

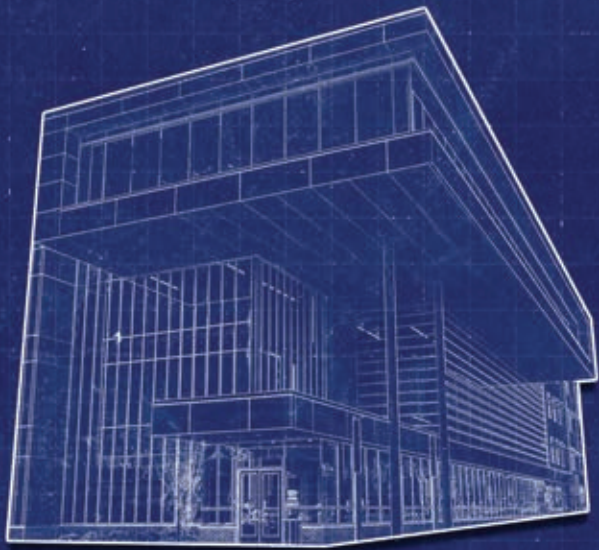
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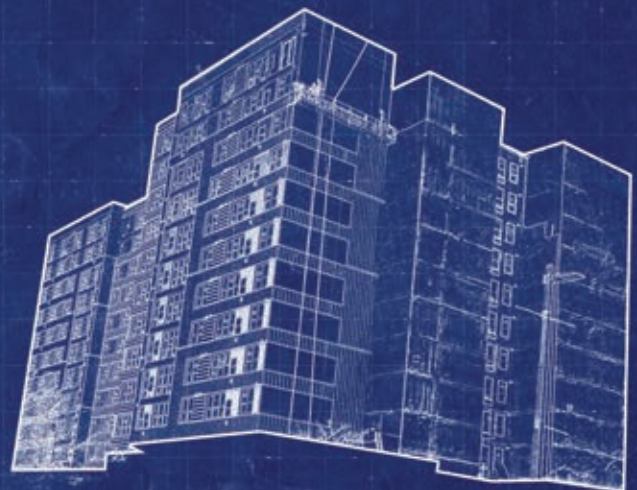
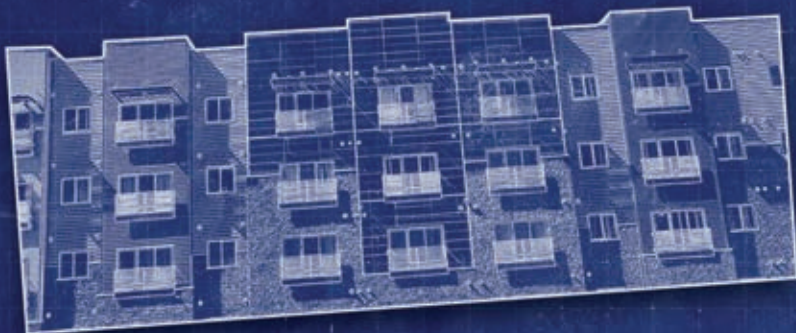
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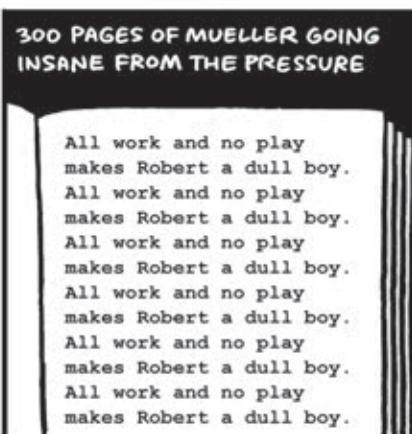
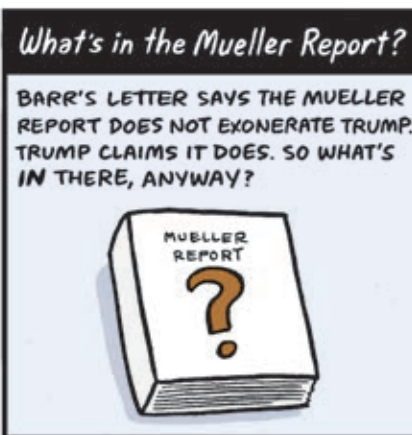
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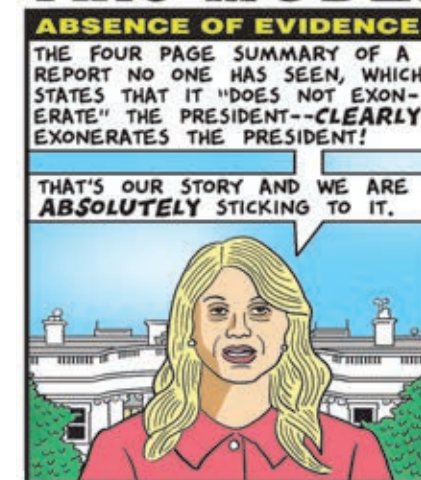
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THIS MODERN WORLD



by TOM TOMORROW



CityPULSE

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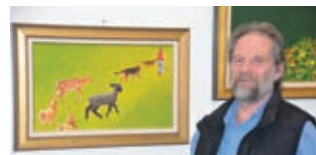
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Planned Parenthood benefit concert



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Williamston Theatre's latest play



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CADL celebrates National Library Week



**Cover
Art**

Art by Skyler Ashley

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PULSE

NEWS & OPINION

Red Cedar plans face friction at Council

Developers eye more adjustments after recent criticism

At least half of the Lansing City Council now leans against the current proposal to redevelop the old Red Cedar Golf Course — more than enough votes to kill it.

Some of the most recent changes to the proposed \$250 million redevelopment evoked a sharp critique from several members when the Council met last week, including concerns over the spread of student housing and the uncertain plan for market-rate housing.

This week, at least four City Council members are looking to send developers back to the drawing board, threatening to block the tax incentives to get the ambitious project off the ground.

Opposition from just three will kill the deal. Real estate agreements require six votes to pass in Lansing. Without support, the project sinks.

But developers say they are working quickly to alleviate the City Council's concerns.

"This has just not developed into the project that I've been expecting over there," explained Council Vice

President Peter Spadafore. "I'm hoping they hear our concerns and bring us back a revised development agreement. We need to find something else to work with here, because I believe this would get turned down."

The project is estimated to create 400 jobs by the time it is completed in 2023, according to the developers, Joel Ferguson of Lansing and Frank Kass of Columbus.

But those plans will never come to fruition if they can't pass muster on the City Council. Spadafore and Councilwoman Patricia Spitzley said that absent major changes they plan to vote against the development and its tax-increment financing when it comes before the Council April 22. Councilmen Adam Hussain and Jeremy Garza are also leaning against it.

"The eleventh hour is chiming and they put forth some drastic changes at the last minute," Spitzley said.

"They think we don't have options other than an assisted living facility and some graduate housing," Spitzley added. "But that's where they're wrong. We can still turn them away."

Added Hussain: "I'm looking for our concerns to be addressed. I'm really not comfortable moving forward if those

are not addressed. I do think the development team is listening and working to make sure some of our questions are answered, but I'm certainly a whole lot closer to 'no' on this project than I've ever been before."

The developers plan to transform the floodplain on the edge of Michigan State University into a combination of market-rate and student housing, two hotels, a parking structure, a senior care facility, an amphitheater and various mixed-retail spaces and restaurants. A public park is also planned on site.

But the "game-changer" of a project, as it's so often billed, was roasted by the City Council last week. Among the concerns: Two separate hotels would now be located in the same building instead of individual ones. Student housing was spread further across the site. "Active senior" housing had disappeared entirely — and so did the developers' promise for 115 two-bedroom units.

City Council members voiced objections over the potential shrinkage, especially the larger apartments that were once said to have been designed for "multi-family" housing. Developers, in response, said their prior room esti-

See Red Cedar, Page 6



Illegally placed advertisements

A reader suggested this special edition of Eye Sore: those unsightly advertisements that often illegally line the streets.

Maybe it's about a bridal show from three months ago. Maybe someone wants to give you CASH 4 GOLD. Low credit? Bad credit? No credit at all? Nothing like securing interest-free loans based on highway signage. They're annoying, usually outdated and, as multiple city officials suggested, probably violate local laws.

Dewitt Mayor Sue Leeming — according to emails obtained by City Pulse — shares our irritation with the signage, especially when they're left to sit around until some concerned citizen decides to take them to the trash. City ordinances in Dewitt and in the city of Lansing prevent them from being placed in a public right-of-way.

"I think we do a pretty good job of keeping the city tidy in this respect," Leeming said.

But enforcement can always improve. We're still spotting signs — like this pictured handwritten beauty on the northside of Lansing — on a daily basis. If you see them, complain to the company that put them there. Report them to your local municipality; They're likely to remove them for you. Lansing even has an app for that.

Or just take out those rectangular eye sores with next week's trash. We certainly won't blame you.

— KYLE KAMINSKI

How has the Red Cedar project changed over time?

Earlier proposal

Total investment: \$380 million
Purchase price: \$7.5 million.
Required site work: \$78 million.
City bond liability: \$38 million, which was later reduced to \$10.7 million.
1,248 student housing beds in one or two buildings.
40,000 square feet retail/restaurant space.
200 market-rate apartments for "multi-generational mixed-use global village"
55 one-bedroom units and 115 two-bedroom units.
112 assisted living and memory care units.
98 "active senior" apartments
Two hotels.
Two parking structures.
One Sparrow Hospital professional building.
Amphitheater.
Ice skating rink.
Public park.

Current proposal

Total investment: \$250 million
Purchase price: \$2.22 million.
Required site work: \$54 million.
City bond liability: \$0.
All bonds will now be backed by the developers.
1,100 student housing beds in three buildings.
35,500 square feet retail/restaurant space.
150 "luxury" one- and two-bedroom apartments with no specific composition for the layout spelled out in the development agreement.
120 assisted living and memory care units.
No "active senior" apartments
One, dual-brand hotel.
One parking structure.
No Sparrow Hospital professional building.
Amphitheater.
Ice skating rink.
Public park.

"Eyesore of the Week" is our look at some of the seedier properties in Lansing. It rotates with Eye Candy of the Week and Eye for Design. Have a suggestion? Email eye@lansingcitypulse.com or call it in at 517-999-6715.

Red Cedar

from page 5

mates were only for tax assessment purposes with no bearing on reality. Those plans haven't been finalized.

The student housing portion — as outlined by city officials — is now also planned to fit inside three buildings on the site, instead of the “one or two” as noted in the existing agreement, which the Council approved unanimously last year. Council members voiced concerns that the development plans are more geared toward students rather than

young professionals or small families.

The city once billed the Red Cedar project as a “multigenerational mixed-use global village.” But Spitzley and Councilwoman Jody Washington both referred to “bait-and-switch” tactics among developers as plans were adjusted. Spadafore called it “Chandler Crossing in a swamp,” referring to East Lansing's student apartment development and Red Cedar's ground conditions that will need to be remedied.

Project Manager Christopher Stralkowski has been talking with City Council members to address their concerns. He clarified: Besides designated student housing, the remaining apart-

ments will only be built into a mix of “luxury” one- and two-bedroom units that won't be marketed specifically for college students.

He also said the first phase of the project will include one building with 600 student beds. It's only the next phase — which could always be adjusted as construction plans continue — that's set to include 500 more student beds. Stralkowski was unable to confirm whether the second phase includes one or two buildings.

“There was no intent on doing a bait and switch,” Stralkowski added.

But after seven iterations to the Red Cedar's proposed development agreement, the City Council has its doubts.

“From what I'm seeing — and how things are changing with more student housing — I just don't know if I can support it anymore,” Garza added. “I know there are a lot of what-ifs at the moment. If we're going to be giving tax incentives, I want to know everything. As of right now, I definitely still have a lot of questions.”

“I just hope they're not trying to pull the wool over our eyes.”

The project also has some support. Because developers clarified that the project will not include any studio apartments, Councilwoman Kathie Dunbar's initial concerns about an overemphasis on student housing have been alleviated. Councilman Brian Jackson said none of the tweaks were a “deal breaker” for him regardless.

Washington said she has no other option to taking a “pragmatic” approach. If the City Council rejects the proposal, she doesn't think another developer would be willing to tackle the project. And that's not a risk she's willing to take; the “gateway” to East Lansing has far too much potential, she stressed.

“They made a commitment to make a diligent effort to market this to the non-student population,” Washington added. “As for the development itself, I'm OK with it being smaller. Everybody always says this is such a great piece of land, but nobody is really clamoring for this space. I'm not sure we'd ever have an alternative.”

Council President Carol Wood didn't return phone calls.

Kass declined to comment.

“I don't see anything wrong with it,” MSU Trustee Ferguson said about the proposed changes when reached by cell phone while he was attending an MSU game in the NCAA tournament last week. “Our plan speaks for itself. I'm not going to comment about this.”

Additional changes to the amend-

ed development agreement included a higher purchase price — from \$2.2 million to \$2.22 million — in consideration of a delayed closing date, which was bumped back to July 31. Restaurant space is also pegged to shrink from what was once about 40,000 to about 35,000 square feet.

Stralkowski said some of the changes were only made to make the project more financially viable for developers. And after feedback from the City Council, additional changes to “beautify” the project could be en route.

“Sometimes, the choices aren't ours to make,” Stralkowski added. “Sometimes the choices are made by what it is that we know that we have to deal with on this particular site, dealing with the condition but recognizing the market, recognizing the needs and the wants of not only the Council but the residents in the surrounding areas.”

Although student housing is now proposed to consume yet another facility in the main section of the development, the number of student beds was reduced from 1,222 to 1,100. The parking structure is also now “contemplated” to be partially owned by the city. An agreement also confirmed work will be completed at a prevailing wage.

Still, Spadafore slammed developers for the “acres of hardscape and parking” proposed along the riverfront. He offered them only one ultimatum this week: Figure out a better mix of housing and green space or risk rejection for a proposed \$54 million in sitework, for which developers would be reimbursed with interest by offsets in property tax payments.

Lansing taxpayers can find a better use for their tax money, Spadafore argued.

“We have a long history of underutilizing our riverfront,” Spadafore added. “We need that to change.”

Stralkowski also said the latest changes to the proposed development agreement didn't do anything to alter the layout near the riverfront or increase the amount of hardscape or surface parking. Regardless, his team is now exploring ways to enhance the riverfront in response to Spadafore's concerns. It's a challenge, he contended.

“We're being painted as being sort of the bad guy. There's no outcome yet. We're still working toward an outcome,” Stralkowski said. “This isn't the first time where we've had to respond to changes of the plan.”

— KYLE KAMINSKI
kyle@lansingcitypulse.com

NOTICE OF SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF LANSING'S ANNUAL ACTION PLAN 7/1/2018 – 6/30/2019 FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT

The City of Lansing is making a substantial amendment to its 2018 Action Plan 7/1/2018 – 6/30/2019 to increase funding for acquisition activities. Acquisition is an existing activity in the Action Plan which currently has funds of \$1,000 allocated. The City of Lansing is proposing to demolish 13 blighted structures for a total cost of \$250,000. Therefore, the activity would need to be amended to include an additional \$249,000. The City is proposing to transfer/reduce the funds allocated for owner occupied rehabilitation activities by \$249,000. In accordance with the City of Lansing's Citizen Participation Plan, the proposed changes constitute a substantial amendment to the 2018 Annual Action Plan because the City is altering the approved activity for acquisition more than 15% of the entitlement amount for the program year. The proposed amendments are highlighted below:

CDBG Single-family, Owner-Occupied Rehab Program/Public Improvements

Includes loans and grants for rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing units through city sponsored programs, and in conjunction with affordable housing efforts sponsored by nonprofit housing corporations, public and private developers, and other state and federal agencies. Includes funds to meet lead hazard reduction regulations in rehabilitated structures, funds to assist in emergency housing rehabilitation, market analysis activities and technical assistance to nonprofit housing corporations, contractors, and low- and moderate-income households. Includes loans and grants for owner-occupied single-family units through city sponsored programs, loans to rehabilitate historic homes in conjunction with rehabilitation of the unit, and loans or grants for ramps, hazard remediation or weatherization. Includes staff, office space, technical assistance, training and other direct project costs associated with delivery of Community Development Block Grant, HOME, Emergency Solutions Grant and other State and Federal Programs.

General street, sidewalk, water/sewer improvements, including assistance to income eligible owner-occupants or those in CDBG-eligible areas for special assessments related to new improvements. Includes improvements to neighborhood parks, recreational facilities; public neighborhood, medical and community facilities in CDBG priority areas.

Existing Funding amount: \$1,969,151 Proposed funding amount: \$1,720,151

Acquisition

Includes acquisition, maintenance and security of properties acquired through programs, and activities related to acquisition, disposition, relocation and clearance of dilapidated and blighted structures. Funds may also be used to acquire and clear properties in the flood plain. Includes staff time associated with this activity.

Existing Funding amount: \$1,000 Proposed funding amount: \$250,000

The City of Lansing followed its Citizen Participation Plan in term of developing the substantial amendment which requires a 30-day comment period. The comment period for the amendment will commence at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 4, 2019 and expire at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, May 3, 2019.

Copies of the substantial amendment are available for review at the City Clerk's office, Ninth Floor, City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave.; the Capital Area District Library, 401 South Capitol; the Department of Economic Development and Planning, Development Office, 316 N. Capitol, Suite D-2, Lansing, MI or on the City of Lansing's website at: www.lansingmi.gov/development

The proposed substantial amendment and a summary of the comments received will be submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) no later than May 7, 2019.

For further information regarding this notice or if you have comments, please contact: Doris Witherspoon, Senior Planner, City of Lansing, Michigan, City of Lansing Department of Economic Development and Planning, 316 North Capitol, Suite D-1, Lansing Michigan 48933-1236. doris.witherspoon@lansingmi.gov or (517) 483-4063.

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Sister Cities Commission snubs name change

Lansing mayor pitches case for more regional support

What's in a name?

In the case of the Lansing Regional Sister Cities Commission, it could be how much financial support the commission gets from the Schor administration.

For its 25-year existence, the only government to support the commission has been Lansing's.

"I'm advocating for the effort on that commission to become truly regional in its approach," Lansing Mayor Andy Schor explained. And if it cannot, he has told the commission's board, maybe you should take regional out of the name.

Last year, Schor cut the commission's funding from \$30,000 to \$20,000 and sent a message: Get funds from other local governments to make up the difference.

This year, Schor's proposed budget maintains funding at \$20,000 – but he delivered the same message about the name.

That message is not sitting well with the commission's board members. A recent email exchange among board members that was obtained by City Pulse soundly rejected Schor's suggestion to remove the word "regional." It would only work to devalue the role of neighboring cities, officials contended, sending a largely counterintuitive message to the local community.

"The word 'regional' is important here," commission Chairwoman Barbara Mason said in an interview. "We really do represent not just the city, but the entire Greater Lansing region in terms of the activities that we have. At this point, we've all decided that we just could not remove the word 'regional' from the title. We make a positive impact on the region and not just for the city."

The private, nonprofit Lansing Regional Sister Cities Commission, which has cultural partnerships with eight cities around the world, was created with the support of former Mayor David Hollister. But the mayor only appoints four of the board's 25 members, with the rest selected by the board itself.

But he does influence the purse strings, which is what he appears to be doing.

In keeping funding at \$20,000 for the next fiscal year, Schor said he

was willing to give the commission "another chance" for the commission to rake in some cash from neighboring cities. If not? That appropriation might not be around for another year; Schor wasn't prepared to make that decision this week.

"Lansing is the only municipality that puts taxpayer dollars into this effort," Schor explained.

"I requested that the commission to approach some other municipi-

"I'm advocating for the effort on that commission to become truly regional on its approach."

— Lansing Mayor Andy Schor



palities as well. If we're going to be called regional, we must truly become regional. If Lansing continues to be the only community to support it, the name should match that."

Schor wants to see the commission ramp up its focus on economic development.

"It's not just a cultural exchange," Schor said. "This is also about economic growth, jobs and partnerships."

Schor suggested additional support from neighboring municipalities could help to bolster the overall mission of the commission; it'll just need to start asking for it. He said its mission should also include a larger emphasis on bringing jobs back to Lansing and attracting international companies into the city as an economic stimulus.

"There needs to be some initiative to approach these other communities, and I want to give them time to do that," Schor said. "I'd also like to see if they have the ability to bring some jobs to Lansing in the process. We could have some international companies coming into the city, creating jobs and other economic investments."

The commission has since been working to expand those efforts to meet Schor's latest requests, officials said. But when Schor proposed the name-change concept a recent meeting, board members — including the

four that were appointed by the mayor — shot down the idea. The consensus: The word "Regional" should stay put.

Mason said a special Sister Cities committee, to be headed by attorney Jack Davis, will form this year to ask East Lansing, Haslett Michigan State University and others for cash amid an attempt to leverage additional finances for the commission's programs. Aside from donations and grant funding, only Lansing has so far been willing to put up the money.

The funds from Lansing help to invite ambassadors from around the world to the region, Mason explained. Student exchange programs — like those at Holt High School — also allow local students to travel abroad. A delegation from Ghana, for instance, is also set to visit medical facilities throughout the region this year, she said.

But it's also about more than financial support, Mason emphasized. Commissioners include volunteers from across the region — including those that reside in Okemos, Webberville. Other regional organizations like Lansing Community College and the Rotary Club of Lansing also routinely provide services for Sister Cities.

"The commission does a lot of things outside of the city of Lansing," said board member Janet Reifenberg, a retired teacher from Webberville Community Schools. "We really are, in my opinion, a regional organization. Holt might not give money directly to the commission, but there are families there that support these kids."

Emails obtained by City Pulse

outlined some responses from other members of the commission:

"Our guests from sister cities are not aware, nor care, about the municipal geographic boundaries," said Jack Schripsema, who also serves president of the Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau. "The word regional accurately suggests a larger and more influential area encompassing some of our most important assets."

"We can't go backwards and move away from the regional focus our city and its partners have been advocating for several years," added board member Marcie Alling, who also serves on Lansing's Board of Zoning Appeals.

"This exercise is not where we should be spending our collective energy. Building relationships is," added board member Paul Shaheen. "Can anyone help the mayor's office understand the assets he has working with him?"

Mason said the name of her organization should not be viewed as "the primary issue that deters us from globalizing Lansing." Without the support from others who live and work outside of the city, it would be difficult for the Sisters Cities Commission to exist, she emphasized. Cash is important. But so is regionalism.

"I understand the mayor of a city is supposed to look at the budget and be interested in how money is spent," Mason added. "His idea isn't totally off the table, but whether the word 'regional' is in the title or not doesn't mean anything about changes to our mode of operation. We just want to be able to please everybody on this."

— KYLE KAMINSKI

kyle@lansingcitypulse.com

B/19/097 LEAD PAINT TESTING ETC. as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the CITY OF LANSING, C/O LBWL, PURCHASING OFFICE, at 1110 S. PENNSYLVANIA AVE., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until **2:00 PM** local time in effect on **APRIL 25, 2019** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling **Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197, email: stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com or go to www.mitn.info.** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#19-099

B/19/098 RESIDENTIAL STAKE SURVEYS OF VARIOUS PROPERTIES as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the CITY OF LANSING, C/O LBWL, PURCHASING OFFICE, at 1110 S. PENNSYLVANIA AVE., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until **1:00 PM** local time in effect on **APRIL 18, 2019** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling **Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197, email: stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com or go to www.mitn.info.** The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

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The most important thing is to have an idea of the space you are moving into. People who are upsizing don't need to get rid of much. People who are downsizing definitely need to consolidate. The best way to deal with that is get rid of it, donate it and sell it. As far as the move itself, one trick is to take a diagram and color code it and color code the boxes to the specific rooms they can go into.

Where people get into really big trouble is they underestimate what they have and the time it is going to take to move. I suggest hiring movers for the larger items like beds, dining room cabinets and bed frames. I've seen people scrambling to be out on time. It helps to have a Realtor figure out if you need to buy before you sell or sell before you buy. It is how to approach the market to deliver the results someone is looking for. There is generally two to 10 days right now. People who have to sell before they buy will put their house on the market in contingent with specific properties. It protects them from being homeless, and that is a very important thing I've been doing for years with clients. We would always welcome any questions or concerns about moving plans.



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JEWELRY

Facts About Synthetic Diamonds

Last month, we discussed facts about natural diamonds. This month we'll look at man-made diamonds.

1. Lab-grown diamonds are made of the same physical and chemical components, but they are not identical to natural diamonds.
2. Synthetic diamonds are created in factories around the world in a matter of weeks, either using a High Pressure High Temperature method or a Chemical Vapor Deposition. Both methods give the stones "growth marks" that can be seen by professional instruments.
3. While we may think synthetic diamonds are more eco-friendly, they are not. To create a one carat diamond in a lab, the carbon emissions are similar to if not greater than mining a natural diamond of the same size. This high carbon footprint comes from the electricity to run the factories.
4. Lab-grown diamonds are now, for the first time, readily available at significantly lower cost than natural goods. Synthetic diamonds are indistinguishable from natural stones, even under low magnification, to the naked eye, making them a highly desirable option for any price conscious shopper. One should always inquire when purchasing a diamond: Is the stone natural or lab-grown?



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We ended up driving around to different buildings seeing what we could come up with to represent Lansing well — We didn't want to do the smokestacks because I'd like to be something more than just the smokestacks. What's cool is we came up with the Boji tower, a sculpture from the Capitol complex and the Capitol. It was a difficult process because we wanted them to look good together with dimension and height and different shapes when you look through this window of what this world is. What we ended up with was something cool and not just touristy stuff.



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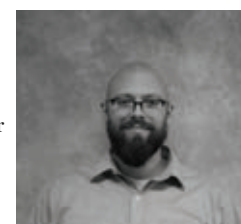
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Some people are very receptive to diet and lifestyle changes. Other people just want to take their medicine and leave it at that. We are trying to partner with patients instead of just telling them what they should do. We want to move forward together. I always say 'How can I help you make your health better and how can we achieve that?'

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What's next on Line 5?

The oil will keep flowing while Enbridge and the Whitmer administration duke it out

The state commission then-Gov. Rick Snyder whipped up last year to grease the wheels for a utility tunnel under the Mackinac Straits is unconstitutional, Attorney General Dana Nessel said last week. State agencies aren't allowed to do anything related to entombing the Line 5 pipeline, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer wrote shortly thereafter.

So now what?

In short, get ready for a bureaucratic and legal chess match between



POLITICS

the Nessel/Whitmer tandem, who wants to shut the whole line down, and Enbridge, the Canadian-based owners of the pipeline running along the bottomlands of the Straits.

All the while, light crude oil will continue running through the line.

Enbridge already has a state-issued permit related to the tunnel project, and the company is awaiting another one from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Enbridge spokesman Ryan Duffy said today.

The state permit, issued by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in January, would allow Enbridge to do rock and soil sampling, including drilling bore

holes, Duffy said.

Asked if the company would push forward if it receives a permit from the Army Corps, Duffy said Enbridge is "evaluating the next steps and we will be working with the Administration on the best path forward."

One such option Enbridge could consider, according to one industry observer, is pursuing the tunnel project on its own through the state's normal permitting process, but it's not clear if that's under consideration.

Environmental groups renewed their call Thursday for Whitmer to decommission the existing Line 5 pipeline. Yet her spokeswoman, Tiffany Brown, said the Governor's Office is "keeping our options open on next steps and how to move forward."

Candidate Whitmer said as governor she would "immediately file to enjoin the easement and begin the legal process to decommission Line 5."

"Anything short of that is insincere," she added.

Some environmental groups have maintained Enbridge is violating its state easement at the bottom of the straits. Whether a lawsuit pops up isn't clear just yet, but an observer noted a suit has never been filed on those grounds from what he's seen.

Some environmental groups were said to have been considering legal action to block the tunnel law shortly after Snyder signed it into law, but he opted to wait for Whitmer and Nessel to take office.

And whether there's a legal countermeasure to Nessel's opinion to be taken by those who support the tunnel concept for Line 5 is unclear. Asked about that today, Jim Holcomb, executive vice president of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, said the organization would be evaluating all of its options.

But what's clear to Holcomb is that the state can't stay in neutral very long on the Line 5 issue, he said.

"Our position is, we can't stop

Get ready for a bureaucratic and legal chess match between the Nessel/Whitmer tandem and Canadian-based pipeline owner Enbridge.

working to get to the end that everybody's looking for," Holcomb said, adding the chamber respects the role of the AG but was disappointed with the outcome.

"We're just going to encourage the governor, Enbridge and legislative leaders to not stop, that we have to find a solution," he said.

MIRS asked four political observers how hard Enbridge will fight the issue of building a \$1 billion tunnel in court when — as long as the tunnel isn't built — Line 5 will remain in service.

"My advice to them is that 'yes,' they'll need to put up some kind of fight publicly," said John Truscott of Truscott Rossman Group. "But what they have in place now is a lot cheaper than the tunnel would be. I really believe they want to do what's best for everyone. So, I think they will try to move forward with the tunnel, but maybe not too quickly."

Jen Eyer, a partner at Vanguard Public Affairs, said Enbridge will need to stay aggressive because Nessel's end game is to close down Line 5.

"Enbridge should not feel confident about Line 5 remaining in operation if the tunnel isn't built," Eyer said. "Attorney General Nessel made it very clear during her campaign that she believes the state has the authority to shut it down. And if she's right, she'll make it happen."

But if that happens, John Sellek, CEO of Harbor Strategic Public Affairs, said "If the tunnel is sunk, the pressure actually falls to the governor and attorney general to protect Mackinac Island from a potential oil bath."

(Kyle Melinn of the Capitol news service MIRS is at melinnky@gmail.com.)



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS EAST LANSING PLANNING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearings to be held by the East Lansing Planning Commission on **Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing.

1. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from **Baps, Inc.** for **special use permit** approval for the property at **340 Albert Avenue**. The applicant is requesting approval for a restaurant, including **on-site consumption of alcohol**. The subject property is located in the **B-3, City Center Commercial**, zoning district.

2. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from **Sparty Tacos, LLC** for **special use permit** approval for the property at **202 Albert Avenue**. The applicant is requesting approval for a restaurant, including **on-site consumption of alcohol**. The subject property is located in the **B-3, City Center Commercial**, zoning district.

3. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from **GTW Investment Properties, L.L.C.** for special use permit approval for the property at **215 and 217 River Street**. The applicant is requesting approval of a **four-story sorority to house 54 people**. The subject property is located in the **EV, East Village**, zoning district.

4. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from **246 Equities, LLC** for **modified special use permit** approval for the property at 246 E. Saginaw Street. The applicant is requesting approval of **an expansion of an existing restaurant, including on-site consumption of alcohol**. The property is located in the **B2, Retail Sales Business**, zoning district.

5. A public hearing will be held to consider an application from **United Hospitality Group East Lansing, LLC** for special use permit approval for the property at **1100 Trowbridge Road**. The applicant is requesting approval for the **sales of packaged beer and wine in the sundry shop of the hotel**. The property is located in the **B2, Retail Sales Business**, zoning district.

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

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

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#19-097

B/19/091 KALAMAZOO STREET REHABILITATION as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the CITY OF LANSING, C/O LBWL, PURCHASING OFFICE, at 1110 S. PENNSYLVANIA AVE., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until **2:00 PM** local time in effect on **APRIL 25, 2019** at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling **Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197, email: stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com** or go to **www.mitn.info**. The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#19-098



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Temporary insanity

Trump, Brexit and the dumbing down of democracy

At a campaign rally last week in Grand Rapids, the president of the United States and keeper of the world's largest nuclear arsenal — after asserting that he's smarter than all the elites and lying that the Mueller probe had been a “total exoneration, complete vindication” — told a sea of white people that had Hillary Clinton been elected, America wouldn't be producing as much oil and gas. “You'd be doing wind. Windmills. Wheeee. And if it doesn't blow, you can forget about television for that night. ‘Darling, I want to watch television.’ I'm sorry! The wind isn't blowing. I know a lot about wind.” (Fact check: He doesn't.)

A few days later, the brain genius announced that, to stem the surge of migrants fleeing poverty in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala, he would cut off aid to those countries, because nothing makes poor people want to flee poverty more than making them poorer. Donald Trump also threatened to shut down the Mexico-U.S. border, which would disrupt \$300 billion in trade and wreak economic havoc.

Border Patrol officials reported more than 100,000 apprehensions in March, the highest in a decade. Nearly all are seeking asylum — a right guaranteed



JEFFERY C. BILLMAN

INFORMED DISSENT

under U.S. and international law — and nine in 10 entered at legal ports of entry. The wall won't stop them, and cutting off aid will only make things worse. Cutting off aid while shutting down the border would be both self-defeating and cruel.

Which is to say: Of course that's what Trump's going to do.

Which is also to say: American politics is so incredibly dumb right now. The only consolation, if you can call it that, is that British politics is somehow even dumber.

Caveat emptor: I claim no expertise on British politics, nor the intricacies of Brexit. But the UK's looming may-be-divorce from the European Union — a tangled knot of economic and cultural connections that proved easier to talk about undoing than to actually undo — shares a lot of DNA with the menace of the Trump administration. In fact, these events share a common foundation in a moment of populist insanity.

The 52-48 Brexit referendum, passed five months before Trump's election, was a populist revolt against the urban, multicultural elite, couched in the rhetoric of economic anxiety, not-so-thinly masking resentment of immigrants and refugees. It was propped up by sweeping promises — untethered to reality — of better health care and trade deals. It also passed because few thought the country would be insane enough to pass it. The

polls showed Remain in the lead, so Remainers were complacent.

Sound familiar?

The biggest outstanding issue is the Irish border. Since the 1998 Good Friday agreement, the border between the independent Republic of Ireland and the UK's Northern Ireland has been completely open for trade and movement. Post-Brexit, that could no longer be the case; there would be checkpoints, inspections and customs. And nobody wanted that. But years of negotiation failed to produce a viable workaround. The last-ditch effort was the so-called Irish backstop, which would keep Northern Ireland in the EU's single market until at least December 2020 and effectively commit the UK to the EU's customs union until both entities agree it's no longer necessary.

But that's proven too soft a Brexit for the hardliners in Prime Minister Theresa May's party, and not soft enough for the members of Parliament who think Brexit was idiotic to begin with. As a result, no position — a hard Brexit, May's deal, a softer Brexit, or abandoning Brexit altogether — could achieve a majority.

It was, as the Brits say, a shambles.

Friday was supposed to be Brexit Day. May, however, got a reprieve from the EU to give her one last chance to sell her agreement. But Parliament rejected it for the third time.

On Monday — after I file this column — Parliament was set to consider six alternatives, none of which have passed before: May's deal, but giving the UK the unilateral right to exit the backstop (assuming the EU agrees); a no-deal, hard Brexit (which experts believe would be catastrophic); two proposals to keep the UK in an EU customs union (one of which nearly passed last week); and two motions to call a second, “are you sure about this?” referendum (as in 2016, polls show a slim lead for Remain).

The Brits could get a do-over pretty soon, with a better understanding of the consequences that furtive spurt of right-wing populism actually entailed. Americans will have to wait until November 2020 to decide whether this is the kind of country we want to be.

(Jeffrey Billman is the editor of INDY Week, in Durham, North Carolina.)

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for **Lawn Maintenance**. The Request for Proposal packet is available April 5, 2019 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org. Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 11:00am on April 19, 2019 and will be opened at 11:00am April 19, 2019. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP#: LAWN 03-2019

CP#19-088

Public Notice

The Ingham County Land Bank is accepting proposals for **Lawn Maintenance on For Sale Properties**. The Request for Proposal packet is available April 5, 2019 at the Ingham County Land Bank, 3024 Turner St, Lansing, MI, 48906, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday-Friday or at www.inghamlandbank.org. Responses are due at the Land Bank offices by 11:00am on April 19, 2019 and will be opened at 11:00am April 19, 2019. The Ingham County Land Bank is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer. Women- and Minority-Owned Businesses are encouraged to apply. RFP#: LAWN FOR SALE 03-2019

CP#19-089

CITY OF LANSING NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 8, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 10th Floor Lansing City Hall, 124 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI for the purpose of considering:

An Ordinance of the City of Lansing, Michigan, to amend the Lansing Codified Ordinances by amending Chapter 292, Sections 292.14(G) and (H), to provide that an employee who, between October 30, 1990 and September 30, 2003, transferred from a full-time City UAW Union position into a full-time City Teamsters 580 Union position, but was not vested in the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) at the time of transfer, may use the accrued UAW time for calculation of the employee's Teamsters Union service credit vesting but not for pension benefit multiplier purpose; and to renumber the existing Subsection 292.14(G) to 292.14(H) without text change.

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

Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk, MMC/CMMC
www.lansingmi.gov/Clerk
www.facebook.com/LansingClerkSwope

CP#19-091

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING EAST LANSING CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given of the following public hearing to be held at a special meeting by the East Lansing City Council on **Tuesday, April 23, 2019** at 7:00 p.m., in the 54-B District Court, Courtroom 2, 101 Linden Street, East Lansing:

A public hearing will be held to consider an application from CA-East Lansing, Inc. for special use permit approval for the property at 1234 East Grand River Avenue to convert the existing multiple-family apartment building to a medical marijuana provisioning center and office space. The subject property is zoned EV, East Village and is located in the Medical Marijuana Provisioning Facilities Center Overlay 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.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#19-095

B/19/099 TURNER DODGE PERGOLA REBID as per the specifications provided by the City of Lansing. The City of Lansing will accept sealed bids at the CITY OF LANSING, C/O LBWL, PURCHASING OFFICE, at 1110 S. PENNSYLVANIA AVE., LANSING, MICHIGAN 48912 until **2:00 PM** local time in effect on APRIL 9, 2019 at which time bids will be publicly opened and read. Complete specifications and forms required to submit bids are available by calling **Stephanie Robinson at (517) 702-6197, email: stephanie.robinson@lbwl.com or go to www.mtln.info**. The City of Lansing encourages bids from all vendors including MBE/WBE vendors and Lansing-based businesses.

CP#19-101

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED MINUTES

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF LANSING WAS HELD AT THE TOWNSHIP OFFICES LOCATED AT 3209 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE, LANSING, MICHIGAN ON TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019, AT 7:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hayes, Clerk Aten, Treasurer Rodgers
Trustees: Broughton, Harris, McKenzie, Bankson
MEMBERS ABSENT: None.
ALSO PRESENT: Michael Gresens, Attorney

ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD:

Meeting called to order by Supervisor Hayes.
Minutes of the meeting held on March 5, 2019, approved.
Agenda approved as amended.
Approved Local Government Approval for New On-Premise Liquor License: 2722 E. Michigan Avenue.
Approved personnel request in Clerk's office.
Approved budget amendment.
Adopted Resolution 19-05: Reappointment to Planning Commission.
Approved define benefit plan changes.
Claims approved.
Executive session held to discuss pending litigation.
Board returned to regular session.
Meeting adjourned.

Diontrae Hayes, Supervisor
Susan L. Aten, Clerk

CP#19-090

Vote today in Top of the Town Lansingcitypulse.com

CITY OF EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE NO. 1448

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 50-94a OF DIVISION 3 – SPECIAL USE PERMIT – OF ARTICLE II – ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT – OF CHAPTER 50 – ZONING – OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF EAST LANSING TO LESSEN THE SEPARATION DISTANCE BETWEEN PROVISIONING CENTERS IN AN OVERLAY DISTRICT IN WHICH ONE PROVISIONING CENTER IS IN A B-1 ZONING DISTRICT AND THE OTHER IS IN A B-2 ZONING DISTRICT.

Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1448 was adopted by the East Lansing City Council at the regular meeting of the Council held on **March 26, 2019** and will become effective upon the expiration of seven (7) days after the publication of the following summary of ordinance.

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 1448

THE CITY OF EAST LANSING ORDAINS:

Ordinance 1448 amends Sections 50-94a of the Zoning Ordinance by reducing the required separation distance between medical marihuana provisioning centers from 1000 feet to 500 feet, except that in the medical marihuana provisioning center facility overlay district located in the Downtown Development Authority District, no medical marihuana provisioning center facility shall be permitted to locate within 1000 feet of another medical marihuana provisioning center facility. The ordinance also removes the separation requirement between medical marihuana provisioning centers and liquor stores entirely.

A true copy of Ordinance No. 1448 can be inspected or obtained at the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 410 Abbot Road, East Lansing, Michigan during normal business hours.

Jennifer Shuster
City Clerk

CP#19-096

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MSU EXPO ZONES

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ARTS & CULTURE

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Nonprofit to mark graves of 61 boys at Mt. Hope Cemetery

By DENNIS BURCK

It is truly a strange and beautiful world when costumed dogs can parade through a graveyard in 2019 to raise funds for children who died in state custody over a hundred years ago in Lansing's Boys Vocational School.

"Everybody deserves an identity. Had these boys survived, one of them could've been a mayor or a governor or at least a family member. They deserve that respect," said Nancy Parsons-Mahlow, Eastside Neighborhood Organization president and Boys Vocational School researcher.

In conjunction with the nonprofit Friends of Lansing's Historic Cemeteries, Parsons-Mahlow hopes to

Doggie Easter Parade Costume Contest

Sunday, April 28
3:00 to 4:30 p.m.
Tickets \$8
Mount Hope Cemetery
1709 E Mt. Hope., Lansing
www.facebook.com/LansingCemeteries/

raise around \$10,000 to cover the cost of inscribing and manufacturing individual markers for 60 children who died from 1900 to 1933 at the school.

Currently, the bodies of the children are in Mount Hope Cemetery arranged in a "V" shape under one marker installed by the state in the 1950s. When constructed, it didn't have any names attached and simply reads "Boys Vocational School Memorial" with an inscription from St. John 11:25.

Parsons-Mahlow raised \$1,700 in 2005 to etch the names of the 61 boys in the state's marker. It was a step in the right direction, but wasn't enough, she said.

Of the 61 boys buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, the only individual marker is for Richard McKimmy and was paid for by his relatives.

Opened in 1856, the Boys Vocational School was a formidable brick building that had a capacity of 400 inmates.

It spanned 300 acres and encompassed the area between Pennsylvania Avenue, Saginaw Street, Marshall Street and Jerome Street.

The National Guard Armory, Lan-

sing Catholic High School, Eastern High School and a large chunk of the Eastside neighborhoods sit within its former grounds.

It closed in 1972 and was demolished in 1973.

While rumors that bear likeness to "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" still swirl, most causes of death for the boys are listed from illnesses like diphtheria, pneumonia, measles, tuberculosis and typhoid fever.

Parsons-Mahlow first heard about the story from a City Pulse article highlighting spooky Halloween sites in Lansing.

"When I started doing the research and found out they were all buried here, it broke my heart because there is nothing here. There was no names or nothing. These boys have no identity. You wouldn't know there are 61 graves here," Parsons-Mahlow said.

Contrary to some beliefs, not all inmates were juvenile delinquents.

"With a lot of them, the parents would give them up to the state because they had no money for medical help and no way of treating them," Parsons-Mahlow said. "One boy was put in because he stole \$1.25. Another stole rice cakes, pork and a five pound bag of flour."

For some time, the school employed 13 "cottage families" composed of a department head and a teacher, to tend to 50 boys each.

According to a schedule from 1902, boys would go to school for four and a half hours, work for another four and a half hours and have five hours of recreation and meal time before lights out.

During work hours, the school taught tailoring, carpentry, shoemaking, printing, baking, painting and farming to inmates.

Inmates were released to the general population when they turned 18.

When the effort to make individual gravestones fell short in 2005, Friends of Lansing's Historic Cemeteries President Loretta Stanaway was disappointed.

"It has been on our radar ever since. If we ever get an opportunity to do something about the boys, we will



Dennis Burck/City Pulse

Loretta Stanaway (left) and Nancy Parsons-Mahlow seek to raise \$10,000 to individually mark 60 graves of boys from Lansing's Boys Vocational School.

do it," Stanaway said.

As part of its annual fundraiser, The Friends of Lansing's Historic Cemeteries holds a unique event in the Fratcher Memorial Garden every Spring.

It's done Shakespeare in the cemetery and a barbershop quartet to raise funds in the past.

The "Doggie Easter Parade Costume Contest" was an idea suggested by one of the organization members. Judges will rank dog costumes on creativity and originality.

"We all agreed this is where we want to go. Even if it took a couple of years or people adopting markers, we wanted to get going and start making a difference."

With thousands of dollars on the line, Stanaway proposes a valid question asking the State to fund markers

for the wards who died in its custody.

"I wouldn't rule out getting the state involved, but it is highly unlikely," she added.

Both Stanaway and Parsons-Mahlow agree that the worst thing government officials could say is "Sorry, we don't have any money."

Any leftover money from the proposed \$10,000 will be used toward landscaping around the site.

For those unable to make donations in person, checks can be sent to Friends of Lansing Cemeteries.

"This is long enough ago where in a lot of cases there are no family members left in this area," Stanaway said.

"So if family is not left, who is going to step in and do it? We are."

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/LansingCemeteries

CURTAIN CALL

'Gin Game' makes a scene

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

The staging and embellishments are marvelous. The direction is tight and purposeful. The acting is impeccable. Yet when "The Gin Game" was over, I needed a glass of Hendrick's.

D. L. Coburn's play about an elderly man and woman relegated to a welfare nursing home could do that to a teetotaler.

"The Gin Game"

April 4-20
Showtimes
8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays
3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays
2 p.m. Sundays
Tickets start at \$28 (senior and student discounts available)
Williamston Theatre, 122 S. Putnam St., Williamston
(517) 655-7469
www.williamstontheatre.org

"The Gin Game" starts with some lighthearted interactions and ends with horrific exchanges.

The set inside the Williamston Theatre depicting

the courtyard where Fonsia Dorsey and Weller Martin meet could have

been a plain background with simple trimmings. Instead, Gabriella Csapo's design—that includes sliding and screen doors—and Michelle Raymond's props, are full of details and realistic extras. Julia Garlotte's insect, bird, wind, and thunder noises are also classy additions.

Director John Lepard keeps the encounters fluid and the action building; making the engrossing 85 minute play, plus intermission, zip right along.

The performances by real-life couple Ruth Crawford (Fonsia) and Hugh Maguire (Weller) command attention. An authentic chemistry between the two - and their ability to make their characters fascinating - help make "The Gin Game" riveting. Both performers artfully convey external and internal character emotions.

The play's dialogue and physical elements gives Crawford and Maguire



The cast of "The Gin Game" on opening night at Williamston Theatre.

Front row, left to right: Kevin Craig, Ruth Crawford, Hugh Maguire and Julia Garlotte. Back row, left to right: Aaron Delany, Raymond Michelle, Stefanie Din, Paige Conway, Dustin D. Miller, John Lepard, Julie Whelan, Holly Iler, Emily Sutton-Smith, Chris Purchis, Maya Kleinsorge and Tony Caselli.

the opportunity to make the audience laugh, gasp, cringe and maybe cover their ears. Some offensive language, mean-spirited screaming and violent outbursts are uncomfortable to observe.

For me, those were necessary com-

ponents of a play that never set out to have a happy "Hollywood" ending. The harshness and toxicity of "The Gin Game" bothered me and kept me transfixed. Despite a disappointingly abrupt and vague conclusion, I was glad to experience the play while sober.

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Reclaiming an art form born of necessity

By **AUDREY MATUSZ**

From box braids, cornrow crochet styles, Senegalese twists, Bantu knots and Goddess locs, African American's hair mystifies with its versatility and deep-rooted history. Fashion labels and celebrities are constantly being called out for cultural appropriation when they hop on certain trends.

The conversation that follows often fails to mention the lack of knowledge African Americans have about their own hair to explain the trauma. Students at Michigan State University are working

to break that generational curse.

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Zaria Phillips, 21, and Madonna Umejiego, 21, are popular hairstylists on campus specializing in protective styles — hairstyles that

remove manipulation caused by combing, dying and heat tools.

The generational effects of the African diaspora are widely apparent in the number of black women that were never taught how to manage their natural textures. That is changing with the limitless possibilities of YouTube tutorials and ease of sharing information online.

Phillips, a junior at Michigan State University studying Journalism, would agree that the Internet is a key element in the revitalization of hair braiding in the black community.

"Watching YouTube videos are very helpful if you don't have anyone in your



Audrey Matusz/City Pulse

Section off hair is the first step to a good set of braids. Here, a woman uses rubber bands to secure the individual strands.

immediate circle who knows how to braid," said Phillips. "That's how I figured out how to do faux locs."

Phillips estimated she watched 30 different videos before learning how to install faux locs. The temporary protective style requires braiding or twisting the real hair followed by wrapping synthetic fibers composed of polyethylene-terephthalate, or Kanekalon hair, around the shaft of the braid.

During her freshmen year of high school, Phillips took a break from straightening her hair and started wearing her natural 4C curls.

"When I started wearing my hair natural, my dad said to me once, 'You going outside like that?'" Phillips said. "He's from the Caribbean, but it's something that's still so new to us ... to reclaim the beauty of our hair."

As a freshman in college, Phillips spent 10 hours mastering her first DIY look.

"I'd be in class and girls would come up to me and take pictures of it. Some even sent them to their moms asking for permission for me to do their hair," Phillips laughed.

In addition to the deep-rooted history and self-discovery linked to creating protective hair styles in the African American community, the practice is also sacred as an outlet for financial

stability.

Umejiego was born in Lagon, Nigeria and lived in Detroit before studying Human Development and Family Studies at Michigan State University. In her hometown, she remembers the painful experience of having her hair braided at salons. At age 9, Umejiego started studying how to do her own hair.

It wasn't until her junior year at Michigan State that she started seeing her craft as a legitimate source of income. She started studying social media algorithms and created a website which gave birth to her business, Queens Lounge.

"Braiding hair helped me survive and pay what I needed to pay and like breathe a little bit," Umejiego said.

Umejiego graduates in May and recently limited her hair appointments to weekends for the rest of the semester. While her beauty business has been put on hold, she plans to pursue a Master's in business to develop her entrepreneurial skills.

While the Internet has helped educate communities on black hair, it has also continued the exploitation of black culture for the convenience of white-owned corporations looking to "rebrand" themselves.

"It's still common to see runways with all white models wearing cornrows, but

it's like when black people were doing it you made fun of us or won't hire us," said Phillips. "That's why I don't like when white people wear dreadlocks because black people are still being fired for having them."

While it is the few that spoil it for the many, we still live in a country where the state of New Jersey can ban a black teen from competing in sports because of his dreadlocks and Vogue magazine thinks cotton-candy afros and blackface on white women are "cool."

During this time, it's hard to believe the majority is educated on the contributions of marginalized people to the point where they can immerse themselves in black aesthetics and be an active ally.

While the Internet forces open doors for cultural exchange, the social environment has remained stagnant. African Americans, like most minorities, still struggle to carve out a unique identity in a society that has dominated their narrative for hundreds of years. "It's good that we have protective styles as part of that healing process because it does help," said Phillips. "It's like transitioning ... so you can get back to the roots of your hair and get to understand it as it is."



Audrey Matusz/City Pulse

One of Umejiego's clients wearing the goddess loc protective style.



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INSTANT CITY

THE AESTHETICS OF GREATER LANSING'S BIG DEVELOPMENT WAVE

By LAWRENCE COSENTINO

The owner of a shopping center we'll call Blandor was angry. Last December, we named SkyVue Apartments, the hulking, cheap-looking apartment block next door to Blandor, our 2018 "Eyesore of the Year."

Big projects like SkyVue, he scolded us, generate jobs and tax revenue, yet here we were, complaining about architecture — "of all things."

That throwaway phrase got us thinking. Maybe it's time to look at the buildings going up in greater Lansing from a purely aesthetic point of view.

Shadows are lengthening across the city and the sun is getting nervous. Across from MSU in downtown East Lansing, unprecedented high-rise developments are mushrooming to over 10 stories. In Lansing, new mixed-use projects are doubling and tripling Michigan Avenue's century-old two-story height lines.

Where the two cities meet, the biggest development in years — the Red Cedar project — bids to out-do everyone, at least in scale.

Most of us will be looking at these buildings for the rest of our lives.

Setting aside, for the time being, the wrangling over land use, economic development, tax credits and so on, this story is meant to open a discussion about architecture — "of all things."

'Spreadsheet in physical form'

Is there a name for the style of architecture of the big buildings going up in greater Lansing? Why are they being designed and built the way they are?

"Some things have been moving so quickly we haven't named them yet," East Lansing architect Dan Bollman said. "Things have to sit around a while for there to be an identified style. And there has to be a lot of them."

I was undeterred. I wanted to classify, pigeonhole, criticize. I knew I couldn't do it alone.

I called upon Bollman and Amanda



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

The Landmark project, making its visual debut this spring along Grand River across from MSU, breaks up its titanic mass with setbacks, varying colors and the illusion that it's more than one building, the first volley in a rapid development wave that is transforming East Lansing from a quaint college town to an "instant city."

Harrell Seyburn of East Arbor Architects in Lansing to help me sort it all out. Bollman writes many of City Pulse's "Eye Candy" and "Eye for Design" columns. Harrell Seyburn is an associate at East Arbor and an avid student of the new urbanism — the art of building walkable cities with a fine-tuned mix of housing, businesses and recreation.

True to her new urbanist credo, Harrell Seyburn wanted to walk this tour, but damn, it was 28 degrees outside.

So we met in the parking lot at the Sears store on Michigan Avenue, where Lansing and East Lansing meet, and planned a circle drive, first to the towering new developments taking shape

in East Lansing, then to downtown Lansing, and back to Sears.

The master class began before our car moved an inch.

Looming over our car, and even the Sears water tower, was SkyVue, a giant block of student apartments visible from miles away.

Bollman explained that architecture — of all things — is not the primary driver of this, or almost any other big project in the area.

"It's driven more by cost per square foot," Bollman said. "They're going to build it for this particular amount, they expect to get a certain amount per square foot over a certain number of years, and where those two lines inter-

sect is the sweet spot. It's a spreadsheet, basically, and it's taken physical form."

Material costs are the main driver of design in most new projects. A hallmark of the latest wave of development, here and around the world, is the sparing use of brick in favor of less expensive metal panels.

In addition to her design talents, Harrell Seyburn is a "material culture" freak. Bricks and stone, often obtained locally, have added a regional flavor to architecture for centuries. As the 21st century rolls on, the availability of metal panels, manufactured and traded globally, is contributing to the sterile, homogenized feel of big build-



Courtesy Photos

Three Lansing area buildings (top to bottom) our experts liked were of modest scale: the all-brick Stadium District in downtown Lansing (“still one of the best”), the log-gy Lake Trust bank in front of the Lake Lansing Meijer (“really clever”) and the Hannah Lofts in East Lansing near MSU (“an attractive building”).



Courtesy Photo

Architect Dan Bollman and associate Amanda Harrell Seyburn of East Arbor Architects in East Lansing.

Architecture

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ings everywhere. The decline of brick, Harrell Seyburn said, has led to a “loss of craft.”

Bollman looked up and down the sheer, pale cliffs of SkyVue. “I’m certainly not a fan of the way it looks,” he said. He scanned the facade for signs of relief and variation and found some. “We’re looking at horizontal gray, brick pattern grey, horizontal blue, vertical white. There are some blue panels.”

Harrell Seyburn was more concerned about the building’s placement, away from the sidewalk and street.

“It can never be transitioned easily into being part of a series of buildings that’s welcoming to pedestrians,” she said. “Everything about it is a cube that’s, ‘Hands off, don’t come near me.’ It’s not welcoming to the community.”

But she added that the Skyvue’s isolation, with parking lots on either side, has a lot to do with its stark appearance.

“If it was joined by a few more buildings, it would start to feel more contextual, part of a conscious thought, but right now it feels kind of out of place,” she said. “It is part of the beginning of a vision for this part of the Michigan Avenue corridor to be of a much larger scale and a gateway into East Lansing and Lansing.”

Flattening the peak

SkyVue probably won’t be alone in its enormity for long. The land under Sears belongs to Lansing’s most active builder, Pat Gillespie. This location has so far escaped being closed as part of Sears, Roebuck and Co.’s bankruptcy negotiations, but nobody expects it to last forever. Across Michigan Avenue, the controversial Red Cedar project — potentially the biggest the area has ever seen — is in a delicate phase of gestation. Two weeks ago, an underwhelmed City Council Vice President Peter Spadafore called the Red Cedar project “Chandler Crossing in a swamp,” referring to a notoriously ugly, sprawling East Lansing student housing project north of town. (Without changes, the project may be dead. See story, Page 5.)

The Council’s objections centered on the mix of uses proposed for the Red Cedar project, not the aesthetics of the architecture, but early drawings of Red Cedar suggest a hybrid of SkyVue, Chandler Crossing and a bloc of sleeker buildings with more angular, Modernist touches — a very large spreadsheet in very large physical form.

Out of professional courtesy, my experts declined to evaluate plans that are still in flux, but there were plenty of real projects to visit.

Before leaving the parking lot, we took a deep dive into a tiny but telling architectural detail: the little peaks seen on thousands of commercial projects built or remodeled in the 1980s and 1990s, from the retail businesses across from MSU along Grand River to innumerable strip malls. The presence or absence of those peaks offers a clue about the

direction architecture is taking, not just here, but across the country.

“It’s a vague historical reference to the idea of the pediment or the pitched roof,” Bollman explained.

The pediment is the triangle atop the front of a building that fills the space between the pointy roof and the flat ceiling below it. In the Parthenon, it’s filled with exquisite statues. In many strip malls, there’s a cute little dot inside.

Pitched roofs are a Midwestern thing. They slough off snow. It’s the first thing a child draws when she draws a house. The mere sight of a peak says “home” — even on top of a strip mall.

Those little peaks are among the decorative touches that spread everywhere when post-modernist architecture made its way across mid-America in the 1980s and 90s. Architects have a term for this: the “decorated shed,” a reaction to the clean lines of Modernism (which itself was a reaction to the allegedly over-decorated buildings that came before).

The change was in full swing when Bollman was in school 20 years ago.

“We got tired of having everything stripped down to glass boxes and exposed steel,” he said.

Architect Philip Johnson rocked the architecture world by topping a New York skyscraper with a fancy pediment — in the heart of the forest of sleek modernist towers such as the World Trade Center.

The ultimate example of postmodernism in Lansing is the Michigan Chamber of Commerce building, at 600 S. Walnut St., a zig-zagging circus of faux peaks, red brick and horizontal white bands.

Architects argue over whether post-modernism is dead, but our circle tour strongly suggested that it is on life support. None of the newer developments we looked at had any peaks or other post-modernist touches. On the contrary, many of them have almost flashy flat roofs that resembled helicopter landing pads. A new modernism, not as stark as the first wave, seems to be taking over.

The next building we looked at bore this theory out dramatically.

Global conversation

MSU’s silvery 1855 project, across from the Breslin Center, commands a block-long stretch of Harrison Road, thanks largely to a cantilevered slab on a metal pillar three stories high.

We found ourselves looking at more metal panels — a lot more.

“Everybody is using the same materials,” Bollman said. “Many products are from Eastern Europe. That would have been unheard of a short time ago.”

Harrell Seyburn called the project “intentionally conspicuous.”

“They captured what they wanted to — that they are a forward-looking institution and there are high-tech things happening at Michigan State,” she said.

“It doesn’t do much for me,” Bollman commented.

In a few minutes, we were in the

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shadow of the biggest project under-way in East Lansing — the 12-story Landmark on Grand River, in the heart of downtown.

“It’s a first pass at trying to raise the ceiling,” Bollman said. “It’s the result of a special use permit and an extra two stories of height that require a super-majority of City Council to sign off on.”

“This a global conversation,” Harrell Seyburn said. “The change in urbanism from a quaint scale to a very high-scale, mixed-use community is happening in communities all over the world.”

But what is it, architecturally? The most common term for what’s going up in many American cities after modernism and post-modernism is — you guessed it — post-post-modernism.

Maybe we can do a little better. The layout of the Landmark project suggests not one, but a cluster of towers. Two larger masses, each with its own set-back section, flank a central bay in which nestles a central, convex tower. At street level, a layer of brick (where a Target store will go) hugs the sidewalk, matching the businesses on either side. Bollman calls it “holding the line.” Above street level, the ubiquitous metal panels are varied in color, with hand-some red bands mimicking the brick.

The phrase “instant city” popped into my head. The varying colors, textures and setbacks not only break up the mass, they fool the eye into seeing a row of buildings with a history. Giant

accordions like the Landmark mimic the two-story rows of businesses that evolved slowly, unit by unit, along strips like East Lansing’s Grand River and Michigan Avenue on the east side of Lansing, only on a much larger scale.

“This building is going to seem overbearing for the time being,” Bollman said. “Whether that softens over time, or becomes something that’s palatable or even enjoyable, time will tell.”

“Instant City” projects are popping up in mid-sized cities across the country, wherever pent-up potential for growth is being unleashed.

“East Lansing is much smaller than East Lansing, and there isn’t much room for growth in any direction, except upwards,” Harrell Seyburn said. “What everybody seems to relish as the quaint college town is changing at an unprecedented level. It’s moving extremely fast.”

We drove farther east, to the edge of campus, where the Hub, another behemoth is rising to 10 stories at the corner of Grand River Avenue and Bogue Street.

This “instant city” is divided into three slabs that will be colored black, silver and red, with setback units between.

“High, taller buildings are fine in the right place,” Bollman said. “The ideal location is on a corner.”

The Hub isn’t finished, but Bollman liked the way it pivots to hug an angled “knuckle” in Grand River Avenue.

“It takes advantage of that knuckle and breaks the scale down pretty well,” he said.

How much of this high-rise stuff is too much?

Avatars of the new urbanism like Bollman and Harrell Seyburn have borrowed a concept from the natural sciences — the transect, or a zone of transition from one ecosystem to another.

They’ve identified six zones, ranging from totally undeveloped land (T1) to high-rise hyperdensity (T6).

Healthy communities should have land that fits into all six zones, but East Lansing has long been dominated by residential zones. Under this view, a certain amount of high-rise density is part of a healthy balance.

But things could also get out of hand. “It might do a disservice if the entire stretch of Grand River, from here to Okemos, was high rises,” Harrell Seyburn said.

We drove out of the shadows of the Hub and Landmark to the heart of Lansing.

Carrot and the stick
Nearing downtown, we passed by the dark brick towers, turrets and movie-style marquee of The Stadium District, anchored in a layer of lighter hued stone.

“Hands down, one of the best,” Harrell Seyburn said. “It was one of the first and it’s still so well done.”

“It’s solid. It’s a great anchor and it’s aged well,” Bollman agreed. He noted a commonly invoked rule of thumb for good design — “three materials plus the roof.”

“Stone foundation, brick face and limestone trim, for example,” he said.

We parked behind the multi-colored



Lawrence Cosentino/City Pulse

In the post-post-modern era, ornament is once again out, but the steel and glass masses are permitted to hover, protrude and float in interesting ways, as in MSU’s 1855 Project, on Harrison Avenue across from the Breslin Center.

panels of The Outfield, an arc of apartments positioned behind the ballpark. The colorful panels get a lot of ridicule, but my experts cut the design some slack.

“There’s a place for all kinds of architecture,” Harrell Seyburn said. “This feels playful. I think it’s appropriate with a ballfield.”

“They’re trying to establish an identity,” Bollman said. “It is a playful use of color.”

They like it that the architect, Studio Intrigue, and developer Pat Gillespie are both from Lansing.

“There’s a language being developed that’s iconic to their studio,” Harrell Seyburn said.

Bollman found the four-story height just right.

“If this were done at twice the height, it would be a lot more overbearing,” he said. “Maybe that’s the trick at SkyVue.” Besides, the panels will be easy to change up if people get tired of them.

“You can easily re-clad a building to ease it into its next life,” Harrell Seyburn said.

Circling back to Sears along Michigan Avenue, my experts took a longer view of the changes overtaking greater Lansing.

“We think the Lansing metro area is still finding its architectural culture,” Harrell Seyburn said. “It’s a young community, about 150 years old at most. That is a blip in architectural history.”

I asked them to name a few projects they liked.

“The Hannah Lofts, on the east side of MSU, are kind of anonymous, but they did a pretty good job,” Bollman said. “It’s not brilliant, but it’s attractive.”

He also named the Arcadia Brewing Co.’s makeover of an old bank on Michigan Avenue’s 2100 block and an addition to Old Bailey school in East Lansing, the Liberty Hyde Bailey Center Project.

They both love the Lake Trust Bank in front of the Lake Lansing Meijer, a Frank Lloyd Wright-ish fantasia that riffs on the quintessentially Midwestern

“longhouse,” with logging era touches.

“Lake Trust is a really clever one,” Harrell Seyburn said. “It’s really cool, growing out of regional culture.”

On our way west, we passed The Venue, the new six-story, mixed-use development dominating the 2000 block on the east side.

Just as the Landmark project is the first taste of hyper-height in East Lansing, The Venue is the opening shot in a more modest spurt of growth along the eastern stretch of Michigan Avenue.

Harrell Seyburn deemed it “an appropriate background building and a scale that makes sense there.” The arrested development of Michigan Avenue has long fascinated Harrell Seyburn. When I-496 replaced Michigan Avenue as the quick way to get downtown, the main artery from the Capitol to MSU was frozen in time. Business moved in here and there, often taking over or modifying houses, but for decades, the only real growth seemed to be at Sparrow Hospital.

“It hasn’t grown up to the scale of an urban street that one would expect by this point in a community of this scale,” she said.

However, Bollman and Harrell Seyburn admitted that change, even on a modest scale, comes with a cost.

“You’ve wiped away the history the community has with that block,” Harrell Seyburn said. “When businesses leave, there’s such a loss of community sense at times. It’s almost more offensive when something gets built in its place. It strikes people’s souls.”

They both love the local history murals painted last year by artist Brian Whitfield at the base of the Venue.

“If you want the community to embrace the new development, you’ve got to use the carrot, don’t just use the stick,” Harrell Seyburn said. “Sometimes I think there are developments that are just using the stick.”

With that, we came full circle and arrived back at SkyVue.

Sigh.

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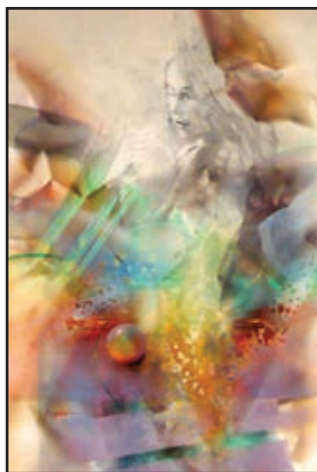
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CURTAIN CALL

'Pageant Play' leaves room for humor, tackles parenthood

By MARY CUSACK

On paper, Lansing Community College's production of "Pageant Play" should be hilarious. The script pokes fun at the ridiculous world of child pageants and the moms and coaches who subject toddlers to aesthetic scrutiny that no human should have to endure. Yet

the play is an uneven piece, a quality production that somehow fails to provide an ultimately satisfying experience.

The plot centers around the Texas pageant circuit and a rivalry started when a new entrant named Puddle challenges reigning champion, Chevrolet. The performance highlights how the children are merely

playing dress-up for the real rivalry driven by the different motivations of the stage moms. They are aided by coaches Bob (Ben Guenther) and Bobby (Kyle Haggard).

The greatest strength of the play is its female leads, who represent opposite sides of the feminine spectrum. Playing the character Pinky, Nicole May is the perfect caricature of a pageant "momster" while also drawing pathos during flashbacks of her own pageant days.

Bobbi Newman is an excellent foil as naïve, everywoman Marge. She is sweet and earnest in her desire to protect Puddle, rather than push her

to win the pageants at any cost.

Robert Fernholz's pretty in pink and tinsel set is perfect for the Black Box setting. Costume designer Chelle Peterson has assembled an exquisite wardrobe for the uptight Pinky, confining her in the color that symbolizes her gendered personality.

Although the script has many funny moments and makes biting commentary on the pageant phenomenon, it isn't as hilarious as the premise seems.

This may be because we live in a "post-Toddlers & Tiaras" world, where we no longer can be shocked by the abusive nature of child pageantry. What the script does do well is tracing the emotional growth of one character in particular. The result is an ending that eschews the play's cynicism to instead embrace redemption.

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'Behanding in Spokane' brings back edgy shock humor

By DAVID WINKELSTERN

Figuring out what a "behanding" is can be as easy as determining the shape of Sponge Bob's pants. Figuring out the motivations and developments in the inten-

tionally absurd "A Behanding in Spokane" is not so easy.

The playwright is Martin McDonagh who also wrote and directed "Seven Psychopaths"

and "Three Billboards Outside of Ebbing Missouri." Knowing his dark films, it's no surprise that McDonagh's, "Behanding" is full of black comedy, vulgar humor and unpredictable moments.

Heath Sartorius makes a solid directorial debut with "Behanding." He assembles a fitting cast to play four very different American lowlifes. John



Courtesy photo

John Lerma (Left) and Hunter Folleth in "A Behanding in Spokane."

trayals transform a sparse set into a weird world that—although often bothersome—becomes increasingly fascinating. A seedy motel room smartly designed by Leroy Cupp features a door that opens for random appearances by Mervyn, a window that allows access to a fire escape and a closet that can accommodate a body.

"Behanding" features lots of severed hands—including one from a child. The

play seeks laughs with N-word jokes, demeaning women and by making light of school shootings. "Behanding" also has enough spoken "Mutherf@#kers" to raise Samuel L. Jackson's eyebrows.

"Behanding" is meant to shock and be offensive. That's what makes much of it comical. As Sartorius says in his director's note: "But frankly, this isn't a show to overthink. It's just F-ing funny."

"A Behanding in Spokane"

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Symphony breathes life into musical extremes

Rapturous 'visions' give way to despair of Tchaikovsky's Sixth

By **LAWRENCE COSENTINO**

Review

If there was a lead voice in Tchaikovsky's epic Symphony No. 6, the anchor work of Saturday's Lansing Symphony concert, it was Michael Kroth's bassoon — the burrowing worm of depression that returns again and again to eat away at the façade of everyday life.

But what lies beneath? Better not to ask.

About half way through the first movement, every section of the orchestra was blowing, banging and bowing away at full tilt. The soft-focus, love-on-the-beach melody from a few minutes ago was a cruel memory. The double basses gave out with a mortal groan, like the hull of the Titanic grazing the ocean floor. Low throbs from the brass merged with crying violins and shuddering timpani to produce an all-enveloping crescendo of squid ink that blotted out all light, space and hope.

Did I mention that this was only the first movement? Surrendering to the sorrowful storms of the Sixth is a big ask, but in the right hands, it's also a great gift. Maestro Timothy Muffitt took a twofold tack to keep a packed Wharton Center crowd at the edge of its collective seat: he pushed the extremes to the extreme and kept the rest scaled to chamber music clarity and intimacy.

The wistful, waltz-like second movement felt warm as a hearth. Forebodings and doubts were scaled down and the hearty spirits of Haydn and Mozart flickered into fleeting focus. It was a welcome respite, because the music was about to rocket to the other extreme.

Muffitt kept the famous Presto under a lid for as long as he could, but soon enough, its jaunty little march theme inflated to Jovian scale, with huge brass chords plunging up and down, fiddle bows blurring, cymbals clashing and bass drum thundering. It was the supreme embodiment of a musical high, especially with Kathryn Salo's piccolo popping an endless supply of cherries on top. The audience went nuts and indulged a

mid-symphony burst of applause, as often happens with the Sixth. A few folks actually got up and started to leave, thinking the battle was over and the good guys won (including the lady next to me.)

But Muffitt was ready for them. Before the last chord completely died away, he pulled a little-used move out of the NFL officials' handbook: Two palms down, facing back to the audience. "Sit back down; it's not over." He skipped the usual brow-mopping, showed no mercy for lingering coughers and dove straight into the abyss.

The Sixth pivots on that key moment, when the exultation of the Presto drops instantly into a despairing, lingering death. To get this daunting idea across, the orchestra transcended itself, sculpting every phrase with such skill and sincerity you wanted to catch every second, despite the pain, as if you were sitting at a loved one's bedside, all the way to the last faint pumps from the double basses.

It was the end of a long, and remarkable, night's journey. Credit Muffitt and the symphony for not wasting your life with trifles. The string section opened Saturday's concert, not with a rousing overture, but with something new, "Visions and Miracles" by Christopher Theofanidis, a bright dance of joy and the perfect balance to the bleak Tchaikovsky.

This was no sugary aperitif, but a substantial tone poem buoyed by a mystical lightness.

The vibrato-less, glassy sound produced by the strings defied materiality. The players pretty much vanished as corporeal beings, sublimating into a purity of tone that sounded like strings, brass, woodwinds and pure light all at once.

The blinking energy of the first movement never flagged, even as the score went on transcending itself. Bustling oscillations gave way to slow scales of notes that rose in delicate layers. Then it was back to Earth, for an almost rustic jig that brought flesh and spirit together.

If anything could link the rapture of Theofanides to the ruin of Tchaikovsky, it was Schumann's heartfelt yet tightly disciplined cello concerto, played with vigor and sensitivity by guest artist Nick Canellakis.

Canellakis balanced emotion with technical control and played with a steady, fine-grained tone that flowed

into the ear with zero resistance.

In the songful slow movement, he bifurcated into two voices and played a duet with himself, using double stopping and other virtuoso tricks but never calling attention to them.

It just sounded like he has so much to say he was beside himself. The orchestra responded to him in myriad subtle ways, from punchy, split-second affirmations to deft echo effects, but it was Canellakis' show, and he told the melancholy tale to perfection, neither shirking nor showboating.



Canellakis

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CADL gets into the spirit of National Library Week

Library system announces new programs and exhibits

By **BILL CASTANIER**

Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen walked into the Library of Michigan last Thursday and was greeted by a surprised group of kindergarteners from St. Thomas Aquinas School in East Lansing. Van Frankenhuyzen, or “Nick” on special occasions, instructed the class on owl drawing and naturally fell into conversation about wildlife with his young fans.

The class was there to see van Frankenhuyzen’s art exhibit featuring sketches from his nature journals collected over the years. The artist and his wife, author Robbyn Smith will discuss their work on April 11 as part of National Library Week.

In 1982, he won the Michigan Duck Stamp competition and used the prize money to build the first pond on 40 acres called Hazel Ridge Farm located in Bath. The exhibit details the observations that he and Smith have made about wildlife while living at the farm.

In the 90s, Frankenhuyzen was commissioned to paint a museum diorama at Michigan State University, then one at Fort Mackinac and then another at Fort Michilimackinac. In 1998, he published his first children’s book with Smith, “The Legend of Sleeping Bear,” featuring his signature dreamy oil paintings. The book was an instant classic and has been part of Michigan early education for over a decade.

The exhibit on display at the Library of Michigan allows viewers a chance to walk through over 30 years’ worth of his personal sketches and writing. The pages have been enlarged so visitors can see detailed drawings of the multitudinous animals and birds living at Hazel Ridge Farm.

In addition to bringing popular Michigan artists to Lansing, The Capital Area District Library is celebrating Library Week by introducing three new programs and services for library patrons. The first, called Student Success, gives students an alternative



Courtesy Photos

(Above) Scott Duimstra (left), CADL executive director, and Bradley Funkhouser, CATA CEO and executive director. (Below) Van Frankenhuyzen next to his painting “Hemingway and Redlining.”

to traditional library cards by allowing kids to use their student ID numbers. Student Success members will also have all late fees waived.

Webberville schools have already enrolled 500 students into the program. The CADL hopes to expand the program county-wide and continue making libraries an accessible community space.

CADL Executive Director Scott Duimstra says he is working to expand on the organization’s mission by providing access through a partnership

with CATA, “whether that access is for transportation to different areas of the region through a bus pass from CATA or whether that access is for educational or recreational learning resources at CADL.”

CADL’s Library of Things will add CATA bus passes to its collection of devices which can be checked out for 30 days. Passes for fixed routes and rural service is expected to be released in May. In the meantime, adult cardholders can borrow everything from Potter

Park Zoo passes to GoPro Action cameras from the Library of Things.

Finally, in what could truly be a life-changing program, Connections in Corrections, will help combat the strong correlation between illiteracy rates and incarceration. CADL is working with the Ingham County Jail to allow inmates to send books to their children or grandchildren. Inmates also can record themselves reading so their child can read along with them from home.

(For more information about the services and events at Capital Area District Libraries available at cadl.org.)

SCHULER BOOKS

Your Local & Independent Bookstore

UPCOMING EVENTS

WRITING WORKSHOP WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3 • 7PM

Capital City Writers Association provides quality education, support, and industry connections to help you reach your goals, whether you’re on your first book or already a bestseller.

CHILDREN’S STORY TIME SATURDAY, APRIL 6 • 11AM

Join us and MYOI (a local community partnership) for a story time designed to instill a love of reading in little ones. We will read *Dragons Love Tacos* and guide your child in a small art project or related make and take activity.

CANNABIS DISCUSSION SUNDAY, APRIL 7 • 3PM

Author Box Brown discusses his graphic essay on the legacy of cannabis legislation, titled *CANNABIS: The Illegalization of Weed in America*. In conversation with MSU Professor Ryan Claytor.

MAGIC / KEYFORGE GAME NIGHT TUESDAY, APRIL 9 • 6PM

Enjoy games and gaming in a casual, friendly environment. All Magic items 20% off for attendees. On Board Game Night, bring your own favorite game, or play one of ours. Full details on our website. SchulerBooks.com/Event

FIND MORE INFO ON OUR
WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE

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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 Suzi at (517) 999-6704.

Wednesday, April 03

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Active Senior Exercise - 9:15-10:15 a.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Beginner: Basics & Beyond Class - Never made a quilt? 2-6 p.m. 5676 Okemos Rd, 5676 Okemos Road, Meridian.

Good Form Walking Clinic - 1-3 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Intermediate Ukulele - 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Photography Class with Ron St Germain - 6:30-9 p.m. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road, Okemos. 517-349-3866. meridian.mi.us.

Mindfulness Meditation. 7 to 9 p.m. Chua Van Hanh Temple, 3015 S. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Lansing.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

MSU Libraries' Game Studies Guild: Literature Discussion. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Free. MSU Library Digital Scholarship Lab, 2W. MSU Library, 366

W. Circle Dr., East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Nonfiction Book Club - 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Wednesday Morning Book Discussions - "Becoming" by Michelle Obama 10-11 a.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

EVENTS

Brain Injury Association Capital Area Chapter Support Group. 6 to 8 p.m. Free. Peckham, Inc, 3510 Capital City Blvd. Lansing.

Break for Fun: MINECRAFT & More Afternoon! - 1-3 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson.

Creative Exchange - Discuss important topics in arts and culture. 8 a.m.-12 p.m. The Exchange, 314 E Michigan Ave, Lansing. 517-319-4500.

GL Recycle & Compost Hours: 3:00-7:00 PM - Grand Ledge. www.oneidatowship.org.

Current Events - News junkies welcome! 1-2:45 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Rd, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Treasure Troves of Schubert - CELLO PLUS CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. 517-355-1855. music.msu.edu.

ARTS

Artist's View. Free. 1210 Turner St., Lansing.

"Inspirations" - A Multi-Media Art Exhibit - 12-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. thepeopleschurch.com.

MUSIC

Music Flutes and Jazz. From 1 to 2 p.m. Free. Ascension Lutheran Church, 2780 Haslett Road East Lansing.

Thursday, April 04

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Beginners Basics and Beyond Class - Basics of quilting. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Custom Quilts and Sewing Center, 5676

Celebrate REACH Studio Art Center's new Fiber Arts Studio space

April 5 to May 17
REACH Studio Art Center
1804 S. Washington Ave., Lansing
reachstudioart.org
(517) 999-3643

Midwest artists: Nicolette Rose, Kate Garman, Jill Ault, Barbara Bushey, Sherri Smith, Brooks Harris Stevens, Debbie Cholewicki, Marilyn Prucka, Janice Lessman Moss, Sue Hale,

Celebrate the launch of REACH Studio Art Center's new Fiber Arts Studio space with fiber work from 12

Cheryl Ferrin and Xia Gao. The event will focus on artists who engage with contemporary textile practices that push the boundaries of traditional fiber techniques. During the six weeks, there will be fiber art workshops, artist talks and community art making. REACH has been working on its Fiber Arts Studio space for the past six years. The opening reception for the Fiber Arts Studio space is Friday from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and the reception is free and open to the community.

Okemos Road, Haslett.

Beginning Ukulele - 1-2 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Birds, Bees and Butterflies Pint Night - Pheasants Forever in Michigan - 6-9 p.m. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing.

Country Line Dancing & Lessons at Mason VFW Post #7309 - 7-9 p.m., 1243 Hull Rd., Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

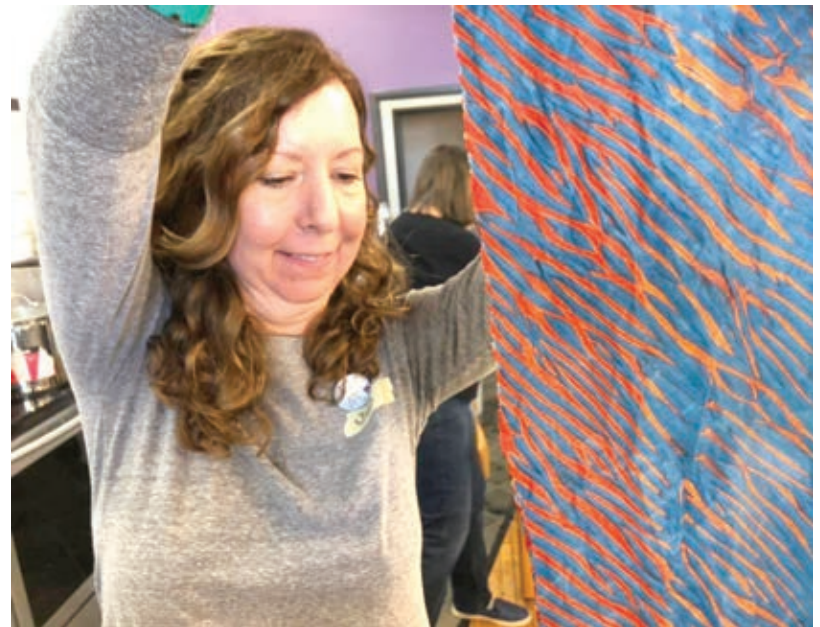
Disaster Recovery for WordPress - presented by Tim Killian and Jeremy Leik. 7 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka Street, Lansing.

Learn 517 Lesson - 1:30-3 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S. Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

MSU Libraries' Qualtrics Workshop - 2 to 4 p.m. Free. MSU Library Red Cedar Instruction Room. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Dr., East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Preschool Science Exploration. From 1 to 2 p.m. \$3/child. Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Road Meridian Township. (517) 349-3866.

Stretch, Flex & Balance II - 10:45-11:45 a.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.



WEDNESDAY APRIL 3 >> TREASURE TROVES OF SCHUBERT



In a special strings and cello concert, players from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra welcome New York pianist Yuri Kim and tenor Nils Neubert to perform Schubert's classics and hidden gems.

7:30 to 9 p.m. \$17
Fairchild Theater
542 Auditorium Rd.
East Lansing, MI
(517) 353-5340
music.msu.edu

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Sing, Dance, and Move Storytime - 6-7 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library -- Main Branch, 131 E. Jefferson St, Grand Ledge. grandledge.lib.mi.us.

EVENTS

April 2019 Economic Club - 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, 219 S. Harrison Rd, East Lansing. Visit lansingchamber.org.

Capital Area Audubon Society. 7 to 9 p.m. FREE. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mount Hope Ave. Lansing. (517) 483-4224.

Drinks and Digital: Lansing - 5:15 p.m. Lansing Brewing Company, 518 E. Shiawassee St., Lansing.

Farmers Market - 3-6 p.m. Bath Community Center, 5959 Park Lake Rd, Bath. shopbfm.org.

MSU Libraries' Therapy Dog Thursdays. From 3 to 4:30 p.m. free. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Monthly Meeting - 8-9 a.m. Delta Side Business Association monthly meeting, 5130 Davenport Dr., Lansing. 517-321-4014.

MSU Libraries' Therapy Dog

See Out on the town, Page 32

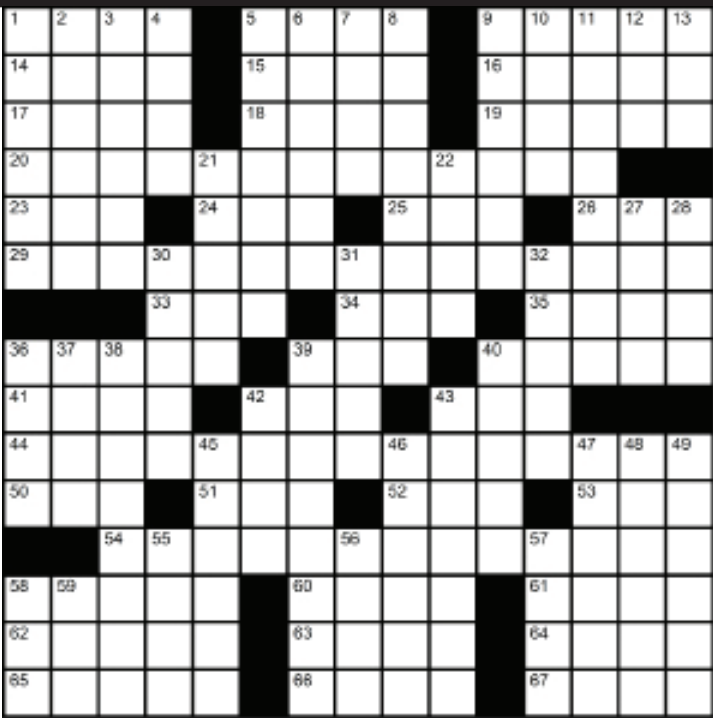
Jonesin' Crossword

By Matt Jones

"Mighty Good Connections"---two letters in a row.
Matt Jones

Across

- 1 Morty's mom, on "Rick and Morty"
- 5 Short timetable?
- 9 Drop knowledge
- 14 Beige shade derived from "raw"
- 15 2004 Queen Latifah/Jimmy Fallon movie
- 16 He wears the horizontal stripes
- 17 Airline with only kosher in-flight meals
- 18 Former Israeli politician Abba
- 19 Word in a 1997 Will Smith title
- 20 Loss of prestige, perhaps
- 23 180, slangily
- 24 "I guess that's ____"
- 25 Hair knot
- 26 Indy 500 unit
- 29 Fill-up option
- 33 Throwing ability
- 34 Fred who sneezed for Edison's first film
- 35 Prefix for morph or plasm
- 36 Le ____ (French port city)
- 39 Their workers go to blazes, for short
- 40 He won "The Masked Singer" (sorry for the spoiler)
- 41 "Pity, that..."
- 42 ____ Ranganathaswamy Temple (Hindu pilgrimage destination)
- 43 "Evita" role
- 44 Much of their cultivation is in the dark
- 50 Abbr. on a French envelope



- 51 True crime author Rule
- 52 Article in Berlin?
- 53 Boot part
- 54 Future aspirations
- 58 Noun category
- 60 Meat seasoning mixtures
- 61 "Boo'd Up" singer Mai
- 62 "Riptide" singer Joy
- 63 Cookie with a 2019 "The Most Stuf" variety (around 4x)
- 64 "Carpe ____"
- 65 See-through
- 66 Exhausted
- 67 "Your excellency"
- Down**
- 1 Strengthen, as security
- 2 Custard-filled pastry
- 3 Ireland's ____ Bay
- 4 Boat's bottom
- 5 Chest bone

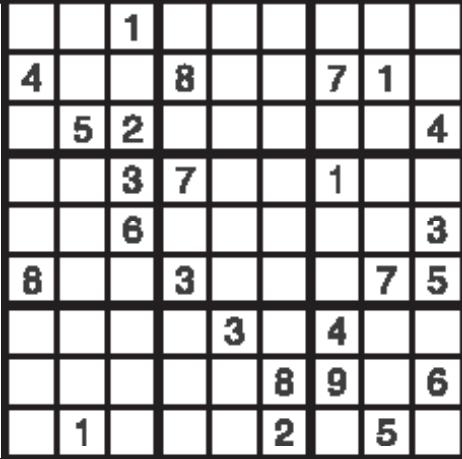
- 6 Detonation sound
- 7 Physical, e.g.
- 8 Pictographical Zapf typeface characters
- 9 Selena's music genre
- 10 Carolina Panthers safety Reid
- 11 Tommy's cousin on "Rugrats"
- 12 Smoke, informally
- 13 "Over here"
- 21 Renaissance ____
- 22 Sign of oxidation
- 27 Opposing opinion
- 28 Serf
- 30 Boggý area
- 31 Fizzle out
- 32 Cartoon skunk PepE
- 36 "Mad Men" star Jon
- 37 Reunion attendee
- 38 Petroleum product and long-time pageant secret used on teeth (ew)
- 39 Prime seating choice
- 40 Sandal strip
- 42 Karaoke selection
- 43 Harvard color
- 45 Park employee
- 46 Big name in baby food
- 47 And others, in footnotes
- 48 Painter's purchase
- 49 TV Street celebrating a 50th anniversary
- 55 More than enough, for some
- 56 Currency symbol that looks like a C crossed with an equals sign
- 57 Some humongous ref. books
- 58 Electronics dept. displays
- 59 "You think that's the right answer??"

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Answers Page 31

SUDOKU

Advanced



TO PLAY

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

Answers on page 31

Free Will Astrology

By Rob Breznsy

April 3 - April 9, 2019

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A mushroom shaped like a horse's hoof grows on birch trees in parts of Europe and the U.S. If you strip off its outer layer, you get amadou, spongy stuff that's great for igniting fires. It's not used much anymore, but it was a crucial resource for some of our ancestors. As for the word "amadou," it's derived from an old French term that means "tinder, kindling, spunk." The same word was formerly used to refer to a person who is quick to light up or to something that stimulates liveliness. In accordance with astrological omens, I'm making "Amadou" your nickname for the next four weeks.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): "Human beings are not born once and for all on the day their mothers give birth to them," wrote novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez. "Life obliges them over and over to give birth to themselves." Here's what I'll add to that: As you mature, you do your best to give birth to ever-new selves that are in alignment with the idealistic visions you have of the person you want to become. Unfortunately, most of us aren't skilled at that task in adolescence and early adulthood, and so the selves we create may be inadequate or delusory or distorted. Fortunately, as we learn from our mistakes, we eventually learn to give birth to selves that are strong and righteous. The only problem is that the old false selves we generated along the way may persist as ghostly echoes in our psyche. And we have a sacred duty to banish those ghostly echoes. I tell you this, Taurus, because the coming months will be an excellent time to do that banishing. Ramp up your efforts NOW!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "When spring came, there were no problems except where to be happiest," wrote Ernest Hemingway in his memoir. He quickly amended that statement, though, mourning, "The only thing that could spoil a day was people." Then he ventured even further, testifying, "People were always the limiters of happiness except for the very few that were as good as spring itself." I bring these thoughts to your attention so as to prepare you for some good news. In the next three weeks, I suspect you will far exceed your quota for encounters with people who are not "limiters of happiness"—who are as good as spring itself.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): It's time to prove that Cancerians have more to offer than nurturing, empathizing, softening the edges, feeling deeply, getting comfortable, and being creative. Not that there's anything wrong with those talents. On the contrary! They're beautiful and necessary. It's just that for now you need to avoid being pigeonholed as a gentle, sensitive soul. To gather the goodies that are potentially available to you, you'll have to be more forthright and aggressive than usual. Is it possible for you to wield a commanding presence? Can you add a big dose of willfulness and a pinch of ferocity to your self-presentation? Yes and yes!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): General Motors manufactured a car called the Pontiac Aztek from 2001 to 2005. It wasn't commercially successful. One critic said it looked like "an angry kitchen appliance," and many others agreed it was exceptionally unstylish. But later the Aztek had an odd revival because of the popularity of the TV show Breaking Bad. The show's protagonist, Walter White, owned one, and that motivated some of his fans to emulate his taste in cars. In accordance with astrological omens, Leo, I suspect that something of yours may also enjoy a second life sometime soon. An offering that didn't get much appreciation the first time around may undergo a resurgence. Help it do so.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "Of all the female sins, hunger is the least forgivable," laments feminist author Laurie Penny. She's referring to the hunger "for anything, for food, sex, power, education, even love." She continues: "If we have desires, we are expected to conceal them, to control them, to keep ourselves in check. We are supposed to be objects of desire, not desiring beings."

I've quoted her because I suspect it's crucial for you to not suppress or hide your longings in the coming weeks. That's triply true if you're a woman, but also important if you're a man or some other gender. You have a potential to heal deeply if you get very clear about what you hunger for and then express it frankly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Only one of Nana Mouskouris's vocal cords works, but over the course of an almost 60-year career, the Libran singer has sold over 30 million records in twelve different languages. Many critics speculate that her apparent disadvantage is key to her unique style. She's a coloratura mezzo, a rare category of chanteuse who sings ornate passages with exceptional agility and purity. In the coming weeks, I suspect that you will be like Mouskouris in your ability to capitalize on a seeming lack or deprivation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your tribe is symbolized by three animals: the scorpion, the eagle, and the mythological phoenix. Some astrologers say that the scorpion is the ruling creature of "unevolved" or immature Scorpions, whereas the eagle and phoenix are associated with those of your tribe who express the riper, more enlightened qualities of your sign. But I want to put in a plug for the scorpion as being worthy of all Scorpions. It is a hardy critter that rivals the cockroach in its ability to survive—and even thrive in—less than ideal conditions. For the next two weeks, I propose we make it your spirit creature.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Sagittarian novelist Gustave Flaubert declared that it's "our duty is to feel what is sublime and cherish what is beautiful." But that's a demanding task to pull off on an ongoing basis. Maybe the best we can hope for is to feel what's sublime and cherish what's beautiful for 30-35 days every year. Having said that, though, I'm happy to tell you that in 2019 you could get all the way up to 95-100 days of feeling what's sublime and cherishing what's beautiful. And as many as 15 to 17 of those days could come during the next 21.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Sommeliers are people trained to perceive the nuances of wine. By sampling a few sips, the best sommeliers can discern facts about the type of grapes that were used to make the wine and where on earth they were grown. I think that in the coming weeks you Capricorns should launch an effort to reach a comparable level of sensitivity and perceptivity about any subject you care about. It's a favorable time to become even more masterful about your specialties; to dive deeper into the areas of knowledge that captivate your imagination.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Every language is a work-in-progress. New words constantly insinuate themselves into common usage, while others fade away. If you traveled back in time to 1719 while remaining in your current location, you'd have trouble communicating with people of that era. And today linguistic evolution is even more rapid than in previous ages. The Oxford English Dictionary adds more than a thousand new words annually. In recognition of the extra verbal skill and inventiveness you now posses, Aquarius, I invite you to coin a slew of your own fresh terms. To get you warmed up, try this utterance I coined: vorizzimo! It's an exclamation that means "thrillingly beautiful and true."

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): One of history's most audacious con men was George C. Parker, a Pisces. He made his living selling property that did not legally belong to him, like the Brooklyn Bridge, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Statue of Liberty. I suspect you could summon his level of salesmanship and persuasive skills in the coming weeks. But I hope you will use your nearly magical powers to make deals and perform feats that have maximum integrity. It's OK to be a teensy bit greedy, though.

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

TURN IT DOWN!

A SURVEY OF LANSING'S MUSICAL LANDSCAPE

BY RICH TUPICA

Wed. April 3

Fri. April 19 - Sat. April 20

PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF MICHIGAN HOSTS MAC'S SHOW



The Dasterds

No Taxation For Menstruation Benefit Concert

Wednesday, April 3 @ Mac's Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing.
18+, \$10, or product donation, 7 p.m.

Planned Parenthood of Michigan, along with a batch of rock bands, joins forces Wednesday evening for the No Taxation For Menstruation Benefit Concert. The event is aimed at raising awareness about “the Tampon Tax.” The informal term is used to describe the unfair sales tax placed on tampons and other menstrual and hygiene products - unlike other exempted basic necessities products. The show’s mission is part of a larger movement taking place at Capitol Hill to ultimately end the taxation on those necessary products.

All ticket proceeds go towards the purchase and donation of menstrual and hygiene products for those in need. Attendees can get in for free if they bring

an unopened package of tampons, pads or liners.

Taking the stage are The Shehehes (7:50 p.m.), The Driven Strings (8:40 p.m.) and Foxgrave (9:30 p.m.). Dasterds opens the show at 7 p.m. The Lansing-based punk quartet, formed in 2016 by vocalist and lead guitarist Cody Hobbins, is best known for its snotty, yet harmonious, tunes that combine blazing guitar solos with '90s-era pop-punk melodies. Fans of The Descendents, Weezer and Screeching Weasel might want to check out the “Lily” EP at dasterds.bandcamp.com. The band’s full length debut, “Cherophobia,” drops this summer via Smog Moon Recordings.

MUSIC AND COMEDY FEST RETURNS TO LANSING'S EAST SIDE



Open Mike Eagle

4th annual StoopFest announces full lineup

Friday, April 19 - Saturday, April 20 @ Lansing's East Side. stoopfest.com

The full lineup for the 4th annual StoopFest was just announced and comprises a larger roster of touring bands and local acts than ever before. This year, the two-day music and comedy fest hosts headliners: Open Mike Eagle, Jeffery Lewis & Los Bolts, Sammus, Chastity and Lavender Country.

The full lineup, which boasts 70 bands and over 30 comedians at 11 venues, is posted at facebook.com/StoopFestLansing. A detailed schedule of performance times and locations will be unveiled in the coming weeks. Event passes are now on sale at stoopfest.com. Physical tickets are available at Mac's Bar, Flat Black and Circular, The Record Lounge, The Avenue Cafe and UHF Records in Royal Oak.

The long roster of homegrown bands cover many genres and includes Rent Strike, She/Her/Hers, Small Parks, Hordes, Bike Tuff, Cat Midway, No Fun and Locust Point. For those looking for a laugh, the stand-up bill comprises Robert Jenkins, Melanie Hearn, Nardos Osterhart, Sam Rager,

Dan Currie and many more.

For those unfamiliar with the diverse event, organizers describe it as “a multi-venue, non-profit celebration of DIY art and music that encourages inclusiveness and participation throughout Lansing’s Eastside.” StoopFest launched in April 2016 as an all-ages shindig at strictly non-traditional, off-beaten-path spots. After swift growth, bigger acts have signed on and it now includes traditional music venues, like The Avenue Café, Mac’s Bar, The Revival Annex Project and the Allen Neighborhood Center.

Despite expanding beyond its indie roots, the budding fest’s inclusive and DIY spirit lives on. According to StoopFest admins, 100 percent of the proceeds “ensure every performer is fairly compensated.” For those looking to get involved or support the cause, the event is always seeking sponsors and volunteers. E-mail info@stoopfest.com for details.



UPCOMING SHOW? CONTACT
[SUZI@LANSINGCITYPULSE.COM](mailto:suzi@lansingcitypulse.com)

DESTINATION	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The Avenue Café, 2021 E. Michigan Ave.		Outside In 9PM	80s Karaoke	Tell Yo Mama 8PM
Center Stage, 1785 W. State Rd.			Blind Ambition 8PM	
Classic Pub & Grill, 16219 Old US 27	DJ Trivia 8PM	Karaoke 6:30PM		
Coach's, 6201 Bishop Road				Allie Garland with Awesome Sauce 9PM
Crunchy's, 254 W. Grand River Ave.	Wednesday Night Live!	Karaoke, 9PM	Karaoke, 9PM	Karaoke, 9PM
Esquire, 1250 Turner St.	Karaoke, 9PM			
The Exchange, 314 E. Michigan Ave.	Good Cookies Band	Jeff Shoup & Friends	The New Rule 9:30PM	The New Rule 9:30 PM
Green Door, 2005 E. Michigan Ave.		Karaoke Kraze	Fragment of Soul	Root Doctor
Lansing Brewing Co., 518 E. Shiawassee	Trivia with Spordle 9 PM		Shelby & Jake 8PM	Live Music w/Chris Canas 8PM
The Loft, 414 E. Michigan Ave.		Country-ish -Cash'd Out 7:30PM	Vandalay 7PM	Mark Battles 8PM
Macs Bar, 2700 E. Michigan Ave.	Planned Parenthood Benefit 6PM	Jr Mr. Bad Influence 8PM	Nck Galecki 9PM	Desmond Jones 5:30 PM
Robin Theatre		Hiroya Tsukamoto 7:30PM	The Matchsellers & Red Tail Ring 7:30PM	Fractured Landscapes 7PM
Sir Pizza Old Town, 201 E. Grand River	Lady Luck 6:30 PM			

Out on the town

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Thursdays - 3-4:30 p.m. MSU Library, First Floor, 366 W. Circle Dr., East Lansing.

Sing, Dance, and Move Storytime. From 6 to 6:45 p.m. free. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St. Grand Ledge.

Spring Break Adventures: Secret Life of Seeds - 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mt. Hope, Lansing.

MUSIC

Yoshioka Airi, violin, and Sookkyung Cho, piano - 7:30 p.m. Cook Recital Hall, MSU College of Music, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

ARTS

Crafting for a Cause - Bring something to work on. 4-5:30 p.m. Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E Jefferson St, Grand Ledge.

“Inspirations” 12-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. thepeopleschurch.com.

Friday, April 05

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Active Senior Exercise - 9:15-10:15 a.m. Prime Time Seniors’ Program, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Life Stories - participatory class. 1-3:15 p.m. Prime Time Seniors’ Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

MSU Libraries' Special Collections Pop-Ups 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Free. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Dr., East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Unraveling the Mysteries of the Flint Water Crisis: A Talk with Pediatrician Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha 7-8 p.m. Kellogg Center, 219 S Harrison Rd., East Lansing. 517-432-4000. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

Spring Break Adventures: Science of Flight - 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Fenner

Nature Center, 2020 E. Mt. Hope, Lansing.

Zumba – Zumba - 10-11 a.m. Prime Time Seniors’ Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Rally Warm-UP “First Page, On Stage” - What’s your favorite first page? 7-8 p.m. The Fledge, 1300 Eureka Street, Lansing. arallyofwriters.com.

EVENTS

Euchre - 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Prime Time Seniors’ Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Holt Farmers Market Mini-Market - Friday 2-6 p.m. Holt Farmers Market, 2150 Cedar St, Holt. delhitownship.com.

Migration Teach In: Bridges Not Walls: True Stories of Immigration in America - 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Erikson Kiva, 620 Farm Ln, East Lansing. phorner.populr.me.

MSU College of Nursing High School Info Sessions - 3-4 p.m. 1355 Bogue Street, East Lansing.

MSU Science Festival. From 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. FREE. Michigan State University, 241 W. Brody Rd East Lansing. 517-432-1451.

MSU Science Festival - Unraveling the Mysteries. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Michigan State University, Rec Sports, IM West, Cycling Studio - Rm #151, East Lansing. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

“Our Daily Work / Our Daily Lives” Brown Bag - Hammering against the Reds: How the AFL-CIO Fought Communism in Latin America through Urban Planning.” 1:15-2:30 p.m. MSU Museum, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities Annual Awards and Appreciation Reception - 2-4 p.m. Kellogg Center Big Ten A Room, East Lansing. events.msu.edu.

Rummage Sale – First United Methodist Church, Mason - UMW Rummage sale - 201 E. Ash, Mason 9-5 Friday, and 9-noon on Saturday, with Saturday \$3 bag sale. Mason. business.masonchamber.org.

Taste Test! - 9 a.m. Impression 5 Science Center, 200 Museum Dr, Lansing. 517-485-8116. impression5.org.

TGIF Dance Party - 7 p.m. - 12 a.m. 7:15-7:45 p.m. - learn to dance. Hawk Hollow, 15101 Chandler Rd., Bath. 734-604-5095. tgifdance.com.

Wake Up Old Town! – 1232 Turner St. 8:30-10 a.m. Habitat Capital Region, Lansing. iloveoldtown.org.

ARTS

Fiber Reaction: Opening Reception – 4:30-6:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Fiber Reaction: Response to Materials and Methods - 6:30-8:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org

Found Cartoons–Daniel J. Hogan Exhibition and Opening Reception - 5-7 p.m. Arts Council of Greater Lansing, 1208 Turner St., Lansing.

Friday Clay Lab – Spring - 4:30-6:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. .reachstudioart.org.

MUSIC

A Baroque Blend of Strings and Voices - CELLO PLUS CHAMBER MUSIC FESTIVAL 8 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. 517-355-1855. music.msu.edu.

Dr. Emily Dolan, musicologist - Guest Lecturer. 4 p.m. RCAH Theater, Snyder-Phillips Hall, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

The Matchsellers and Red Tail Ring: Old Time Duos. 7:30 to 10 p.m. \$20 Public; \$18 Fiddle Members; \$5 Students. Robin Theater, 1105 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 989-878-1810.

Saturday, April 06

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

8 Elements of Art + Music: hands-on interdisciplinary workshop series2-4 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-884-4800.

Yoga at the GardenHouse - 10-11 a.m. Hunter Park GardenHouse, 1400 E.

Kalamazoo St., Lansing.

EVENTS

A Family Affair Pt. 3 . 8 p.m.-1:30 a.m. The Avenue Cafe, 2021 East Michigan Ave, Lansing. www.brownpapertickets.com.

Expo Zone Day - MSU Science Festival - Come 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Biomedical and Physical Sciences Building, 567 Wilson Rd., East Lansing. 517-355-1855. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

Equine Health Day - 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Veterinary Medical Center, 736 Wilson Road, East Lansing.

Family Day – First Saturday means Family Day at the MSU Broad! 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-884-4800.

Grand Opening – Michigan Muay Thai Academy/Eastside Boxing Club 517 - 12-3 p.m. 1106 N. Cedar St., 3rd Floor, Lansing. 517-281-9322. mimuaythaiacademy.com.

GL Recycle & Compost Hours: 8 am - 4 pm - 2-2:30 p.m. Grand Ledge. oneidatownship.org.

Humanity Needs Dreamers: A Visit With Marie Curie – Experience digital theater. 2:30-4 p.m. Abrams Planetarium, 755 Science Rd., East Lansing. 517-355-4676. sciencefestival.msu.

The Improv Comedy of Science - 4:30-5:30 p.m. FRIB Auditorium, 640 South Shaw Lane, E. Lansing. 517-355-9672. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

Lansing Lugnuts Opening Day Celebration - at Cooley Law School Stadium as the Lansing Lugnuts minor league baseball team celebrates opening day! 3-6 p.m. 505 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing. michigan.org.

MAC – Strictly For Fun Dance Party. From 6 to 9 p.m. \$16.00/guests. Michigan Athletic Club, 900 Hannah Blvd. East Lansing. (517) 364-8870.

MSU Science Festival - Unraveling the Mysteries, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Michigan State University, Rec Sports, IM West, Cycling Studio - Rm #151, East Lansing. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

MSU Science Festival Expo Zone.

See Out on the town, Page 31

THURSDAY APRIL 4 >> LARA HOPE AND THE ARK TONES



Lara Hope and The Ark Tones

Hot off a tour with the Brian Setzer orchestra, Lara Hope and the Ark Tones bring roots rock ‘n’ roll to The Fledge for new takes on old sounds. Hope won the 2017 Ameripolitan Music Award for Best Female Rockabilly Artist.

8 to 11 p.m., \$10
The Fledge
1300 Eureka, Lansing, MI
(517) 230-7679
larahopeandtheark-tones.com

FRIDAY APRIL 5 >> ALEX TELLER LIVE AT BLUE OWL COFFEE



Alex Teller

Singer songwriter Alex Teller will play Americana selections crossing between genres of bluegrass, blues and jazz. Teller’s smoky vocals and poetic lyrics are described to have a fable-like quality.

6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Blue Owl Coffee (REO Town)
1149 S. Washington Ave.
Lansing, MI
(517) 575-6864
blueowlcoffee.net

Out on the town

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From 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. FREE. Michigan State University, 241 W. Brody Rd East Lansing. 517-432-1451.

MSU Science Festival - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Musicians' Wellness, "Body Mapping" Seminar 9 a.m. MSU Community Music School, East Lansing. music.msu.edu.

Nature Story Hour - for children. 1-2 p.m. Fenner Nature Center, 2020 E. Mt. Hope, Lansing.

Two Dance Event – English Country & Contra Dance - FREE - 2-10 p.m. East Lansing. tenpoundfiddle.org.

Winter Farmers' Market - 10 a.m. Meridian Mall, 1982 W Grand River Ave, Okemos. meridian.mi.us.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

A Rally of Writers – 8:30-4 p.m. LCC, West Campus, 5708 Cornerstone Drive, Lansing. arallyofwriters.com.

ARTS

Days to Dye For - Beginner to advanced fiber artists and surface design enthusiasts. From 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643.

Family Day - First Saturday means Family Day at the MSU Broad! 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, 547 E Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-884-4800.

GABBY SUB - Casual Clay Studio - 12:30-2:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

Happy Hydrangeas age 12+ - 4-6 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

"Inspirations" - A Multi-Media Art Exhibit 12-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

From Pg. 27

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thepeopleschurch.com.

MSU Science Festival - 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. www.reachstudioart.org.

S.O.S. - This is not a class. 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Painting with a Twist, 580 Frandor Ave, Lansing. 517-483-2450. paintingwithatwist.com.

Sunday, April 07

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Juggling. From 2 to 4 p.m. FREE. Orchard Street Pumphouse, 368 Orchard St. East Lansing.

EVENTS

MSU Science Festival - Unraveling the Mysteries 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Michigan State University, Rec Sports, IM West, Cycling Studio - Rm #151, East Lansing. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

Session 3: FrogWatch USA Training at Potter Park Zool 1-3 p.m. 1301 S Pennsylvania Ave, Lansing. 517-483-4222. potterparkzoo.org.

ARTS

Art House: Open Studio Time 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Lansing Art Gallery & Education Center, 119 N Washington Sq, Ste 101, Lansing. 517-374-6400. lansingartgallery.org.

MUSIC

FREE Family Series: Five Winds, One Sound. From 3 to 4:30 p.m. Free. CADL Downtown Lansing Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave. Lansing. (517) 367-6300.

Strings of DSO and MSU Artists - Please note: The previously scheduled Hearts of Vision Chamber Orchestra has been canceled. 3 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. 517-355-1855. www.music.msu.edu.

Choral Union and University Chorale – MSU Choirs. \$12/adults, \$10/seniors, free for students. 7 p.m. Wharton Center, 750 E Shaw Ln, East Lansing. 517-353-1982. music.msu.edu.

Monday, April 08

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

SUDOKU SOLUTION

From Pg. 27

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SATURDAY APRIL 6 >> LANSING LUGNUTS OPENING NIGHT



Celebrate the opening day of the Lansing Lugnuts with food trucks, outdoor games and a chance to meet the players before the first game of the season. The first 1,000 fans will receive a plaid trapper hat, courtesy of Auto-Owners Insurance.

3 to 6 p.m., \$8
Cooley Law School Stadium
505 E. Michigan Ave.
Lansing, MI
(517) 485-4500
lansinglugnuts.com

4 Ever Young Drumming - 3-4 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Active Senior Exercise – 9:15-10:15 a.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Brain Games - 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Home School Study Group - 1-4 p.m. Grand Ledge District Library. grandledge.lib.mi.us.

Intro to Italian Conversation - 1-2 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

No-Fire Tile Casting – 1-2:30 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Seminar Series: Birding 101 - 7-8 p.m. Michigan Audubon, 2310 Science Parkway, Suite 200, Okemos. michiganaudubon.org.

Tai Chi Yang Style 24 - 1-2 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Women's Health with Helena Miller - Having issues with hormones? Menopause? Weight? 6:30-8 p.m. Rassel-Daigneault Family Chiropractic, 537 N. Clippert, Lansing. www.

LITERATURE AND POETRY

Spanish Literature - Participants will read literature from Spanish-speaking countries. 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

EVENTS

City Council Meeting - 7-8 p.m. Eaton Rapids City Hall, 200 S Main St, Eaton Rapids. cityofeatonrapids.com.

MSU Science Festival - Unraveling the Mysteries 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Michigan State University, Rec Sports, IM West, Cycling Studio - Rm #151, East Lansing. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

One Team Scavenger Hunt Adventure: Lansing - 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Recommended Parking to Begin Adventure, 201 S Grand Ave, Lansing.

Refugee Foster Care Informational Session - Could you provide a home to a refugee youth without family? 5:30-7:30 p.m. Samaritas, 1545 Keystone Ave., Lansing.

Scrabble – 2-4:30 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

ARTS

Drawing: Level 2 - Spring - 4:30-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

"Inspirations" 12-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. thepeopleschurch.com.

Mixed Media - 6-7:30 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

MUSIC

Entrepreneurial Musical Artist in Residence Day 1: Eighth Blackbird - MSU College of Music, Music Building, 6 p.m. East Lansing. www.music.msu.edu.

Tuesday, April 09

CLASSES AND SEMINARS

Google Seminar: Get Found on Google Search & Maps. 10 to 11 a.m. Free! Register at (517) 483-1921. Small Business Development Center, LCC, 309 N. Washington Sq. Suite 110 Lansing.

Maintaining Moisture In a Raised Bed - 6-7:30 p.m. South Lansing Community Development Association, 800 West Barnes Ave., Lansing.

MSU Libraries' Knit In Tuesdays. From 12 to 1 p.m. free. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Drive East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

Night at the Museums - Family friendly, hands-on learning about habitats and homes. 5:30-8 p.m. MSU Museum, 409 W Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-355-2370.

Windows, Birds, and Museums - 6-6:45 p.m. Michigan State University Museum, 409 W Circle Dr, East Lansing. 517-355-2370.

Out on the town

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LITERATURE AND POETRY

Preschool Storytime. From 11 a.m. to noon Grand Ledge Area District Library, 131 E. Jefferson St Grand Ledge. 517.627.7014.

Read Aloud Group - 9-10:30 a.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

EVENTS

Carbon Fee and Dividend Presentation. From 7 to 8 p.m. free. Okemos Public Library, 4321 Okemos Rd Okemos.

Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. - Township Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. 7 p.m. Grand Ledge. oneidatownship.org.

Capital City Toastmasters, Club 639, 70th Anniversary - 7-8:15 p.m. Capital Area District Library, 401 S. Capitol Ave., Lansing. 517-512-4480. capitalcitytoastmasters.toastmastersclubs.org.

Death Cafe - Speaking casually about death is taboo in many cultures. 12-1:30 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

LAVC Quarterly Meeting - support Michigan Veterans in Region 7 (Clinton, Ingham, Eaton Co zs). 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Eaton County Counseling Center, 551 Courthouse Dr, Charlotte.

Line Dancing - 1-2 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

MSU Science Festival - Unraveling the Mysteries. 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Michigan State University, Rec Sports, IM West, Cycling Studio - Rm #151, East Lansing. sciencefestival.msu.edu.

One Team Scavenger Hunt Adventure: Lansing - 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Recommended Parking to Begin Adventure, 201 S Grand Ave, Lansing.

Trailblaze Challenge Informational Session - Make-A-Wish Michigan's signature hiking event. 7-8 p.m. Moosejaw, 555 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. trailblazechallengemi.org.

Wine & Cheese Night at Whole Foods-Fresh Cheeses - 6 p.m. 2758 E. Grand River Ave., East Lansing.

ARTS

Chinese Brush Painting - It's spring! 1-3 p.m. Prime Time Seniors' Program, 819 Abbot Road, East Lansing. cityofeastlansing.com.

Clay on the Pottery Wheel - 4:30-6 p.m. Reach Studio Art Center, 1804 S Washington Ave, Lansing. 517-999-3643. reachstudioart.org.

"Inspirations" 12-4 p.m. The Peoples Church of East Lansing, 200 W. Grand River Ave., East Lansing. thepeopleschurch.com.

MSU Libraries' Knit In Tuesdays - All materials and assistance provided. 12-1 p.m. MSU Library MakeCentral, 366 West Circle Drive, East Lansing. bookings.lib.msu.edu.

SITES OF MEMORY: Reflecting on the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda 6 to 8 p.m. Free. MSU Library, 366 W. Circle Dr. East Lansing. (517) 353-8700.

MUSIC

Percussion Ensemble - \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors, free for students. 7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, 542 Auditorium Rd, East Lansing. 517-355-1855. music.msu.edu.



SUNDAY APRIL 7 >> ILLUSTRATIONS BY NEVIN OPENING RECEPTION



Join artist Nevin Speerbrecker to celebrate his month long exhibit at EagleMonk Pub and Brewery. His latest work focuses on indigenous peoples and animals. All art pieces are originals and will be for sale.

3 to 5 p.m.
EagleMonk Pub and Brewery
4906 W. Mt. Hope Hwy.
Lansing, MI (517) 708-7350
eaglemonkbrewing.com

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211 M.A.C. Avenue, East Lansing | 517.351.2211 | mackerelsky.com



Malcolm X in Greater Lansing Wednesday, April 10 • 7 p.m.

Michigan State Professor John Aerni-Flessner will discuss Malcolm X's early life in Michigan and the impact it had on his beliefs.

CADL Downtown Lansing • 401 S. Capitol Ave.



LANSING'S FAVORITE CREATIVE NIGHT OUT!

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FOOD & DRINK

DINING OUT IN GREATER LANSING

Drink like a champ: A sommelier's guide to perfect bubbly

By JUSTIN KING

The Spartans are back in the Final Four, and while this feels commonplace over the last 20 years, the recent drought has left fans thirsty.

Winston Churchill put it best: "I could not live without Champagne. In victory I deserve it. In defeat I need it." His love for the bubbles was commemorated by the French wine company Pol Roger who named a champagne after him called, Cuvee Sir Winston Churchill.

Sparkling wine comes from all over the world, not just from Champagne, France. Is Champagne the best area in the world for sparkling wine? Yes. There is no close second place for sheer volume of quality, but Champagne can often be outside of the price window that shoppers are willing to pay—especially if the wine is for everyday consumption.

Year after year, Dom Ruinart's Blanc de Blancs is a true consistent favorite. The wine is elegance exemplified in presentation and in style. 100 percent chardonnay, the fresh fruits, florals, slight herbaceous and toasty style is worth it every time. Now...for say \$70, this can get pricy—making it a special occasion wine. Although I do tend to believe that Cassius making fools out of defenders in the Final Four could constitute as a special occasion. If you crave bubbles, but you are on a budget, start thinking about Spain. Some shorthand notes on the Spanish competition: Cava is sparkling wine from Spain, mostly from Catalonia, but sometimes from other Spanish regions. It's made in the same method as Champagne by law. While Champagne theoretically uses 7 grapes—but almost always only pinot noir, chardonnay, and pinot meunier—traditional Cava uses Spanish grapes like parellada, macabeo, xarello and

a few others. These wines are usually dry, simple and fresh in style.

Torre Oria Cava is dry and well worth the money. It goes for about \$12 at your independent retailers. This might be the most inexpensive representation of balance and quality in Spanish sparkling I've had in the last 5 years. Gosh, I've had microwaved nachos that cost more than \$12.

Northern Italy makes oft-delicious sparkling wine from the region of Lombardy from a place called Franciacorta, probably Champagne's closest quality rival. Franciacorta wines are also generally dry wines.

Travel eastward from Lombardy to the general vicinity of Venice and Verona, and you'll find yourself in the land of Prosecco, where oceans of innocuous wines are churned out from the glera grape.

Corte Fiora Prosecco is floral like fresh flower blossoms and effortless in its fruit profile. Likely about \$18 out the door retail, it's worth spending \$3-5 more on this Prosecco compared to most of the others. The style lends itself well to casual drinkers looking for lighter wines that glimmer with nuance.

There are also wonderful highlights of sparkling wine from California, Michigan, Australia's Tamar Valley and various regions in France. My failsafe local wine rule: I've never had a wine from Mawby I didn't like (they can range from \$15-40). Whether this weekend comes with glorious wins or heartbreaking losses, don't cheat yourself out of such affordable and accessible chances to drink good bubbles.

Justin King is owner of Bridge Street Social, a wine and cocktails-focused restaurant in DeWitt, and owner of Bar Mitena, opening on Lansing's Eastside in 2019. He is an Advanced Sommelier through the Court of Master Sommeliers and was named 2017 Wine & Spirits Magazine "Best New Sommelier."



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Taiwanese dessert cafe comes to East Lansing

By DENNIS BURCK

A popular Asian dessert and tea chain with over 650 locations across the world has made its Michigan debut in East Lansing.

Meet Fresh

1034 Trowbridge Rd.,
East Lansing
11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily
meetfresh.us/tw/
(517) 220-4611

Meet Fresh was founded in Taichung, Taiwan, in 2007. It serves grass jelly, taro balls and traditional tofu

pudding alongside mochi and shaved ice.

Allen Zhu, vice president of Meet

Fresh East Lansing, said it was time to bring authentic Asian desserts to Lansing.

"Everyone liked this restaurant growing up. We came up with the idea to open up in the Lansing area because it is a growing market with international students and a diverse community," Zhu said.

While operating the business, Zhu is pursuing a finance degree just 10 minutes away at Michigan State University.

For newcomers to Taiwanese desserts, there is a top five section on the menu to try. To get the essence of the dessert shop, Zhu recommends the "Icy Taro #4" bowl.

The dessert has shaved ice drizzled with sweetened milk along with sweet potato taro balls, grass jelly and sweet red beans.

Grass jelly is made by boiling the leaves of the platostoma palustre plant, a member of the mint family, with potassium carbonate and then cooling the mixture until it reaches a elastic consistency.

Meet Fresh also offers bubble tea with seemingly endless choices of boba and tea flavors. The owner suggests a good introduction to the treat is the winter-melon milk tea with taro balls.

"For those who have never tried something like this before, we want to

make sure we leave a good first impression. Taiwanese authentic desserts are very unique and tasty."

Zhu had been working with the construction team for six months to open up the space. It is a clean, bright environment with decorative light fixtures, lanterns and open bar.

"We are also very much a fan of the open bar concept, where people can see what you are doing and can tell it is all fresh," Zhu said.

When designing the interior, Zhu wanted to channel the essence of a coffee shop rather than a dessert shop

"We want people to gather in this place — to work and spend time with their friends. We tried to make this a very cozy place with the lanterns and atmosphere."

For the summer, Meet Fresh plans to alter its shaved ice selections by adding more fruit options such as strawberry and mango.

Until April 7, Meet Fresh is having a buy one, get one for a dollar deal for bubble tea to celebrate its grand opening.

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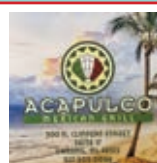
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