an open house from 2-7 p.m. Thursday. There will be raffles, demonstrations, discounts on certain services and hors d'oeuvres. The event is free and open to the public.

Advanced Esthetics
1824 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing
Services by appointment only
(517) 627-7546, advancedestheticsmi.com

Folk festival flap

Root beer vendor draws protests over Confederate flag display

Christopher Zemer has been flying the Confederate flag on his antique root beer stand for the past 12 years, including at the Great Lakes Folk Festival.

But this year the flag was not hoisted on a pole along with an American flag. Rather, a smaller one was used over a window on his stand. A "Romney Ryan" sticker was next to it.

Unlike other years, Zemer faced non-violent protests over the flag at the weekend festival in East Lansing. Acquiescing to a request from the festival, Zemer took down the flag down on Friday, but it rose again Saturday before he removed it once more.

"It's part of my heritage," Zemer, a Texas resident who used to live in Jackson, told City Pulse Saturday evening, while his staff slung root beer and root beer floats in orange plastic mugs. "I am a Yankee and my great-great-grandfather fought against that Confederate flag. But I live in the South and the South flies that flag and I fly this flag."

Lora Helou, acting director of the MSU Museum, which produces the festival, said she became aware of the flag on Friday night, when a photo was posted on social media.

"We asked him to take the flag down, and he did," Helou said. "So, we're really happy we had that kind of resolution."

Zemer said he removed the flag because

he feared "liberals" would burn his stand down. He cited student disturbances in East Lansing after sports events as examples of violent protests.

Wendy Sellers, of Grand Ledge, and Bill Knapp, of Williamston, helped spread the word about the flag through social media.



TOP: The Confederate flag flew at the Great Lakes Folk Festival in East Lansing for a time on Friday and again on Saturday on a root beer stand, leading to protests. Photo courtesy of Wendy Sellers. CENTER: Christopher Zemer (right) laughs with customers at his root beer stand at the Great Lakes Folk Festival. His shirt says, "WORK HARD because millions of people on welfare depend on me." ABOVE: Terry Scharf holds sign near Zemer's Homemade Rootbeer stand at the Great Lakes Folk Festival.

Both said the murders of nine parishioners in a black Charleston, S.C., church in June made them more aware of the racist implications the flag has for some in the community.

"I felt like it would exclude some people," Sellers said.

Zemer said he doesn't understand the charges of racism and hatred tied to the flag.

"I don't believe that flag is racist," Ze-

mer said. "Is the Nazi flag a racist flag?" He paused for several seconds. "I'm not going to go there."

Sellers and Knapp agreed that Zemer had a First Amendment right to display the flag, as did they to protest.

"It was truly a demonstration of the First



Todd Heywood/City Pulse

Amendment," Knapp said.

Meanwhile, City Pulse editor and publisher Berl Schwartz filed a complaint with the East Lansing Police Department after Zemer and then one of his employees threw water in his direction Sunday as he was interviewing one of the protesters, City Councilwoman Ruth Beier.

Schwartz said that Zemer threw water from a bucket underneath a table in front of

with a photo of Zemer's flag on it.

After Schwartz complained, East Lansing Police Sgt. Andy Bouck spoke to Zemer. He said Zemer told him he had tossed the water to cleanse the area. He said Zemer promised to warn people before he did it again.

— Todd Heywood



ARTS & CULTURE

ART • BOOKS • FILM • MUSIC • THEATER

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

A fresh coat of paint works wonders for most fixer-uppers, but Alan Hooper's painting hands were tied when he set out to convert Lansing's former Creole Gallery into the Creole, a Cajun-themed restaurant, bar and coffee shop.

The lease for 1218 Turner St. has an unusual clause: Do not touch the walls. Would you spackle the Catacombs or slap vinyl siding on the Parthenon?

The Creole Gallery, closed since 2012, was the epicenter of Old Town's resurgence in the 1990s and 2000s and home to hundreds of art shows and concerts. About 130 years ago, the same brick building housed the Creole Cigar Factory, along with a seed and grain shop.

Next week, the autumnal, peeling yellow and brown walls will get their first taste of spice and steam when the Creole opens for business Aug. 20.

The Creole is the latest and weightiest project yet for the Potent Potables Project — restaurateur Sam Short, property development and construction specialist Hooper and attorney Aaron Mathews — the team that brought Old Town's moribund Zoobie's bar back to life and added a popular new wood-fired pizza joint, Cosmos, next door.

Short's team is also working on a gourmet taqueria to replace the derelict gas station at the corner of Homer and Saginaw streets in Frandor, set to open early this winter.

The potent team will need all of its potency to pull off the Creole, an ambitious, historically fraught venture that takes in two adjoining spots on Turner Street. The former Creole Gallery itself will house a sit-down, "fine casual" restaurant and bar specializing in Cajun food and with a high-end, Zoobie's-esque wine and beer selection. The space next door, where the most recent tenant was Whipped Bakery, will become the Creole Coffee Co., serving breakfast, lunch, coffee and sweets. One kitchen will serve both spaces, linked by an interior doorway.

To evoke the atmosphere of southern Louisiana, Short had to cook up a gumbo of adjectives.



HISTORY AND HIGH HOPES

The Creole brings spice and steam to an Old Town landmark

"That French-revival-farmhouse-crumbling-paint-faded-glory-New Orleans feel is so beautiful," he said. "We want to keep that feel as much as possible."

Out of respect for the Creole's history, Short's team has done a quiet make-over with minimal impact. A copper-topped bar extends from the front window down the old gallery's north wall. The tall stage and wall partition in back are gone, making the space a bit larger, but it's unmistakably the Creole. The old church pew where musicians once sat when the stage got too crowded won't be far from its old spot.

"And we haven't touched the walls," Short said.

Hooper found some interesting things in the building during the renovation, including a stash of 115-year-old canceled checks from the Creole Cigar Co. The old-school calligraphy on the checks will be re-cycled for the Creole Coffee Co. logo.

Hooper has been sifting through stacks of pictures showing the Creole as a cigar factory, a hardware store and a derelict building with boarded up windows.

"It's just kind of survived, and everything's ebbed and flowed around it," Hooper said.

Short moved to Lansing in 2010 from

Chicago and never met its former owner, Robert Busby, but he knows the Creole is no ordinary space.

Busby brought the Creole's shell back from decades of neglect, culminating in a 1982 fire, to become the heart of Old Town's resurgence. In its heyday, the Creole hosted bluesmen John Sinclair and Mose Allison, jazz trumpeter Wynton Marsalis and dozens of other national acts. The Creole Gallery was on the verge of taking a place

among the nation's top small clubs in 2007, when Busby was killed by a handyman he had taken in.

"I've heard so much about Robert, and walking into the space, you can see that someone took serious time building it," Short said. "It was a passion project."

Many restoration projects, including Zoobie's, involve tearing down decades of bad decisions, from drop ceilings to shag carpet.

Hooper said the Creole job was simpler.

"Robert already revealed the beauty of this building," he said. "It was our job not to ruin that."

After Busby died, the gallery went to his daughter, Ena Busby, who kept it going with art shows, rental events and sporadic concerts, but full-time work and kids made it difficult for her to give the space full attention.

In 2013, Ena Busby sold the building to longtime Old Town champion Jamie Schriener-Hooper, a former director of the Old Town Commercial Association and Hooper's wife. The Hoopers moved into the apartment upstairs and leased the gallery to Short's team.

The Creole Gallery led Old Town into its modestly gritty, Oldsmobile-bohemian heyday of art and music over 10 years ago. Short hopes to put The Creole back at the center of Old Town as it rolls into its latest phase: a flourishing wave of locally owned eateries, shops, non-profits and businesses — short on grit but tightly knit and allergic to chain-store blandness.

"We hope we can be part of



Ty Forquer/City Pulse

The Creole ownership and management team (left to right: co-owner Aaron Mathews, general manager Mimi Yao, co-owner Sam Short, assistant general manager Nick Lovachis, manager/barista Meche Holguin and co-owner Alan Hooper) take a break from remodeling and employee training at the Creole's newly installed bar.

See Creole, Page 9

Creole

from page 8

that second wave, that expansion of a city that is starting to have some really interesting things happen in it," Short said.

Short wants music to remain a part of the Creole, but it's unclear how that will work out in practice. The gallery's old stage has been rebuilt into a flexible and mobile platform for musicians. The wood on top of the stage is from the original.

Short is hoping for two or three days of live music a week, focusing on blues, jazz, funk and soul, with perhaps a Gospel brunch on Sunday. The venerable Cliff Bell's nightclub in downtown Detroit was an inspiration.

"To have that combination of dining and jazz or blues, an engaged music experience — that's really unique," Short said. "Not a lot of places have that feel. We thought Old Town, if anywhere in Lansing, has the vibe where that can happen."

Short's team has consulted with Meegan Holland, who booked the Creole Gallery in its glory days, but they have no formal arrangement.

It was Holland who suggested the stage be dismantled to make more room for seating.

"Some people may be upset that the stage is gone, but I think it's a good move," Holland said. "Robert owned the building, so he had the luxury of keeping it as a listening room of 100 seats, no food or liquor sales."

With about 150 seats in both spaces combined, it remains to be seen whether Short's team will be able to book artists of the caliber the Creole Gallery hosted back in the day.

"I'm not interested in booking back-

ground music," Holland said. "But I am thrilled with whatever they do. I trust those guys. They'll do it up right. You have to make money, and they know how to do it."

Foot traffic in Old Town has grown painfully slowly over the past 15 years, but Short and Hooper aren't worried about that. A lot of people told Short he was nuts to invest in Old Town's eastern fringe, and now the wait can exceed an hour and a half at Cosmos on weekends.

"A place that's cool enough — people will drive to it. Golden Harvest has 30 people in line on a Tuesday in February," Short said.

When Short took on Zoobie's, a once-sleepy bar at the far eastern fringe of Old Town, he felt an undercurrent of trepidation he didn't show to his partners. The Creole, he said, is a different animal.

"With the stampede of interest and overwhelming support we've had here, no way," he said. "I don't know why you'd go to another part of town to open a business."

Short and his team hope The Creole will be the major destination restaurant Old Town has lacked for decades.

"We always wondered why there wasn't a more intensive dining scene in Old Town," Hooper said.

It will gladden many hearts just to see the Creole light up again. Hooper doesn't seem worried about living up to its storied history.

"We can't live up to what the past was," Hooper said. "The past speaks for itself and it's the foundation for everything that's happening now. We just want to be worthy."

He added one more reason to do the job well.

"I can't hide from this because I live upstairs."

Inside baseball

Peter Carey on playing Ernie Harwell in "Ernie"

By TY FORQUER

The legacy of Detroit Tigers announcer Ernie Harwell will take center stage Wednesday when "Ernie" arrives at the Wharton Center's Pasant Theatre. While he worked as a broadcaster for the Brooklyn Dodgers, New York Giants and Baltimore Orioles, Harwell is best known for his 42 years calling games on TV and radio for the Detroit Tigers.

Team owner Michael Ilitch called him "the most popular sports

figure in the state of Michigan" in a statement released after the announcer's death in 2010.

"Ernie," written by author and columnist Mitch Albom, is based on the life of Harwell. Peter Carey plays the famous announcer in this production. A graduate of Michigan State University, Carey spent a decade in the radio industry — including stints in Lansing and Detroit — before changing careers to work as an actor and voice-over artist.

City Pulse spoke with Carey as the actor was wrapping up the final season of "Ernie" at Detroit's City Theatre, where it debuted in 2011. The play opens a five-day run of shows tonight at the City Opera House in Traverse City and then makes its way to the Pasant Theatre for a five-day run.

How did you land the role of Harwell in this production?

I was understudy for the play for the

See Baseball, Page 10

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN NOTICE OF POSTING OF TOWNSHIP BOARD MINUTES

On August 6, 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.

July 21, 2015 Regular Meeting

ELIZABETH LEGOFF
SUPERVISOR

BRETT DREYFUS, CMMC
TOWNSHIP CLERK

CP#15_190

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Z-3-2015, Northwest Corner, S. Cedar Street & E. Syringa Drive Rezoning from "D-1" Professional Office District to "E-2" Local Shopping District

The Lansing City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 31, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, 10th Floor, Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, Michigan to consider Z-3-2015. This is a request by Richard R. Rashid to rezone the property located at the northwest corner of S. Cedar Street and E. Syringa Drive, more specifically described as:

COM ON W LINE S CEDAR ST 984.5 FT N OF S LINE SEC 33, TH W 313 FT, N 161.37 FT, E 313 FT, S TO BEG, EXC W 130 FT; SEC 33 T4N R2W

from "D-1" Professional Office District to "E-2" Local Shopping District, with the following restrictive conditions which shall run with the land and be binding upon the successor owner of the land:

1. There will be a natural barrier between the residential property and property located at 33-01-01-33-407-245.
2. The following uses are prohibited:
 - a. Liquor Store
 - b. Medical Marijuana Dispensary
 - c. Fireworks store
3. Driveways from the site to Syringa Drive shall be designed and properly signed to prohibit right turns onto Syringa Drive.

For more information, please call Lansing City Council at 517-483-4177. If you are interested in this matter, please attend the public hearing or send a representative. Written comments will be accepted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on City business days if received before 5 p.m., Monday, August 31, 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#15-193



Photo courtesy of Richard Galosy

The Professors of Jazz, MSU's all-star jazz group, were frequent performers at the Creole's predecessor, the Creole Gallery.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL**

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held by the East Lansing City Council on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 101 Linden Street, to consider Ordinance No. 1352; an Ordinance to repeal Sections 8-381, 8-382, 8-383, 8-384, 8-385, 8-386, 8-387, 8-388, 8-389, 8-390, 8-391, 8-392, 8-393, 8-394, 8-421 and 8-422 of Article VI - Taxicabs - of Chapter 8 - Businesses of the Code of the City of East Lansing and to amend the Code of the City of East Lansing by adding a new Section 8-423, which new Section shall be designated Section 8-423 of Division 2 - Business License - of Article VI - Taxicabs - of Chapter 8 - Businesses - of said Code to require licenses from the Greater Lansing Taxi Authority.

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

Marie E. Wicks, City Clerk

CP#15-189

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF APPORTIONMENT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In accordance with Chapter 8, Section 280.196 of The Drain Code of 1956, as amended, a Special Assessment will be ordered to cover the cost of maintenance for the following Drainage Districts:

DRAIN NAME	DRAIN #
ALAIEDON NO. 4 DRAIN	A04-00
ALLCHIN DRAIN	A05-00
AURELIUS & VEVAY DRAIN	A16-00
BUSH DRAIN	B27-00
BARNARD DRAIN	B30-00
COUNTY FARM DRAIN	C31-00
CHULA VISTA DRAIN	C62-00
DANA & STARKS DRAIN	D01-00
FRANKLIN DRAIN	F10-00
HERRON CREEK DRAIN	H21-00
HARRIS DRAIN	H47-00
LOUNSBURY DRAIN	L20-00
LANSING TOWNSHIP NO. 1 DRAIN	L35-00
LANSING TOWNSHIP NO. 2 DRAIN	L36-00
MUD CREEK DRAIN	M16-00
PUFFENBERGER DRAIN	P19-00
SEARLS DRAIN	S06-00
SLOAN CREEK DRAIN	S16-00
SWIFT DRAIN	S39-00
SMITH DRAIN	S45-00
TALMADGE DRAIN	T01-00
VANDERHOOF AND ROBINSON DRAIN	V01-00
WILLOW CREEK DRAIN	W22-00
WOODWORTH DRAIN	W32-00

These Drains are located in the following: Townships of Alaiedon, Aurelius, Bunkerhill, Ingham, Lansing, Leroy, Leslie, Meridian, Onondaga, Vevay, Wheatfield, and Williamstown; and, Cities of Lansing, Leslie, and Mason.

A Public Hearing of Apportionment will be held at the office of the Ingham County Drain Commissioner, 707 Buhl Avenue, in the City of Mason, Michigan, 48854, on **Thursday, August 27, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

August 7, 2015

Patrick E. Lindemann
Ingham County Drain Commissioner

CP#15_194

Baseball

from page 9



Courtesy Photo

"Ernie," featuring Peter Carey as famed Detroit Tigers announcer Ernie Harwell, opens Wednesday at the Wharton Center.

first two years. When the first Ernie retired, I was asked by Mitch Albom, the playwright, if I'd be interested in taking over. We got together at the theater and did some run-throughs, and he said, "I'd love to have you on board." I'm in my second full season and our final season.

When you're playing a figure like Harwell, who was beloved in the community, do feel like there is extra pressure on you?

It can work both ways for you. It can work in your favor, because he's so beloved and admired and so many people know what he sounds like, but it can also work against you if you're not true to Ernie Harwell. If you try to fake it or do an impression or impersonation of him, it doesn't work. You have to channel the love and spirituality that was, and still is, Ernie Harwell in a lot of people's hearts.

So if I get up there and do an impression of Ernie Harwell, it doesn't work. But if I'm true to the man he was, we get a great response from the audience. Quite frankly, a majority of that is the love for Ernie. It's an honor to play him.

What is it like to work with Mitch Albom? How much is he involved in the production of "Ernie?"

He's a very prolific author, as everybody knows, and he's wonderful to work with as an actor. He sits down and he says, "Here's what I thought about it as the playwright,"

and then he says "What do you think about this?" You share a collaboration, and with that cooperation you can build the character that everybody's looking for. It's really nice.

In the case of Ernie, you have to be true to him. You're not going to change things. These are factual happenings that happened over his lifetime, and Mitch was incredibly creative in setting it up as a baseball game. It's nine innings of Ernie's life. And it takes place on the night of his farewell speech at Comerica Park. So again, you have to stay true to the actualities of the situation. They've re-created the basement tunnel at Comerica Park, before he heads out onto the field, and that's where it takes place.

Like I said, Mitch is a great to work with. He's a regular guy around us when he's in the theater, hanging with us and telling us what he's looking for. We get together at the beginning of every year, and if there's something he wants to change, if something has grown in a different way, he'll change a couple of lines. This year we freshened a lot of things up.

I read that you had worked with Harwell. Can you tell me about that?

I grew up listening to Ernie doing the Tigers games and then got a chance to really meet him later on in my radio career. I was on the radio for 10 years. We actually did

commercial work together. We did a film for Disney together called "Tiger Town," and that's where I got a chance to sit with him in the press box at Tiger Stadium and really talk and become friends. Then after that we did other things together. We did Blue Cross Blue Shield commercials, we did pizza commercials, we did live events. He was always an incredible gentleman and a very caring human being.

After knowing him and working with him, what's it like to honor him in this way?

You said it exactly. I get to honor the man. And that's how I feel. I'm not just doing another play. This is honoring the man and giving some people who never had the opportunity to meet the man a chance to experience what kind of person he was. And that's how Mitch felt too, in writing it. You want to share who Ernie Harwell was.

Every show we have people stay after to meet us and say, "Thank you very much," and they all have stories about Ernie Harwell. Whether it's growing up and listening to him up at their cottage, or it's him coming to their church or their school. There was even a guy that said, "We invited Ernie to our wedding to read one of the lessons. And he showed up." That's the kind of guy he was. He was the most sincere individual I've ever met. So it's an honor.

RENEGADE

THEATRE FESTIVAL

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AUG. 13-15 | OLD TOWN, LANSING

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11

Courtesy photo

LEFT: Students from LCC perform "Boomer and Imaginary Friend Revolt" at MICA Gallery as part of last year's festival. RIGHT: Local actor Rico Bruce Wade leads the Teen Workshop at last year's Renegade Theatre Festival.



MARKS THE SPOT

RENEGADE THEATRE FESTIVAL EXPANDS
OFFERINGS FOR ITS 10TH YEAR

By PAUL WOZNAK

The Renegade Theatre Festival is back for its 10th season. The annual festival, which takes over the storefronts and streets of Old Town for the weekend, has become like an family reunion for Lansing's theater community. Over the course of three nights, patrons can sample over 30 productions ranging from children's shows and short speeches to full-length productions. Co-founder and organizer Chad Badgero compares Renegade to a Meijer Superstore version of theater, with "a million options in a single spot."

"Every theater company in the area is a part of (Renegade Theatre Festival), so you can go to the ones you like and try out ones you've never been to and get a feel," said Badgero.

And it's completely free.

Renegade Theatre Festival

Aug. 13-15
(see pages 14 and 15 for full schedule and map of performance venues)
FREE
Old Town, Lansing
renegadetheatrefestival.org

"If you're a beginning theater person, maybe you don't know what you think of theater. This is a great in-road," said Badgero. "You can leave if you want. You're not out anything. And if you think a production is terrible, you have

another opportunity in a few more minutes to see something else that might be amazing."

Local theater companies and universities staging readings or productions include Williamston Theatre, Riverwalk Theatre, Peppermint Creek Theater Co., Lansing Community College and Michigan State University.

The festival also includes several independent productions from regional actors, writers and directors. Lisa Biggs, local performing artist and MSU professor, occupies all three roles in her solo biographical production of early abolitionist/suffragette Abby Kelley, "Where Spirit Rides." Set in the mid-1800s, this production focuses on Kelley, a white Quaker from rural Massachusetts who, in this theatrical interpretation, is possessed by the ghost of a former slave.

Biggs says theater allows her to explore the subject in a more collective and visceral way than a book or other medium might allow.

"I want people to live in the room with the ghost," Biggs said. "(Kelley) spoke in the public sphere. So the piece is a restaging of those moments, to understand what the stakes were and what the experience was like. Usually you read alone, you read silently to yourself, and that's fabulous. But I wanted to create a collective experience of coming to the show."

Speaking of restaging public moments, Tom Helma, City Pulse theater critic, is returning with a second year of the street side "Soap Box Speeches." This year's offerings include politically themed speeches from Eleanor Roosevelt, Hillary Clinton and Sarah Silverman delivered by costumed actors. Standing on a soap box, of course

Helma said that Andy Callis, LCC lead theater faculty member, once told him that "theater is everywhere."

"It's not just on stage, but it's in sports events, it's in public speeches and it's in every aspect of human life," Helma said. "All the actors that I've asked to do this expressed delight and said it would be an honor to do so, which was more than what I was expecting."

Badgero credits that sense of family and community as part of the reason he stays involved every year.

"There are only two opportunities that we really have

as a theater community to all come together, the (City Pulse) Pulsar Awards and the Renegade Theater Festival," Badgero said. "I love that experience of being down with all of these other theaters in our community — that we are all really working together to create a sense of place in Lansing."

As for the festival's longevity, Badgero credits the ability of the artists and audiences to accept logistical limitations.

"(The festival) was really drafted on the generosity of the venues owners," Badgero said. "I promised (theaters and artists) what I could, which was a space and chairs. And that's what's beautiful about the way that the festival is today. The businesses around it have changed, but the original concept still remains the same."

Badgero expects the festival to continue growing, and the goal is to accommodate everyone.

"Whatever is brought to us by the deadline, we'll find a space," Badgero said. "If there were 40 shows, we would find space for 40 shows. We would obviously have to re-evaluate our locale or structure, which we do every year. And the last three or four years that's been a conversation, because we have to find spaces for what we have."

Badgero said that the festival leadership has even discussed a multi-site version of the festival. He cited Lansing's Capital City Film Festival as a good example of a multi-venue festival that hosts events at several sites throughout the city.

Even in its current state, geographically restricted to Old Town, audiences literally cannot see everything, given overlapping show times and the sheer volume of theatrical and musical offerings. For those frustrated by the fact that they have to choose between multiple one-night-only productions, co-founder Melissa Kaplan empathizes.

"It's a big challenge," Kaplan said. "It's like we've provided this amazing feast, and then we've told you that you can only go back for one second helping."

2015-2016 GREATER LANSING THEATER SEASON CALENDAR

The Greater Lansing theater scene has put together a wildly diverse 2015-2016 season, featuring everything from theater classics — from Shakespeare to Mamet — to world premieres, from ambitious musicals to intimate productions and from slapstick comedy to heavy drama.

City Pulse has compiled the area's biggest theater events into one master calendar, along with some staff-picked season highlights.

Season highlights by Mary C. Cusack and Ty Forquer

IT = Ixion Theatre
LCC = Lansing Community College Theatre Program
MSU = Michigan State University

Department of Theatre
OCP = Owosso Community Players
OTL = Over the Ledge
PCTC = Peppermint Creek Theatre Co.

RT = Riverwalk Theatre
SDT = Starlight Dinner Theatre
WC = Wharton Center
WT = Williamston Theatre

THE ART OF MURDER

July 24-Aug. 23, 2015 • WT

ELEGIES

Aug 13-21, 2015 • PCTC

ERNIE

Aug. 19-22 • WC

DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS

Sept 10-20, 2015 • RT

Riverwalk Theatre kicks off its season with a musical adaptation of the hit 1988 film "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels." The musical tells the story of con men Freddy Benson and Lawrence Jamieson — played in the film by Steve Martin and Michael Caine — who are competing to swindle an American heiress out of a large sum of money.

Hilarity ensues as the suave Brit Lawrence faces off against arrogant American Benson. Capturing the magic of Martin and Caine's comedic chemistry is a tall order, but if Riverwalk Theatre can tap into even a fraction of that energy, it should prove to be an enjoyable evening.

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK

Sept 10-20, 2015 • OTL

LEGALLY BLONDE

Sept. 11-20, 2015 • OCP

GLENGARRY GLEN ROSS

Sept 19-27, 2015 • IT

It is a thrill to see a David Mamet's "Glengarry Glen Ross" on this season's theater roster, because, quite frankly, the Lansing scene just doesn't present enough Mamet. Given the complexity of the dialogue and Mamet's famous and distinct patter — otherwise known as "Mamet speak" — it's easy to understand why. Taking on "Glengarry Glenn Ross" is especially risky, because audiences will inevitably compare it to the Oscar-nominated film that featured such heavy hitters as Kevin Spacey, Alec Baldwin, Al Pacino and Jack Lemmon. Like the beleaguered salesmen in the play, Ixion Theater Ensemble artistic director Jeff Croff is going for the Cadillac El Dorado by opening this season with "Glengarry."

Mamet dramas are larger than life, yet are best experienced in an intimate setting. Ixion has relocated to the recently opened Robin Theatre in REO Town. The space maintains the intimacy of Ixion's former location, AA Creative Corridor, but the Robin Theatre has been renovated for live performance. Production values should be markedly improved.

"Glengarry" has the potential to be this season's top dog if the acting is tight. No pressure, but remember this, cast: Second place is a set of steak knives and third place is you're fired. As Mamet might say, go balls out for that El Dorado.

CINDERELLA

Sept. 22-27, 2015 • WC

THE WHALE

Sept 24-Oct 4, 2015 • PCTC

ROUNDING THIRD

Sept 24-Nov 1, 2015 WT

\$5 OFF SEASON TICKET — only \$75 with this coupon!



228 Museum Drive
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RIVERWALK MAIN STAGE SEASON TICKET SHOWS FOR 2014 - 2015

4 plays + 2 musicals

Regularly \$80; only \$75 with coupon

Season Ticket Coupons are INTERCHANGEABLE
for same type of show (play/musical)



MUSICAL COMEDY

directed by Mary K. Hodges-Nees;
Music Director
Angie Schwab

Based on the 1988 MGM film — high jinks and hilarity on the French Riviera in this sexy and irreverent farce.

September 10-13 & 17-20, 2015



Historic Drama

Directed by Janet Colson

The poignant writings of a Jewish girl in hiding during Nazi occupation marks the 70th anniversary of Anne's death and the liberation of the camps.

Oct. 22-25 & 29-Nov. 1, 2015



Gripping Drama

by Arthur Miller
Directed by
Bob Robinson

A devastating secret is revealed, setting the characters on an explosive journey toward the truth.

January 7-10 & 14-17, 2016



Dramedy

Directed by
Diane Cooke & Liz Parker

A charming rogue swaps prison for a mental institution and leads a revolt against the formidable head nurse. Consequences follow.

February 11-14 & 18-21, 2016



Thriller directed
by Rita Deibler

Trapped in her apartment, a blind woman is terrorized by a trio of thugs. This masterfully constructed play builds toward an electrifying finish.

March 31- April 3 & 7-10, 2016



Musical Directed & Choreographed by
Kelly Stuible, Music Director Nicole Martin

In this Tony and Pulitzer winner, NYC friends face disease, success, relationships, heartbreak, and selling out — as the new millennium looms.

June 2-5 & 9-12, 2016

Riverwalk again named best local theatre in City Pulse Poll



Individual Ticket Prices

- PLAYS Fridays/Saturdays/Sundays \$15 (\$12 seniors aged 55+, students, and military personnel)
- PLAYS "BARGAIN THURSDAYS" \$10 (\$8 senior/student/military)
- MUSICALS \$22 (\$20 sr./student/mil.)

Purchase at the website - OR - present the coupon at the Riverwalk office 10-5:30 Tue-Fri - OR - order when you make your reservation for DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS!

517-482-5700 • www.RiverwalkTheatre.com

CALENDAR

from page 12

BALTIMORE

Oct 2-11, 2015 • MSU

THE COCKTAIL HOUR

Oct 2-11, 2015 • RT

NEVER SWIM ALONE

Oct 2-10, 2015 • LCC

JERSEY BOYS

Oct. 13-18, 2015 • WC

THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

Oct 22-Nov 1, 2015 • RT

TELLING: LANSING (ORIGINAL)

Nov. 5-15, 2015 • PCTC

Peppermint Creek Theatre Co. is teaming up with the Telling Project to bring the stories of Lansing-area military veterans to the stage. This original production will give local veterans and military family members a chance to share their experiences in a dramatic performance, with a goal of increased understanding between the veterans and their communities.

“The most direct path to understanding veterans’ experience is person-to-person contact,” says the Telling Project’s website. “We give veterans and military family members the opportunity to speak, and their communities the opportunity to listen.”

THE COLLEEN BAWN

Nov. 6-13, 2015 • LCC

GHOST: THE MUSICAL

Nov. 6-15, 2015 • OCP

NUNCRACKERS (NUNSENSE XMAS)

Nov. 6-15, 2015 • SDT

THE VIEW FROM HERE

Nov. 7-15, 2015 • IT

DIRTY DANCING

Nov. 10-15, 2015 • WC

Get a heaping helping of ‘80s nostalgia when the Wharton Center presents the Broadway adaptation of “Dirty Dancing.” Based on the hit 1987 film of the same name, the musical includes songs from the classic soundtrack, including “Hungry Eyes” and “(I’ve Had) The Time of My Life.”

If hits from the ‘80s aren’t your thing, you can always dip deeper into the nostalgia well with “Motown the Musical,” based on the story of Motown Records founder Barry Gordy, or “Jersey Boys,” based on early rock ‘n’ rollers the Four Seasons.

STAGE DOOR

Nov 13-22, 2015 • MSU

JACOB MARLEY'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

Nov. 19-Dec. 20, 2016 • WT

THE MONKEY KING

Dec. 3-6, 2015 • MSU

MSU’s Department of Theatre joins the university’s year-long cultural project, “The China Experience,” with its production of “The Monkey King.” Based on the 16th century Ming dynasty novel “Journey to the West,” this world premiere adaptation depicts the trials and suffering of a Buddhist monk who travels to India in order to obtain a set of sacred texts.

“The Monkey King” is also the department’s ninth annual freshman showcase, giving audiences a first look at the next generation of MSU actors.

SHAKESPEARE TBA

Dec. 4-6, 2015 • LCC

HOLLIDAY AT LEBOWSKY

Dec. 11-13, 2015 • OCP

ALL MY SONS

Jan 7-17, 2016 • RT

BIGMOUTH

Jan 15, 2016 • WC

THE BOYS NEXT DOOR

Jan. 15-24, 2016 • OCP

AND AWAY WE GO

Jan 22-31, 2016 • MSU

TOO MUCH, TOO MUCH, TOO MANY

Jan. 28-Feb. 28, 2016 WT

BROADWAY'S NEXT HIT MUSICAL

Jan. 29, 2016 • WC

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Feb. 9-14, 2016 • WC

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST

Feb. 11-21, 2016 • RT

FOR YOU(R) MOM

Feb. 12-14, 2016 • SDT

See Calendar, Page 16

michigan state university

whartoncenter

for performing arts

2015-2016 SEASON

THE ART OF MURDER
by Joe DiPietro

“The Art of Murder is great summer fare - entertaining, suspenseful, and well-done.”
~ Lansing State Journal

“... a very clean, tight production and very strong performances from an extremely well-cast group of actors.”
~ EncoreMichigan.com

“... incredible verbal intensity on stage, as one murder plot rolls in on the heels of another.”
~ City Pulse

“... an intriguing page turner story filled with enough twists and turns to take the audience on an action packed roller-coaster ride.”
~ WilliamstonToday.com

KRISTIN CHENOWETH

BIGMOUTH

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July 16 - August 23, 2015

Directed by Tobin Hissong
Featuring: Dave Davies, Julia Garlotte, Robin Lewis-Bedz & Wayne David Parker

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

RENEGADE THEATRE FESTIVAL

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

6:30 PM

DREAMMAKER SOLO STAGE

Soap Box Speeches

Director: Tom Helma

A series of speeches emphasizing political themes of diversity presented by local actors.

7:00 PM

ABSOLUTE GALLERY

The Last Man in Merrinsville

Playwright/director/performer: Raymond Goodwin

Henry Ralson has been haunted by an idle comment in his retirement years as much as he has been haunting an abandoned depot in Merrinsville, Michigan – a one-man play about loss, loyalty and love.

Audience: 16 years old and above.

CHROME CAT

Where Spirit Rides

Drapetomaniac Theatre Company

Playwright/director/performer: Lisa Biggs

In 1831, the ghost of a formerly enslaved black woman possesses Abby Kelley, an Irish Quaker farm girl, driving Kelley for the next 35 years to end slavery and propel her to become one of the leading abolitionists of her time in this solo theater/dance piece.

Audience: Mature audiences only due to adult language, sexual situations, violence.

COMFORT STATION PATIO

Spoken Word Stage

A variety of spoken word artists stun with their rhythms and poetry.

MICA GALLERY

Chicago Memories

Lansing Community College Theatre Program

Playwright: Adapted by Andy Callis from stories by Marc Van Wormer

Director: Andy Callis

A visit to a barn in Michigan, a jazz club and a Second City performance in Chicago – these slice-of-life ruminations on relationships and moments lead to small and large epiphanies when viewed through memory's lens.

Audience: 14 and above.

FOLLOWED BY:

Internal Enemy

Playwright/director: Richard Helder

The backstory of the Armenian Genocide quotation uttered by Hitler on the eve of World War II, just prior to invading Poland, linking the Armenian Genocide to the Holocaust.

Audience: Serious themes, but nothing scary (at least visually).

MOTHER & EARTH BABY BOUTIQUE

Scripted

Something Creative Teen Collective

Playwright/director: Mikaela Gould

Follow six actors through this vibrantly raw rehearsal featuring addictive songs – from unknown musical theater singer-songwriters to Broadway numbers – as they open your eyes and allow you to see that teenagers might know a thing or two about life.

Audience: 13+ (Swearing, sexual references, violence and various angst).

OLD TOWN MARQUEE

Skildtrade Cabaret

Director: Rico Bruce Wade

This sketch comedy and interactive theater ensemble will present a performance of intelligently scripted comedy and improvised hilarity as they seamlessly incorporate music and theatrical multimedia into their dynamic show.

Audience: May lean toward PG-13.

RED CEDAR FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

The Fifth Play

Renegade NOW

Playwright: Andrew Catterall

Director: Kate Bristol

Good teachers inspire, provoke and nurture – but not Andrew Catterall, whose play is partially inspired by a half-remembered, sort-of-true story.

Enduring Loves

Renegade NOW

Playwright: Zan Skolnick

Director: Miranda Sue Hartmann

Lifelong buddies Len and Marv struggle to deal with losses of family and financial well-being when a gin rummy tournament between them sets the stage for a brave, perhaps foolish, open ended finish.

SPIRAL

Capital City Improv

Director: Kate Bristol

A comedic performance with inspiration from SNL, Monty Python and ASSSSCat Improv.

Audience: Adult preferred.

9:00 PM

ABSOLUTE GALLERY

The Night That Never Existed

The American Shakespeare Collective

Playwright: Humberto Robles, translated by Rochelle Trotter

Director: Tommy Gomez

A wonderfully creative exploration of what a night between Queen Elizabeth I and William Shakespeare might have exposed about the knowledge of love.

Audience: Older teens/adults.

CHROME CAT

LONG GONE: A Poetry Sideshow

Playwright/director/performer:

Karrie Waarala

This one-woman show tells the story of Tess, a compulsive and haunted tattooed lady in the circus sideshow through a collage of poems, monologues and imagery.

Audience: Older teens/adults (brief language and reference to sexual situations).

MICA GALLERY

Elegies

Peppermint Creek Theatre Company

Playwright: William Finn

Director: Matt Eldred

An intimate and moving musical remembrance of departed friends pays tribute to a disparate group and victims of 9/11, with each number capturing poignant, often funny glimpses of life and death that sparkle with narrative sophistication.

Audience: Mild profanity; adult preferred.

MOTHER & EARTH BABY BOUTIQUE

Circumference of a Squirrel

Playwright: John Walch

Director: Kiarra Butler

Chester, a self-described "rodentophobe," spins the outlandish, funny and bruising tale of growing up with a father who developed a rabid hatred for squirrels in this darkly comic one-man show.

Audience: PG (some language and sexual situations)

RED CEDAR FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Old Man in a Big Car

Renegade NOW

Playwright: Deb Lacusta

Director: Paige Dunckel

When Old Man Keller refuses to retire, this modern day "King Lear" loses control of his business, his family and his mind – and his daughter is put up against her father's secrets, lies and betrayals.

Audience: PG; some language..

2015 RENEGADE THEATRE FESTIVAL LOCATIONS

- A Chrome Cat
226 E. Grand River
- B Old Town General Store
408 E. Grand River
- C Absolute Gallery
307 E. Grand River
- D Comfort Station Patio
313 E. Grand River
- E Old Town Marquee
319 E. Grand River
- F MICA Gallery
1210 Turner St.
- G Mother & Earth Baby Boutique
1212 Turner St.
- H Dreammaker Solo Stage
1236 Turner St.
- I Red Cedar Friends Meeting House
1400 Turner St.
- J Spiral
1247 Center St.
- K Zoobie's Old Town Tavern
611 E Grand River

★ Information Tent 🎵 Music Stage

FREE!

TH-F-SA, AUGUST 13-15, 2015

OLD TOWN, LANSING

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

6:00 PM

DREAMMAKER SOLO STAGE

Soap Box Speeches

See Thursday, 6:30 p.m. for details.

7:00 PM

DREAMMAKER SOLO STAGE

Experimental Theatre Stage²

Playwright: Janet Colson with Katie Doyle and Nicole Clyne

Director: Janet Colson

Live and uncensored, this year's piece is themed "Real Words," with both scripted and unscripted material including performance art, guided meditation and, of course, a pole dancer.

Audience: Adult preferred. Maturity not required.

OLD TOWN GENERAL STORE

The Decade Dance

Williamston Theatre

Playwright: Joseph Zettelmaier

Director: Joey Albright

Roger Weems, recently returned from Vietnam, meets student activist Nina Reynolds during a Kent State Rally where they embark on a ten-year journey throughout the 70s, providing a glimpse into a country trying to find itself, and two people trying to find their place in it.

Audience: High school+ (adult language, content).

RED CEDAR FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Fortunes

Renegade NOW

Playwrights: Deb Lacusta and Dan Castellenta

Director: Michael McCallum

A con-man, auto plant worker, former Tigers pitcher and waitress seek the advice of a psychic who sees everyone's changing fortunes but her own in post-recession 1980 Detroit.

Courage / Heroism – Four one-act plays

Renegade NOW

1. New Folks

Playwright: Terry Palczewski

Director: Susan Chmurynski

Three people being admitted to an assisted living facility discover their shared fears and the comfort that comes from not being alone.

2. The Food of Love

Playwright: Dennis Sook

Director: Ron Author

It takes courage to address life-changing circumstances when they blindsided you – but your best friend is there to help.

3. Gonzo

Playwright: Nancy Kammer

Director: Danica O'Neill

A young runaway and a police officer confront the truth behind the appearance of fault.

4. Bitch

Playwright: Oralya Garza Ueberroth

Director: Kelley McNabb

Through their simple conversation, we see how three long-time friends have overcome devastating obstacles, yet have retained the humor and courage to continue to enjoy life.

ABSOLUTE GALLERY, CHROME CAT, COMFORT STATION PATIO, MICA GALLERY, MOTHER & EARTH, SPIRAL

See Thursday, 7 p.m. listings.

9:00 PM

OLD TOWN GENERAL STORE

Two Naked Guys with Impeccable Taste

Riverwalk Theatre

Playwright: Roger Rochowiak

Director: Bob Robinson

Laughs abound when two rival sun-tan product salesmen are forced to share a hotel room only to find out they have to pitch their products at a nudist camp. A staged reading.

Audience: PG (mild adult language).

RED CEDAR FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

The Fifth Play

Renegade NOW

See Thursday, 7 p.m. for details.

Enduring Loves

Renegade NOW

See Thursday, 7 p.m. for details.

ABSOLUTE GALLERY, CHROME CAT, MICA GALLERY, MOTHER & EARTH

See Thursday, 9 p.m. listings for details.

10:30 PM

ZOOBIE'S OLD TOWN TAVERN

Renegade Cabaret

Directors: Joe Quick and Kelly Stuibler

Have a drink, relax and enjoy some of the Lansing area's finest musical theater talent at this one-night-only cabaret performance of jukebox musicals through the decades.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15

11:00 AM

RED CEDAR FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Traveling Tales

Renegade KIDS

Mid-Michigan Family Theatre

A collection of stories to entertain audiences of all ages. Audience participation is encouraged.

A Princess, Knights and the Pickle

Renegade KIDS

Director: Scott Sorrell

Audience-interactive storytelling in the oral tradition, handed down through generations!

12:00 NOON

RED CEDAR FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Scenes from Alice

Renegade KIDS

Young Artisans Workshop

Adapted by Christian Thompson from the original Lewis Carroll work, the story of young Alice has been transported to an American carnival and sideshow.

Hammie: Shakespeare's Hamlet in 25 Hilarious Minutes

Renegade KIDS

All-of-us Express Children's Theatre

A farcical version of Shakespeare's Hamlet set in modern times, by Sarah Willis.

3:00 PM

RED CEDAR FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Renegade YOUTH

A one-hour coffeehouse-style lineup created by Renegade Youth will represent and showcase performing arts from the under-18 set.

6:30 PM

DREAMMAKER SOLO STAGE

Soap Box Speeches

See Thursday, 6:30 p.m. for details.

7:00 PM

RED CEDAR FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Old Man in a Big Car

Renegade NOW

See Thursday, 9 p.m. for details.

ABSOLUTE GALLERY, CHROME CAT, COMFORT STATION PATIO, MICA GALLERY, MOTHER & EARTH, SPIRAL

See Thursday, 7 p.m. for details.

DREAMMAKER SOLO STAGE, OLD TOWN GENERAL STORE

See Friday, 7 p.m. for details.

9:00 PM

ABSOLUTE GALLERY

100 Saints You Should Know

Playwright: Kate Fodor

Director: Christina Traister

Michigan State University Department of Theatre

Theresa finds the unexpected desire to pray and is compelled to track down Matthew, a priest who no longer knows how to talk to God – leading to a search that changes both of their lives. A staged reading.

RED CEDAR FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

Fortunes

Renegade NOW

See Friday, 7 p.m. for details.

Courage/Heroism (Four one-act plays)

Renegade NOW

See Friday, 7 p.m. for details.

CHROME CAT, MICA GALLERY, MOTHER & EARTH

See Thursday, 9 p.m. for details.

OLD TOWN GENERAL STORE

See Friday, 9 p.m. for details.

10:30 PM

CHROME CAT

Renegade AFTERGLOW

Come celebrate the closing of Renegade's tenth season! Mingle with festival actors, directors, playwrights and participants. Light food and beverages provided. Music by El Guapo. All welcome!

TEENS WORKSHOP

Saturday, August 15

9:30 a.m. workshop

5 p.m. performance

MICA GALLERY

Instructor: Rico Bruce Wade

Renegade TEENS is all about acting and improvisation. Participants will create, and then perform, their own special, original work in a single day! Open to high school students.

Registration at rico@ricoshow.com.

MUSIC LINE-UP

Thursday, August 13

Turner Stage

6 - 7 p.m. Grant Hendrickson

8 - 9 p.m. Some Guy & a Blonde

Dreammaker Solo Stage

5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Rob Klajda

7:45 - 8:45 p.m. Country artist RC Mc Gee

Friday, August 14

Turner Stage

6 - 7 p.m. Pink Sunrise Project

8 - 9 p.m. The Matt Bliton Band

Dreammaker Solo Stage

5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Jim Jersey Folk & More

8 - 9 p.m. Monte Pride II

Saturday, August 15

Turner Stage

10:15 - 11:15 a.m. Gerund + The Infinitives

11:30 - 12:30 p.m. SLOAN

12:45 - 1:45 p.m. Tom & Mary

2 - 3 p.m. Cuatro Sur

3:15 - 4:15 p.m. Mike Bass

4:30 - 5:30 p.m. Brandon Grafius & Co.

6 - 7 p.m. Steve Findley & The Coffeehouse

8 - 9 p.m. The Further Adventures of FatBoy & JiveTurkey

CALENDAR

from page 13

THE THREEPENNY OPERA

Feb. 18-28, 2016 • LCC

The theater program at LCC brings “The Threepenny Opera” to the Dart Auditorium stage. Written in 1928 by dramatist Bertolt Brecht and composer Kurt Weill, the musical is one of the first works to combine

classical music with jazz elements.

Based on John Gay’s “The Begger’s Opera,” “The Threepenny Opera” is a scathing critique of capitalism and morality. LCC’s production will take this turn-of-the-century story and put it in a post-apocalyptic, steampunk version of London.

The musical’s best known tune is “Die Moritat von Mackie Messer,” better known by its English translation, “Mack the Knife.” The musical was originally written in German, but LCC’s production is an English adaptation by Mark Blitzstein.



2015-16 THEATRE SEASON

NEVER SWIM ALONE

By Daniel MacIvor
Directed by Deb Keller
Oct. 2-10, 2015
Black Box Theatre

The Colleen Bawn

By Dion Boucicault
Directed by Andy Callis
Nov. 6-15, 2015
Dart Auditorium

THE THREEPENNY OPERA

Book and lyrics by Bertolt Brecht, music by Kurt Weill,
English adaptation by Marc Blitzstein
Directed by Connie Curran-Oesterle
Music direction by John Dale Smith
Feb. 19-28, 2016
Dart Auditorium

MOTORTOWN

By Simon Stephens
Directed by Andy Callis
March 18-26, 2016
Black Box Theatre

www.lcc.edu/showinfo | 517-483-1488

Don't miss PCTC's
2015-16 season!
Season tickets
on sale now!

\$1 Off

'Elegies' or 'The Whale'
General Admission Price
Limit one per person

Elegies - Aug. 20-21

The Whale - Sept. 24-27 & Oct. 1-4

Telling: Lansing - Nov. 5-8 & 12-15

The Secret Garden - Mar. 3-6 & 10-13

Water by the Spoonful - Apr. 28 - May 1 & 5-7

[title of show] - July 7-10 & 14-17



PEPPERMINT CREEK THEATRE COMPANY www.peppermintcreek.org

Show Times:
Thurs. - Sat. at 8pm
& Sun. at 2pm



Courtesy photo

Williamston Theatre's "Outside Mullingar" was a highlight of the 2014-2015 theater season.

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

Feb. 19-28, 2016 • MSU

A MUSICAL ADVENTURE

Feb. 26-March 13, 2016 • OCP

THE SECRET GARDEN

March 3-13, 2016 • PCTC

THE WOMEN OF LOCKERBIE

March 4-13, 2016 • RT

RED, WHITE AND TUNA

March 4-13, 2016 • SDT

Written by the team of Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard, “Red, White and Tuna” is the third in a series of comedic plays, preceded by “Greater Tuna” and “A Tuna Christmas” and followed by “Tuna Does Vegas.” The plays are set in the fictional small town of Tuna, Texas — the “third-smallest” town in Texas, according to the script.

The series of plays features just two actors portraying the town’s eccentric cast of characters — over 20 characters of both genders and various ages — and is simultaneously an affectionate tribute to small-town Southern life and a withering satire of it.

MOTOWN THE MUSICAL

March 15-20, 2016 • WC

MOTORTOWN

March 18-26, 2016 • LCC

SHE KILLS MONSTERS

March 20-28, 2016 • IT

WAIT UNTIL DARK

March 31-April 10, 2016 • RT

THE DECADE DANCE

March 31-May 1, 2016 • WT

Williamston Theatre brings a world premiere to its stage this spring with “The Decade Dance.” Penned by Joseph Zettelmaier, Eastern Michigan University theater professor, “The Decade Dance” tells the story of a one-night stand turned ten-year journey — set against the turbulent backdrop of the 1970s.

Roger Weems, recently returned from

Vietnam, meets Nina Reynolds, a student activist, during a Kent State rally. Ten scenes set against various social events of the ‘70s provide a look back a country trying to find itself — and two people trying to find their place in it.

RIVERDANCE

April 1-3 • WC

GREASE

April 15-24, 2016 • MSU

MATILDA

April 19-24, 2016 • WC

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

April 22-May 1, 2016 • SDT

PLAZA SUITE

April 22-May 1, 2016 • OCP

WATER BY THE SPOONFUL

April 28-May 7, 2016 • PCTC

BEYOND THERAPY

May 13-22, 2016 • RT

SECRETS

May 14-22, 2016 • IT

THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY

May 19-22, 2016 • WC

CHAPATTI

May 26-June 26, 2016 WT

RENT

June 2-12, 2016 • RT

CALENDAR GIRLS

June 10-19, 2016 • OCP

THE BOOK OF MORMON

June 14-19, 2016 • WC

[TITLE OF SHOW]

July 7-17, 2016 • PCTC

SUMMER RETREAT

July 14-Aug 21, 2016 • WT

2015-2016 GREATER LANSING CHILDREN'S THEATER SCHEDULE

Don't forget about the kids! Both Riverwalk Theatre and Wharton Center offer fun shows that are appropriate for the whole family, and East Lansing's All-of-us Express Children's Theatre gives aspiring thespians a chance to get in on the action.

RT = Riverwalk Theatre
AE = All-of-us Express Children's Theatre
WC = Wharton Center

HAMMIE
Aug. 15, 2015 • AE

THE STINKY CHEESE MAN
Oct. 25, 2015 • WC

**THROUGH THE
LOOKING-GLASS**
Nov. 6-14, 2015 • AE

**CHARLES DICKENS' A
CHRISTMAS CAROL**
Nov. 27-Dec 6, 2015 • RT

**THE MONSTER WHO
ATE MY PEAS**
Jan. 31, 2016 • WC

**THE LION, THE WITCH
AND THE WARDROBE**
Feb. 5-13, 2016 • AE

PETER RABBIT TALES
Feb. 27, 2016 • WC

**SKIPPYJON JONES: SNOW
WHAT**
March 12, 2016 • WC

THUMBELINA
April 22-May 1, 2016 • RT

PETER PAN
July 29-Aug 6, 2016 • AET

Where's the new stuff?

Greater Lansing
theater plays it safe — too safe

By TOM HELMA

Help! Has our theater community conspired together to bring back theater that has been done before — in some cases many times — for the 2015-2016 season? On TV, they call them “re-runs.” On Broadway they are more sympathetic, calling them “revivals.” But is there a better reason to wonder whether theater is dead than when companies continue to repeat themselves — and then wonder why audiences dwindle?

I know the rationales. “There are some people who actually like to watch old stuff over and over again,” or, “It’s cheaper to just yank out a bunch of already purchased scripts than to fork over cash for newer stuff.” Yuk!

Where is the new stuff?

You have to search for it, maybe on that exciting brand new invention, the Internet. Fringe festivals are popping up everywhere, even Detroit. Based on my experience seeing new fringe-y theater in both New York and Portland, Ore. — to say nothing of the spectacular choices made by Lansing native Guy Sanville at the Purple Rose Theatre Co. down the road in Chelsea — it’s out there. It’s really out there.

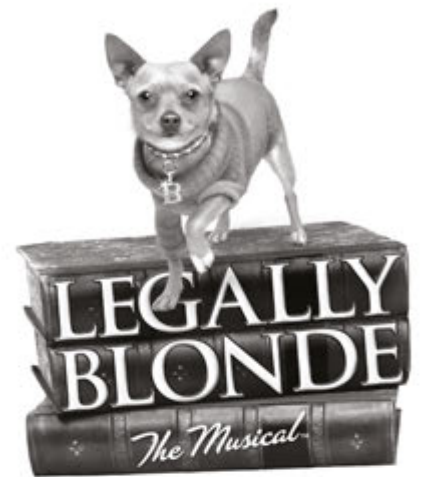
There’s a reason people are drifting to Facebook and other Internet sources for entertainment. It’s actually there.

From my perspective, it seems there

needs to be an entirely new examination as to why we actually do live theater. Is it for our audiences, or merely for ourselves — local actors and directors? Are we too comfortable with familiarity?

Am I correct in recalling the phrase “Familiarity breeds contempt?” Someone convince me that 18 previously performed plays in this upcoming season is not too much. It’s worth the controversy.

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2015-2016: Season Ten

Rounding Third
by Richard Dresser
Sept. 24 - Nov. 1, 2015

The Decade Dance
by Joseph Zettelmaier
Mar. 31 - May 1, 2016

Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol
by Tom Mula
Nov. 19 - Dec. 20, 2015

Chapatti
by Christian O'Reilly
May 26 - June 26, 2016

Too Much, Too Much, Too Many
by Meghan Kennedy
Jan. 28 - Feb. 28, 2016

Summer Retreat
by Annie Martin
July 14 - Aug. 21, 2016

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AUG. 13-15 | OLD TOWN, LANSING



This art fair will coincide with the successfully established Renegade Theatre Festival, a deal-seeker's Sidewalk Sale and a mouth-watering Food Truck Rally. This art fair will have over 30 artists booths representing photography, wood, leather, metal and other mediums of art.



SATURDAY, AUGUST 15



TURNER ST. & OLD TOWN

ART FAIR, 10 A.M.-6 P.M.

FOOD TRUCK RALLY, 1 P.M.-4 P.M.

SPONSORED BY:



ILOVEOLDTOWN.ORG

CROSSTOWN SHOWDOWN

A healthy crowd sat on chairs, curbs or any other flat surfaces available to take in the acts on the Great Lakes Folk Festival's M.A.C. Stage.

Two of Greater Lansing's most popular free festivals, the Great Lakes Folk Festival and Lansing JazzFest, went head-to-head last weekend. The competition did not seem to hurt either festival, and large crowds poured into both Old Town and East Lansing to take in the music.

Photos by TY FORQUER



New York-based saxophonist Jonathan Beshay takes a solo with George DeLancey's quartet.



Guitarist Whit Smith picks out a solo with Western swing band the Hot Club of Cowtown Saturday evening.



Lansing-based artist Reuben Kenyatta works on a painting of JazzFest's MICA Stage Saturday afternoon.



Organist Tony Monaco played a spirited Friday night set accompanied by guitarist Fareed Haque.

Early shift Justin Kree joins WLNS morning news team as co-anchor

By TY FORQUER

Justin Kree signed on for the first time Monday as WLNS' morning news co-anchor. Kree slides into a co-anchor seat that has been vacant since Evan Pinsonnault left for California in February.



"My ultimate career goal is anchoring, so this is a step in the right direction," Kree said.

He joins co-anchor Chivon Kree Kloepfer at the WLNS morning news desk. Kloepfer, who has been anchoring solo since February, is glad to have a co-anchor to share the workload.

"I'm used to go, go go, non-stop working," she said. "Now I can actually leave the desk and sit down for a minute."

Kree, a Brighton native, graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 2012 and left Michigan to take a job at KWES in west Texas shortly after. He worked for two years in Texas, but when he saw an opening at WLNS, he jumped at the chance to get back to Michigan. He was hired as a reporter at the station in mid-May.

"In Brighton we can still get Lansing news," Kree said. "It's nice to be closer to home, closer to family. I'm really enjoying it."

Even in the short time at the station, he has made a good impression on his co-workers.

"As soon as I found out he was a candidate (for co-anchor), I knew he would fit right in," Kloepfer said. "He's a team player."

Kree joins a team of on-air talent that has been all-female since Pinsonnault's departure. Kloepfer, who is joined most mornings by meteorologist Emily Wahls and reporter Mariah Harrison, is looking forward to a more gender balanced show.

"It's nice to have a male presence on the show again," Kloepfer said.

Kree is excited about the new position, and is glad for the opportunity to stay with WLNS.

"I think it's a really good fit," Kree said. "The chemistry is great, and the passion for news is there."

Major league contract

Science fiction author John Scalzi signs blockbuster deal

By BILL CASTANIER

John Scalzi has gone where no science fiction author has gone before: He signed a \$3.4 million, 10-book, multi-year deal with his publisher, Tor/Forge, in May.

John Scalzi, author talk and book signing

4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16
FREE
Schuler Books
(Eastwood)
2820 Towne Center
Blvd., Lansing
(517) 316-7495,
schulerbooks.com

Scalzi's deal was written about in the pages of The New York Times' business section, another place where no other science fiction writer has likely ever been.

Speaking with City Pulse from his home

in Ohio, Scalzi said he was "actually pleased about that, getting written up in The New York Times. It was talked about like a sports deal — fascinating."

While the deal doesn't approach the stratospheric salaries baseball teams will pay for a starting pitcher, it's a pretty sweet deal for a science fiction author. The transplanted Californian and former movie critic for The Fresno Bee has built himself into a brand name in the science fiction genre, with 11 widely acclaimed books, a well read blog and a throng of over 85,500 followers on Twitter.

What makes the deal so appealing to Scalzi is that it sends a message: It's important to give an author some security in an industry where even best-selling authors can easily find themselves looking for a publisher for their next book.

"The contract said, 'We believe in the publishing industry,'" he said.

Scalzi is on a multi-city tour, including Lansing, to promote his new book, "The End of All Things," which is part of his "Old Man's War" series.

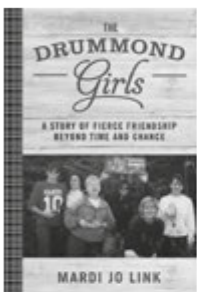
While the book hit the shelves just Tuesday, many of the loyal fans who line up early to see Scalzi this week will have already read the new book. The four-part collection of interconnected novellas was first released in digital form earlier this year.

Although not yet commonplace, releasing episodes or serializing novels is a trend in publishing, with publishers and authors hoping of building an audience for the release of the hardcover edition. Even major authors like horror master Stephen King and mystery writer James Patterson have explored similar techniques.

Schuler Books & Music

Girls' Night Out: Michigan Notable Author MARDI LINK *The Drummond Girls*

Thursday, August 13 @ 7pm
Meridian Mall location



Join us in a celebration of female friendship and Mich. summers with popular Mich. author Mardi Link!

Mardi has been honored twice as Michigan Notable author -- (2014's memoir *Bootstrapper*, and 2010's true crime,

Isadore's Secret) and she is currently touring to promote her new nonfiction book *The Drummond Girls*.

Talk & Signing with Blockbuster Sci-fi Author JOHN SCALZI

Sunday, August 16 @ 4pm
Eastwood Towne Center location



Hugo-award winning author John Scalzi recently made publishing history when he signed a 10-year, multi-million dollar contract with Tor Books. Now he is on tour for the release of *The End of All Things*

the highly anticipated next installment in his bestselling *Old Man's War* series.

For more information visit
www.SchulerBooks.com.



Courtesy Photo

Science fiction author John Scalzi, whose most recent book is "The End of All Things," recently signed a \$3.4 million, 10-book deal.

The latest installment of the "Old Man's War" series picks up where "The Human Division" left off, with the multi-world in disarray. At the end of "Human Division," a space station is destroyed, leaving readers with a gripping cliffhanger.

Scalzi's first novella — science fiction readers like to call these episodes — in "The End of All Things" is a compelling brain twister, featuring a feckless space cruiser pilot who is sucked into a plot to that turns him into a kamikaze pilot. The pilot literally becomes a bodiless "brain in a box," able to control a disguised war ship on a suicide mission to pull the worlds into war. Let's just say things don't go as planned.

Longtime readers might skip to the last novella, which features Harry Wilson, the heroic protagonist of "The Human Division." Scalzi, however, believes it's important to read the four in order, because there are rev-

elations throughout that build to a dramatic conclusion.

This new book is not what you would expect from a typical military science fiction book. It is more ethereal, and Scalzi enjoys playing with the reader's brain — just as he has done in previous books. Scalzi is one of a new generation of science fiction authors who are turning the genre upside down. Local fantasy and science fiction writer Jim Hines is cut from the same cloth.

Both authors are committed to challenging the tropes of traditional science fiction — sexy women, white heroes and disgusting aliens. Scalzi called it "white man's default" in an interview with The Washington Post. In reading Scalzi's novels, it's often difficult to discern a character's gender, race — or even species.

Fans of Scalzi might already know this, but when Scalzi first decided to write a novel, he said it all came down to luck. He was an avid reader of both science fiction and mystery books and wasn't sure which genre he should tackle.

"I decided to flip a coin," he said. "Heads, science fiction. Tails, mystery. I always tell people I'm lucky."

He recalled meeting his wife, also through luck, while he was working as a journalist.

"I had an appointment to do a story on a local DJ that was cancelled," he said. "It was rescheduled for the next day, and that's where I met my wife. Luck isn't about what happens to you, it's about being prepared to do something with it."

Scalzi's considerable catalog of books gives him a rich history of storylines and characters to pull from — something that certainly worked in his favor as he negotiated his new deal. Scalzi has never had a book that reached The New York Times' No. 1 best seller spot, but his backlist of books continue to sell in the five figures each year, according to his publisher.

And while his connection to his fans gave him increased leverage in the negotiations, Scalzi warns authors that social media is not for everyone.

"I've had a blog since 1998 and I have 85,000 followers on Twitter," he said. "You have to spend a lot of time chatting, and if you hate it or are not good at it, don't do it."

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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 Jonathan at (517) 999-5069.

Wednesday, August 12

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. lanc.info.

Starting a Business. Includes the steps, costs, planning and financing. 6-8 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 483-1921, sbdcmichigan.org.

Teffrific with Rahel Musa @ ANC. Presentation on gluten-free Ethiopian food. 10 a.m.-noon. FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo, Lansing. (517) 367-2468, allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

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. French immersion class, ages 4-6. 4:30 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother & Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

Computer Club. Course on Microsoft Excel. 1-2 p.m. Meridian Senior Center, 4000 N. Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 706-5046.

Pro-Social Environments. Ways to increase pro-social behaviors in groups. 6 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Lansing. (517) 484-7434, pilgrimucc.com.

Lunch With a Doctor. On better bone health. 11 a.m. \$15/\$10 Sparrow LifeTime Members. Kellogg Conference Center, 219 S. Harrison Road, East Lansing. (800) 772-7769, sparrow.org/events/calendar.

EVENTS

Strategy Game Night. Learn and share favorite games. 5-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4, dtdl.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.

Practice Your English. Practice listening to and

See Out on the Town, Page 23

Food for the eyes — and stomach



Courtesy Photo
Haslett-based art vendor
Clawdia's Creations will sell
its jewelry and cat-themed
art pieces at this year's ART
Feast.

Saturday, Aug 15

The Old Town Commercial Association had such great success with the inaugural ART Feast last year, it is going back for a second helping.

ART Feast is a hybrid festival, combining an open-air art fair, sidewalk sales and a food truck rally. Last year's turnout was better than expected, and each food vendor ran out of food before the event was over.

"This year we are having more art vendors, food vendors and live music," said Austin Ashley, Old Town Commercial Association executive director.

ART Feast patrons also have the opportunity to take in some live entertainment during their visit to Old Town. This year's ART Feast also coincides with the Renegade Theatre Festival, which places theatrical and musical performances in both indoor and outdoor locations throughout Old Town. (For more on Renegade Theatre Festival, check out our special theater section on pages 11-18.)

"This is a really great event, and

all together it will be a really great weekend," Ashley said.

Last year, Ashley said, there were many affordable handcrafted pieces available, and he is expecting even more art vendors this year.

This year's art fair will feature over 30 artist booths working in a wide variety of mediums. Ypsilanti-based artist Kristen Drozdowski is the creative mind behind Worthwhile Paper, a stationary line featuring fresh, modern designs using Michigan-made products.

Grand Rapids-based Anvil Goods will also be in attendance, offering wooden kitchen goods and furniture pieces made with Michigan-sourced hardwoods. Graphic designer Lindsay Jones will be on hand as well, showcasing her creative crystal and mineral prints.

River City MRKT, run by Lansing creative Debbie Carlos and Amalia Boukos, will host a kiosk featuring several of the artists who participated in June's River City MRKT, an art fair held in REO Town that focuses on sleek and stylish home goods and apparel. Other

vendors include Grove Gallery, Jen Baker and Erin von Kronenberger.

Meanwhile, the food truck rally, which runs 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., will provide caloric fuel for art seekers, featuring such

regional favorites as Good Bites, D'arts Donuts, Danny's Ice Cream Truck and Shimmy Shack. Detroit-based Shimmy Shack food truck serves up 1950s-style burgers and fries with a modern twist — all of its offerings are 100 percent vegetarian.

Between the ART Feast events and the Renegade Theatre Festival, Ashley believes this will be a great afternoon to wander through Old Town.

"It will be a great, easy-going strolling day," he said.

ART Feast
10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday,
Aug. 15
(Food truck rally 1 p.m.-4
p.m.)
FREE
Old Town, Lansing
(517) 485-4283,
iloveoldtown.org/art-feast.

—ASHA JOHNSON

Turn it Down

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

THE CALAMITY CUBES AND FORD THEATRE REUNION AT THE AVENUE



FRI. AUG 14TH

Ford Theatre Reunion

The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. 18+, \$8, 9 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14

Farmageddon Records-signed band the Calamity Cubes are a Kansas-based “trashicana” band who croon about getting bent on whiskey, love and murder. The rugged country-punk trio features guitar, banjo, and upright bass. The band plays the Avenue Café Friday. Sharing the bill is Ford Theatre Reunion, a theatrical “neo-carnival rock’n’roll” group. The Lexington-based outfit finds inspiration in the stuff of by-gone eras, specifically “gypsy caravans and rail-riding hobos.” Sonically, the band delivers a vaudeville-tinged brand of progressive-roots rock in a D.I.Y. punk-rock package. The band comprises Alex Johns (vocals, keys, clarinet), Will Chewing (drums), Luke Harrington (bass), Joe Harbison (guitars, banjo, vocals) and Eric Myers (accordion, vocals). Last week Ford Theatre Reunion announced the release of its new full-length LP, “Legends & Landmarks.” The 11-track album is available to stream or purchase at fordtheatreunion.bandcamp.com.

CHRISTOPHER PAUL STELLING AT MAC'S BAR



THU. AUG 13TH

Christopher Paul Stelling

Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. All ages, \$10, \$7 adv., 8 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 13

Known for his complex and furious finger-picking guitar style and a gruff-vocal delivery, Brooklyn-based songwriter Christopher Paul Stelling plays a Southern-inspired brand of throwback folk. The Florida native headlines an all-ages show Thursday at Mac's Bar; opening are Worn Spirit, Hut Two Hike! and From the Ends. Since his 2012 debut LP, “Songs of Praise and Scorn,” Stelling has received praise from the likes of American Songwriter Magazine, who noted his ability to “play difficult guitar parts and sing a completely disparate melody line at the same time.” Promotion for his latest disc, 2013's “False Cities,” has included extensive touring across the U.S. and dates in Europe.

MARK STUART AT CONCERTS IN THE COURTYARD



SUN. AUG 16TH

Mark Stuart

Old Town General Store, 408 E. Grand River, Lansing. All ages, \$15, 5 p.m., Sunday, Aug. 16

Nashville-based singer/songwriter Mark Stuart has toured virtually non-stop for the last 17 years, including dates across American, Europe and Canada. Stuart, 50, has gigged at festivals and large clubs, as well as intimate venues like house concerts and coffeehouses. Sunday he performs an acoustic set at Concerts in the Courtyard, held in the flower-lined outdoor space behind the Old Town General Store. Known for a soulful brand of Americana accented by his masterful guitar work, Stuart has kept busy as a performer since his teens. He was a member of his father's band, the Nashville Rebels, which appeared in the Waylon Jennings' film “The Nashville Rebel.” Through the years, he's also played sideman to legendary acts like Joan Baez, Freddy Fender and Steve Earle. A portion of the proceeds from the Concerts in the Courtyard shows benefit Lansing-area music programs through Music is the Foundation, a local nonprofit.

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.	Jake Orvis, 9 p.m.	Calamity Cubes, 9 p.m.	All Ends Black, 8 p.m.
Black Cat Bistro, 115 Albert Ave.				Crosstide, 8 p.m.
Blue Gill Grill, 1591 Lake Lansing Rd.			Rob K., 9 p.m.	Jay Wilford, 5 p.m.
Capital Prime, 2324 Showtime Dr.			Bob Schultz, 8:30 p.m.	Bob Schultz, 8:30 p.m.
Coach's Pub & Grill, 6201 Bishop Rd.	DJ Trivia, 9 p.m.		Blue Hair Bettys, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.
Colonial Bar, 3425 S. MLK Blvd.		Open Mic w/Pat Zelenka, 9 p.m.		
Copper, 2874 E. Lake Lansing Rd.		Crosstide, 6 p.m.		
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Fussion Shows Presents, 10 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.	Karaoke, 9 p.m.
Dublin Square, 327 Abbot Rd.			Cheap Dates, 10 p.m.	The Tennants, 7 p.m.
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Good Cookies, 9:30 p.m.	Skoryoke Live Band Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.	The Knockoffs, 9:30 p.m.	Avon Bomb, 9:30 p.m.
Grand Café/Sir Pizza, 201 E. Grand River Ave.			Karaoke w/Joanie Daniels, 7 p.m.	
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.	Johnny D Jam, 9 p.m.	Karaoke Kraze, 9 p.m.	Glamhammer, 9 p.m.	Soulshake, 9 p.m.
Gus's Bar, 2321 W. Michigan Ave.			Karaoke, 9 p.m.	
Leroys, 1526 S. Cedar St.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.		Karaoke, 9:30 p.m.
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.			Landoh, 8 p.m.	
Harper's, 131 Albert Ave.	Mark Sala, 6 p.m.	Reggae Lou, 6 p.m.	Kevin Brown, 6 p.m.	Greg Smith, 6 p.m.
Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Young & Heartless, 6 p.m.	Christopher Paul Stelling, 8 p.m.		Marrow, 7 p.m.
Moriarty's Pub, 802 E. Michigan Ave.		Joe Serraperre, 9 p.m.	Electrocats, 9 p.m.	The Dirty Helens, 9 p.m.
Peppino's, 213 Ann St.	Reggae Lou, 5 p.m.			
Reno's East, 1310 Abbot Rd.	Rush Clement, 6 p.m.	Karle Velo, 6 p.m.	Rush Clement, 6 p.m.	Well Enough Alone, 6 p.m.
Reno's North, 16460 Old US 27	Kathy Ford Band Karaoke, 7:30 p.m.	Sarah Brunner, 6 p.m.	Life Support, 6 p.m.	Bobby Standall, 6 p.m.
Reno's West, 501 W. Saginaw Hwy.	Chris Lasko, 6 p.m.	Mark Sala, 6 p.m.	The New Rule, 6 p.m.	Reggae Lou, 6 p.m.
Tavern & Tap, 101 S. Washington Sq.		Tavern House Jazz Band, 6 p.m.	Steve Cowles, 8 p.m.	
Tin Can West, 644 Migaldi Ln.	Waterpong, 11 p.m.			DJ Chalky, 9 p.m.
Unicorn Tavern, 327 E. Grand River Ave.		Frog's Open Blues Jam, 8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 8:30 p.m.	Smooth Daddy, 8:30 p.m.
Waterfront Bar & Grill, 325 City Market Dr.			Joe Wright, 7 p.m.	
Watershed, 5965 Marsh Rd.	Greg Smith, 7 p.m.	Dan MacLachlan, 8 p.m.	Capital City DJs, 10 p.m.	Capital City DJs, 10 p.m.
Whiskey Barrel Saloon, 410 S. Clippert St.			DJ, 9 p.m.	DJ, 9 p.m.

LIVE & LOCAL LISTS UPCOMING GIGS!

To get listed just email us at liveandlocal@lansingcitypulse.com or call (517) 999-5069. Only submit information for the following week's paper.

Out on the town

from page 21

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

Pizza & Pages. Discussion, snacks and activities. Grades 3 plus. 4:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021, cadl.org.

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.

Welcome Kindergarten. Meet local kindergarten teachers. Registration required. 2-3 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

MUSIC

Fusion Shows presents. Music begins at 10 p.m. 21 and older welcome. 10 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza & Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

Roger Tijerina. Folk, country and bluegrass performance. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St. Lansing. (517) 999-3911.

St. Johns Concert in the Park. Toppermost, Beatles tribute band. 7 p.m. Donations Accepted. St. Johns City Park Performance Shell, 800 W. Park St., St. Johns. (989) 224-2429, clintoncountyarts.org.

Young and Heartless. With guests Safe to Say and Watermedown. 6 p.m. Tickets start at \$10. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, fusionshows.com.

Thursday, August 13

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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.

Baby Cafe. Drop-in breastfeeding center. Every Thurs. 1-3 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St. Lansing. (517) 337-7365, facebook.com/cababycafe.

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.

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

Shamanic Healing Clinic. Education and healing techniques demo. 6:30-8:30 p.m. FREE, donations accepted. Willow Stick Ceremonies, 1515 W. Mt. Hope Ave. Ste. 3, Lansing. (517) 402-6727, willowstickceremonies.com.

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.

HERO: Deck Maintenance & Repair. Call or

email bruce@glhc.org to register, 6-8 p.m. FREE. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St. Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.

EVENTS

Pre-School Olympics. Ages 2-5. Non-competitive fun events. 6-7 p.m. FREE, canned goods donation accepted. Delta Mills Park, 7001 Old River Trail, Lansing. (517) 323-8555, deltami.gov/parks.

Spanish Conversation Group. Practice listening to and speaking Spanish. 7-8 p.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

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

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

Household Hazardous Waste. Waste collection on Tue. and Thur. Thru Sept. 30. 2-6 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St. Lansing. (517) 887-4312, ow.ly/QCPLp.

Pizza & Pages. Bring a book you have read and

want to share. Age 8 and up. 4:30-5:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi Library, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351, cadl.org.

Genealogy Meeting. Picnic. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Delhi Charter Township, 2074 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 676-7140.

South Lansing Farmers Market. Local produce, delicious prepared foods and hand made 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 because it is cancelled occasionally. 7 p.m. \$10. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 492-7403.

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.

Moonlight Film Festival. Outdoor film series. Pitch Perfect (PG-13 edit.) 9 p.m. FREE. Valley Court Park, 400 Hillside Ct. East Lansing. (517) 319-6888, cityofeastlansing.com/445/Moonlight-Film-Festival.

See Out on the Town, Page 24

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14-16 >> THE GREAT ST. CASIMIR CORN ROAST 2015

Lansing's St. Casimir Catholic Parish presents a weekend full of food, entertainment, and coming together as a community with its 39th annual Great St. Casimir Corn Roast. On the food side of things, the menus starts on Friday with a base of grilled favorites like hamburgers and hotdogs, as well as nachos, tacos and ,of course, St. Casimir's famous corn on the cob. Saturday and Sunday will see the addition of other dining options, like a pasta dinner and BBQ pulled pork. Though it is a corn roast, there will be plenty to do aside from just eating. There will be an appearance by MSU hockey announcer and WMMQ radio personality Joey Pants, performances by DJ Ronny Knapps, a children's activity area on Friday and Sunday and live music by Frog and the Beeftones. The weekend slate of events will also feature a blood drive and the "Come to the River" 10k run and 5K run/walk on Saturday. Be sure to check out the event's Facebook page for complete list of times and events. FREE. St. Casimir Catholic Parish, 815 Sparrow Ave., Lansing. (517) 482-1346, facebook.com/stcasimirparish.

SUDOKU

INTERMEDIATE

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

TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 26

Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Wrong Side of the Mississippi"--for TV and radio stations alike.

Matt Jones

Across

- 1 "August: ___ County" (Best Picture nominee of 2014)
- 6 Furry TV alien
- 9 Secret audience member
- 14 "So help me"
- 15 "___ Kommissar's in town ..."
- 16 "Voices Carry" singer Mann
- 17 Struck with amazement
- 18 Silver metallic cigarette brand?
- 20 Cut corners
- 22 4x4, frequently
- 23 "To be," to Brutus
- 24 Art colony location
- 26 Hummus and tzatziki, broadly
- 28 Bathrobe closer
- 31 Daily ___ (political blog)
- 33 Airborne stimuli
- 37 Non-military person good at getting smaller?
- 40 "___ dreaming?"
- 41 "Win ___ With Tad Hamilton!" (2004 romantic comedy)
- 42 "Black gold"
- 43 Visnjic of "ER"
- 45 "___ Trojans" (Berlioz opera)
- 46 Head of all the bison?
- 49 E flat's equivalent
- 51 Effort
- 52 Votes in Congress
- 53 Broccoli ___ (bitter veggie)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15			16				
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57	58	59			60	61	62			63	64	65
66					67			68		69		
70						71				72		
73						74				75		

- 55 Austin Powers's "power"
- 57 "Believe" singer
- 60 Feldspar, e.g.
- 62 ___ pathways
- 66 Video game plumber's reason for salicylic acid?
- 69 On the ball
- 70 Greek salad ingredient
- 71 Bro's sibling, maybe
- 72 Beauty brand that happens to anagram to another brand in this puzzle
- 73 Brown-___
- 74 Non-polluter's prefix
- 75 Move stealthily
- 6 Full-screen intrusions, e.g.
- 7 Cole Porter's "___ Do It"
- 8 "The Ego and the Id" author
- 9 Bud
- 10 "This way"
- 11 "Famous" cookie guy
- 12 Modernists, slangily
- 13 TV component?
- 19 Aquafina competitor
- 21 Snoop (around)
- 25 "___ a biscuit!"
- 27 Newman's Own competitor
- 28 Burn, as milk
- 29 Assistants
- 30 Drug store?
- 32 "Wildest Dreams" singer Taylor
- 34 Curie or Antoinette
- 35 Big name in the kitchen
- 36 Comes clean
- 38 Aardvark's antithesis?
- 39 Feature with "Dismiss" or "Snooze"
- 44 "I give up [grumble grumble]"
- 47 Instruction to a violinist
- 48 Interpol's French headquarters
- 50 Get there
- 54 Take-out order?
- 56 Wranglers, e.g.
- 57 "Don't be a spoilsport!"
- 58 Light headwear?
- 59 Dwarf planet discovered in 2005
- 61 Guitarist Clapton
- 63 Dance party in an abandoned warehouse
- 64 "Length times width" measurement
- 65 Hose snag?
- 67 "___ the land of the free ..."
- 68 General in Chinese restaurants

Out on the town

from page 23

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.

MUSIC

Deacon Earl. Live blues, reggae, Americana and more. 3-6 p.m. FREE. South Lansing Farmers Market, 1905 W. Mount Hope Ave., Lansing. (517) 374-5700, southlansing.org.

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

Annie & Rod Capps. Original Americana music. 7:30 p.m. \$15/\$10 students. Old Town General Store, 408 E. Grand River Ave., Lansing. (517) 487-6847, oldtown-generalstore.com.

THEATER

Renegade Theatre Festival. Performances for youth and adults. All Day, FREE. Old Town, Grand River Avenue and Turner Street, Lansing. (517) 999-0822, renegadetheatrefestival.org.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Writers Roundtable. Get feedback on your writing. 6-7:45 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014, dtld.org.

Friday, August 14

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Palette to Palate. Painting class for novice and expert level. 7-9 p.m. \$28/\$50 for 2. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

Salsa Capital. Dancing and lessons. Beginner, advance and open dancing. 8 p.m.-midnight, \$5. 1133 S. Washington Ave., Reo Town, Lansing. (517) 230-9018.

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

EVENTS

One-on-One Business Counseling. Free Business counseling. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtld.org.

MUSIC

Fiddlers Convention & Traditional Music Festival. Music, workshops, food and dancing. 10 a.m. \$10 weekend pass/16 & under FREE with adult. Hillsdale County Fairgrounds, 115 S. Broad St. M99, Hillsdale. (517) 206-4051, michiganfiddlers.com.

Landoh. With guests Sammy J, Rebecca Brunner and more. 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$10. The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave. Lansing. fusionshows.com

Acoustic Lunch: Rachel Brown. American roots music. In collaboration with Pump House. 12:30 p.m. FREE. Broad Art Museum, 547 E. Circle Drive, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 884-4800.

THEATER

Renegade Theatre Festival. Free performances for youth and adults. All Day, FREE. Old Town, Grand

River Avenue and Turner Street, Lansing. (517) 999-0822., renegadetheatrefestival.org.

& Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

EVENTS

Paws for Reading. Kids read to therapy dogs. Call to register. 10:30 a.m.-noon, FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 3. dtld.org.

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

Stewardship Morning. Volunteers help restore

Saturday, August 15

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Tai Chi in the Park. For beginning and experienced tai chi players. 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.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15 >> STRANGE MATTER ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Given how quickly it has become a staple of Lansing's Eastside community, it's hard to imagine that Stranger Matter Coffee Co. has only been open for a year. To commemorate the anniversary, Strange Matter is inviting the community to its one-year anniversary celebration. For starters, the first 40 customers through door will get a free, limited edition Strange Matter mug. For those who are more interested in the stuff that goes in the mug, Bay City's Populace Coffee Roasters will be on hand, whipping up pour-over style samples of their plethora of coffees from 10 a.m. to noon. 8 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE. Strange Matter Coffee Co., 2001 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. strangemattercoffee.com.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15 >> OPEN HOUSE AT THE MSU BUGHOUSE

It's often suggested that we are afraid of what we don't understand. So if the mere thought of a hissing cockroach sends a chill down your spine, perhaps a visit to the MSU Bug House's Open House could ease your fears — or at least lend some valuable insight into the vast insect world. At the open house, attendees can view the Bug House's large collection of pinned insects from all over the world. And for the brave, there are also several live species of insects on hand, including tarantulas and walking sticks, which guests will have the opportunity to hold. 1-4 p.m. FREE. MSU Department of Entomology Bug House, Natural Science Building rm. 147, 288 Farm Lane, East Lansing. (517) 355-4642, ent.msu.edu/bughouse.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16 >> MEMORIAL SERVICE AND RETROSPECTIVE EXHIBIT UNVEILING FOR MEL LEISEROWITZ

The art community lost a talented and creative member earlier this year with the death of sculptor and MSU art professor Mel Leiserowitz. Lansing's First Presbyterian Church will hold a memorial service for the public Sunday, followed by the unveiling of a new exhibit at the Greater Lansing Housing Coalition Building that takes a look back at Leiserowitz's body of work. Leiserowitz may be best known for his massive sculpture "Orpheus," which was completed and placed outside of the Wharton Center in 1979. Aside from his stint as an art professor at MSU, Leiserowitz filled his life with several other public art projects all over Michigan, including a full-sized relief sculpture, entitled "Wall of Creation," which he produced with his wife, Nancy, for the Molly Grove Chapel of the First Presbyterian Church, the location of the memorial event. 11 a.m. memorial, 1 p.m. exhibit unveiling. FREE. First Presbyterian Church, 510 W. Ottawa St., Lansing. Greater Lansing Housing Coalition Building, 600 W. Maple St. Lansing.

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.

Home Buyer Education workshop. Home buying process. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. \$25 cash only, \$20 adv. Center for Financial Health, 3815 West St. Joseph, Suite B200, Lansing. (517) 708-2550, centerforfinancialhealth.org.

Aux Petits Soins. French immersion class for babies. 9:30 a.m. \$15 drop-in/\$12 students. Mother

habitat; care for parks. 9-11 a.m. FREE. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

The Broad Museum at ART Feast. Activities and more. Old Town, Grand River Avenue and Turner Street, Lansing. (517) 485-4283, iloveoldtown.org.

MSU Bug House Open House. Learn all about bugs from all over the world, 1-4 p.m. FREE. MSU Natural Science Building, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (514) 355-4662, ent.msu.edu/bughouse.

MUSIC

Marrow. With guests Good Day Sir, Tidal and more. 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$10. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, fusionshows.com

THEATER

Renegade Theatre Festival. Free performances for youth and adults. All Day, FREE. Old Town, Grand River Avenue and Turner Street, Lansing. (517) 999-0822, renegadetheatrefestival.org.

Sunday, August 16

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, coda.org.

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

Pokemon/Magic the Gathering Card Games. Tutorials. Starter decks provided. 12:30 p.m. FREE. Everybody Reads, 2019 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 346-9900, becauseeverybodyreads.com.

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.

Edible Wild Plants Walk. Guided wild edible plants walk with an expert. 3-4 p.m. \$3. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. (517) 349-3866, meridian.mi.us.

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.

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.

Community Hymn Sing. Community sing along aboard the MI Princess. 6 p.m. Food item donation. Michigan Princess Riverboat, 3004 W. Main St., Lansing. (517) 372-5830, gracelutheranlansing.org.

MUSIC

Mark Stuart in Concert. One of Nashville's finest guitar slingers. 5 p.m. \$15/\$10 students. Old Town General Store, 408 E. Grand River Ave. Lansing. (517) 487-6847. oldtown-generalstore.com.

Bi-Polar presents Eryn Woods. Eryn Woods featuring many local artists. 7 p.m. \$12/\$10 adv. Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. (517) 484-6795, ow.ly/QCYpU.

Monday, August 17

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Adult Rape Survivor Support Group.

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

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

See Out on the Town, Page 25

Out on the town

from page 24

372-9163, womenscenterofgreaterlansing.org.
Support Group. For the divorced, separated & widowed. Room 9. 7:30 p.m., St. David's Episcopal Church, 1519 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-2272, stdavidslansing.org.
Story Art Time. Create art inspired by storybooks. 10-11 a.m. \$5/adults FREE. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing. (517) 999-3643, reachstudioart.org.

EVENTS

Ancestry Club. Learn and share genealogy tips. Call to register. 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Delta Township District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4. dtdl.org.
Social Bridge. Play bridge and meet new people.

No partner needed. 1-4 p.m. \$1.50. Delta Township Enrichment Center, 4538 Elizabeth Road, Lansing. (517) 484-5600.

Free Music in the Park. Eight piece Soul and Motown band. Free concert, 6-8 p.m. FREE. Sharp Park, 1401 Elmwood Road, Lansing. (517) 323-8555, deltami.gov/parks.

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.

Back to School Health Fair. Health screenings, information, giveaways and fun. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St. Lansing. (517) 887-4311, hd.ingham.org.

Downloading CADL eBooks, mags. Learn how to download CADLs digital offerings, 1-2:30 p.m. FREE. CADL Holt-Delhi Library, 2078 Aurelius Road, Holt. (517) 694-9351, cadl.org.

THEATER

Auditions: You Cant Take It With You. A Starlight Dinner Theatre production. 7 p.m. Unity Spiritual Renaissance, 230 S. Holmes St. Lansing. (517) 243-6040, starlightdinnertheatre.com.

Tuesday, August 18

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

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. 12:05-1 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (616) 841-5176.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Household Hazardous Waste. Waste collection on Tue. and Thur. Thru Sept. 30. 2-6 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St. Lansing. (517) 887-4312, ow.ly/QCPLp.

Overeaters Anonymous. Support for weight loss

efforts. 7 p.m. FREE. Okemos Presbyterian Church, 2258 Bennett Road, Okemos. (517) 290-5163.

HERO: Am I Ready to Buy a Home. Call or email bruce@glhc.org to register, 6-8 p.m. FREE. Neighborhood Empowerment Center, 600 W. Maple St. Lansing. (517) 372-5980, glhc.org.

Lets Walk & Talk with a Doctor. With Dr. A.J. Ronan and Dr. Luis Gonzalez. 7-8 p.m. FREE. Benjamin Davis Park, 5614 Pleasant Grove Road, Lansing. (517) 347-3377, ow.ly/QD00m.

Aux Petits Soins. French immersion class for babies/toddlers. 4:15 p.m. (ages 2-4) & 5:15 p.m. (0-2) \$15/\$12 students. Willow Tree Family Center, 3333 S. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc

EVENTS

Jug & Mug Ski Club Meeting. Singles activity club. 6:30 p.m. FREE. Tripper's Sports Bar, 350 Frandor Ave., Lansing. (517) 342-9955, jugandmug.org.

Back to School Health Fair. Health screenings, information, giveaways and fun. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St., Lansing. (517) 887-4311, hd.ingham.org.

Alphabet Heroes Tuesdays. Early literacy program about the alphabet. 10:30-11:30 a.m. FREE. East Lansing Public Library, 950 Abbot Road, East Lansing. (517) 351-2420, elpl.org.

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

See Out on the Town, Page 26

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19 >> ROCKIN' ON THE RIVER

The Lansing Parks and Recreation Department offers a chance for attendees, especially boaters, to enjoy an outdoor musical performance with its Rockin' on the River event. Boaters can pull their watercraft up to Grand River Park, near the dock where the Michigan Princess boards, and take in an outdoor performance by Twyla Birdsong and the Hoopties. Non-boat owners don't have to worry about treading water in the Grand River to be able to enjoy the performance; River Town Adventures will be on hand to rent out canoes or kayaks, and the Michigan Princess will offer plenty of seating. 5:30 p.m. FREE/\$15 canoe rental/\$10 kayak rental. Grand River Park, 3001 Lansing Road, Lansing. (517) 483-4313, lansingmi.gov/parks.

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- Finely crafted artisan spirit
- Makes a great mixer

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- Classic cocktails
- Innovative cocktails
- Cheese, meat and snack trays
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Our distillery

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Corn Whiskey,
Apple Brandy,
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Free Will Astrology By Rob Breznsky

Aug 12-18

ARIES (March 21-April 19): To ensure the full accuracy of this horoscope, I have been compelled to resurrect an old-fashioned English word that isn't used much any more: "gambol." It means to cavort and frolic in a playful manner, or to romp and skip around with mad glee, as if you are unable to stop yourself from dancing. The astrological omens seem unambiguous in their message: In order to cultivate the state of mind that will enable you to meet all your dates with destiny in the coming weeks, you need to gambol at least once every day.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Do you remember your first kiss? How about the first time you had sex? Although those events may not have been perfectly smooth and graceful, they were radical breakthroughs that changed your life and altered your consciousness. Since then, there may have been a few other intimate rites of passage that have impacted you with similar intensity. No doubt you will experience others in the future. In fact, I suspect that the next installments are due to arrive in the coming months. Get ready for further initiations in these mysteries.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Two-thirds of us don't know what our strengths and talents are. That's the conclusion of a study published in *The Journal of Positive Psychology*. One reason for the problem is what the report's co-author Dr. Robert Biswas-Diener calls "strengths blindness," in which we neglect our real powers because we regard them as ordinary or take them for granted. Here's the good news, Gemini: If you suffer from even a partial ignorance about the nature of your potentials, the coming months will be a favorable time to remedy that glitch. Life will conspire to help you see the truth. (Read more: bit.ly/truestrengths.)

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In 1504, Michelangelo finished his sculpture of the Biblical hero David. But he hadn't been the first person to toil on the 17-foot-high block of marble. Forty years earlier, the artist Agostino di Duccio was commissioned to carve David out of the stone. His work was minimal, however. He did little more than create the rough shape of the legs and torso. In 1476, Antonio Rossellino resumed where Agostino had stopped, but he didn't last long, either. By the time Michelangelo launched his effort, the massive slab had languished for 25 years. I see parallels between this story and your own, Cancerian. I suspect that you will be invited to take on a project that has been on hold or gotten delayed. This may require you to complete labors that were begun by others -- or maybe instigated by you when you were in a very different frame of mind.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Many people harbor the unconscious bias that beauty resides primarily in things that are polished, sleek, and perfect. Celebrities work hard and spend a lot of money to cultivate their immaculate attractiveness, and are often treated as if they have the most pleasing appearance that human beings can have. Art that is displayed in museums has equally flawless packaging. But the current astrological omens suggest that it's important for you to appreciate a different kind of beauty: the crooked, wobbly, eccentric stuff. For the foreseeable future, that's where you'll find the most inspiration.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "No tree can grow to Heaven unless its roots reach down to Hell," wrote psychologist Carl Jung in his book *Aion*. My interpretation: We earn the right to experience profound love and brilliant light by becoming familiar with shadows and suffering. Indeed, it may not be possible to ripen into our most radiant beauty without having tangled with life's ugliness. According to my understanding of your long-term cycle, Virgo, you have dutifully completed an extended phase of downward growth. In the next extended phase, however, upward growth will predominate. You did reasonably well on the hellish stuff; now comes the more heavenly rewards.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The Great Balancing Act of

2015 doesn't demand that you be a wishy-washy, eager-to-please, self-canceling harmony whore. Purge such possibilities from your mind. What the Great Balancing Act asks of you is to express what you stand for with great clarity. It invites you to free yourself, as much as you can, from worrying about what people think of you. It encourages you to be shaped less by the expectations of others and more by what you really want. Do you know what you really want, Libra? Find out! P.S.: Your task is not to work on the surface level, trying to manipulate the appearance of things. Focus your efforts in the depths of yourself.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Muslims, Jews, and Christians are collaborating to erect a joint house of worship in Berlin. The building, scheduled to be finished by 2018, will have separate areas for each religion as well as a common space for members of all three to gather. Even if you don't belong to any faith, you may be inspired by this pioneering effort to foster mutual tolerance. I offer it up to you as a vivid symbol of unity. May it help inspire you to take full advantage of your current opportunities to heal schisms, build consensus, and cultivate harmony.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In some phases of your life, you have been a wanderer. You've had a fuzzy sense of where you belong. It has been a challenge to know which target you should aim your arrows at. During those times, you may have been forceful but not as productive as you'd like to be; you may have been energetic but a bit too inefficient to accomplish wonders and marvels. From what I can tell, one of those wandering seasons is now coming to a close. In the months ahead, you will have a growing clarity about where your future power spot is located -- and may even find the elusive sanctuary called "home." Here's a good way to prepare for this transition: Spend a few hours telling yourself the story of your origins. Remember all the major events of your life as if you were watching a movie.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You have been slowing to a crawl as you approach an exciting transition. But I'm here to advise you to resume normal speed. There's no need for excessive caution. You have paid your dues; you have made your meticulous arrangements; you have performed your quiet heroisms. Now it's time to relax into the rewards you have earned. Lighten your mood, Capricorn. Welcome the onrushing peace and start planning how you will capitalize on your new freedom.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "Most people reach the top of the ladder of success only to find it's leaning against the wrong wall." Aquarian actor Paul Sorensen said that. It's no coincidence that I'm bringing this theory to your attention right now. The coming months will be a good time to determine whether the ladder you have been climbing is leaning against the right wall or wrong wall. My advice is to question yourself at length. Be as objective as possible. Swear to tell yourself the whole truth. If, after your investigations, you decide it is indeed the wrong wall, climb down from the ladder and haul it over to the right wall. And if you're satisfied that you are where you should be, celebrate!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): When he served as Italian Prime Minister, Silvio Berlusconi denigrated the cuisine of Finland. "Finns don't even know what prosciutto is," he sneered. At best, he said, their food is to be "endured." He mocked the "marinated reindeer" they eat. But Finland fought back against the insults. In an international pizza contest held in New York, their chefs won first Prize for their "Pizza Berlusconi," a specialty pizza that featured marinated reindeer. The Italian entry finished second. I foresee you enjoying a comparable reversal in the coming months, Pisces. And it all begins now.

Out on the town

from page 25

Wednesday, August 19

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.

Foods to Choose & to Lose. Seminar about the healing properties of food. 6 p.m. FREE. BetterHealth Market (Frondor), 305 N. Clippert Ave., Lansing. (517) 332-6892, thebetterhealthstore.com.

Food Product Development @ ANC.

Presentation. 10 a.m.-noon, FREE. Allen Market Place, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 367-2468, alleneighborhoodcenter.org.

Back to School Health Fair. Health screenings, information, giveaways and fun. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. FREE. Ingham County Health Department, 5303 S. Cedar St. Lansing. (517) 887-4311, hd.ingham.org.

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. French immersion class, ages 4-6. 4:30 p.m. \$15/\$12 students. Mother & Earth Baby Boutique, 1212 Turner St., Lansing. (517) 643-8059, facebook.com/auxpetitssoinsllc.

EVENTS

DTDL Book Club. Discussion of "The Art of Mending" by Elizabeth Berg. 6-7:30 p.m. FREE. Delta Township

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CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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LES	BUFFALO	KING
DSHARP	TRY	YEAS
RABE	MOJO	
CHER	ORE	NEURAL
MARIO	WART	AWARE
OLIVE	SIS	NIVEA
NOSER	ECO	SNEAK

District Library, 5130 Davenport Drive, Lansing. (517) 321-4014 ext. 4, dtdl.org.

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

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.

Weekly Chess Club. Chess tutoring or practice, depending on skill. Age 6 and up. 6-8 p.m. FREE. CADL Okemos Library, 4321 Okemos Road, Okemos. (517) 347-2021, cadl.org.

Drop-in LEGO Club. Get creative with our LEGO collection. 4-5:30 p.m. Ages 4 plus. FREE. CADL Foster Library, 200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing. (517) 485-5185, cadl.org.

Rockin' On The River. Blues Concert on the river. 5:30 p.m. FREE. Grand River Park, 3001 Lansing Road, Lansing. (517) 483-4277, lansingmi.gov/parks.

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.

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.

3rd Wednesday Open Mic. Sign up and perform outdoors. 7 p.m. FREE. Ann Street Plaza, Albert Avenue at M.A.C. Ave., East Lansing. (517) 319-6888, ow.ly/QD4bu.

One Path to Human Progress. Atheists and believers together for justice work. 6 p.m. FREE. Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 125 S. Pennsylvania Ave. Lansing. (517) 484-7434, pilgrimucc.com.

MUSIC

Fusion Shows presents. Music begins at 10 p.m. 21 and older welcome. 10 p.m. FREE. Crunchy's Pizza & Burgers, 254 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. (517) 351-2506, crunchyseastlansing.com.

St. Johns Concert in the Park. With Three Men and a Tenor. 7 p.m. FREE, donations accepted. St. Johns City Park Performance Shell, 800 W. Park St., St. Johns. (989) 224-2429, clintoncountyarts.org.

Deacon Earl. Live blues, reggae, Americana and more. FREE, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.. Meridian Farmer's Market, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. (517) 712-2395, ow.ly/QD5kY.

The Springtails. Delightful husband-and-wife duo perform. 4-6 p.m. FREE. Allen Street Farmers Market, 1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing. (517) 999-3911, facebook.com/AllenStreetFarmersMarket.

THEATER

"Ernie: The Play." Play about famed sports broadcaster Ernie Harwell. 7:30 p.m. \$32. Wharton Center, MSU Campus, East Lansing. (517) 353-1982, whartoncenter.com

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 23

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TOP 5 DINING GUIDE

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

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

TOP 5 DESSERT

#1 MSU DAIRY STORE

Big Ten-themed ice cream offerings include Buckeye Blitz and Badger Berry Cheesecake
474 S. Shaw Lane, East Lansing
(517) 355-8466
dairystore.msu.edu
9 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; noon-8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

#2 GRAND TRAVERSE PIE CO.

Michigan-based chain known for its dessert pies and savory pot pies
(517) 316-0900
gtpie.com
200 S. Washington Square, Lansing
7 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday

#3 BAKE N' CAKES

"Butter makes it better" at this bakery, known for its cupcakes and specialty desserts
3003 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing
(517) 337-2253
bakencakes.com
6:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday

#4 SUGAR SHACK

City Pulse readers love Sugar Shack's cookie bites and giant cupcakes
215 N. Clippert St., Lansing
(517) 316-2009
sugarshackshop.com
11 a.m.-midnight Sunday-Thursday, 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Friday-Saturday

#5 WHIPPED

City Pulse readers praise Whipped's cake decorating, cupcakes and cookies (currently operating out of Roma Bakery)
428 N. Cedar St., Lansing
(517) 483-2653
whippedbakerylansing.com
9 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday; closed Sunday

West side providers

The Provision Center serves Grand Rapids' medical marijuana
By STEVE GREEN

I often hear patients say that they drive over an hour to Lansing to find a medical marijuana provisioning center (dispensary), particularly patients who live on the west side of the state. Many people don't know of any dispensaries in the Grand Rapids area, but there is at least one. The Provision Center is on Plainfield Avenue on the north side of Grand Rapids.

With the help of GPS, I found the place easily enough. But I did have to rely on the street addresses, because there was no sign out front. The building, which has plenty of parking, is shared with several other businesses, creating an all-inclusive resource center for patients and caregivers, including a certification doctor and legal services on site. I walked up to the building and found the Provision Center through the first door on the right.

Right away I found myself in a different setting than in most shops. There was no separate green room, and everything takes place in an office with a professional ambiance. Unlike some shops, where the jars are set low in display cases that are hard for patients with bad backs to view, The Provision Center displays its products closer to eye level. The dispensary offers a wide variety of marijuana strains, all a flat rate of \$15 per gram, \$50 per eighth ounce, \$100 per quarter ounce, \$200 per half ounce and \$400 per ounce. The staff was knowledgeable about all the strains and counseled me on some medicinal effects of both CBD- and THC-rich products. There were about 20 strains on display, with a balanced variety of indicas, sativas and hybrids. All the strains are lab-tested through Iron Laboratories, and the test results are posted publicly. Caregivers can even drop off their own samples to get tested.

I chose the classic sativa-dominant hybrid Super Lemon Haze and the relatively new Headband, a hybrid of OG Kush and Sour Diesel. Both came in a white prescription bottle with a sticker that listed the strain name, amount and the patient registry number. The budtenders were very friendly and helpful and the of-

THE GREEN REPORT



STEVE GREEN



Steve Green/for City Pulse

The Provision Center, based in a nondescript building on Plainfield Avenue, offers medical marijuana products on Grand Rapids' north side.

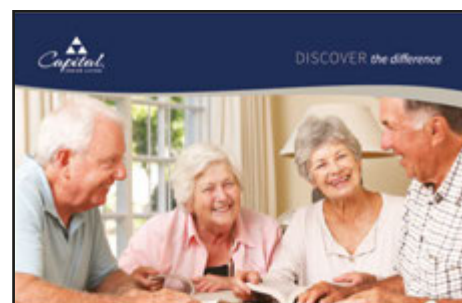
fice was clean and comfortable. The only downside I could find is that the dispensary does not carry any edibles, oils or extracts. Overall, I had a very enjoyable experience.

Once safe at home, I was able to twist up a few joints. I tried the Headband first. It had a sweet taste, with underlying hints of lemon and fuel. I found this strain to be elevating with a strong head high. It was great for my mood and my persistent pain.

Next up was the Super Lemon Haze, a strong sativa that, if done right, is one of my favorites. This one certainly hit

the spot. The lemon flavor was sweet and it had good, long expansion. The ash burned white, showing that the flush process was done correctly. This is a great daytime strain. I was focused and motivated, while having both the munchies and creativity. I found myself making an omelet with ingredients I never would have dreamed of before, like pineapple. I now know that I've got a pit stop anytime I'm heading through Grand Rapids.

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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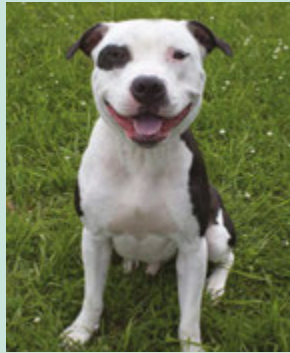
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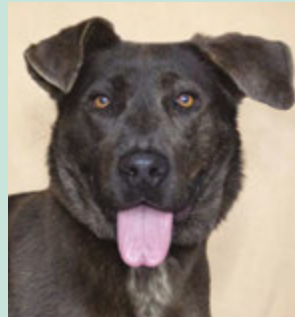
To adopt one of these pets from the ICAS call (517) 676-8370. 600 Curtis St., Mason, MI 48854. ac.ingham.org



Little Rascal

Little Rascal is an awesome guy! All he wants is to be loved on all day long with an occasional game of fetch thrown in.

Sponsored by:
Ioana Sonea



Emma

Emma is a big, goofy knucklehead! She plows through life without a care in the world. She'll make a great dog for someone who appreciates a dog with a lot of enthusiasm.

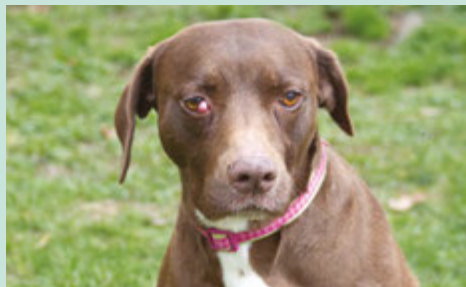
Sponsored by A Dog Lover



Tilta Whirl

Tilta Whirl is a very sweet cat who loves people. He has an adorable head tilt from an old injury but it doesn't bother him in the least!

Sponsored by: Linn & Owen Jewlers



Hermione

Hermione is a sweet, shy older lady. She loves people and would sit by your side all day if she could. Sponsored by Dale Schrader



Cinnamon

Cinnamon is a very sweet girl who loves attention. She is a calm girl who would enjoy a nice place to snuggle with someone. Sponsored by: Schuler Books & Music



Romeo

Romeo is a sweet old man. He does OK with other dogs but his preference is just to hang out with his people. He will do anything for a tennis ball!

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soldanspet.com

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517.669.8824

Lansing
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517.882.1611
6201 W. Saginaw Hwy.
517.323.6920
Charlotte
515 Lansing Road
517.541.1700



Jewels

Jewels is a sweet girl who is a little shy here at the shelter. She enjoys attention, but may take some time to warm up.

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THE PULSIFIEDS

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